



City Council Agenda Item

City Council Meeting Date: October 15, 2019

TO: Jim Throop, City Manager

FROM: Samantha Scroggin, Community Relations Manager
s_scroggin@ci.lompoc.ca.us

SUBJECT: Adoption of Resolution No. 6285(19) Authorizing Application for Department of Housing and Community Development Planning Grants Program

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the City Council adopt Resolution No. 6285(19) (attached), authorizing the City to apply for the State of California, Department of Housing and Community Development Planning Grants Program (Planning Grants).

Background:

In 2017, Governor Brown signed a 15-bill housing package aimed at addressing the state's housing shortage and high housing costs. Specifically, it included the Building Homes and Jobs Act (Act), which establishes a \$75 recording fee on all real estate documents in order to provide funding for a state-mandated local program to increase the supply of affordable homes in California. For the first year (2019) the local program is funded with 50% of the proceeds of the fee (the remaining 50% goes to the State to assist persons experiencing, or at risk of, homelessness). Following that, 70% goes to local affordable housing programs and 30% to the State. If local programs do not use the funds within 5 years, then the funds will revert to the State.

The purpose of the Planning Grants opportunity is to provide funding and technical assistance to all local governments in California to help cities and counties prepare, adopt, and implement plans, and process improvements, that streamline housing approvals and accelerate housing production.

Discussion:

The City's Planning Division's mission is to foster the orderly growth and protect the quality of life of the community. The City accomplishes this by utilizing the best available planning techniques and resources to implement the City's long-range plans and to perform design and environmental review of development proposals.

The City is eligible to apply for the 2019 Planning Grants in the amount of \$160,000. The City Council has identified expanding housing as a priority, and funds available through the grant can be used to:

- Accelerate housing production;
- Streamline the approval of housing development affordable to owner and renter households at all income levels;
- Facilitate housing affordability, particularly for lower- and moderate-income households;
- Promote development consistent with the State Planning Priorities (Government Code section 65041.1);
- Ensure geographic equity in the distribution and expenditure of the funds.

Fiscal Impact:

If the application for the Planning Grant is approved, then the \$160,000 grant will reduce fiscal impact on the City's Planning Division. Funds will be used towards consultation costs related to the Housing Element update and implementation of policies that would encourage infill housing development.

Conclusion:

The Planning Grant program's purpose is to provide financial incentives to cities and counties that accelerate the production of housing. The City has supported increasing housing in the City. Adoption of Resolution No. 6285(19) will allow the City to apply for this financial incentive to assist with housing production and projects.

Respectfully submitted,

Samantha Scroggin, Community Relations Manager

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE CITY COUNCIL:

Jim Throop, City Manager

Attachment: Resolution No. 6285(19)