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RESOLUTION NO. 2021-81

**A RESOLUTION OF THE ALBANY CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING
AN AMENDMENT TO INCREASE CONTRACT NO. C20-60 WITH
BERKELEY FOOD & HOUSING PROJECT AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED
\$862,866 FOR THE CONTINUED PROVISION OF SERVICES FOR
ALBANY PROJECT HOPE - HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES EXPANDED,
THE CITY’S HOMELESS OUTREACH, ENGAGEMENT AND HOUSING
NAVIGATION PROGRAM THROUGH JUNE 2022**

WHEREAS, in June 2020, Council approved a 2-year contract (July 2020 - June 2022) in an amount not to exceed \$577,866 with Berkeley Food & Housing Project (BFHP) for the provision of outreach, engagement, case management and housing services, including a rapid re-housing program for people experiencing homelessness; and

WHEREAS, over the last year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic most of the outreach engagement has focused on clients residing in motels requiring intensive case management assistance from the Project HOPE (Housing Opportunities Expanded) Housing Navigators; and

WHEREAS, the contract as approved by Council in June 2020 included funding for one full time Supervisory Case Manager and one part-time housing navigator, but as the COVID-19 pandemic greatly increased the number of clients in need of ongoing housing navigation services, the Housing Navigator has been working full time to maintain adequate service levels for all clients, including those living in a master leased house, providing housing stabilization and retention services to others living independently, outreach services, prevention, housing search/landlord relationship development and referrals to mainstream services; and

WHEREAS, rapid re-housing (RRH) is an interim rental assistance program that provides a short and shallow subsidy for people experiencing homelessness to get quickly re-housed and remain housed; and

1
2 **WHEREAS**, as part of its Rapid Re-housing strategy, BFHP entered into a master
3 lease to temporarily house clients while permanent housing is sought and due to the
4 pandemic, the master leased has been used as a space of transition for individuals living
5 in the motel rooms with 12 individuals (4 at a time) temporarily housed over the course
6 of the year and 4 currently living in the house; and
7

8 **WHEREAS**, the cost of leasing, furnishing, servicing the property and meals for
9 residents was included in the first year of the contract and covered with Homeless
10 Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) funds, master leasing a house is a less expensive
11 alternative to motel rooms and has proven to be a reliable temporary housing option for
12 clients to stabilize while working towards a permanent housing solution, the master lease
13 has been extended for another year and additional funds are required to cover ongoing
14 costs; and
15

16 **WHEREAS**, as a response to the pandemic, BFHP utilized emergency motel stays
17 to ensure the safety and health of people experiencing homelessness on the streets which
18 allowed Housing Navigators to create Housing Stability Plans and identify each client's
19 immediate needs during these difficult and uncertain times; and
20

21 **WHEREAS**, HEAP funds carried those individuals in motel rooms until November
22 2020, general funds were used once all HEAP funds were expended and the unexpected
23 cost of motel rooms as an emergency response to the pandemic has depleted rapid re-
24 housing subsidies, additional funding is needed to continue to support individuals
25 currently receiving rapid re-housing subsidies and to respond to the needs of clients
26 currently in outreach.
27

28 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Albany City Council hereby
29 authorizes an amendment to increase Contract No. C20-60 with Berkeley Food &

1 Housing Project by an additional \$285,000, resulting in a total contract cost not to exceed
2 \$862,866 to be covered mostly with Rescue Act and CDBG funds for the continued
3 provision of services for Albany Project HOPE - Housing Opportunities Expanded, the
4 City's homeless outreach, engagement and housing navigation program through June
5 2022.

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10 GE'NELL GARY, MBA - MAYOR
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City of Albany

1000 San Pablo Avenue • Albany, California 94706
(510) 528-5710 • www.albanyca.org

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-81

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALBANY,

The 19th day of July, 2021, by the following votes:

AYES: Council Members Jordan, McQuaid, Nason, Tiedemann and Mayor Gary

NOES: none

ABSENT: none

ABSTAINED: none

RECUSED: none

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF ALBANY, this 20th
day of July, 2021.

Anne Hsu
CITY CLERK