

1 [General Assistance—In-kind Assistance.]

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3 **Ordinance amending Administrative Code Sec. 20.59.3 to provide in-kind shelter and**
 4 **meals to homeless applicants and recipients; amending Administrative Code Sec.**
 5 **20.57.1 to value shelter and meals to homeless recipients as in-kind assistance; adding**
 6 **Administrative Code Sec. 20.57.6A. to provide a special needs allowance to homeless**
 7 **recipients; adding Administrative Code Sec. 20.60.12 to establish a baseline GA**
 8 **budget; adding Administrative Code Sec. 20.60.13 to provide for an independent**
 9 **evaluation; adding Administrative Code Sec. 20.60.14 to provide that these**
 10 **amendments will sunset in two years, adding Administrative Code Sec. 20.60.15 to**
 11 **establish an operative date for these amendments of on or before January 1, 2003.**

12 Note: Additions are *single-underline italics Times New Roman*;
 13 deletions are ~~*strikethrough italics Times New Roman*~~.
 14 Board amendment additions are double underlined.
 Board amendment deletions are ~~strikethrough normal~~.

15 Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

16 Section 1. The San Francisco Administrative Code is hereby amended by amending
17 Section 20.59.3 to read as follows:

18 **Sec. 20.59.3 AID PAYMENTS; IN-KIND AID.**

19 Assistance in the form of in-kind benefits, in-kind orders, vouchers or emergency
20 warrants issued at the General Assistance office shall be used for:

21 (a) Emergency assistance.

22 (b) Applicants and recipients who declare themselves to be homeless.

23 Applicants and recipients are required to provide a verifiable rent receipt, or verifiable
 24 documentation of shared housing, or verifiable documentation of rent-free housing. Self-
 25 declared homeless applicants and recipients shall receive in-kind benefits or vouchers for

1 shelter, which includes utilities, and meals. If in-kind benefits and/or vouchers are not
2 available, such applicants and recipients shall receive the income-in-kind value of shelter,
3 utilities, and/or meals, whichever is not available, in the form of an emergency warrant. ~~Other~~
4 short term cases:

5 (c1) Eligible persons awaiting transportation arrangements, provided that aid
6 shall not exceed one week.

7 (d2) Eligible persons awaiting admission into a hospital or institution.

8 (e3) Cases in which a disability rating of seven days or less has been given by
9 the General Hospital and the individual does not appear to be eligible for further aid at the
10 termination of the disability period.

11 (fe) Persons who have demonstrated inability to handle cash payments for
12 necessities of life.

13 Section 2. The San Francisco Administrative Code is hereby amended by amending
14 Section 20.57.1 to read as follows:

15 **SEC. 20.57.1. HOUSING.**

16 (a) "Housing" shall include, but not be limited to, shelter, single occupancy
17 residential hotels, master lease rooms, transitional housing, supportive housing programs, residential
18 treatment facilities.

19 (b) There shall be no reduction in the amount of General Assistance for ~~to~~ which
20 an applicant or recipient is eligible ~~entitled~~ because he or she shares housing with others who
21 are not members of the applicant's family as defined in Section 20.57(a). All applicants and
22 recipients shall be required to present a verifiable rent receipt. If the applicant or recipient is not the
23 owner or prime lessee of the premises, a verifiable rent receipt signed by the owner or prime lessee
24 may provide evidence of the applicant's or recipient's place of residence and share of housing costs.

25

1 ~~(c) Rent-free housing shall not be considered an alternative means of support. Where~~
2 When an applicant or recipient obtains rent-free housing, such housing shall be valued
3 according to the Value of Income-in-Kind Chart set forth in Title 22 of the California Code of
4 Regulations, Section 50511 (the "Income-in-Kind Chart"), rather than at fair market value. The
5 value of the rent-free housing, which is presumed to include utilities, as determined under the
6 Income-in-Kind Chart, shall be deducted from the maximum monthly grant amount. If the
7 applicant or recipient receives rent-free housing, but pays for utilities, the applicant or recipient must
8 present a verifiable bill for utilities at that address, and a verifiable receipt for payment of any portion
9 of that utility bill. In addition, all applicants and recipients shall be required to present a verifiable rent
10 receipt. If the applicant or recipient is not the owner or prime lessee of the premises, a verifiable rent
11 receipt signed by the owner or prime lessee may provide evidence of the applicant's or recipient's place
12 of residence and share of housing costs.

