



CITY OF OAKLAND

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OAKLAND

2017 MAY 24 PM 5:37

AGENDA REPORT

TO: Sabrina B. Landreth
City Administrator

FROM: Sara Bedford
Department of Human
Services

SUBJECT: Supplemental to Funding Strategies to
Reduce Homelessness in Oakland

DATE: May 24, 2017

City Administrator Approval

Date:

5/24/17

RECOMMENDATION

For City Council To Accept This Supplemental Information And Accept For Consideration The Recommendations From Life Enrichment Committee Of April 25, 2017 Concerning The Supplemental Report Funding Strategies To Reduce Homelessness In Oakland For FY 2017-19. Additionally, Accept For Review The Recommendations From The Ad Hoc Working Group For Homelessness.

BACKGROUND / LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

The Life Enrichment Committee heard reports at both the April 25 and May 23, 2017 meetings regarding strategies and funding options to address the current crisis of street homelessness. The Committee also received recommendations from the Ad Hoc Homeless Working Group (**See Attachment A**) regarding actions to address homelessness.

ANALYSIS AND POLICY ALTERNATIVES

The following motion was made by the Life Enrichment Committee and requested to be forwarded to the City Council meeting of May 30, 2017 for consideration during the FY 2017-19 budget deliberations.

1. Support not less than the staff recommendation for funding of homeless services AND funding to operate the new navigation center building in the 2017-2019 budget, (anticipated to be needed to be added in year 2.)
2. That the initial Measure KK bond allocation include funding to purchase at least one SRO-type property to create a new homeless navigation center building (similar to the Henry Robinson).
3. That City Council request Alameda County to partner with us and help acquire and fund services for new navigation center building and outdoor navigation centers.
4. That staff will return with recommended sites for outdoor navigation centers.
5. To request scheduling for a future committee of: The Task Force, The Emergency Ordinance, and working with congregations and other non-profit organizations to allow for RVs or similar on their sites.

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The last part of the motion refers to the Ad Hoc Working Group's recommendations and affiliated public speakers who proposed various strategies for engaging non-public sector resources in addressing homelessness. See Attachment A.

FISCAL IMPACT

The fiscal impact of the staff recommendations can be found in the original report submitted report for May 23, 2017. In summary, impact of the Life Enrichment motion regarding the staff report is as follows.

- To approve the Mayor's allocation of \$250, 000 to support immediate health and safety interventions and one safe haven/ outdoor navigation site and to ask Alameda County for matching funds of \$275, 000 from their encampment boomerang fund to ensure full implementation of these efforts.
- A City commitment of purchase and rehabilitation of an SRO style facility in the first round of Measure KK, possibly in partnership with Alameda County.
- To invest \$300,000 of on -going funds in FY 2018-19 as service match to a second Henry Robinson, interim housing facility (with a \$2 million service budget that will require leveraged funding from Alameda County, HUD, OHA) and to request County financial partnership in this project.

The fiscal impact of the recommendations from the Ad Hoc Working Group have not yet been assessed.

PUBLIC OUTREACH / INTEREST

See Attachment A from the Ad Hoc Working Group.

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

To accept for consideration recommendations from the Life Enrichment Committee regarding the report Funding Strategies to Reduce Homelessness in Oakland from May 23, 2017.

For questions regarding this report, please contact Sara Bedford, Director HSD, 510.238.6794.

Respectfully submitted,



Sara Bedford
Director, Human Services Department

Attachment A: Recommendations from Ad Hoc Working Group on Homelessness:

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Organization Proposal of the Ad Hoc Homeless Working Group for Consideration of the Life Enrichment Committee & Oakland City Council

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To: Life Enrichment Committee

Lynette Gibson McElhaney, Councilmember & Committee Chair
Dan Kalb, Councilmember
Anne Campbell Washington, Councilmember
Rebecca Kaplan, Councilmember At-Large

From: The Ad-Hoc Homeless Advocacy Working Group [which has met bi-weekly for three months with Joe DeVries and Office of City Administrator staff]

