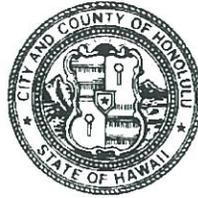


DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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KIRK CALDWELL
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DEPUTY DIRECTOR

November 5, 2018

The Honorable Carol Fukunaga, Chair
and Members
Committee on Public Works, Infrastructure &
Sustainability
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street, Room 202
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Fukunaga and Councilmembers:

SUBJECT: Resolution 18-246 Withholding Action on the City and County of Honolulu's Homeless Action Plan for all Council Districts, Pending Timely Submittal of Specific Timetables for Services and Housing Solutions

We are writing to express our strong opposition to the withholding of action on the Homeless Action Plan as updated and submitted to the Honolulu City Council (Council) on October 11, 2018, pending timely submittal of specific timetables for services and housing solutions.

The Department of Community Services (DCS) is always willing to promptly submit requested information to the Council. Pursuant to Resolution 18-158, CD1, the requested 2018 update was due within sixty days with the report submitted in advance of the deadline. In response to a written request from Councilmember Carol Fukunaga, Addendum No.1 to the updated Homeless Action Plan was submitted in seven days from the October 15, 2018 correspondence transmitted at 5:13 p.m.

The research conducted for the 2018 updated Homeless Action Plan included requesting information from all of the City Councilmembers. We appreciate that each member of the Council provided valuable suggestions. Enclosed you will find a summary of the Councilmembers suggestions along with DCS' due diligence toward each suggestion. Most importantly, we want to acknowledge your concerns for community input and to emphasize that community engagement is one of our core strategies for implementation of any program addressing homelessness.

18NOV 5 PM 2:57 CITY CLERK

The Honorable Carol Fukunaga, Chair
and Members
Committee on Public Works, Infrastructure &
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The Honolulu Homeless Action Plan updated October 2018 is a living document predicated on the major policy shift toward adoption of the Housing First policy. In the 2013 document we reported that, "...78% unsheltered homeless persons are severely mentally ill." Thus, the 2018 update focuses on expanding the City's focus to include partnering with health care providers to include medical and psychiatric care. The recent IHS documentary titled "HOPE" provided first-hand accounts of the successes realized with medical intervention. If the City genuinely intends to help the most vulnerable, chronically homeless persons, we need your support to act now with the understanding that we will provide you with data upon request, rather than wait for data before we help those in need.

We ask that you consider filing Resolution 18-246 and instead move forward with acceptance of the 2018 updated Homeless Action Plan. Approval will allow for implementation of Ordinances 18-034 Obstructions on Public Sidewalks and 18-035 Illegal Lodging that offer additional tools to serve all of our community members.

Thank you for your continued support of the Housing First philosophy. We look forward to working with each of you and your constituents to implement additional resources as needed.

Sincerely,



Pamela A. Witty-Oakland
Director

Enclosure

APPROVED:



