

# Policy Briefing Summary

## City Council



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<b>Regarding:</b>	<b>Resolution to Allocate Housing Operations and Support ("HOPS") FY 26 Grant Funding for Affordable Housing and Homelessness Support Programs in the Amount of \$460,574 (2nd reading)</b>
<b>Staff Contact(s):</b>	Antoine Williams, Housing Program Manager, Alexander Ikefuna, Director, Office of Community Solutions
<b>Presenter:</b>	<b>Antoine Williams, Housing Program Manager</b>
<b>Date of Proposed Action:</b>	July 7, 2025

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### Issue

The HOPS Fund provides critical financial support to organizations offering housing stability services, emergency shelter, case management, and homeownership support in the City of Charlottesville, Virginia ("City"). City Council is asked to approve a Resolution authorizing the allocation of FY26 HOPS Funds from the Charlottesville Affordable Housing Fund ("CAHF"), totaling \$460,574, to support nonprofit agencies providing housing stability and homelessness-related services.

### Background / Rule

The HOPS Program was created to provide operational support to nonprofit partners addressing affordable housing, housing access, and homelessness prevention in the City. Beginning in FY24, HOPS became a separate funding stream from the Vibrant Community Fund, with awards recommended by the CAHF Committee and reviewed by the City Manager and Executive Team as part of the Annual Budget process.

While the \$1.5 million HOPS line item is reflected in the adopted FY26 Capital Improvement Plan ("CIP"), the individual agency allocations are not specified. Therefore, a certified Resolution is required to authorize the specific Grant awards formally. This is consistent with past practice and necessary for City Staff to proceed with executing Grant Agreements and distributing funds.

### Analysis

The FY26 HOPS process was conducted through a formal Notice of Funding Availability issued on August 19, 2024, with applications due by October 18, 2024. The CAHF Committee reviewed 16 eligible applications, totaling \$1.47 million in requests, and applied an objective scoring rubric that focused on need, service alignment, organizational capacity, and City housing priorities. Following Committee review and Executive Team consideration, a final slate of Grant awards totaling **\$460,574** is recommended for approval. Additionally, \$41,500 in FY26 HOPS funding was previously allocated by the Council on April 21, 2025, via Resolution, to the Blue Ridge Area Coalition for the Homeless ("BRACH") for an emergency Supportive Housing Grant. That action reduced the balance available for standard FY26 HOPS Grants.

### Key funding figures:

- **Total FY26 HOPS line item (CAHF):** \$575,000
- **Amount previously allocated (BRACH):** \$41,500
- **Recommended allocations in current Resolution:** \$460,574
- **Remaining discretionary balance:** \$72,926

The allocations reflect a balance between CAHF Committee scoring and Executive Team recommendations, with priority given to Programs that have a direct impact on vulnerable populations (e.g., shelter access, case management, housing stability services).

Approval of the attached Resolution is necessary to issue formal award letters and execute Grant Agreements by July 1, 2025.

**Financial Impact**

Funding for HOPS is allocated in the FY25/26 CIP Budget.

**Recommendation**

City Staff recommends City Council adopt the attached Resolution. This action authorizes the disbursement of \$460,574 from the previously approved \$1.5 million FY26 CAHF HOPS allocation (Fund 426, Project CP-084). No new appropriations are required.

**Recommended Motion (if Applicable)**

“I move to adopt the attached Resolution allocating \$460,574 in FY26 HOPS funding from the CAHF to nonprofit partners as outlined in the Resolution, and further move that City Council adopt the Resolution upon first reading, as the allocations align with the programmatic intent and funding commitments previously presented during the FY26 Budget process.”

**Attachments**

1. FinalDraft\_Charlottesville HOPS Resolution FY26
2. FinalDraft\_Charlottesville HOPS Report FY26