



Meeting Date: 12/19/06

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 JRB City Attorney [Signature] Finance SW Other (Specify) _____

DATE: December 11, 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; and
3. That the Mayor appoint a member of City Council 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 federal 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 is a finite problem that can be solved, and that solving this problem will free up resources for other homeless persons including youth and families.

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Oxnard's Commission on Homelessness has reviewed 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.

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 from 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 and the Commission have 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. The Commission also recommends that a member of City Council serve on the Working Group.

<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
Nancy Lindholm	Chamber of Commerce	Chamber of Commerce
Yissel Barajas	Housing Developers/ Non-Profits	Cabrillo Economic Development Corporation
Mike Matlock Scott Swenson	Law Enforcement Law Enforcement	Police Department Police Department
Karol Shulkin	Service Providers	Human Services Agency
Julio Gomez	Realty	Ventura County Coastal Association of Realtors
Carolyn Troupe	Hospitals	St. John's Regional Medical Center
George Detriech	Homeless Individuals	None
Elizabeth Avarez	Banks/Lenders	Pinnacle Financial Mortgage Company

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<u>Recommended Appointees</u>	<u>Sectors Represented</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Edgar Mohorko	Faith-Based Organizations	Inter Faith Clergy Council
Joe Avelar	General Public	Inter Neighborhood Council Forum
Maria Collier Gwen Lauterbach	Commission on Homelessness Commission on Homelessness	Interface Lauterbach & Associates
Linda Wyzorowski	Public	Oxnard College & Career Center

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