

DATE ISSUED: February 28, 2001
ATTENTION: Honorable Mayor and City Council
Agenda of March 5, 2001

REPORT NO. 01-037

SUBJECT: Joint City/County Homeless Task Force

SUMMARY

Issues - Should the City Council adopt a resolution that establishes short and long term strategies that address homelessness in the community?

Manager's Recommendation - 1) Adopt the resolution.

Other Recommendations - The joint City/County Task Force on Homelessness recommended each agency adopt a resolution that supports actions related to key homeless services strategies identified during their April 4, 2000 and October 27, 2000 meetings.

Fiscal Impact - Adoption of the resolution has no fiscal impact, however, as programs are developed and/or expanded, additional finances may be required. These programs will be presented to City Council or Committee with fiscal impacts and potential resources included.

BACKGROUND

In response to the growing population of homeless families and individuals, the City and County of San Diego held a special joint workshop. The workshop entitled "Joint County/City Homeless Workshop - Solutions through Collaboration" was held in April, 2000 at the County Administration Center. The initial intent of the meeting was to provide City and County officials with an overview of the current issues, existing policies/programs, joint collaborative efforts, available funding and recommendations for the future specific to homeless services in the community. As a result of this meeting a Task Force made up of two City Council and County Board of Supervisors was established to collaborate on solutions to address the issue of homelessness in the San Diego Community.

DISCUSSION

During the October 27, 2000 Joint City/County Task Force Committee meeting, staff presented updates on the following projects:

Youth Supportive Housing (County)
Special Needs Homeless Program (City)
AB 2034 Integrated Services Program (City/County)
Homeless Shelter Program - emergency and year round (City)

Homeless Voucher Program (County)
Housing Update and SROs (City)
Serial Inebriate Program/Dual Diagnosis (City/County)

In addition, the Regional Task Force for the Homeless, a board of 35 members which include representatives of the City, County, United Way, local jurisdictions, business and community groups, homeless service providers and homeless advocates throughout the region, attended the meeting and presented goals and potential strategies for the Task Force to consider.

Two important “next steps” were identified and agreed upon by the Task Force. Each agency would : 1) adopt a resolution that supports actions to move forward with key strategies that address the needs of the homeless within the community; and 2) continue to collaboratively pursue additional funds required to further establish and operate priority programs. This report responds to the first step.

ALTERNATIVES

None.

Respectfully submitted,

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Concur: Hank Cunningham, Director
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Approved: Bruce A. Herring
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HERRING/HCC/DFP