

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2022 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CR-099-2022

Draft No.: 1

Committee: PLANNING, HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Date: 10/12/2022

Action: FAV

REPORT:

Committee Vote: Favorable, 4-0 (In favor: Council Members Franklin, Glaros, Harrison, and Turner)

The Planning, Housing and Economic Development (PHED) Committee convened on October 12, 2022, to consider CR-99-2022. This resolution was transmitted by the County Executive for the Council's consideration to amend the Prince George's County Fiscal Year ("FY") 2022 Annual Action Plan ("AAP") for the Department of Housing and Community Development ("DHCD") by adding the HOME Investment Partnerships Program ("HOME") American Rescue Plan ("ARP"), Allocation Plan, an eligible activity not originally funded or described in the FY 2022 Annual Action Plan.

The Federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, enacted by Congress in March 2021, provided local jurisdictions with funding to alleviate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic allocated through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD"), for homelessness assistance and supportive services. Prince George's County is designated to receive funding totaling seven million, five hundred ninety-two thousand, eighty-five dollars (\$7,592,085) in HOME Program American Rescue Plan Program funds. HUD asserts that the grantees must amend their most recent FY 2022 (Federal FY 2021) Annual Action Plan to add the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan.

The PHED Committee Director gave a brief overview of the purpose of the resolution and turned to Ms. Pamela Wilson, DHCD Chief Housing Development Manager, who introduced the presenters in attendance. Joining DHCD for discussion of CR-99-2022 were Mr. John R. Maneval, Principal, Oculus Consulting and Advisory Services, LLC; Ms. Bithia Ratnasamy, Director, Enterprise Advisors; and Ms. Renee Ensor Pope, Assistant Director for Community Services, Department of Social Services. Mr. Maneval and Ms. Ratnasamy provided a PowerPoint presentation with an overview of the HOME-ARP, eligible uses, organizations they heard from, priority needs, allocations, and proposed uses.

The Office of Audits and Investigations submitted a Policy Analysis and Fiscal Impact Statement dated October 11, 2022, indicating that per DHCD, the allocation will be used to carry out three activities:

1. Supportive Services
2. Acquisition/Development of non-congregate shelter
3. Development of affordable rental housing

CR-099-2022 would increase the amount of money available to the County for housing development projects. In accordance with the Program requirements, DHCD held consultations with relevant stakeholders, received feedback and results from consultations which shone light on the landscape of homelessness and homeless services in the County, conducted a needs assessment and gap analysis to better understand the homeless population within and outside of the County shelters and in transitional housing.

The Statement notes that adoption of CR-099-2022 would add over \$7 million to the Department of Housing and Community Development's housing fund serving to protect the most vulnerable in the community.

After discussion, the Committee voted favorable, 4-0, on CR-99-2022 Draft-1.