CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HOUSING AUTHORITY MEETING WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2024

Legislative Services Section: (619) 531-5434

INDEX:

N/A

REVISED AGENDA AND BACKUP:

HA01. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARING - ADOPT A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO (COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY) BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVING THE PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY ANNUAL AGENCY PLAN AND SUPPORTING POLICY DOCUMENTS; AUTHORIZE THE SUBMITTAL OF THE PLANS AND RESOLUTION TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE ALL PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY CERTIFICATIONS; FIND THAT THESE ARE NOT PROJECTS DEFINED IN THE STATE CEQA GUIDELINES SECTION 15378; APPROVE THE PUBLIC HOUSING CAPITAL FUND FIVE-YEAR ACTION PLAN; AUTHORIZE APPLICATIONS FOR ADDITIONAL PROGRAM FUNDING AND CREATION OF NEW OR EXPANSION OF EXISTING PARTNERSHIPS (DISTRICTS: ALL)

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1. SUBJECT: N

NOTICED PUBLIC HEARING: ADOPT A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE **COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO (COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY)** BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVING THE PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY ANNUAL AGENCY PLAN AND SUPPORTING POLICY DOCUMENTS; AUTHORIZE THE SUBMITTAL OF THE PLANS AND RESOLUTION TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE ALL PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY CERTIFICATIONS: FIND THAT THESE ARE NOT PROJECTS DEFINED IN THE STATE CEQA GUIDELINES SECTION 15378; APPROVE THE PUBLIC HOUSING CAPITAL FUND FIVE-YEAR ACTION PLAN; AUTHORIZE APPLICATIONS FOR ADDITIONAL PROGRAM FUNDING AND CREATION OF NEW OR EXPANSION OF EXISTING PARTNERSHIPS (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires housing authorities to prepare a Public Housing Agency (PHA) Plan as a comprehensive guide to a housing authority's policies, programs, operations, and strategies for meeting local housing needs and goals. The PHA Plan consists of a Five-Year Agency Plan and an Annual Agency Plan. The Five-Year Agency Plan was approved on April 7, 2020 (HA01) and is effective through Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2025. Today's item focuses on the Annual Agency Plan.

The Annual Agency Plan is required to be submitted to HUD every year. The Annual Agency Plan includes two main components - the Housing Choice Voucher Program Administrative Plan and the Public Housing Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy. Together, these components establish the local rules and policies for the administration of the Housing Choice Voucher ("Section 8") and the Public Housing Programs.

The Housing Authority of the County of San Diego (County Housing Authority) draft Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Annual Agency Plan was released for public review and comment, as required by HUD, on January 26, 2024. Today's actions will adopt a Resolution to approve the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Annual Agency Plan and will authorize the Executive Director of the Housing Authority and the Board Chair to execute all required certifications and submit these documents to HUD. In addition, today's action requests the Board approve the Public Housing Capital Fund Program Five-Year Action Plan for 2024-2028.

Today's actions support the County of San Diego (County) vision of a just, sustainable, and resilient future for all, specifically those communities and populations in San Diego County that have been historically left behind, as well as our ongoing commitment to the regional *Live Well San Diego* vision of healthy, safe, and thriving communities. In addition, this item supports the County Framework for Ending Homelessness as the programs administered according to the PHA Plan provide affordable housing opportunities for approximately 11,000 low-income households in the County Housing Authority jurisdiction.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY DIRECTOR

- Find, in accordance with Section 15060(c)(3) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines that the adoption of a Resolution to approve the Housing Authority of the County of San Diego (County Housing Authority) Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Annual Agency Plan, and to authorize the Executive Director of the Housing Authority, or designee, to execute all required certifications for submittal to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development are administrative in nature, and; therefore, are not projects as defined in the state CEQA Guidelines Section 15378.
- 2. Hold this public hearing to receive public comment on the County Housing Authority's Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Annual Agency Plan.
- 3. Adopt a resolution entitled: A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVING THE PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY ANNUAL AGENCY PLAN AND SUPPORTING POLICY DOCUMENTS.
- 4. Authorize the Executive Director of the County Housing Authority, or designee, and the Board Chair to execute all Public Housing Agency certifications and submit the certifications to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- 5. Authorize the submittal of the Public Housing Agency Annual Agency Plan for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and a copy of the Resolution to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development by the Executive Director of the County Housing Authority, or designee.
- Approve the Public Housing Capital Fund Five-Year Action Plan for 2024-2028.
- 7. Authorize the County Housing Authority to apply for new funding or voucher opportunities as they become available and create new or expand existing partnerships towards the goal of expanding affordable housing opportunities for those in need.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The Housing Authority of the County of San Diego (County Housing Authority) administers various rental assistance programs funded by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) intended to assist very low-income households to afford decent, safe, and sanitary housing in the private market. As mandated by federal regulations, at least 75% of applicants must qualify as an extremely low-income family earning 30% of the area median income or less (currently \$33,100 for a two-person household and/or \$41,350 for a four-person household) and the remaining applicants must not exceed the low-income threshold of 50% of the area median income or less (currently \$55,150 for a two-person household and/or \$68,900 for a four-person household).



