



DOWNTOWN COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION 20190515-05

Date: May 15, 2019

Subject: Downtown Homeless Initiatives

Motioned By: Chair Joel Sher Seconded By: Commissioner Megan Meisenbach

Recommendation

With the alarming increase in unsheltered homelessness throughout the city and current lack of resources for the unsheltered, the Downtown Commission recommends City Council take the following actions:

1. Ensure that the City Manager follows through on the Council's January 31st, 2019 Resolution No. 20190131-078 to open and operate a new pilot shelter by September 30, 2019.
2. Open at least two additional shelters in key locations in the city by September 30, 2020. Explore all funding sources including public/private partnerships.
3. Create a comprehensive data base with real-time information on shelter and homeless navigation services by November 2019 and immediately focus outreach and service resources (i.e. HOST/Integral Care) to effectively address the needs of people who are homeless and experiencing substance use and behavioral health disorders.
4. Based on the April 18, 2019 Echo recommendation endorsed by City Council, our goals for shelters is to move people through the system. Not to provide a dead end.
5. Upgrade the Homeless Strategy Officer position that was recently created to be a direct report to the City Manager.

Vote 8-0

For: Chair Joel Sher, Vice Chair Jennifer Bristol, Commissioner Meghan Skornia, Commissioner David Gomez, Commissioner Andrew Harrison, Commissioner Chris Kanipe, Commissioner Megan Meisenbach, Christopher Lehman

Against: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Commissioner August Harris, Commissioner Sam Sargent

Attest: Christine Maguire, Executive Commission Liaison, Economic Development Department