



Meeting Date: 10 /24 / 06

ACTION	TYPE OF ITEM
<input type="checkbox"/> Approved Recommendation	<input type="checkbox"/> Info/Consent
<input type="checkbox"/> Ord. No(s). _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Report
<input type="checkbox"/> Res. No(s). _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing (Info/consent)
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other City Council Business

Prepared By: Sal Gonzalez Agenda Item No. N-1

Reviewed By: City Manager [Signature] City Attorney [Signature] Finance [Signature] Other (Specify) _____

DATE: October 12, 2006

TO: City Council

FROM: Sal Gonzalez, Housing Director [Signature]

SUBJECT: **Formation of Homeless Plan Working Group**

RECOMMENDATION

1. That City Council form a Homeless Plan Working Group to guide the development of a 10-year plan to end chronic homelessness.
2. That the Mayor, with approval of City Council, appoint eleven persons to the Homeless Plan Working Group.

DISCUSSION

In November of 2005, City Council adopted a resolution supporting development of a 10-year plan to end homelessness in Oxnard. City Council took this action in response to requests from the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development that local jurisdictions participating in federally-funded homeless programs develop "local 10-year plans to end chronic homelessness."

The two federal agencies agree that chronic homelessness is the most visible form of homelessness, consisting most often of unaccompanied individuals who have been homeless for a year or more or multiple times over several years, disabled by drug addictions, mental illness, chronic physical illness or disability, or developmental disability, with frequent histories of hospitalization, unstable employment, and incarceration.

The agencies have found that this group of homeless persons "consumes a disproportionate amount of costly resources", has the most visible impact in a community and that solving this problem will free up resources for other homeless persons, including youth and families.

Oxnard's Commission on Homelessness has review the need for developing the 10-year plan and chronic homelessness in Oxnard and has expanded the target group to include the homeless population in general.

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The U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness recommends that a working group be established to coordinate the planning process. The guidelines also recommend that the working group include representation from different stakeholders. The stakeholders are defined as the Mayor and City Council, department directors, business, and civic leaders, with representatives for law enforcement, the local chamber of commerce, housing developers/service providers, hospitals, the homeless population, non-profits/foundations, faith-based organizations, and the general public. In Oxnard, staff has also determined that it is appropriate to have a representative the City's Inter-Neighborhood Council Forum and from County agencies that provide services to the homeless.

Initially, staff explored the possibility of utilizing the City's Commission on Homelessness as the working group on the plan. However, the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness determined that the Commission did not adequately represent the sectors that need to be involved in the development of the plan. The Commission will still continue to play an oversight role.

Staff has sought out interest for serving as the working group and has found that the following persons would appropriately represent the sectors required by the guidelines governing the development of the plan.

<u>Recommended Appointees</u>	<u>Sectors Represented</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Norma Owens Mary Barajas	Agency Departments Agency Departments	City Finance Department City Housing Department
Chuck Covarrubias Nancy Lindholm	Business and Civic Leaders Chamber of Commerce Housing Developers	Alert Management Chamber of Commerce
Mike Matlock Scott Swenson	Law Enforcement Law Enforcement	Police Department Police Department
Karol Shulkin	Service Providers	Human Services Agency
Carolyn Troupe	Hospitals Homeless Individuals Non-Profit Foundations	St. John's Regional Medical Center
Edgar Mohorko	Faith-Based Organizations General Public Inter-Neighborhood Council Forum	Inter Faith Clergy Council
Nicole Doner Gwen Lauterbach	Commission on Homelessness Commission on Homelessness	City Planning Department Lauterbach & Associates

The recommended members of this working group are not intended to be an exhaustive group, but simply the start of the working group. Others may be recommended for appointment to the working

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The recommended members of this working group are not intended to be an exhaustive group, but simply the start of the working group. Others may be recommended for appointment to the working group; yet others may be called upon to serve as resources for the group.

Accordingly, staff recommends that City Council approve the formation of the Homeless Plan Working Group and that the list of recommended persons be appointed to the Working Group.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact associated with the recommended action.

SDG/rs

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