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS NORA VARGAS

First Distric

JOEL ANDERSON Second District

TERRA LAWSON-REMER Third District

MONICA MONTGOMERY STEPPE Fourth District

> JIM DESMOND Fifth District

AGENDA ITEM

HOUSING AUTHORITY

DATE:

March 13, 2024

HA01

TO:

Housing Authority of the County of San Diego Board of Commissioners

SUBJECT

NOTICED PUBLIC HEARING - ADOPT A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO (COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY) BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVING THE PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY ANNUAL AGENCY PLAN AND SUPPORTING POLICY DOCUMENTS; AUTHORIZE THE SUBMITTAL OF THE PLANS AND RESOLUTION TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE ALL PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY CERTIFICATIONS; FIND THAT THESE ARE NOT PROJECTS DEFINED IN THE STATE CEQA GUIDELINES SECTION 15378; APPROVE THE PUBLIC HOUSING CAPITAL FUND FIVE-YEAR ACTION PLAN; AUTHORIZE APPLICATIONS FOR ADDITIONAL PROGRAM FUNDING AND CREATION OF NEW OR EXPANSION OF EXISTING PARTNERSHIPS (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

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The Housing Authority of the County of San Diego (County Housing Authority) draft Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Annual Agency Plan was released for public review and comment, as required by HUD, on January 26, 2024. Today's actions will adopt a Resolution to approve the Fiscal Year

> Attachments distributed to each Board Member, CAO, County Counsel, and on file in the Office of the Clerk of the Board

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2024-25 Annual Agency Plan and will authorize the Executive Director of the Housing Authority and the Board Chair to execute all required certifications and submit these documents to HUD. In addition, today's action requests the Board approve the Public Housing Capital Fund Program Five-Year Action Plan for 2024-2028.

Today's actions support the County of San Diego (County) vision of a just, sustainable, and resilient future for all, specifically those communities and populations in San Diego County that have been historically left behind, as well as our ongoing commitment to the regional *Live Well San Diego* vision of healthy, safe, and thriving communities. In addition, this item supports the County Framework for Ending Homelessness as the programs administered according to the PHA Plan provide affordable housing opportunities for approximately 11,000 low-income households in the County Housing Authority jurisdiction.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY DIRECTOR

- 1. Find, in accordance with Section 15060(c)(3) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines that the adoption of a Resolution to approve the Housing Authority of the County of San Diego (County Housing Authority) Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Annual Agency Plan, and to authorize the Executive Director of the Housing Authority, or designee, to execute all required certifications for submittal to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development are administrative in nature, and; therefore, are not projects as defined in the state CEQA Guidelines Section 15378.
- 2. Hold this public hearing to receive public comment on the County Housing Authority's Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Annual Agency Plan.
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- 5. Authorize the submittal of the Public Housing Agency Annual Agency Plan for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and a copy of the Resolution to the United States Department of

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Housing and Urban Development by the Executive Director of the County Housing Authority, or designee.

- 6. Approve the Public Housing Capital Fund Five-Year Action Plan for 2024-2028.
- 7. Authorize the County Housing Authority to apply for new funding or voucher opportunities as they become available and create new or expand existing partnerships towards the goal of expanding affordable housing opportunities for those in need.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

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The County Housing Authority has established local preferences for waiting list applicants to ensure the most vulnerable populations receive priority for assistance. To ensure equitable access for communities who have historically suffered from inequalities and inequities, the County Housing Authority gives priority to applicants who have one or more of the following members in the household: working applicant, elderly person, disabled person, dependent children, homeless applicant, veteran, or surviving spouse of veteran. As of November 2023, the participant households' distribution includes (total does not equal 100% due to overlapping categories):

- 7% veterans
- 43% elderly and/or disabled single tenants
- 12% single parents with children in the household
- 31% have children in the household
- 66% have a head of household or spouse who is either elderly and/or disabled

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The County Housing Authority provides rental assistance to a diverse population. As of November 2023, the demographic distribution of program participants includes (total does not equal 100% due to overlapping categories):

- 32% Hispanic or Latino
- 3% Asian
- 79% White
- 1% Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander
- 16% Black/African American
- 1% American Indian/Alaska Native

The County Housing Authority is committed to deconcentrating poverty by advancing equitable access and opportunity for assisted households to live in safe and affordable housing. Rental assistance voucher holders can choose housing in areas that best fit their individual household needs. To expand housing opportunities for voucher holders outside areas of poverty concentration, the County Housing Authority provides higher payment standards in neighborhoods with greater opportunity.

