

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE April 22, 2025

TO Honorable Members of the Housing and Homelessness Committee: Jesse Moreno (Chair), Cara Mendelsohn (Vice Chair), Zarin D. Gracey, Chad West, Gay Donnell Willis

SUBJECT **Office of Homeless Solutions – Upcoming April 23, 2025, Agenda Item #39**

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide information regarding the following upcoming agenda item #39 on the April 23, 2025, City Council Agenda, to *“Authorize the City Manager to execute two one-year contracts, each with one option to extend for time only, with Housing Forward, as a sole source, approved as to form by the City Attorney, for the coordination of the Street to Home Initiative enhancing the efforts of the Dallas Real Time Rehousing Program to provide (1) financial assistance, including rental assistance, paid utilities, and supportive services, in an amount not to exceed \$1,900,000.00; and (2) supportive services only; in an amount not to exceed \$1,096,897.95 to persons experiencing homelessness – Total amount not to exceed \$2,996,898.95 - Financing: HOME-ARPA HASS Fund (subject to annual appropriations).*

Background

Since 2021, the City of Dallas has engaged in funding for rental assistance, supportive services, and case management to support people on a pathway to permanent housing. This was first done through the Dallas REAL Time Rapid Rehousing (DRTRR) Initiative, bringing permanent housing to over 2,700 individuals in under two years. Expanding to encompass the entire unsheltered provider system, the Real Time Rehousing (RTR) Initiative next met its goal of housing 6,000 individuals, proceeding to create over 15,000 individual housing placements to-date. Most recently, the Street To Home (STH) Initiative was created, to cut homelessness in Dallas and Collin Counties by 50% compared to 2021 levels. This project focuses on visible, unsheltered homelessness and housed over 100 individuals in the Central Business District (CBD) in less than 100 days this past summer. Later closing three major downtown parks through housing, the STH Initiative now prepares to fully decommission the CBD and move into the rest of the City of Dallas. As part of this Initiative, this award of \$2,996,898.95, completes the City of Dallas’ total award of \$5,496,899.95 for this project. Housing Forward, the local Continuum of Care lead agency, serves as the Program Administrator for this next iteration of the “Street to Home” Initiative to sustain the rehousing capacity and enhance the efforts of the RTR.

The STH Initiative aligns with the City of Dallas’ strategy to reduce encampments and homelessness through rapid re-housing (RRH). As defined by HUD, RRH is a permanent housing intervention to help connect families and individuals experiencing homelessness to permanent housing through a tailored package of assistance, including rental assistance and supportive services. RRH helps those living on the streets or in emergency shelters solve the practical and immediate challenges to obtaining permanent housing and services while reducing the amount of time they experience homelessness, avoiding a near-term return to homelessness, and linking to community resources that enable them to achieve housing stability in the long term.

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Prior Actions

- On January 28, 2025, OHS and Housing Forward briefed the Housing and Homeless Solutions (HHS) Committee on the Street To Home initiative and next steps, which included \$2.5M ARPA Redevelopment funding, anticipated for a February City Council agenda, and \$3.1M HOME ARPA funding, anticipated for City Council consideration in the spring.
- On February 12, 2025, the City Council authorized a one-year contract for the coordination of the Street to Home Initiative enhancing the efforts of the Dallas Real Time Rehousing Project in the amount of \$2,500,001.00 by Resolution No. 25-0290.
- On February 20, 2025, OHS and Housing Forward briefed the Citizen Homelessness Commission (CHC) on the Street To Home Initiative and next steps.
- On April 17, 2025, OHS presented a briefing memorandum to the Citizen Homelessness Commission (CHC) on the Street To Home Initiative and next steps, which include ~\$3M HOME ARPA funding, anticipated for City Council consideration on April 23, 2025.

Should you have any questions, please reach out to me or Christine Crossley, Director of the Office Homeless Solutions at Christine.Crossley@dallas.gov.

Service First, Now!



Alina Ciocan
Assistant City Manager

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