



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

Legislative Summary

CB 118863

Record No.: CB 118863

Type: Ordinance (Ord)

Status: Passed

Version: 1

Ord. no: Ord 125217

In Control: City Clerk

File Created: 10/27/2016

Final Action: 12/08/2016

Title: AN ORDINANCE relating to funding policies for the Homelessness Prevention and Housing Stability Services Program funded through the Seattle Housing Levy.

Notes:

Filed with City Clerk:

Mayor's Signature:

Sponsors: Burgess

Vetoed by Mayor:

Veto Overridden:

Veto Sustained:

Attachments: Ex A - Homelessness Prevention and Housing Stability Services v3

Drafter: Joy Garlin Hunt

Filing Requirements/Dept Action:

History of Legislative File

Legal Notice Published:

Yes

No

| Version: | Acting Body: | Date: | Action: | Sent To: | Due Date: | Return Date: | Result: |
|----------|----------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--|-----------|--------------|---------|
| 1 | Mayor | 11/08/2016 | Mayor's leg transmitted to Council | City Clerk | | | |
| 1 | City Clerk | 11/08/2016 | sent for review | Council President's Office | | | |
| | Action Text: | The Council Bill (CB) was sent for review. to the Council President's Office | | | | | |
| | Notes: | | | | | | |
| 1 | Council President's Office | 11/09/2016 | sent for review | Affordable Housing, Neighborhoods, and Finance Committee | | | |
| | Action Text: | The Council Bill (CB) was sent for review. to the Affordable Housing, Neighborhoods, and Finance Committee | | | | | |
| | Notes: | | | | | | |
| 1 | Full Council | 11/14/2016 | referred | Affordable Housing, Neighborhoods, and Finance Committee | | | |

1 Affordable Housing, 11/22/2016 pass Pass
Neighborhoods, and
Finance Committee

Action Text: The Committee recommends that Full Council pass the Council Bill (CB).

Notes:

In Favor: 3 Chair Burgess, Vice Chair Herbold, Member Johnson

Opposed: 0

1 Full Council 11/28/2016 passed Pass

Action Text: The Council Bill (CB) was passed by the following vote, and the President signed the Bill:

Notes:

In Favor: 5 Councilmember Bagshaw, Councilmember Burgess, Council President
Harrell, Councilmember Johnson, Councilmember Juarez

Opposed: 0

1 City Clerk 11/29/2016 submitted for Mayor
Mayor's signature

1 Mayor 12/08/2016 Signed

1 Mayor 12/08/2016 returned City Clerk

1 City Clerk 12/08/2016 attested by City
Clerk

Action Text: The Ordinance (Ord) was attested by City Clerk.

Notes:

CITY OF SEATTLE

ORDINANCE 125217

COUNCIL BILL 118863

AN ORDINANCE relating to funding policies for the Homelessness Prevention and Housing Stability Services Program funded through the Seattle Housing Levy.

WHEREAS, in 2016 the voters of The City of Seattle approved the levy of property taxes for the purpose of financing and supporting housing for low-income households; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 125028 provides for periodic adoption by the City Council of an Administrative and Financial Plan for programs funded by the 2016 Housing Levy; and

WHEREAS, the full Administrative and Financial Plan is slated for completion by the Office of Housing and Council adoption in 2017; and

WHEREAS, the Human Services Department operates Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Rehousing programs supported by the Levy which are renewed annually and provide services to the community on a continual basis; and

WHEREAS, waiting for the adoption of the full Administrative and Financial Plan in 2017 would cause a delay in services for Levy-funded Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Rehousing programs of approximately six months; and

WHEREAS, the Human Services Department therefore proposes advanced approval of the portion of the Levy Administrative and Financial Plan related to Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Rehousing programs to avoid a delay in service delivery to the community; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Council hereby adopts the portion of the 2016 Seattle Housing Levy Administrative and Financial Plan policies related to Homelessness Prevention and Housing

1 Stability Services for Program Years 2017 and 2018, attached to this ordinance as Exhibit A
2 (“Homelessness Prevention and Housing Stability Services”).