The County Housing Authority incorporates the "voice of the customer" in policy and budget development through consultation with the Housing Authority Resident Advisory Board and the inclusion of tenant commissioners on the Housing Authority Board of Commissioners. Resident Advisory Board meetings are held throughout the year and facilitate discussion regarding housing needs within the community. Including the tenant commissioners in the process also brings a lived experience lens to the governing body of the County Housing Authority when approving program activities such as the Public Housing Agency Plan, the annual budget requests for funding, changes in program administration, and implementation of housing programs. The County Housing Authority is committed to transparency and open government and broadly distributes the Public Housing Agency Plan to stakeholders for public review and comment prior to adoption by the County Housing Authority's Board of Commissioners.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Today's actions support the County of San Diego Sustainability Goal #1 to engage the community and Sustainability Goal #2, to provide just and equitable access. This is accomplished by engaging the public and assisted tenants in the policy planning process and creating intentional collaborative

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community engagement opportunities to remove barriers from low-income families seeking to live in areas of greater economic opportunity.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with the recommendations. There will be no change in net General Fund costs and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

Today's actions will have a positive impact on the business community, as rental payments made through the Housing Choice Voucher Program are made to private landlords within the jurisdiction of the Housing Authority of the County of San Diego.

ADVISORY BOARD STATEMENT

The proposed Annual Agency Plan was discussed at the Resident Advisory Board meeting on January 18, 2024. No changes to the Annual Agency Plan were recommended by the Resident Advisory Board.

BACKGROUND

Housing authorities are required by federal regulation to prepare and submit a Public Housing Agency (PHA) Plan to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) following a 45-day public review and comment period. The PHA Plan is a comprehensive guide to housing authority policies, programs, operations, and strategies for meeting local housing needs and goals. Approval of the PHA Plan by HUD allows housing authorities to receive capital funds, operating funds, and other grants for special purpose uses in Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher ("Section 8") programs.

There are two parts to the PHA Plan: The Five-Year Agency Plan, which each PHA submits to HUD once every five years, and the Annual Agency Plan, which is submitted to HUD every year. The current Housing Authority of the County of San Diego (County Housing Authority) Five-Year Plan was approved by the County Housing Authority Board of Commissioners on April 7, 2020 (HA01) and is effective until June 30, 2025. The County Housing Authority Annual Agency Plan to be submitted this year includes two main components – the Housing Choice Voucher Program

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Administrative Plan and the Public Housing Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy. Together, these two components establish the local rules and policies for the administration of the Housing Choice Voucher and the Public Housing Programs.

The draft FY 2024-25 Annual Agency Plan is included as Attachment B. In addition, significant changes to the Annual Agency Plan proposed for this year's update are detailed in Attachment C. Examples of these changes include:

- Updates to the Annual Agency Plan to include progress in meeting the goals and objectives
 of the 2020-2024 Five-Year Plan, such as maintaining and expanding affordable
 opportunities and building resilient infrastructure to promote and foster innovation.
- The County Housing Authority's intent to financially reposition the Public Housing portfolio through a HUD conversion process to ensure long-term viability of the Public Housing developments.
- New exhibits within the Housing Choice Voucher Program Administrative Plan and Public Housing Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy detailing the regulatory and discretionary Housing Opportunity Through Modernization Act of 2016 changes that will take effect January 1, 2025.

The programs, administered according to the PHA Plan, currently provide affordable housing for approximately 11,000 low-income households in the County Housing Authority jurisdiction. The program annual budgets are ultimately determined by the funding amounts provided by the federal government through HUD. For Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24, the County Housing Authority anticipates receiving approximately \$235 million in federal funds to administer rental assistance programs for low-income households. FY 2024-25 County Housing Authority budget will be brought to the Housing Authority Board of Commissioners in June of 2024 for consideration.

Recommendation 2

In accordance with HUD requirements, draft copies of the Annual Agency Plan were released on January 26, 2024, for public review and comment. To be available to the public, the Annual Agency Plan was posted on the County Housing Authority's website (www.sdhcd.org). Copies of the Annual Agency Plan were made available at the County Housing Authority's office in San Diego, located at 3989 Ruffin Road, San Diego, California 92123, and the County Housing Authority's four public housing sites in Chula Vista. In addition, announcements describing where

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the draft Annual Agency Plan was available for review and request for comments on the plan were published in the San Diego Union Tribune, El Latino San Diego, SD Voice and Viewpoint News, Asian Journal, Beirut Times, and Saigon Times newspapers. The notices were translated into Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin), Persian (Farsi, Dari), Korean, Somali, Spanish, Tagalog (Filipino), and Vietnamese. The Public Notices were also sent via e-mail blast to 142,826 individuals that subscribe to various County Housing Authority email distribution lists.

Today's action requests this public hearing to receive comment on the County Housing Authority Fiscal year 2024-2025 Annual Agency Plan and serve as the conclusion of the 45-day public review and comment period.

Recommendations 3, and 5

A resolution approving the PHA Annual Agency Plan must be adopted by the County Housing Authority Board of Commissioners before submittal to HUD. Today's action requests the Board to adopt the resolution (Attachment A) and authorize Housing Authority staff to submit the Annual Agency Plan (Attachment B) and resolution to HUD.

