



**DATE:** April 5, 2016

**CATEGORY:** Consent

**DEPT.:** City Manager's Office

**TITLE:** **Homeless Vehicle Dweller Census and Survey**

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Approve the use of \$15,000 from Housing Successor Agency "boomerang" funds in order to conduct a census and survey of homeless vehicle dwellers in Mountain View.

### **BACKGROUND**

On February 23, 2016, the City Council discussed the feasibility of a safe parking program along with other efforts designed to help individuals and families that are living in RVs and cars in Mountain View. Council directed staff to create a work plan of efforts designed to help the vehicularly homeless, including contracting with a nonprofit agency to conduct a census and survey of homeless vehicle dwellers in Mountain View in order to better understand this population.

### **ANALYSIS**

LifeMoves, formerly InnVision Shelter Network, is a nonprofit agency with over 40 years of experience serving homeless individuals and families, with expertise in conducting surveys of the vehicularly homeless. Staff has initiated discussions with LifeMoves to conduct a survey and census in Mountain View. The preliminary estimate given was \$5,000 to \$10,000. Subsequent to Council action and a more detailed proposal, the cost is \$12,500. This includes counting all vehicles used for dwelling purposes in Mountain View during the survey period; surveying up to 100 individuals living in their vehicles; providing \$25 gift cards to survey participants (1 per vehicle); and providing a narrative summary of the findings. The anticipated time frame for launching this project is April/May. Once the survey data is collected by LifeMoves, the City will have to tabulate and analyze it.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

For Fiscal Year 2015-16, the City Council adopted \$242,800 in Housing Successor Agency “boomerang” funds, of which \$10,000 has been expended to increase services to the homeless population in the City. The balance in this fund, which is to be used for affordable housing-related purposes, is \$232,800. Staff is requesting the City Council approve \$15,000 (including a contingency) to pay for a homeless vehicle dweller census and survey conducted by LifeMoves.

**ALTERNATIVES**

1. Do not fund the census and survey.
2. Provide other direction.

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Approved by:

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City Manager

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