COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: **CERTIFICATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT APPROVAL ON BEHALF OF LOCAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVING EMERGENCY SHELTER GRANT (ESG) FUNDS THROUGH IOWA FINANCE AUTHORITY**

BACKGROUND:

The Assault Care Center Extending Shelter and Support (ACCESS) is seeking to submit an application for Federal Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) funding through the Iowa Finance Authority (IFA). **In order to apply for this funding, ACCESS must request a certification from the local government that the program funds are consistent with goals and priorities outlined in the City's most current CDBG Five-Year Consolidated Plan (2019-2023) for addressing the needs of homeless and low-income households.**

ACCESS is seeking to apply for approximately $78,137 in ESG funding. Of this amount, $22,590 will be for shelter operations and staff expenses for their office located in Ames and Story County. The remaining $55,547 would be for rapid rehousing and homelessness prevention programming over their five-county service area. Of this amount, Ames/Story County is anticipated to receive an allocation of approximately $28,458 (51%).

The "Certification of Local Government Approval" signifies that the City understands and agrees to allow these non-profit agencies to receive federal funds directly through IFA. Also, these certifications confirm that the City approves of IFA administering these grant funds on behalf of the non-profit organizations. The application is for funding beginning January 1, 2022.

In order to facilitate the ACCESS application for these ESG shelter grant funds, the Mayor is being asked to sign the attached "Certification of Local Government Approval" on behalf of ACCESS.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Authorize the Mayor to sign the Certification of Local Government Approval for the ACCESS application for ESG grant funding through IFA.

2. Do not authorize the Mayor to sign the Certification of Local Government Approval for the ACCESS application for ESG grant funding through IFA.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Receiving ESG grant funds administered through the Iowa Finance Authority is very important in helping this agency provide much needed services for the homeless and victims fleeing domestic violence in Ames and Story County.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative #1, as described above.

CERTIFICATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT APPROVAL

FOR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVING IOWA STATEWIDE EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT (ESG) FUNDS FOR SHELTER

ESG Nonprofit Recipient:	ACCESS- Assault Care Center Extending Shelter and Support
ESG Shelter Project:	ACCESS Shelter/Emergency Housing Program
Unit of General Purpose Local Government for the geographic area served (city or county):	City of Ames, Iowa
Project Description (2-3 sentences):	ACCESS provides 14-16 beds of shelter through a scattered site model within the City of Ames. Additionally, ACCESS compliments shelter with rapid-rehousing, homeless prevention, housing advocacy, and essential community based support services.

I certify that I am duly authorized to act on behalf of the unit of general purpose local government named above, and that I hereby approve* of this project.

By: _____   _____
            Signature   Date

_____
Printed Name and Title of Signatory Local Official

* This approval is made to carry out 24 CFR Part 576.202(a), which states the following:
"…The recipient must subgrant the remaining funds in its fiscal year grant to:
(1) Units of general purpose local government in the State, which may include metropolitan cities and urban counties that receive ESG funds directly from HUD; or
(2) Private nonprofit organizations, provided that for emergency shelter activities the recipient obtains a certification of approval from the unit of general purpose local government for the geographic area in which those activities are to be carried out."

Iowa Statewide ESG Policy: This certification is required at least once every two years.

Form updated 5/10/2018