Recommendation 4

The Annual Agency Plan includes certifications affirming that the County Housing Authority is compliant with the PHA Plan and related regulations, including the required Civil Rights certification, and is consistent with the San Diego Urban County and HOME Consortium Consolidated Plan (Consolidated Plan). The Consolidated Plan is required to be completed by the County of San Diego as the local jurisdiction administering federally funded Community Planning and Development grant programs, such as the Community Development Block Grant and HOME Investment Partnerships programs. The Consolidated Plan covers Community Planning and Development grant programs in the Urban County — made up of the unincorporated areas of San Diego County and the cities of Coronado, Del Mar, Imperial Beach, Lemon Grove, Poway, and Solana Beach — and the HOME Consortium, which includes the cities of La Mesa, San Marcos, Santee, Vista, Encinitas, and Carlsbad. The Annual Agency Plan must also include certifications of consistency with consolidated plans for the jurisdictions that contain at least 50% of the total population of the area served. In this case, consistency with the San Diego Urban County and HOME Consortium Consolidated Plan fulfills this requirement.

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Today's action requests the Board authorize the Executive Director of the County Housing Authority, or designee, and the Board Chair to execute all PHA certifications and submit the certifications to HUD.

Recommendation 6

The Public Housing Capital Fund Program provides funds annually to PHAs for the development, financing, and modernization of public housing developments and for management improvements. In order to receive Capital Fund Program revenue, the County Housing Authority must have an approved Five-Year Action Plan. The Five-Year Action Plan covers a rolling, five-year period and is updated annually.

Today's action requests the Board approve the Public Housing Capital Fund Program Five-Year Action Plan for 2024-2028 (Attachment D).

Recommendation 7

As evidenced by the more than 97,000 applicants on the County Housing Authority waiting lists for rental assistance programs, the demand for housing assistance generally exceeds the limited resources available, which creates long wait times. Expanding housing opportunities for families and individuals in need is a goal outlined in the Five-Year Agency Plan. A key strategy to achieve this goal involves applying for new funding and/or vouchers. This authority also allows the County Housing Authority to leverage resources and partner with other jurisdictions and entities to increase access to potential new funding or voucher opportunities. For example, in support of the County's Leave No Veteran Homeless initiative, the County Housing Authority is exploring options to partner with other local housing authorities to increase housing opportunities for veterans with Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing vouchers.

Today's action requests the Board authorize the County Housing Authority to apply for new funding or voucher opportunities as they become available and create new or expand existing partnerships towards the goal of expanding affordable housing opportunities for those in need.

ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

Section 15060(c)(3) of the California Environmental Quality (CEQA) Guidelines provides that activities identified in Section 15378 of the state CEQA Guidelines are not subject to CEQA

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review. Section 15378 provides those administrative activities of governments that will not result in a direct or indirect physical change in the environment are exempt from CEQA review. The proposed actions are administrative in nature that involve the adoption of the Resolution to approve the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Annual Agency Plan, and to authorize the Executive Director of the Housing Authority to execute all required certifications for submittal to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. As such, the proposed actions are not subject to CEQA review.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO STRATEGIC PLAN

Today's actions support the County of San Diego (County) 2024-2029 Strategic Plan Initiatives of Sustainability (Economic), Community (Quality of Life), and Equity (Housing) by creating policies to reduce and eliminate poverty, promoting economic sustainability for low-income families and improving quality of life. The County Health and Human Services Agency, Housing and Community Development Services provides programs and services that enhance the community through increasing the well-being of our residents; utilizing policies, facilities, infrastructure, and finance to provide housing opportunities that meet the needs of the community.

Respectfully submitted,

Zin C. Mudarall

ERIC C. MCDONALD

Interim Executive Director/Interim Health and Humen Services Agency Director

ATTACHMENT(S)

Attachment A – A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVING THE PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY ANNUAL AGENCY PLAN AND SUPPORTING POLICY DOCUMENTS Attachment B – Public Housing Agency Plans, Public Housing Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy, and Section 8 Administrative Plan

Attachment C – 2024-2025 Summary of Significant Changes

Attachment D - 2024-2028 Capital Fund Program Five-Year Action Plan

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COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

NORA VARGAS

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AGENDA ITEM

HOUSING AUTHORITY

DATE:

March 13, 2024

HA01

TO:

Housing Authority of the County of San Diego Board of Commissioners

SUBJECT

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OVERVIEW

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires housing authorities to prepare a Public Housing Agency (PHA) Plan as a comprehensive guide to a housing authority's policies, programs, operations, and strategies for meeting local housing needs and goals. The PHA Plan consists of a Five-Year Agency Plan and an Annual Agency Plan. The Five-Year Agency Plan was approved on April 7, 2020 (HA01) and is effective through Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2025. Today's item focuses on the Annual Agency Plan.

The Annual Agency Plan is required to be submitted to HUD every year. The Annual Agency Plan includes two main components – the Housing Choice Voucher Program Administrative Plan and the Public Housing Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy. Together, these components establish the local rules and policies for the administration of the Housing Choice Voucher ("Section 8") and the Public Housing Programs.

