

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Natalie Lewis, Deputy City Manager

THROUGH: Chris Brady, City Manager

DATE: August 24, 2020

RE: Agreement with Maricopa County Public Health for Homeless/COVID-19 Services

The item before you this evening is an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the City of Mesa and the Maricopa County Public Health Department in order to seek reimbursement from the County for project-related expenses. Here is some background:

In April-July 2020, the City was provided the use of 12, secured hotel rooms that were funded by Maricopa County Department of Public Health in direct response to COVID and helping to keep vulnerable populations of homeless safe and healthy during the pandemic. At that time, the County had also provided five rooms to the City of Chandler and eight rooms to the City of Tempe at the same hotel. This agreement was interrupted in June when the hotel (formerly Ramada Hotel in downtown Mesa) was unexpectedly sold for a new use. Based on concerns from the Mesa Council and the community about having other cities' homeless housed in this downtown Mesa hotel, the County entered into new, separate agreements for July 2020 to meet its original intentions and commitments for each city. This IGA ensured the leased hotels were located in each community, thus enabling the County to be responsive to Mesa community concerns and to respect regional partnerships. Mesa's 12 hotel rooms are located relocated in east Mesa.

All hotel residents received "wrap-around services" from navigators and outreach workers with Community Bridges, Inc. and are under contract with the City of Mesa with 2019/20 CDBG funds and/or Mesa CARES funding. The 12 residents have since been transitioned into the Operation Off-the-Streets program or out of the hotels and into alternative housing, as possible.

If the Council has questions about this agreement, please contact Natalie Lewis. Thank you.

**Attachment:** IGA between Mesa and Maricopa County

