

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Craig Schlatter, Director of Community Development

City of Ukiah

300 Seminary Avenue Ukiah, CA 95482

Phone: (707) 463 - 6219

## CITY OF UKIAH MAKES AVAILABLE \$500,000 FOR HOUSING

**Ukiah, CA. January 2, 2018.** – The City of Ukiah has released a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) making available at least \$500,000 in financing from the Ukiah Housing Trust Fund. The funding will be in the form of below-market interest rate loans and used to assist in the creation, rehabilitation, and preservation of affordable housing. Affordable housing is defined in this NOFA as housing restricted to individuals and families with gross (before taxes) incomes of no more than 80% of the Area Median Income for their household size.

This is the first NOFA released by the City of Ukiah through its new Housing Trust Fund. The Housing Trust Fund was created by the Ukiah City Council in 2017 as part of its strategy to address the need for housing in Ukiah.

"Loss of funding on the federal level has impacted affordable housing developers, and the City is pleased to make funding available for housing," comments City Manager Sage Sangiacomo. "The Housing Trust Fund was designed so that repaid loan funds could be reused for other projects in the future, thus creating a sustainable source of local housing funding."

Eligible loan activities include new construction of affordable rental and homeownership projects, rehabilitation, redevelopment of underutilized land and buildings, including historic properties, and construction of accessory dwelling units. City loans are intended to partially fill the gap between development costs and financing available from private and other public sources.

Release of this first NOFA has been carefully timed by City staff to coincide with deadlines of other state and federal funding sources. This can assist affordable housing entities in maximizing points on other funding applications, stretching Ukiah's housing trust fund dollars even further.

Ukiah Mayor Kevin Doble notes "Housing is a fundamental component to a strong community- increasing supply and variety is key. I hope this new funding leads to new and improved housing opportunities."

Applications are being accepted until Friday, February 16 at 4:00 p.m. The NOFA and application can be downloaded from the City's website at www.cityofukiah.com/housing-services. Application materials can also be picked up at the City's Community Development Department, located on 300 Seminary Avenue. For more information, contact Craig Schlatter at 707-463-6219 or cschlatter@cityofukiah.com.

City staff are also encouraging the public to complete the Community Housing Satisfaction Survey. This survey is available on the home page of the City's website at www.cityofukiah.com. Feedback from the survey will be used to set future priorities for NOFAs released through the Housing Trust Fund.

Sage Sangiacomy, City Manager

# # #