The Housing Authority of the County of San Diego (County Housing Authority) draft Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Annual Agency Plan was released for public review and comment, as required by HUD, on January 26, 2024. Today's actions will adopt a Resolution to approve the Fiscal Year

NOTICED PUBLIC HEARING - ADOPT A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO (COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY) BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVING THE PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY ANNUAL AGENCY PLAN AND SUPPORTING POLICY DOCUMENTS; AUTHORIZE THE SUBMITTAL OF THE PLANS AND RESOLUTION TO THE UNITED STATES HOUSING AND URBAN **DEVELOPMENT:** DEPARTMENT OF AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE ALL PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY CERTIFICATIONS: FIND THAT THESE ARE NOT PROJECTS DEFINED IN THE STATE CEQA GUIDELINES SECTION 15378; APPROVE THE PUBLIC HOUSING CAPITAL FUND FIVE-YEAR ACTION PLAN; AUTHORIZE APPLICATIONS FOR ADDITIONAL PROGRAM FUNDING AND CREATION OF NEW OR EXPANSION OF EXISTING PARTNERSHIPS (DISTRICTS: ALL)

2024-25 Annual Agency Plan and will authorize the Executive Director of the Housing Authority and the Board Chair to execute all required certifications and submit these documents to HUD. In addition, today's action requests the Board approve the Public Housing Capital Fund Program Five-Year Action Plan for 2024-2028.

Today's actions support the County of San Diego (County) vision of a just, sustainable, and resilient future for all, specifically those communities and populations in San Diego County that have been historically left behind, as well as our ongoing commitment to the regional *Live Well San Diego* vision of healthy, safe, and thriving communities. In addition, this item supports the County Framework for Ending Homelessness as the programs administered according to the PHA Plan provide affordable housing opportunities for approximately 11,000 low-income households in the County Housing Authority jurisdiction.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY DIRECTOR

- 1. Find, in accordance with Section 15060(c)(3) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines that the adoption of a Resolution to approve the Housing Authority of the County of San Diego (County Housing Authority) Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Annual Agency Plan, and to authorize the Executive Director of the Housing Authority, or designee, to execute all required certifications for submittal to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development are administrative in nature, and; therefore, are not projects as defined in the state CEQA Guidelines Section 15378.
- 2. Hold this public hearing to receive public comment on the County Housing Authority's Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Annual Agency Plan.
- 3. Adopt a resolution entitled A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVING THE PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY ANNUAL AGENCY PLAN AND SUPPORTING POLICY DOCUMENTS.
- 4. Authorize the Executive Director of the County Housing Authority, or designee, and the Board Chair to execute all Public Housing Agency certifications and submit the certifications to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- 5. Authorize the submittal of the Public Housing Agency Annual Agency Plan for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and a copy of the Resolution to the United States Department of

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Housing and Urban Development by the Executive Director of the County Housing Authority, or designee.

- 6. Approve the Public Housing Capital Fund Five-Year Action Plan for 2024-2028.
- 7. Authorize the County Housing Authority to apply for new funding or voucher opportunities as they become available and create new or expand existing partnerships towards the goal of expanding affordable housing opportunities for those in need.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The Housing Authority of the County of San Diego (County Housing Authority) administers various rental assistance programs funded by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) intended to assist very low-income households to afford decent, safe, and sanitary housing in the private market. As mandated by federal regulations, at least 75% of applicants must qualify as an extremely low-income family earning 30% of the area median income or less (currently \$33,100 for a two-person household and/or \$41,350 for a four-person household) and the remaining applicants must not exceed the low-income threshold of 50% of the area median income or less (currently \$55,150 for a two-person household and/or \$68,900 for a four-person household).

The County Housing Authority has established local preferences for waiting list applicants to ensure the most vulnerable populations receive priority for assistance. To ensure equitable access for communities who have historically suffered from inequalities and inequities, the County Housing Authority gives priority to applicants who have one or more of the following members in the household: working applicant, elderly person, disabled person, dependent children, homeless applicant, veteran, or surviving spouse of veteran. As of November 2023, the participant households' distribution includes (total does not equal 100% due to overlapping categories):

- 7% veterans
- 43% elderly and/or disabled single tenants
- 12% single parents with children in the household
- 31% have children in the household
- 66% have a head of household or spouse who is either elderly and/or disabled

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The County Housing Authority provides rental assistance to a diverse population. As of November 2023, the demographic distribution of program participants includes (total does not equal 100% due to overlapping categories):

- 32% Hispanic or Latino
- 3% Asian
- 79% White
- 1% Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander
- 16% Black/African American
- 1% American Indian/Alaska Native

The County Housing Authority is committed to deconcentrating poverty by advancing equitable access and opportunity for assisted households to live in safe and affordable housing. Rental assistance voucher holders can choose housing in areas that best fit their individual household needs. To expand housing opportunities for voucher holders outside areas of poverty concentration, the County Housing Authority provides higher payment standards in neighborhoods with greater opportunity.

