SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Item 51: Housing and Community Services Emergency Rental Assistance Reallocation

To: Emergency Board Full Committee From: Human Services Subcommittee

Carrier: Representative Fahey

The Human Services Subcommittee recommends that the Emergency Board increase Federal Funds expenditure limitation for the Housing and Community Services Department by \$47,089,450 for additional Emergency Rental Assistance payments from reallocated federal funds under the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security Act, and the American Rescue Plan Act.

Approximately \$29.5 million for additional Emergency Rental Assistance payments have already been reallocated to Oregon from other states who have not been able to utilize the funding because of federal deadlines or other circumstances. Oregon plans to apply for a further \$17.6 million. The funds will be used to make rental assistance payments on behalf of low-income Oregonians who have outstanding rental obligations because their incomes were impacted by COVID, and whose applications for rental assistance are under final review or are in process. HCSD plans to finance \$12.3 million of applications in the 'Final Review' category by using existing resources, in anticipation of the next reallocation of federal funding. The Department may need to return to the Legislature for \$3.6 million General Fund should the requested federal reallocation not be approved.

The Subcommittee recommends approval.