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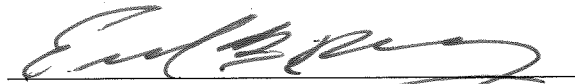
1 Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force 30 days after its approval by
2 the Mayor, but if not approved and returned by the Mayor within ten days after presentation, it
3 shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Section 1.04.020.

4 Passed by the City Council the 28th day of November, 2016,
5 and signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this 28th day of
6 November, 2016.

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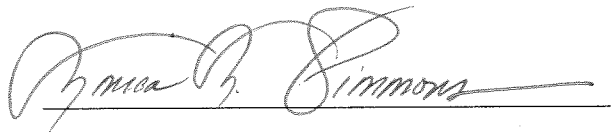
8 President _____ of the City Council

9 Approved by me this 8th day of December, 2016.

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11 Edward B. Murray, Mayor

12 Filed by me this 8th day of December, 2016.

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14 Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

15 (Seal)
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21 Exhibits:
22 Exhibit A – Homelessness Prevention and Housing Stability Services

HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION AND HOUSING STABILITY SERVICES

Program Goal: 4,500 households

The Homelessness Prevention and Housing Stability Services Program serves vulnerable families and individuals who are at risk of homelessness or experiencing homelessness. The program addresses housing-related barriers through a combination of housing stabilization support services and financial assistance. A housing stability assessment is required at the onset of services to determine the level of need and the amount of assistance required. Stabilization services typically include but are not limited to assistance with housing search, landlord negotiations, budget and financial coaching, assistance applying for mainstream benefits, reviewing leases, and meeting with participants to assess their ongoing level of need.

This program is structured to be flexible to meet the different financial and service needs of those at risk of homelessness and people experiencing homelessness using a progressive engagement framework. This approach is consistent with current national promising practices and local experience that point to the need for a holistic and flexible approach. In serving households at risk of homelessness, the program targets resources for households at greatest risk of homelessness including formerly homeless households and households experiencing extreme overcrowding.

Contractors are required to enter data in the Homeless Management Information System for the purpose of overall program planning as well as performance review. A key outcome measure is ongoing housing stability: the number of households who do not enter or return to homelessness 12 months after assistance to the household ends.

A. Eligible households

To be eligible to apply for program funds, households must meet all the following requirements:

- Homeless or at risk of homelessness
 - Households at risk of homelessness must have a documented housing crisis. For the purposes of this program, couching surfing or doubled up households with limited resources may be considered at risk of homelessness. Households must reside in Seattle at the time of program intake.
 - Homeless households must be literally homeless households staying in a place not meant for human habitation and must be referred through King County's regional Coordinated Entry for All system.
- 50% of Area Median Income or below
- Inadequate financial resources to secure or maintain stable housing without assistance
- Financial assistance may not exceed 12 months in a 36-month period

B. Eligible use of funds

Financial assistance is available for:

- Rent payments
- Rent or utility arrears needed to obtain or retain secure, stable housing
- Security and/or utility deposits and other move-in costs (background check fees, first and last month's rent)
- Legal and language interpretation fees needed to stop an eviction action

- Agency staffing and associated service delivery costs required to provide housing stabilization services
- Transportation assistance

C. Program requirements

Levy funds will be administered by contractors who demonstrate ability to do the following:

- Provide housing stabilization services
- Provide financial assistance to prevent or address homelessness using a progressive engagement framework
- Enter data directly into the region's Homelessness Management Information System (HMIS) for program planning and performance review

D. Program reporting

The Human Services Department will provide an annual program progress report to the Office of Housing to be included in the Housing Levy annual report due to the City Council no later than March 31st of each year. The annual data will be provided separately for homelessness prevention assistance to households at risk of homelessness, and for assistance to households who are experiencing homelessness. The data will include but not be limited to:

- Demographic data for program participants such as race, gender, disability status, household income, and household composition,
- Program financial information such as average amount of assistance per household,
- The number of households served; and
- Program performance outcomes including the following:
 - 1) The number and percent of households exiting to permanent housing at program exit;
 - 2) The number and percent of households exiting to other (homelessness, shelter, etc.) at program exit;
 - 3) The number and percent of households stably housed at 12 months;and
 - 4) The number and percent of households stably housed at 24 months.