

LOCAL NEWS

San Bernardino could add several community development, housing projects to 2017-18 plan



The grand opening of Olive Meadow at Arrowhead Grove, the housing project formerly known as Waterman Gardens in San Bernardino on Thursday, Sept. 28, 2017. The community provides 62 high-quality, affordable apartment homes for low- and moderate-income families. (Photo by Watchara Phomicinda, The Press-Enterprise/SCNG)

By **BRIAN WHITEHEAD** | bwhitehead@scng.com | San Bernardino Sun

PUBLISHED: December 18, 2017 at 5:19 pm | UPDATED: December 18, 2017 at 5:23 pm



Five federally-funded projects and a \$1.5 million commitment to the second and third phases of another could be added to San Bernardino's fiscal 2017-18 Action Plan this week.

A public hearing on the reallocation of \$4 million in federal funding is scheduled for [Wednesday's City Council meeting](#).

In May, the city submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development its one-year business plan for [Community Development Block Grant](#), Neighborhood Stabilization Program and Emergency Solutions Grant funds.

These new projects were not contemplated at that time, a staff report states. At least two are being proposed now in preparation for next summer.

The city's general fund will not be impacted by any additions to the plan.

City staffers suggest allocating \$195,000 to install a new shade structure at the Jerry Lewis Family Swim Center; \$300,000 to install a new chiller at the Norman F. Feldheim Central Library; \$307,775 for street and sidewalk improvements; and \$900,000 to demolish vacant housing units within the Arrowhead Grove community that have become targets for vandals.

More than \$200,000 would go to Step Up on Second, a nonprofit that serves and helps house area homeless. The city would require Step Up to house a minimum of 20 homeless people over the course of its contract.

Lastly, \$1.5 million could be committed to Phase 2 and 3 of the Arrowhead Grove project, [a complete revamp of the Waterman Gardens neighborhood](#).

The two phases include constructing 184 mixed-income units, on-site amenities and myriad transportation improvements through the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities program.

National CORE, the Rancho Cucamonga-based nonprofit group leading the revitalization, is working with city and county officials on the AHSC application, due January 16, a staff report states. The application is to include all funding commitments, thus the \$1.5 million pledge.

To be removed from San Bernardino's fiscal 2017-18 Action Plan is the Veterans Housing Project, a \$300,000 undertaking.

The council meets at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 20, at Council Chambers, 201 N. E St.

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Brian Whitehead

Brian Whitehead covers San Bernardino for The Sun. Bred in Grand Terrace, he graduated from Riverside Notre Dame High and Cal State Fullerton. For seven years, he covered high school and college sports for The Orange County Register. Before landing at The Sun, he was the city beat reporter for Buena Park, Fullerton and La Palma.

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