



City Attorney's Office

# OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ C.M.S.**

**INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT KAPLAN**

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**ADOPT A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR AND THEIR DESIGNEES TO BEGIN THE PROCESS OF REVIEWING OPTIONS FOR THE CREATION OF OAKLAND CITY STAFF CIVILIAN RESPONSE POSITIONS FOR THE MACRO PROGRAM PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION NO. 87759 C.M.S. AND REPORT BACK TO COUNCIL**

**WHEREAS**, In the 2019-2020 Mid-cycle budget, the Oakland City Council included \$40,000 for Urban Strategies Council to research the feasibility of a CAHOOTS-like program in Oakland, after a year of consultations with stakeholders, including our most impacted community members, Urban Strategies provided a comprehensive analysis and recommendations of the contours of a pilot program in two Oakland areas, recommending a launch that will cost approximately \$3.09 million; and

**WHEREAS**, the structure of the proposed pilot program include: a more appropriate, non-police response to non-violent/non-felony calls; a model unique to Oakland; a proposal that improves OPD response time to urgent calls; a design based on community members helping their own communities; a program that can save the City money and lives while the community demands a call to reinvest in the community and allow for the police to spend more time solving crime; and

**WHEREAS**, the issues of police misconduct, excessive use of force and their accountability to the communities they serve are at the forefront of public and political debate as America recently witnessed the murder of George Floyd and learned of the details of Breonna Taylor's homicide by police. Community efforts to address these issues in Oakland have a long history - black and brown residents have historically distrusted the police and engaged in resistance and struggle to envision new approaches to public safety and police/community relations; and

**WHEREAS**, as many times as police are called for cases with individuals who have mental health issues, a police response can go seriously wrong and even lead to death. Interactions with police add unnecessary stress and tension to a difficult situation and frequently have a delayed response. Recently, community activism has focused on one specific areas of concern: how police respond to 911 non-violent and mental health-related calls; and

**WHEREAS**, many stakeholders find broad agreement that current resources and systems for responding to non-criminal emergency calls are ineffective and inefficient; there was wide-spread support for the creation of a pilot to replace 3 police officers with a team of civilians equipped to provide appropriate responses to mental health and non-criminal community crises; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mobile Assistance Community Responders of Oakland (MACRO) response model was created to respond to the need to integrate a new model of emergency response, which, upon implementation, will be coordinated by the Department of Violence Prevention; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Violence Prevention Chief Guillermo Cespedes strongly supports a MACRO pilot and is interested in the opportunity to create the mechanism to expand non-police responses to other violence prevention strategies in neighborhoods which are potential areas for an alternative emergency response pilot; and

**WHEREAS**, the MACRO pilot program recommends 11 Full Time Equivalent ("FTE") Emergency Management Technicians (EMT), 11 FTE Counselors, 11 FTE Administration personnel, and 1 FTE Administrative Support personnel; and

**WHEREAS**, the creation of Oakland City staff civilian response positions in-house within the Department of Violence Prevention for managing the program and monitoring compliance and oversight of MACRO and for providing direct civilian response for mental health calls is in the best interest of the city; now, therefore, so be it:

**RESOLVED:** that the City Administrator and their designees begin the process of reviewing options for the creation of Oakland City staff civilian response positions for the MACRO Program pursuant to Resolution No. 87759 C.M.S. and report back to Council.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - FORTUNATO BAS, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, KALB, REID, TAYLOR,  
THAO AND PRESIDENT KAPLAN

NOES –

ABSENT –

ABSTENTION –

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

ASHA REED  
Acting City Clerk and Clerk of the  
Council of the City of Oakland, California