

From: [Kelsey Reedy](#)
To: [COB](#)
Subject: BOS Public Comments - 12/7/20
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 8:47:37 AM

Good Morning Board of Supervisors,

Below are the items on the agenda that I am submitting public comment to:

C.9 - AHP Drop-In Center, Case Management and Supportive Services

C.10 - Professional Services Agreement with Arcata House Partnership to Provide Operating Support to the Adult Shelter on Boyd Road

C.11 - Professional Services Agreement with Arcata House Partnership, Funded by California Emergency Solutions and Housing Program (CESH), Regarding the Provision of Rental Assistance, Case Management and Supportive Services

C.12 - Professional Services Agreement with Arcata House Partnership Regarding the Provision of Emergency Shelter, Case Management and Supportive Services

C.13 - Professional Services Agreement with Arcata House Partnership, Funded by Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP), Regarding the Provision of Rental Assistance, Case Management and Supportive Services

-This comment is in regards to all of the above items on the consent calendar regarding Professional Service Agreements with Arcata House Partnership. I am really happy to see the county making moves to address homelessness immediately here. It is of great concern that all of these contracts are with the same organization, with that organization being one that I have heard and observed sub pare practices and treatment of our most vulnerable community members from. What went into the decision to choose AHP? Personally I have done a lot of on the ground work with folks who are experiencing homelessness and specifically people receiving services at Arcata House Partnership. I would be happy to go into specifics if anybody is interested but the point I want to make it that Arcata House Partnership is not the only organization providing resources to the houseless community and it should have been more of a community and stake-holder driven process of determining which organization was best for which form aspect of solutions for homelessness. We all know there are many causes and solutions, let's not put all of our eggs in one basket. AHHA is providing essential services to the houseless community and they are never the recipient of any of this money. AHP has been relying on them for showers for their clients, why can't some of these resources/contracts go to them?

C.17 - Grant Agreement with Harm Reduction Coalition for the California Harm Reduction Initiative to Expand Harm Reduction and Support and Services for Fiscal Years 2020-23 and Supplemental Budget

-This is really great to see on the agenda, please pass! It's fairly ironic that it is on the agenda today since HACHR is being threatened so much by the city of Eureka. Glad this is on the consent calendar, hope it doesn't get pulled. And I think it is also your responsibility to hold the City of Eureka accountable for trying to stop needle exchange services that are approved at a county level. This is a basic services that is provided by more than just HACHR and we should be standing up against the attacks by Eureka City Council .

C.21 - Professional Services Agreement with United Indian Health Services, Inc. Regarding the Provision of Community Outreach and Support Services Related to the CalFresh Program

-Happy to see this one as well!

H.2 - Adoption of the 2021 State and Federal Legislative Platforms

-I request that the last 2 paragraphs of the section: "YOUTHFUL OFFENDERS, JUVENILE JUSTICE" - See exact wording below.

-These two paragraphs are trying to provide a loophole for the county when it comes to being responsible for the youth who would have gone to DJJ prior to realignment. The intention of SB823 was to keep young people in their communities regardless of the extent of their charges because they are much more likely to rehabilitate and reintegrate back into society. Our Juvenile Hall sends about 1 youth a year to the DJJ. This community wants to do whatever is needed to support this young person while keeping the rest of the community safe. Please don't allow these paragraphs to be included because it not only waters down the impact of SB823 but it also puts our young people at risk.

"Funding should recognize the unique position, needs, and conditions of each county and include a growth factor so that future funding keeps pace with growing programmatic costs. **To the extent the state does not provide adequate funding for counties to be successful with youthful offenders, responsibility for the care and custody of the most complex juvenile cases should return to the state.**

Humboldt County supports evidence-based efforts to protect against unnecessary transfers of juvenile offenders to the adult system. However, these efforts should not reduce local flexibility or create unfunded costs for counties to build new, or retrofit existing, facilities."

H.4 - Request of the Auditor-Controller for Outside Counsel Representation

-I strongly recommend that the board approve the request of Auditor Controller Karen paz Dominguez. Mrs. Paz Dominguez has spoken out various times throughout the past year about her department as Auditor-Controller and it is clear that her department is understaffed and would benefit from hiring more staff through the auditor controller instead of using taxpayers money to purchase a contract with a private vendor. Purchasing a contract with a private vendor to do the responsibilities of the Auditor-Controller would take away oversight of the County's spending that has been granted to the Humboldt County Auditor-Controller. Mrs. Paz Dominquez was elected because we know she would be operating with complete efficiency and transparency. It is unreasonable for the Board of Supervisors to take power away from the Auditor-Controller's office as this is not something that we had the opportunity to vote on.

*I urge you all to Accept Mrs. Paz Dominguez's request to seek outside counsel as the Office of the County Council representing her would be a conflict of interest.

Thank you for listening to *We the People*

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