



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
January 26, 2021

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
 From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager
 Submitted by: Lisa Warhuus, Director, Health, Housing, and Community Services
 Subject: Companion report: A People's First Sanctuary Encampment

RECOMMENDATION

As part of the referral adopted by City Council on January 21, 2020, the City Manager will direct staff to incorporate parts of the Commission's recommendations which do not conflict with guidance already approved by City Council including: providing clean water, sanitation, accessible toilets and trash removal services for the sanctioned encampment, requiring that a future provider of services for the encampment obtain input from residents of the encampment when developing rules for the outdoor shelter and ensure that the privacy and security of residents is respected and maintained.

POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

At the December 14, 2020, meeting the Health, Life Enrichment, Equity & Community Committee moved M/S/C (Kesarwani/Bartlett) the Companion Report with a qualified positive recommendation to the City Council to take the following action: 1. Direct the City Manager to incorporate parts of the Commission's recommendations, including: providing clean water, sanitation, accessible toilets and trash removal services; and requiring that homeless services providers obtain input from clients when developing rules and ensure that the privacy and security of clients is respected and maintained at all times; 2. In addition, the City Manager shall receive the Homeless Commission's recommendations and retain them for future guidance when developing homeless services programs and models; and 3. That the City Council reaffirms its commitment to dignified and client-centered homeless services. Vote: All Ayes.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Staff time.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The Homeless Commission's report recommends that City Council adopt the People's First Sanctuary Encampment Model incorporating all text in their report.

On January 21, 2020 City Council approved \$307,000 in FY20 and \$615,000 in FY21 funding for an Emergency Outdoor Shelter and referred the creation of such a program to the City Manager.

The referral is for the City Manager to establish an outdoor emergency shelter and to consider providing the following amenities: a) climate-controlled, wind-resistant durable tents with wooden pallets for support, b) seeking an agency to manage and oversee the emergency shelter, c) portable toilet service and handwashing service, d) shower and sanitation services, and e) garbage pickup and safe needle disposal.

BACKGROUND

The Homeless Commission voted on 01/8/20 as follows:

Action: M/S/C Marasovic/ to defer the People's Sanctuary Encampment recommendation for discussion to next month's meeting and direct the Council encampment chart referral back to the encampment subcommittee to be returned to the full Commission at next month's meeting.

No Vote: motion died for lack of a second.

Action: M/S/C Hill/ Mulligan to approve the People's First Sanctuary Recommendation with the following amendments to the recommendation section:

(i) to include that an oversight agency be named by members of the encampment community, and (ii) refer to the City Manager to fund liability insurance for the agency chosen by the encampment community.

Vote: Ayes: Hill, Kealoha-Blake, Mulligan, Behm-Steinberg
Noes: Andrew. *Abstain:* Marasovic. *Absent:* Hirpara.

Marasovic abstention due to i) Council directive to respond to encampment chart referral, ii) believes in the spirit of self-governance, and iii) the recommendation is not a realistic plan.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

There are no identifiable environmental opportunities associated with the content of this report.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The City Manager appreciates the Homeless Commission's emphasis on ensuring that residents of a future outdoor emergency shelter can enjoy a clean and healthy place to live temporarily, and that they are involved in making the outdoor shelter a respectful, accountable and equitable community. To achieve this, the City Manager will develop an outdoor shelter program based on the referral adopted by Council January 21, 2020 that will include hiring a qualified non-profit organization to operate the program. The program model will ensure adequate sanitation services, safety protocols and other security measures are put in place, and that residents are assisted to move on to more permanent housing opportunities.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None.

CONTACT PERSON

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