

CITY COUNCIL REPORT

DATE: December 6, 2018

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Leah Bloom, Housing and Grants Administrator
Daniel Folke, Acting Community Development Director

CC: Barbara Goodrich, City Manager; Shane Dille, Deputy City Manager; Sarah Darr, Housing Director; Justyna Costa, Housing Manager

SUBJECT: Update on Assistance to Displaced Households from the Closure of Arrowhead Mobile Home Park

Background:

During Council budget retreat in April 2018, a discussion was held considering decreasing the contingency fund balance by half of one percent to provide an ongoing funding source for emergency housing relocation assistance. The goal of the ongoing program would be to leverage other funding opportunities to provide relocation assistance. In the end, this option was set aside, resulting in Council budgeting \$100,000 in one-time general funds for households being displaced from the closure of mobile home parks.

Staff was directed to work with Flagstaff Shelter Services' and Coconino County Community Services' existing programs as an interim measure to expedite assistance to residents pending displacement from the closure of Arrowhead Village. There was an initial \$20,000 of funding specific to Arrowhead Village, with stated flexibility to allocate more should there be need.

In addition to Arrowhead Village, staff was directed to create a relocation assistance program with the remaining funds allocated for this purpose.

Arrowhead Village Assistance

- Four community meetings and three outreach meetings were hosted by Flagstaff Shelter Services and Coconino County Community Services – with City staff support.
- The Front Door via Flagstaff Shelter Services provided a Specialist to triage each household.
- A total of 35 Arrowhead households received Relocation Assistance Support via Flagstaff Shelter Services and Coconino County, 14 with city funding.

- The 14 households were assisted with \$13,424.34 in city funding for relocation assistance, costing \$2,013.65 in administrative fees payable to the fiscal agent.
 - Other leveraged funds: (more than \$63k)
 - \$2,500 - United Way of Northern Arizona contributed for professional interpretation services and printing costs.
 - \$26,500 - Flagstaff Shelter Services leveraged rapid rehousing and other funding to support 12 additional households.
 - \$12,225 - Coconino County assisted nine additional households.
 - \$22,500 (estimate) - Arizona Department of Housing leveraged abandonment funds for 20 households
 - Staff estimates Arizona Department of Housing also assisted three households with relocation funds. ADOH has not been responsive to staff's request in obtaining the funding spent on relocation assistance.

In an effort to avoid future emergency situations concerning displaced populations due to the closure of mobile home parks, a Request for Proposals (RFP) will be published to identify housing service providers that have established programs in place to assist families and individuals in achieving housing permanency. The goal of the program will be to keep displaced populations housed and prevent them from entering Flagstaff's homeless system. Additionally, the RFP will seek leveraged capacity to maximize City resources and require the successful bidder to provide housing case management services.

Recommendation / Conclusion:

This City Council Report is for information only.