



Susan Wengraf
Councilmember District 6

RECEIVED AT
COUNCIL MEETING OF:

JAN 21 2020

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
CITY OF BERKELEY

SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA MATERIAL

Meeting Date: January 21, 2020

Item Number: 44

Item Description: Establishing an Outdoor Emergency Shelter

Supplemental/Revision Submitted By: Councilmembers Droste & Wengraf

“Good of the City” Analysis:

The analysis below must demonstrate how accepting this supplement/revision is for the “good of the City” and outweighs the lack of time for citizen review or evaluation by the Council.

Clarification on content of item #44 which is called, “Establishing an Outdoor Emergency Shelter”. Answers to questions are necessary to make an informed decision on this important item. Goals, intentions, financial implications and staff demands need to be clarified in order to establish transparency.

Consideration of supplemental or revised agenda material is subject to approval by a two-thirds vote of the City Council. (BMC 2.06.070)

A minimum of **42 copies** must be submitted to the City Clerk for distribution at the Council meeting. This completed cover page must accompany every copy.

Copies of the supplemental/revised agenda material may be delivered to the City Clerk Department by 12:00 p.m. the day of the meeting. Copies that are ready after 12:00 p.m. must be delivered directly to the City Clerk at Council Chambers prior to the start of the meeting.

Supplements or Revisions submitted pursuant to BMC § 2.06.070 may only be revisions of the original report included in the Agenda Packet.

TIME CRITICAL MATERIAL:

To: Honorable Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Susan Wengraf and Councilmember Lori Droste

Subject: Clarifying Questions about Sanctioned Encampments/Outdoor Homeless Shelter

1. Will the proposed encampment serve 50 or 75 individuals at a time? The item says 75 but the budget is for 50 people. In addition, the budget specifies only 25 tents.
2. Pg 1–What does climate-controlled mean?
3. Pg 1–What is a good neighbor policy? What are the consequences if that policy are violated?
4. Pg 1–Why is number #2 in the item when Council has already allocated that \$922,000 at the vote in December? Is this \$615,000 more than the 922K amount allocated in December? If so, do you mean refer to the June budget process? If not, we should strike.
5. Pg 1–The recommendation also asks to “temporarily waive” the building code regulations on tents housing occupants. Is that for this proposed site or for the entire city? Is it waiving the whole section 106.1 or parts of it? How long do you recommend we waive it? Is it waiving the Fire Code requirement for smoke alarms?
6. Pg 1–Will selecting residents mirror Pathways? Will the I-80 encampment residents be prioritized or will our homeless individuals within the city who are abiding by the sidewalk policy be prioritized? What will the criteria be? How will it be less restrictive?
7. Pg 2–The emergency outdoor shelter is described as a short-term option and a temporary fix, how do you define short-term? Is there an end date?
8. Pg 3–, The item says to create “a limited number of sanctioned encampments.” Is this item to create one encampment or multiple encampments?
9. Pg2- 3–The item says that it would relieve the broader community of health impacts and be more cost-effective because we would invest the clean up and enforcement resources into sanctioned encampments. Is the idea that neighborhood and commercial impacts will be eliminated because Council will direct staff to disband existing unsanctioned encampments outside the designated spot? Where is that language in the item?
10. Pg 3–Where are we proposing this encampment to be located? Has the City completed appropriate outreach to residents, businesses, and unhoused residents? What if it doesn’t work for all three?
11. Pg 3–What is the size of the 611-639 parcel? How big are the tents? How many fit?
12. Pg 5-6–The section on durable tents is important because this item assumes reuse. In Modesto, **none of the tents were reusable**. Also, this item only budgets for 25 tents when it desires to serve 150 people, a cost difference of \$60,000 unless individuals share a tent. Are the estimates under the assumption that 2 people will share a tent?

<https://www.abc10.com/article/news/local/modesto/modesto-prepares-to-close-their-outdoor-emergency-shelter/103-7c0d9578-3d6d-4074-be70-d5b6a44d8b04>

This article addresses the number getting shelter and the inability to reuse the tents
<https://www.abc10.com/article/news/local/modesto/modesto-homeless-shelter/103-8656d924-a1ae-4fe5-b2cf-450326a2dd9c>

13. Page 5–6: Will staff be provided shelter or a place to work? It was taken out of the budget since the committee hearing
14. Pg 9–The item states that engagement with services is encouraged but not a requirement for staying in the encampment, in order to increase their use and reduce homeless people on the street.
 - a. Since the passage at the Health and Equity committee, the budget has eliminated the Rapid Rehousing money and Flex Funding. This money is to help exit out of homelessness. Why would we take that away?
 - b. Has the provision of services been identified as the main barrier to people accessing Pathways? Our understanding is that it has been other reasons. If people don't want to get housed and this encampment is temporary, aren't we subjecting these individuals to getting kicked out on the street at the end of the stay?
 - c. Won't this take away funding for Pathways rapid rehousing unless we dedicate new funding?
15. page 8–Would this encampment be self-governed? On page 8, it says services will be offered but not required and those services include “governance of the community”
16. Page 9–talks about supervision, case management, psychological services, and job search support. Are case managers and psychologists listed in the budget?
17. Page 9–The item mentions that the hours are more important than the depth of services. How many staff members are needed to keep it open overnight?
18. Page 9 appropriately refers to medical needs of individuals. Many important lifesaving medicines need to be refrigerated. Will there be an onsite refrigerator so we can comply with ADA regulations? With regard to our disabled community, will there be accessible pathways and curb cuts?
19. Staff provided a budget for an outdoor encampment which was around \$2 million dollars for 50 people. The author then modified after the committee vote. How will these items be paid for? The budget line items removed were:
 - a. 25 Tents (for a total of 25 tents to use).
 - b. Sleeping bags
 - c. Staff accommodations
 - d. Community tent
 - e. Communications
 - f. Portapotties (HEAP funds)
 - g. Dumpsters and weekly service (HEAP funds)
 - h. Rapid Rehousing \$\$
 - i. Outreach coordinators
20. How regularly will there be monitoring of the physical conditions of the property so we can ensure it is safe?
21. The item also says that Measure P monies were already allocated for rapid rehousing but isn't that for existing clientele in other programs? Why wouldn't we provide that rapid rehousing money for encampment residents?
22. How would this reduce enforcement costs if there is no outreach or services? Are you recommending that enforcement stop on existing encampments or are you saying that the City would disband existing encampments with the understanding that these individuals would reside in this outdoor shelter?