SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA MATERIAL
for Supplemental Packet 2

Meeting Date: September 24, 2019

Item Number: 33

Item Description: Resolution for the Allowance of 3404 King Street to Operate a Shelter for Homeless Youth

Submitted by: Kelly Wallace, Interim Director, Health, Housing & Community Services Department

This memo clarifies information about the future of the Turning Point program, a 12-bed transitional housing program currently operated by Fred Finch Youth Center at 3404 King Street, as described in Item #33 on the September 24, 2019 Action Calendar.

The report describes that, if Council approves the staff recommendation, Covenant House will purchase 3404 King Street from Fred Finch Youth Center (FFYC), continue operating Turning Point out of the property, and begin plans to renovate the interior of the building to eventually accommodate the 30-bed YEAH! shelter. However, the report incorrectly implies that Turning Point would continue to operate from 3404 King Street indefinitely into the future. In fact, Covenant House’s long-term intention is to operate Turning Point in a scattered-site fashion, by renting individual units directly with landlords on the open market. Covenant House would not immediately displace any of the current Turning Point residents at the 3404 King Street property, but as the beds turn over through attrition, they would be “replaced” with scattered-site units throughout Berkeley and/or the greater East Bay. This would likely happen within 2 years, the maximum length of stay for HUD-funded Transitional Housing programs. At that point, if the staff recommendation here is approved, only the YEAH! shelter would operate from 3404 King Street.

Covenant House has advised staff that this proposal is consistent with the terms of the direct HUD grant to FFYC, which they would assume. Covenant House also reports that it has been successfully operating this model in Los Angeles for over ten years, and more recently in Oakland and Alameda.
The existing recommendation in item #33 is consistent with this arrangement. Staff is providing this supplemental report so Council is fully apprised of all related details when considering the item.