Tim Anderson, Tiny Homes Developer
April Anthony, Advocate for Homelessness
Linda Connelly, President, Successful Reentry
Michael Diamond, Business Development and Consulting
Judy Elkan, Small Business Owner
Talya Husbands-Hankin, Advocate for Homelessness
Ray Kidd, West Oakland Community Leader and Organizer
David Modersbach, Alameda County Health Care Services Agency
Nancy Nadel, Small Business Owner, and Former Councilmember
Jonah Strauss, Executive Director, Oakland Warehouse Coalition
Needa Bee, Feed the People, 'The Village'
Dayton Andrews, Advocate for Homelessness
Robert I Williams, Producer, WWDC Productions
James E Vann, Architect, Housing Advocate, Founding Administrator of Henry Robinson Multi Service Center for the Homeless

The **Homeless Advocacy Working Group** acknowledges and applauds the work of the Human Services Department, its associate agencies, and its comprehensive reports of May 12 & May 18 to the Life Enrichment Committee.

The Working Group has met bi-weekly with staff of the City Administrator since demolition and removal of the self-developed homeless encampment -- "The Village" -- on 7 February 2017 by the City and Caltrans. The Working Group particularly acknowledges the assistance of Joe DeVries and the city administrator's office in providing space for the Working Group to meet, analyze, and assess potential remedies for the variety of issues that describe and relate to the homeless problems of Oakland.

While the Working Group appreciates the background and recommendations of the Human Services Department's Report, the Working Group strongly believes that added specificity is urgently needed and requests that the Committee and the City Council augment the Human Services report specifically with the following recommendations of the Homeless Advocacy Working Group:

1. Amend and Re-institute the 2016 "**Oakland Shelter Crisis Declaration**," after adding authorization for private property involvement; and enabling annual renewal of the emergency ordinance.
2. Embody and authorize the Homeless Advocacy Working Group as the basis of an expanded "**Oakland Homeless Housing Task Force**," in accordance with City Council established guidelines (see below).
3. Authorize the City Administrator to provide staff assistance to the **Homeless Housing Task Force** for research, relevant data, and related provisions to facilitate productive Homeless Task Force meetings.
4. Empower the **Homeless Housing Task Force** to bring forth recommendations for implementation of Council-approved remedies.
5. Direct the **Homeless Housing Task Force** to assess (a) various "camper" installations; (b) portable/modular transition housing developments; (c) tiny houses, including 'Tuff-Shed'-type facilities; (d) tiny house agreements at volunteer homeowner sites; (e) weather-protection shelter roofs; (f) SRO-type buildings; (g) repurposing of vacant and available warehouse-industrial-commercial-institutional buildings; (h) privacy installations; (i) utilization of vacant houses, where appropriate (particularly for large families and women-headed households); legislative proposals relating to "vehicular dwellings" and "right to sleep;" and (j) to bring forth recommendations, timelines, and budgets for implementation.
6. Direct the **Homeless Housing Task Force** to assess, bring forth, and/or implement recommendations for needed and relevant supports and services, including providers and costs (where required), specifically for: (a) porta-potties (b) potable water; (c) K-rail; (d) site security; (e) site management; (f) counseling for substance abuse-medical-mental occurrences; (h) harm reduction; (i) home navigators; (j) "compassionate" outside support servicers (police, fire safety, environmental health, vector control; education & training, skill services, pet care & animal control, licensing, etc).
7. Direct the **Homeless Housing Task Force** to coordinate with public and private agencies toward advancing the mission and purposes of the Task Force, including budget allocations and appropriations, grants, grants solicitation, fundraising, and co-funding by and with agencies and Alameda County.
8. Direct the **Homeless Housing Task Force** to assess and bring forth recommendations for appropriate "sites" with potential relevant uses, and approximate costs and impacts.
9. Consider authorizing and allocating an initial year budget for homelessness programs and expenses of approximately \$10 Million, and an annual continuing budget of \$5 Million (detailed below), for the purpose of efficiently initiating programs of relief and to positively impact the crisis of homelessness in the shortest amount of time.

