



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
**REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL**

DATE ISSUED: Sept. 5, 2007 REPORT NO: 07-137  
ATTENTION: Council President and City Council  
Docket of Sept. 11, 2007  
SUBJECT: FY 2008 Homeless Emergency Winter Shelter Program  
REFERENCE: None

REQUESTED ACTIONS:

- Find that a significant number of persons within the City of San Diego are without the ability to obtain shelter, and that the weather conditions during the cold weather season result in a threat to the health and safety of those persons.
- Declare a homeless shelter crisis to exist in the City of San Diego, in accordance with California Government Code section 8698.2(a)(1).
- Approve the FY 2008 Homeless Emergency Winter Shelter Program [Program] (known in FY 2007 as the Homeless Emergency Shelter Program, and prior to that as the Winter Shelter Program), as described in Report to the City Council No. \_\_\_\_\_, a copy of which is on file with the Office of the City Clerk as Document No. RR-\_\_\_\_\_, contingent upon certification of funds availability by the City Auditor and Comptroller.
- Authorize the Mayor (or his designee) to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding between the San Diego Housing Commission [SDHC] and the City of San Diego for FY 2008, under which the City shall receive a total of \$344,200 from the SDHC for the operation of the Program.
- Authorize the City Auditor and Comptroller to accept the \$344,200 from the SDHC, and to accept \$129,800 from the United Way of San Diego County [UWSDC], for the operation of the Program, contingent upon certification of funds availability by the City Auditor and Comptroller.
- Authorize the Mayor (or his designee) to negotiate and execute agreements, and any amendments thereto, to expend the \$344,200 from the SDHC and the \$129,800 from the UWSDC for the operation of the Program, contingent upon certification of funds availability by the City Auditor and Comptroller.

- Authorize the City Auditor and Comptroller to appropriate and expend the \$344,200 from the SDHC and the \$129,800 from the UWSDC for the operation of the Program, contingent upon certification of funds availability by the City Auditor and Comptroller.
- Authorize the City Auditor and Comptroller to accept, appropriate, and expend any and all additional contributions, private donations, interest earnings, and other City funds associated with the Program, for the operation of the Program.
- Authorize the Mayor (or his designee) to negotiate and execute agreements, and any amendments thereto, to expend any and all additional contributions, private donations, interest earnings, and other City funds associated with the Program, for the operation of the Program, contingent upon certification of funds availability by the City Auditor and Comptroller.

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Adopt the requested actions.

#### SUMMARY:

City Council Policy 000-51, "Comprehensive Homeless Policy" (revised April 21, 2003), serves as the City's framework for addressing homeless issues. The policy supports the operation of an emergency shelter and the federal continuum of care model, whereby the City, in coordination with businesses, social service agencies, community groups, and other jurisdictions, assesses needs and promotes programs that restore people who are homeless to their optimum participation in the community.

#### Declaration of Homeless Shelter Crisis

As reported in the Federal Supportive Housing Program application, an estimated 3,485 homeless individuals were living in the City of San Diego in February 2007. Of those, approximately 2,000 were in year-round homeless shelters, and 520 were in the FY 2007 Homeless Emergency Shelter Program (which, at that time, included an additional 115 beds at St. Vincent de Paul Village). During the survey, volunteers counted 1,016 unsheltered homeless people on the streets. The shortage of shelter beds in the City is significant.

Added to the lack of available shelter beds are the weather conditions during the cold weather season that create the potential to adversely impact the health and safety of homeless individuals living outside on a long-term or constant basis. Given the existing shortage of available shelter beds, it is recommended that a homeless shelter crisis be declared in the City of San Diego and that the FY 2008 Homeless Emergency Winter Shelter Program [Program] be adopted to provide shelter services to approximately 400 homeless individuals.

### Single Adult Shelter Program

Up to 200 single men and women will be housed in a sprung structure each night at a location to be determined. Shelter participants will have access to services seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day. The shelter has been operated by Alpha Project for the Homeless for the past four years, and will again be this fiscal year.