The County Housing Authority incorporates the "voice of the customer" in policy and budget development through consultation with the Housing Authority Resident Advisory Board and the inclusion of tenant commissioners on the Housing Authority Board of Commissioners. Resident Advisory Board meetings are held throughout the year and facilitate discussion regarding housing needs within the community. Including the tenant commissioners in the process also brings a lived experience lens to the governing body of the County Housing Authority when approving program activities such as the Public Housing Agency Plan, the annual budget requests for funding, changes in program administration, and implementation of housing programs. The County Housing Authority is committed to transparency and open government and broadly distributes the Public Housing Agency Plan to stakeholders for public review and comment prior to adoption by the County Housing Authority's Board of Commissioners.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Today's actions support the County of San Diego Sustainability Goal #1 to engage the community and Sustainability Goal #2, to provide just and equitable access. This is accomplished by engaging the public and assisted tenants in the policy planning process and creating intentional collaborative

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community engagement opportunities to remove barriers from low-income families seeking to live in areas of greater economic opportunity.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with the recommendations. There will be no change in net General Fund costs and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

Today's actions will have a positive impact on the business community, as rental payments made through the Housing Choice Voucher Program are made to private landlords within the jurisdiction of the Housing Authority of the County of San Diego.

ADVISORY BOARD STATEMENT

The proposed Annual Agency Plan was discussed at the Resident Advisory Board meeting on January 18, 2024. No changes to the Annual Agency Plan were recommended by the Resident Advisory Board.

BACKGROUND

Housing authorities are required by federal regulation to prepare and submit a Public Housing Agency (PHA) Plan to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) following a 45-day public review and comment period. The PHA Plan is a comprehensive guide to housing authority policies, programs, operations, and strategies for meeting local housing needs and goals. Approval of the PHA Plan by HUD allows housing authorities to receive capital funds, operating funds, and other grants for special purpose uses in Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher ("Section 8") programs.

There are two parts to the PHA Plan: The Five-Year Agency Plan, which each PHA submits to HUD once every five years, and the Annual Agency Plan, which is submitted to HUD every year. The current Housing Authority of the County of San Diego (County Housing Authority) Five-Year Plan was approved by the County Housing Authority Board of Commissioners on April 7, 2020 (HA01) and is effective until June 30, 2025. The County Housing Authority Annual Agency Plan to be submitted this year includes two main components – the Housing Choice Voucher Program

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Administrative Plan and the Public Housing Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy. Together, these two components establish the local rules and policies for the administration of the Housing Choice Voucher and the Public Housing Programs.

The draft FY 2024-25 Annual Agency Plan is included as Attachment B. In addition, significant changes to the Annual Agency Plan proposed for this year's update are detailed in Attachment C. Examples of these changes include:

- Updates to the Annual Agency Plan to include progress in meeting the goals and objectives
 of the 2020-2024 Five-Year Plan, such as maintaining and expanding affordable
 opportunities and building resilient infrastructure to promote and foster innovation.
- The County Housing Authority's intent to financially reposition the Public Housing portfolio through a HUD conversion process to ensure long-term viability of the Public Housing developments.
- New exhibits within the Housing Choice Voucher Program Administrative Plan and Public Housing Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy detailing the regulatory and discretionary Housing Opportunity Through Modernization Act of 2016 changes that will take effect January 1, 2025.

The programs, administered according to the PHA Plan, currently provide affordable housing for approximately 11,000 low-income households in the County Housing Authority jurisdiction. The program annual budgets are ultimately determined by the funding amounts provided by the federal government through HUD. For Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24, the County Housing Authority anticipates receiving approximately \$235 million in federal funds to administer rental assistance programs for low-income households. FY 2024-25 County Housing Authority budget will be brought to the Housing Authority Board of Commissioners in June of 2024 for consideration.

Recommendation 2

In accordance with HUD requirements, draft copies of the Annual Agency Plan were released on January 26, 2024, for public review and comment. To be available to the public, the Annual Agency Plan was posted on the County Housing Authority's website (www.sdhcd.org). Copies of the Annual Agency Plan were made available at the County Housing Authority's office in San Diego, located at 3989 Ruffin Road, San Diego, California 92123, and the County Housing Authority's four public housing sites in Chula Vista. In addition, announcements describing where

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the draft Annual Agency Plan was available for review and request for comments on the plan were published in the San Diego Union Tribune, El Latino San Diego, SD Voice and Viewpoint News, Asian Journal, Beirut Times, and Saigon Times newspapers. The notices were translated into Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin), Persian (Farsi, Dari), Korean, Somali, Spanish, Tagalog (Filipino), and Vietnamese. The Public Notices were also sent via e-mail blast to 142,826 individuals that subscribe to various County Housing Authority email distribution lists.

Today's action requests this public hearing to receive comment on the County Housing Authority Fiscal year 2024-2025 Annual Agency Plan and serve as the conclusion of the 45-day public review and comment period.

Recommendations 3, and 5

A resolution approving the PHA Annual Agency Plan must be adopted by the County Housing Authority Board of Commissioners before submittal to HUD. Today's action requests the Board to adopt the resolution (Attachment A) and authorize Housing Authority staff to submit the Annual Agency Plan (Attachment B) and resolution to HUD.

