



AGENDA REPORT

TO: Sabrina B. Landreth
City Administrator

FROM: Jason Mitchell
Director, OPW

SUBJECT: Gender Neutral Restrooms

DATE: November 14, 2017

City Administrator Approval

Date:

11/14/17

RECOMMENDATION

Staff Recommends That The City Council Receive This Informational Report From The Oakland Public Works Department On Options For Gender Neutral Restrooms In Civic Center Complex, Including City Hall, 150 And 250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Public Works Committee has requested an informational report on options for providing gender neutral restrooms in City owned buildings, specifically at City Hall, 150 and 250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza. Providing gender neutral restrooms at Civic Center Complex will make it possible for workers, visitors and others in our community to conveniently and safely access restroom facilities without restrictions.

Gender neutral restrooms differ from single user restrooms covered in Assembly Bill 1732 (AB1732), which designates any restroom that is designed to accommodate one user at a time as a single user restroom and can be used by any genders. AB1732 helps address access to restrooms by eliminating gender specific requirements for the use. When single user restrooms are not available, converting multiple stall restrooms to gender neutral restrooms provides the option to allow anyone to use the restroom.

BACKGROUND / LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

At the July 11, 2017, Public Works Committee, Councilmember Kaplan introduced Resolution 86846 directing the City Administrator to analyze potential options, costs and associated issues for provided gender-neutral restrooms in City Owned Buildings, starting with the City Hall Complex.

Assembly Bill No. 1732 was approved on September 29, 2016, by the Governor of California with a commencement date of March 1, 2017. AB1732 requires all single-user toilet facilities in any business establishment, place of public accommodation, or government agency to be

Item: _____
Public Works Committee
November 14, 2017

identified as all-gender toilet facilities. The approved signage under AB1732 conveys all gender, however, does not necessarily convey gender neutral.

ANALYSIS AND POLICY ALTERNATIVES

Oakland Public Work's (OPW's) Facilities Division performed an assessment of all single user restrooms and is in the process of changing the existing signage at all city facilities to meet the requirements of AB1732. At Civic Center Complex, 28 restrooms are single user restrooms. These restrooms are primarily located on upper floors of the buildings or in "restricted" areas only accessible to employees. There are no "gender neutral" restrooms available for visitors to use on the public accessible floors in 250 Frank Ogawa Plaza or City Hall.

The following is a description of counts and locations of the single user restrooms located in Civic Center Complex that are AB 1732 compliant and restrooms that could be converted to gender neutral restrooms.

City Hall

- There are 22 restrooms in City Hall that have been identified as single user restrooms, these restrooms are located on the, 4th through the 11th floors. These restrooms have been converted to single user restrooms in compliance with AB1732.
- Staff identified one women's restroom in City Hall on the second floor near the City Clerk's office that could be converted to a gender neutral restroom. This restroom is accessible to the public has one ADA accessible stall and two standard stalls, the restroom also has two sinks. Designating it as a gender neutral restroom will only require minimal cost for the installation of the appropriate signage.

150 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza

- There are two restrooms in the 150 Building accessible to the public that are converted to single user restrooms and therefore also gender neutral. These restrooms are located on the 1st floor in the service elevator lobby, and are primarily used by patrons from the Awaken Café, the second restroom is located on the 2nd floor, in the common hallway near the historic staircase.

250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza

- There are no restrooms available in the Dalziel Building that are designated as single user restrooms.
- Staff identified two restrooms on the first floor of the Dalziel building that could be converted to gender neutral restrooms. They are the existing restrooms on the first floor currently designated as men's and women's multi-user restrooms. The women's restroom has two stalls, one is ADA accessible and the other is a standard stall, there are two sinks in this restroom. This restroom could be converted by changing the signage to gender neutral signage. The men's room currently has a single ADA stall and a wall mounted urinal. Converting this restroom would require, changing the wall

mounted urinal to a wall mounted toilet and adding a privacy partition and door. The estimated cost to convert the men's restroom to a gender neutral restroom would be \$25,000-\$30,000.

FISCAL IMPACT

The fiscal impact for providing gender neutral restrooms at City Hall and 150 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza will be the cost of the signage to indicate the restroom is gender neutral. Converting a restroom in 250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza will require plumbing and structural modifications at an estimated cost of \$25,000 - \$30,000.

PUBLIC OUTREACH / INTEREST

There was no formal outreach performed for the purposes of this report.

COORDINATION

OPW coordinated with the City Administrator's office in preparation of this informational report.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic: There were no economic opportunities identified to be available through this informational report.

Environmental: No environmental opportunities were identified to be available through this informational report.

Social Equity: Providing gender neutral restrooms ensures that no matter how someone identifies they have restroom access in the public areas of Civic Center Plaza.

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Staff recommends that the City Council receive this informational report from the Oakland Public Works Department on options for providing gender neutral restrooms in Civic Center Complex, including City Hall, 150 and 250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza and provide further direction.

For questions regarding this report, please contact Derin Minor, Oakland Public Works, Facilities Services Division Manager, 510-238-3998.

Respectfully submitted,



Jason Mitchell
Director, Oakland Public Works

Reviewed by:
Susan Kattchee, Assistant Director
Bureau of Facilities & Environment

Prepared by:
Derin Minor, Division Manager
Facilities Services Division