CITY OF OAKLAND



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Date: June 1, 2021

To: Members of City Council and Members of the Public

From: Vice Mayor Kaplan

Re: Resolution to Pursue Homeless Intervention Sites

Dear Colleagues on the City Council and Members of the Public,

The City of Oakland has experienced a 47 percent increase in its homeless population between 2017 and 2019, the majority of whom live in encampments, vehicles, and places not meant for human habitation. We must implement housing interventions to address the needs of homeless residents, including but not limited to emergency beds, co-governed sites, RV safe parking, hotel rooms, and modular housing.

The City Council has identified sites throughout the City for a homelessness intervention. City staff have evaluated City-owned, privately owned, and other publicly owned parcels in each Council District for use as emergency homelessness interventions and are continuing this evaluation. The City Council and staff are working to identify additional sources of funding for these much needed, and vitally important, homelessness interventions.

The Oakland Municipal Code allows the City to enter into a license agreement for less than fair market value if the City Council makes a finding and determination that the license for less than fair market value is in the best interests of the City. The City may also consider the value of in-kind services provided by a licensee to the City or the community, including property security and maintenance, social and cultural benefits, or other appropriate services.

This resolution authorizes the City Administrator to move forward in implementing these housing interventions on sites around Oakland by: waiving competitive bidding processes; entering professional service agreements; entering grant agreements; and, entering license agreements. By taking these actions, our partners can prepare the identified sites for the intervention, support and manage co-governed interim interventions at housing sites, and support the operations of Safe RV parking sites.

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Furthermore, this resolution reaffirms the City Council and City of Oakland's commitment to continuing to work with BART and CalTrans to develop homeless interventions. We will also work to pursue additional parcels and develop housing interventions, including, but not limited to, safe parking and motel/hotel options at sites in District 4, 5,6, and 7.

It is vital that we continue to develop and implement housing interventions beyond the sites listed in this resolution. That includes strongly pursuing funding to develop sites for homeless intervention efforts with county, state, and federal partners for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 and beyond. In addition, staff will review and report back to council with action to regulate and permit RV parks in Oakland, with specific requirements. Lastly, staff will bring forward any other sites that staff wish to recommend for council consideration with suggested homelessness intervention solutions for such sites.

Respectfully submitted,

Vice Mayor Rebecca Kaplan

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Oakland City Councilmember At Large