



Sophie Hahn
Councilmember District 5

SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA MATERIAL for Supplemental Packet 2

Meeting Date: July 10, 2018

Item Number: 26

Item Description: Comprehensive Report on Homeless Services

Submitted by: Councilmember Sophie Hahn

This friendly amendment seeks to achieve the same goals as Item 26 seeks to embody, without limiting the annual report to “only and all” of the bulleted considerations, exactly as presented, in perpetuity. It seeks to broaden the possible topics covered by the Report and give more discretion to the City Manager and Health, Housing and Community Services (HHCS) staff to determine the exact format by which the report will be organized and the data and information delivered over time, so long as the purposes of the report are achieved with sufficient detail and comprehensiveness. It also seeks to make the Comprehensive Report a Biannual report, with annual updates.

As written, the item includes 25 bulleted requests for information, about half found in the “Recommendation” portion of the item, and the other half under the “Opportunities” heading of the Background section of the item. Many of these 25 points include several sub-categories and considerations, which together create a level of detail that is likely to be both over- and under-prescriptive over time.

Council must be kept informed of successes, challenges, costs and benefits associated with addressing this growing Statewide crisis, to support ongoing improvements to policies, programs and resource allocation. However, the scope of the Report as detailed may be onerous to undertake on a yearly basis by the City’s limited HHCS staff devoted to homelessness.

It is difficult to predict which of the specific requests for information might become less relevant over time, when new programs, services or metrics are adopted and others left behind by the City, County, State or Federal Government. Some of the topics that likely *should* be included but were not mentioned are an update on implementation of the Pathways Project, and information related to the 1000 Person Plan, which Staff has been preparing for over a year and is scheduled to be presented to Council in the Fall of 2018.

Also very useful would be information from other jurisdictions with homeless populations in similar or larger proportions to Berkeley (currently Berkeley and San Francisco, for example, both have homeless populations equal to approximately .85% of each City's population – it would be interesting to compare the money spent and relative success on broad metrics) such that Berkeley's scope of services, costs, and programs can be compared to other communities facing similar or more significant homelessness challenges.

Given these considerations:

1. I would like to propose that the purpose of the Comprehensive Report on Homeless Services (and updates) be adopted as following:

Provide a comprehensive and detailed report covering (1) the relative success, challenges, costs and benefits of both direct services (shelters, mental health services, housing subsidies, etc.) and indirect/impact-based services (ambulance, police, public works, etc.) associated with homelessness in Berkeley; (2) possible or recommended alternatives; and, (3) to the extent easily discoverable through published reports and helpful to compare the City of Berkeley to other jurisdictions, a selected overview of the relative successes, challenges, costs, and benefits of other jurisdictions (i.e., Alameda County, the State of California, and/or other Bay Area or other US cities) in addressing homelessness.

2. Given large demands on HHCS Staff, I would also like to propose that **the Comprehensive Report be a Biannual requirement, with a yearly "Update" in between each Comprehensive Report.**

3. I would like to further propose that all of the bullet points from both the "Recommendation" and "Opportunities" sections of the item be prefaced with the following:

The Biannual Comprehensive Report on Homeless Services and Yearly Updates should include the following and/or substantively similar information, and any and all other information and analyses the City Manager deems necessary for the stated purposes of such reports to be achieved:

- **All 25 + Bullet points**
- **Other considerations discussed in the "Background" section of the item**
- **An update on the Pathways Project and on other comprehensive plans, programs or services the Council or City may adopt or undertake to address homelessness in Berkeley.**

4. Finally, in light of the fact that HHCS Staff is presently working on the comprehensive "1000 Person Plan" that will be delivered to Council in the Fall of 2018, and will address many of the questions to be explored by the Comprehensive Report, I would like to propose that **the first Comprehensive Report on Homeless Services be delivered in Fall (September, October or November) of 2019, with Biannual Reports, and Yearly Updates, delivered in the same month of subsequent years.**

Thank you for consideration of these four amendments, which hopefully will achieve the important goals of this item with maximum utility and feasibility over time.