Recommendation 4

The Annual Agency Plan includes certifications affirming that the County Housing Authority is compliant with the PHA Plan and related regulations, including the required Civil Rights certification, and is consistent with the San Diego Urban County and HOME Consortium Consolidated Plan (Consolidated Plan). The Consolidated Plan is required to be completed by the County of San Diego as the local jurisdiction administering federally funded Community Planning and Development grant programs, such as the Community Development Block Grant and HOME Investment Partnerships programs. The Consolidated Plan covers Community Planning and Development grant programs in the Urban County — made up of the unincorporated areas of San Diego County and the cities of Coronado, Del Mar, Imperial Beach, Lemon Grove, Poway, and Solana Beach — and the HOME Consortium, which includes the cities of La Mesa, San Marcos, Santee, Vista, Encinitas, and Carlsbad. The Annual Agency Plan must also include certifications of consistency with consolidated plans for the jurisdictions that contain at least 50% of the total population of the area served. In this case, consistency with the San Diego Urban County and HOME Consortium Consolidated Plan fulfills this requirement.

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Today's action requests the Board authorize the Executive Director of the County Housing Authority, or designee, and the Board Chair to execute all PHA certifications and submit the certifications to HUD.

Recommendation 6

The Public Housing Capital Fund Program provides funds annually to PHAs for the development, financing, and modernization of public housing developments and for management improvements. In order to receive Capital Fund Program revenue, the County Housing Authority must have an approved Five-Year Action Plan. The Five-Year Action Plan covers a rolling, five-year period and is updated annually.

Today's action requests the Board approve the Public Housing Capital Fund Program Five-Year Action Plan for 2024-2028 (Attachment D).

Recommendation 7

As evidenced by the more than 97,000 applicants on the County Housing Authority waiting lists for rental assistance programs, the demand for housing assistance generally exceeds the limited resources available, which creates long wait times. Expanding housing opportunities for families and individuals in need is a goal outlined in the Five-Year Agency Plan. A key strategy to achieve this goal involves applying for new funding and/or vouchers. This authority also allows the County Housing Authority to leverage resources and partner with other jurisdictions and entities to increase access to potential new funding or voucher opportunities. For example, in support of the County's Leave No Veteran Homeless initiative, the County Housing Authority is exploring options to partner with other local housing authorities to increase housing opportunities for veterans with Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing vouchers.

Today's action requests the Board authorize the County Housing Authority to apply for new funding or voucher opportunities as they become available and create new or expand existing partnerships towards the goal of expanding affordable housing opportunities for those in need.

ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

Section 15060(c)(3) of the California Environmental Quality (CEQA) Guidelines provides that activities identified in Section 15378 of the state CEQA Guidelines are not subject to CEQA

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PARTNERSHIPS (DISTRICTS: ALL)

review. Section 15378 provides those administrative activities of governments that will not result in a direct or indirect physical change in the environment are exempt from CEQA review. The proposed actions are administrative in nature that involve the adoption of the Resolution to approve the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Annual Agency Plan, and to authorize the Executive Director of the Housing Authority to execute all required certifications for submittal to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. As such, the proposed actions are not subject to CEOA review.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO STRATEGIC PLAN

Today's actions support the County of San Diego (County) 2024-2029 Strategic Plan Initiatives of Sustainability (Economic), Community (Quality of Life), and Equity (Housing) by creating policies to reduce and eliminate poverty, promoting economic sustainability for low-income families and improving quality of life. The County Health and Human Services Agency, Housing and Community Development Services provides programs and services that enhance the community through increasing the well-being of our residents; utilizing policies, facilities, infrastructure, and finance to provide housing opportunities that meet the needs of the community.

Respectfully submitted,

Zin (Mw and FOR

ERIC C. MCDONALD

Interim Executive Director/Interim Health and Humen Services Agency Director

ATTACHMENT(S)

Attachment A – A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVING THE PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY ANNUAL AGENCY PLAN AND SUPPORTING POLICY DOCUMENTS Attachment B - Public Housing Agency Plans, Public Housing Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy, and Section 8 Administrative Plan

Attachment C – 2024-2025 Summary of Significant Changes

Attachment D – 2024-2028 Capital Fund Program Five-Year Action Plan

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County of San Diego Board of Supervisors AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET

AGENDA ITEM SUBJECT/TITLE:

NOTICED PUBLIC HEARING - ADOPT A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO (COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY) BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVING THE PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY ANNUAL AGENCY PLAN AND SUPPORTING POLICY DOCUMENTS; AUTHORIZE THE SUBMITTAL OF THE PLANS AND RESOLUTION TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE ALL PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY CERTIFICATIONS; FIND THAT THESE ARE NOT PROJECTS DEFINED IN THE STATE CEQA GUIDELINES SECTION 15378; APPROVE THE PUBLIC HOUSING CAPITAL FUND FIVE-YEAR ACTION PLAN; AUTHORIZE APPLICATIONS FOR ADDITIONAL PROGRAM FUNDING AND CREATION OF NEW OR EXPANSION OF EXISTING PARTNERSHIPS (DISTRICTS: ALL)

REQUIRES FOUR VOTES:	Yes 🔲	No 🗸
WRITTEN DISCLOSURE PER COUNTY CHARTER SECTION §1000.1 REQUIRED:	Yes 🗌	No 🗸
NOTICED PUBLIC HEARING REQUIRED:	Yes 🔽	No 🔲
PROJECT UNDER CEQA:	Yes	No 🔽
If Yes, approval of CEQA document required?	Yes	No 🗸
DECISION WITHIN GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 84308:	Yes	No 🗸
PREVIOUS RELEVANT BOARD ACTIONS:		
April 11, 2023, (HA01), approved and authorized the submission to HUD of the	Public Hou	using Age

April 11, 2023, (HA01), approved and authorized the submission to HUD of the Public Housing Agency Annual Plan, the Public Housing Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy, and the Section 8 Administrative Plan, and approval of the Public Housing 5-Year Capital Fund Program Plan.