The City-funded portion of the Single Adult Shelter Program will be for 120 days (from December 5, 2007 through April 2, 2008). However, at the operator's request, the Single Adult Shelter Program will operate for a total of 154 days (from November 1, 2007 through April 2, 2008), the additional thirty-four days being provided at no cost to the City through the fund-raising efforts of the operator.

As a result of client healthcare issues identified at the shelter in FY 2006, St. Vincent de Paul Village and UCSD School of Medicine have again agreed to provide the leadership and support for a healthcare collaborative. The collaborative, which will operate five days a week, includes County medical, mental health, and case management contract agencies, and the Pt. Loma Nazarene University School of Nursing. Together, they will address the medical and mental health treatment needs (and crises, as identified), and provide basic screening, referral, and follow-up for clients participating in the program, which totaled more than 1,000 unduplicated individuals in FY 2007.

### Veterans Shelter Program

Up to 150 homeless male veterans will be housed in a sprung structure each night at the SPAWAR location in the Midway area. Shelter participants will have access to programmatic services seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day. The operator at this site will be Veteran's Village of San Diego, who will be responsible for providing program operations and services, and for gathering appropriate information on shelter participants. The shelter will operate a total of 120 days (from December 5, 2007 through April 2, 2008).

### Family Emergency Shelter Program

The Family Emergency Shelter Program will be provided through a City and County collaborative with the YWCA and the San Diego Rescue Mission [SDRM]. The designated funding to the County provides for hotel/motel vouchers and case management services. The SDRM will be the point of entry into the program. While at the SDRM, families will be assessed and assigned case managers. Using vouchers, families will be moved to a hotel or motel for up to thirty days and will continue case management services. Once families have completed their eligibility criteria, they will then be placed in the Cortez Hill Family Center, the City's year-round transitional housing program, or other suitable programs. For up to four months, while in transitional housing, families will work on issues and causal factors that contributed to their homelessness. Case management, enriched services, and other appropriate services will provide families a better chance to regain self-sufficiency and increase their ability to return to a mainstream lifestyle in permanent housing. This program provides case management for each family from the County's Family Self-Sufficiency Programs.

The SDRM emergency shelter hours are from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m., seven days a week. The hotel vouchers provide 24-hour housing, as does the Cortez Hill Family Center.

Program Partners

The City will contract with St. Vincent de Paul Village, who will act as the lead agency for the support services described above. In addition, Program partners include the San Diego Housing Commission, the County of San Diego's Health and Human Services Agency (health care workers and case managers at the Single Adult Shelter and Family Emergency Shelter Programs), Centre City Development Corporation, United Way of San Diego County, and various non-profit and veteran agencies, who will provide support services at no cost to the Program.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no impact to the General Fund from this action. This action accepts \$344,200 from the San Diego Housing Commission [SDHC] and \$129,800 from United Way of San Diego County [UWSDC] for the Program. An additional \$201,676 of Emergency Shelter Grant [ESG] funds was allocated to the Program by the City Council on May 15, 2007, as part of the FY 2008 Social Services Program budget (R-302639). The total budget of \$675,676 for the Program is detailed in Exhibit A.

It should be noted that the funds from the SDHC are contingent upon approvals by the Redevelopment Agency and the Housing Authority, that are scheduled on the same day as this action.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL AND/OR COMMITTEE ACTION:

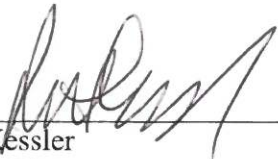
FY 2008 Social Services Program (R-302639)


COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND PUBLIC OUTREACH EFFORTS:

None.

KEY STAKEHOLDERS AND PROJECTED IMPACTS:

Residents and businesses in the vicinity of the shelters' locations will experience some impacts. The Veterans Shelter is in the Midway/Sports Arena area; however, the location of the Single Adult Shelter is not known at this time but will be determined by the City Council in a separate action.

  
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Scott Kessler  
Deputy Director  
Economic Development Division

  
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William Anderson  
Acting Deputy Chief Operating Officer  
Land Use and Economic Development

Attachment: Exhibit A – FY 2008 Homeless Emergency Winter Shelter Program Operational Budget