13 (db) Verified payments made directly to a housing provider on behalf of an
14 applicant or recipient for the entire amount of the rent and/or utilities, or rent-free housing, or
15 housing received in exchange for work, shall be assigned an in-kind value as specified by the
16 Income-in-Kind Chart, and that value shall be deducted from the maximum monthly grant to
17 which that applicant or recipient is eligible.

18 (de) Shelter and/or meals provided to applicants and recipients who are unable to
19 provide a verifiable rent receipt, or verifiable documentation of shared housing, or verifiable
20 documentation of rent-free housing shall be valued as in-kind housing, utilities and/or meals as
21 specified by the Income-In-kind Chart, and that value shall be deducted from the maximum monthly
22 grant for which that applicant or recipient is eligible.

23 (fe) Nothing in this Section shall be construed as requiring an otherwise eligible
24 applicant or recipient to accept housing in a facility which is either the subject of a pending
25 nuisance abatement proceeding before a duly authorized agency or department of the City

1 and County or before a court of competent jurisdiction, or which theretofore has been found to
2 be a public nuisance pursuant to any provision of any San Francisco Municipal Code by a
3 duly authorized agency or department of the City and County or by a court of competent
4 jurisdiction and which nuisance has not been abated.

5 Section 3. The San Francisco Administrative Code is hereby amended by adding
6 Section 20.57.6A. to read as follows:

7 **Sec.20.57.6A. Special Allowances; Income-in-kind Value Exceeds Monthly Maximum Grant.**

8 A special allowance of up to \$50.00 per month shall be made available, in the form of an emergency
9 warrant, to any recipient when the income-in-kind value of housing, and/or utilities, and/or meals
10 provided to that recipient exceeds the maximum monthly grant for which that recipient is eligible. If
11 such income-in-kind value does not exceed the maximum monthly grant for which that recipient is
12 eligible, but allows for less than \$50.00 cash per month, that recipient shall receive an amount, in the
13 form of an emergency warrant, that when added to the maximum monthly grant for which that recipient
14 is eligible equals \$50.00 cash per month.

15 Section 4. The San Francisco Administrative Code is hereby amended by adding
16 Section 20.60.12 to read as follows:

17 **Sec. 20.60.12. Funding.** A baseline budget for the General Assistance Program shall be
18 established using the City and County of San Francisco FY 2002-2003 final appropriation. In
19 subsequent fiscal years, this baseline amount shall be appropriated to the Department of Human
20 Services to fund housing and related services for homeless adults without dependents. This funding
21 may be used to support, but shall not be limited to, some or all of the following: improvements of
22 conditions in existing shelters, expansion of shelter capacity, mental health and substance abuse
23 treatment, permanent supportive housing, outreach, hotel master lease programs and meals for the
24 homeless population through direct services and/or contracts.

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1 Section 5. The San Francisco Administrative Code is hereby amended by adding
2 Section 20.60.13 to read as follows:

3 Sec. 20.60.13 Evaluation. The General Assistance Program is to be evaluated by an agency not
4 affiliated with the City and County of San Francisco every two years for program effectiveness and cost
5 efficiency.

6 Section 6. The San Francisco Administrative Code is hereby amended by adding
7 Section 20.60.14 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 20.60.14 Sunset Clause. The provisions of this amendment, Sections 20.59.3(b);
9 20.57.1(a),(b),(c),(e); 20.57.6A; 20.60.12; 20.60.13; 20.60.14; and 20.60.15 shall sunset 2 years after
10 the effective date of this ordinance.

11 Section 7. The San Francisco Administrative Code is hereby amended by adding
12 Section 20.60.15 to read as follows:

13 Sec. 20.60.15 Operative Date of Amendments. The provisions of this amendment, Sections
14 20.59.3(b); 20.57.1(a),(b),(c),(e); 20.57.6A; 20.60.12; 20.60.13; and 20.60.14 shall become operative
15 on or before January 1, 2003.

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17 APPROVED AS TO FORM:
18 DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

19 By: _____
20 Virginia Dario Elizondo
21 Deputy City Attorney
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