Roy K. Amemiya, Jr.
Managing Director

Honolulu City Council Suggestions to Address Homelessness by Districts

City and County of Honolulu
 Department of Community Services
 November 5, 2018

Council District	Proposal	TMK	City Due Diligence	Member Notes
I	None	N/A	N/A	Indicated will not be submitting any sites or corresponding uses for District I; requested no further shelters and provided list of encampments and programs located in Council District I.
II	None	N/A	ALEA Bridge is an active DCS homeless provider partner funded with HOME funds and GIA grant. DCS will outreach to Ko'olauloa Health Center FQHC for potential partnership opportunities.	Requested support for ALEA Bridge and Ko'olauloa Health Center.
III	DHHL site at 41-209 Ilauihole Street as potential site for homeless households living along Waimanalo coast.	TMK: 1-4-1-019-032	Administration has been discussing potential State-owned sites in Waimanalo with the State Homelessness Coordinator and will keep the Councilmember apprised of any advancements.	
	Kailua/Kane'ohe potential private site for acquisition and development of a health center.	Undisclosed	Administration has discussed potential location with Councilmember's staff and will be working together to determine if the property is suitable for the proposed use.	
IV	Uniform enforcement across all council districts.		Ordinance 18-035 approved October 11, 2018 provides for enforcement throughout public spaces. Implementation of the ordinance is pending City Council approval of the 2018 Update to Homeless Action Plan.	Particular concern for areas where City and State jurisdiction meet.
	1615 Ala Wai Blvd for potential Housing First units	TMK: 1-2-6-011-033	Housing First vouchers are currently portable allowing the client and provider to select an appropriate location for the client's needs. Efforts will be initiated to contact the owner. However, the building is currently off the market and occupied and may not support the Administration's policy to invest taxpayer resources on increasing and/or maintaining affordable inventory.	Member indicated that a request had been made of DLM to determine if private owner is willing to sell and site is suitable.
	Hygiene Center in Waikiki	No location provided	The Administration is currently determining opportunities to increase reach of mobile hygiene centers. The Kuwili hygiene center will be launched in late 2018.	Member suggested the administration consider pocket parks in Waikiki.

Honolulu City Council Suggestions to Address Homelessness by Districts

City and County of Honolulu
 Department of Community Services
 November 5, 2018

Council District	Proposal	TMK	City Due Diligence	Member Notes
V			The recently acquired properties mentioned at Beretania and Pi'ikoi currently house 179 previously homeless individuals, including 78 children.	Indicated two projects were already recently acquired by Administration for permanent housing for previously homeless families.
	Acquisition of 1902 Young Street		This property was acquired by the Administration in November 2017 and is currently being renovated into 30 studios for permanent housing for households currently or at risk of experiencing homelessness.	
	Acquisition of 820 Isenberg Street		This parcel is owned by DHHL (old Bowl-O-Drome site). DHHL is in the planning phase for a project to serve HHCA beneficiaries.	
VI	(Located in District 7): Renovation of 431 Kuwili Street for hygiene center and urgent care facilities	TMK: 1-1-5-009-009	This property was acquired by the Administration in June 2016 and is currently reconstructing the building for use as permanent housing with wrap around services. The Hygiene Center is expected to open in late 2018 with the full building opening in 2019.	
	(Located in District 7): Acquisition of 806-818 Iwilei Street to relocate River of Life and Safe Haven	TMK: 1-1-5-011-006	The Administration is in escrow with this property.	
	(Located in District 7): Acquisition of Old Hilo Hattie site at 700 N. Nimitz for use as a navigation center	TMK: 1-1-5-013-003, 004, 018	The Administration has discussed this possibility with the parcel owner a number of times. The most recent conversation in October 2018 confirmed an unwillingness to sell the property.	
	Additional urgent care in Downtown-Chinatown and Kaka'ako	No location provided		
VII	431 Kuwili Street	TMK: 1-1-5-009-009	Property is being reconstructed for use as permanent housing with wrap around services.	Supportive of existing efforts.
	Hale Mauiola	TMK: 1-1-5-041: portions of 130 and 334	Property is being operated as a low-barrier navigation center with a capacity to serve 104 previously homeless individuals at any given time.	Supportive of existing efforts.

Honolulu City Council Suggestions to Address Homelessness by Districts

City and County of Honolulu
 Department of Community Services
 November 5, 2018

Council District	Proposal	TMK	City Due Diligence	Member Notes
VIII	None	N/A		Noted that will continue to work with the City and State service providers and to support affordable housing projects in and out of the district.
IX	Property between Waipahu High School and Leeward Community College		The Administration has been in discussion with Councilmember and will continue to evaluate potential of proposed project.	Consider for a "tiny homes" project.
	Cut vegetation around Plantation Village and Waipahu High School		The Administration has been in discussion with Councilmember.	Clearing vegetation could deter encampments in the area.
	Mobile hygiene unit project	N/A	The Administration is currently determining opportunities to increase reach of mobile hygiene centers. The island is currently served by two mobile hygiene trailers.	