April 6, 2022, (HA01), approved and authorized the submission to HUD of the Public Housing Agency Annual Plan, the Public Housing Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy, and the Section 8 Administrative Plan, and approval of the Public Housing 5-Year Capital Fund Program Plan.

April 7, 2021, (HA01), approved and authorized the submission to HUD of the Public Housing Agency Annual Plan, the Public Housing Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy and the Section 8 Administrative Plan and approval of the Public Housing 5-Year Capital Fund Program Plan.

BOARD POLICIES APPLICABLE:

N/A

BOARD POLICY STATEMENTS:

N/A

MANDATORY COMPLIANCE:

N/A

ORACLE AWARD NUMBER(S) AND CONTRACT AND/OR REQUISITION NUMBER(S):

N/A

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

Digitally signed by Anjelica M YES ✓ NO ☐ Anjelica M Velasco Velasco INTERNAL REVIEW COMPLETED: Date: 2024.02.29 11:42:29 -08'00' Signature **CONTACT PERSON(S):** David Estrella Nicholas Martinez Name Name Phone Phone nicholas.martinez@sdcounty.ca.gov david.estrella@sdcounty.ca.gov E-mail E-mail Digitally signed by Nicholas.Martinez@sdcounty.ca.gov Date: 2024.02.29 11:03:34 -08'00' David.Estrella@sdc Digitally signed by Nicholas.Martinez David.Estrella@sdcounty.ca.gov @sdcounty.ca.gov

Signature

N/A

Date: 2024.02.29 11:27:40 -08'00'

OTHER CONCURRENCE(S):

ounty.ca.gov

Signature

County of San Diego Board of Supervisors AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET

AGENDA ITEM SUBJECT/TITLE:

NOTICED PUBLIC HEARING - ADOPT A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO (COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY) BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVING THE PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY ANNUAL AGENCY PLAN AND SUPPORTING POLICY DOCUMENTS; AUTHORIZE THE SUBMITTAL OF THE PLANS AND RESOLUTION TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE ALL PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY CERTIFICATIONS; FIND THAT THESE ARE NOT PROJECTS DEFINED IN THE STATE CEQA GUIDELINES SECTION 15378; APPROVE THE PUBLIC HOUSING CAPITAL FUND FIVE-YEAR ACTION PLAN; AUTHORIZE APPLICATIONS FOR ADDITIONAL PROGRAM FUNDING AND CREATION OF NEW OR EXPANSION OF EXISTING PARTNERSHIPS (DISTRICTS: ALL)

REQUIRES FOUR VOTES:	Yes 🗌	No 🗸
WRITTEN DISCLOSURE PER COUNTY CHARTER SECTION §1000.1 REQUIRED:	Yes 🔲	No 🗸
NOTICED PUBLIC HEARING REQUIRED:	Yes 🔽	No 🔲
PROJECT UNDER CEQA:	Yes	No 🗸
If Yes, approval of CEQA document required?	Yes 🔲	No 🗸
DECISION WITHIN GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 84308:	Yes	No 🗸
PREVIOUS RELEVANT BOARD ACTIONS: April 11, 2023 (HA01) approved and authorized the submission to HUD of the	e Public Hou	ısina A <i>a</i> e

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BOARD POLICIES APPLICABLE:

N/A

BOARD POLICY STATEMENTS:

N/A

MANDATORY COMPLIANCE:

N/A

ORACLE AWARD NUMBER(S) AND CONTRACT AND/OR REQUISITION NUMBER(S):

N/A

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

Digitally signed by Anjelica M YES ✓ NO 🗌 Anjelica M Velasco Velasco **INTERNAL REVIEW COMPLETED:** Date: 2024.02.29 11:42:29 -08'00' Signature **CONTACT PERSON(S):** David Estrella Nicholas Martinez Name Name Phone Phone david.estrella@sdcounty.ca.gov nicholas.martinez@sdcounty.ca.gov E-mail E-mail David.Estrella@sdc Digitally signed by Nicholas.Martinez Digitally signed by Nicholas.Martinez@sdcounty.ca.gov Date: 2024.02.29 11:03:34 -08'00' David.Estrella@sdcounty.ca.gov

Signature

@sdcounty.ca.gov

N/A

Date: 2024.02.29 11:27:40 -08'00'

OTHER CONCURRENCE(S):

ounty.ca.gov

Signature