The Homeless Advocacy Working Group requests that the Life Enrichment Committee and the City Council take action to create, embody, and authorize the "Oakland Homeless Housing Task Force" in accordance with City Council guidelines, including:

- Create, authorize, and empower the "**Oakland Homeless Housing Task Force**" as an open and inclusive collaborative, representing a cross-section of views and interests of the Oakland general public.
- Authorize one appointment each by each councilmember, the mayor, and city administrator.
- Embody the existing Homeless Advocacy Working Group as the basic members of the "**Task Force**"
- Authorize the "**Task Force**" at full composition to consist of:
 - 30% who are homeless or formerly homeless persons;
 - 15% who are representatives of homeless-related or homeless services organizations;
 - 30% who are elected or appointed representatives of general community, organizational, or faith-based establishments; groups;
 - 15% who are homeowners or tenant representatives in equal numbers; and
 - 10% of individual persons who are genuinely interested in ameliorating issues and problems of homelessness.
- Direct the Homeless Advocacy Working Group and the evolving **Task Force** to develop rules of meetings, attendance, quorum, governance, civility, decision-making, record-keeping & reporting, and public outreach and involvement.

APPROXIMATE BUDGET for OAKLAND HOMELESSNESS PROGRAM

(This proposed budget of the Homeless Advocacy Working Group is **not intended to replace existing City expenditures** toward Homeless programs and services, but is proposed to augment current expenditures going forward for ongoing dynamic programs and actions financed primarily thru new sources of funds, some of which are suggested below.)

ITEM or PROGRAM	INITIAL YEAR	SUBSEQUENT YEARS
Homeless Emergency Declaration	0	0
Establish Homeless Task Force	0	0
Staff & Task Force Facilitation	140K	145K
Non - Construction Programs	2,000,000	1,000,000
Purchase Buildings Programs	4,000,000	1,000,000
Supports & Services	2,000,000	1,000,000
Coordinating Agencies (income offsets costs)	1,000,000 (1,000,000)	1,000,000 (1,000,000)
Site Leases & Site Purchases	2,000,000	1,000,000
Total Estimate of Anticipated Costs	\$10,140,000	\$5,145,000

FUNDING CONSIDERATIONS

For years, the City of Oakland has recognized the growing homeless crisis in Oakland. In January 2015, the City Council enacted a 12-month "Emergency State of Homelessness Declaration." Despite the emergency declaration and the fact that the crisis continues to worsen, actions and expenditures of the city toward the crisis are and have been "practically non-existent." It is undeniable that the "homeless problem" will not go away on its own, but instead will continue to worsen. At this time of escalating problems relating to the homeless crisis, it is imperative that Oakland must act ... and act decisively.

Several legislative actions -- local, state and federal -- have been approved or are in progress. The Homeless Housing Task Force strongly urges the City to allocate sufficient funds to initiate actions and programs toward the goal of ameliorating the issues and problems of homelessness throughout the City.

Present and Potential Actions to Fund Homeless Programs:

1. Measure KK, a \$600 million measure approved November 7 by voters, designates "homelessness programs as a high priority" for funds from the \$100 million housing allocation.
2. Measure A1, a \$580 million measure approved November 7 by Alameda County voters; earmarks for Oakland up to \$98 million for low-income housing programs.
3. The State Legislature has designated "homelessness" as a "high priority" and is scheduled to introduce a multi-billion allocation bill to combat homelessness this week.
4. A recent report by the Center on Policy and Budget Priorities stated that the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development will allocate a multi-billion dollar fund for homeless programs for which cities will be permitted to submit program bids.

The Homeless Housing Task Force strongly urges the City to position its resources to take advantage of every potential opportunity to acquire additional funds that can be directed to the issues and problems of Homelessness throughout the city's neighborhoods.