

REVISED LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

(5/12/2022, Amended in Committee)

[Administrative Code - Shelter and Permanent Supportive Housing Expansion Program]

Ordinance amending the Administrative Code to require the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (“HSH”) to submit to the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor a plan to implement a program to provide unsheltered persons in San Francisco with access to shelter and permanent supportive housing (“Place for All Program”), including a cost estimate of implementation; requiring HSH to fully implement the Place for All Program; requiring HSH to implement a system to allow individuals experiencing homelessness to register for shelter by telephone; and affirming the Planning Department’s determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

Existing Law

Currently, there is no law requiring the City to operate a sufficient number of shelters or permanent supportive housing units to allow every unsheltered person in San Francisco to be offered a place to sleep at night.

Amendments to Current Law

The proposed ordinance, known as the “A Place for All Ordinance,” would establish that it is the policy of the City and County of San Francisco (“City”) to offer every person experiencing homelessness in San Francisco a safe place to sleep. The proposed ordinance would also require the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (“HSH”) to plan for and implement a Place for All Program (“Program”) by opening, leasing, funding, or otherwise making available enough shelters, permanent supportive housing units, and safe overnight parking lots as are necessary to serve all of the unsheltered people in San Francisco. The requirement to implement the Program would be subject to the budgetary and fiscal provisions of the Charter, and would require the appropriation of funds by the Board of Supervisors.

For purposes of the ordinance, “shelter” means any facility, the primary purpose of which is to provide temporary shelter for unsheltered people, including but not limited to, congregate facilities, non-congregate facilities, Navigation Centers, Shelter-in-Place hotels, Safe Sleep Sites, Safe Overnight Parking Lots, and non-congregate cabins. As part of the Program, at least 50% of the shelter units opened would have to be in non-congregate facilities, and no more than 10% of the shelter units opened may be at Safe Sleep Sites

To inform the Board’s consideration and funding of the Program, the proposed ordinance would require HSH to submit to the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors by no later than December 31, 2022 a plan (“Implementation Plan”), including an implementation timeline, to

operate the Program, assuming a 36-month implementation period. The Plan must include, among other things:

- A cost estimate of the Program, both during an implementation period and after full implementation;
- An estimate of the number of unsheltered people who need referral to shelter or permanent supportive housing placement;
- An analysis of the cost-effectiveness of different shelter, homelessness prevention, and permanent supportive housing models;
- A description of services to be offered at shelters, and the homelessness prevention programs and services needed to reduce homelessness;
- An estimate of the number of units of housing and rental subsidies necessary to ensure that shelter guests can transition to housing, and an estimate of the associated annual costs; and
- A geographic equity strategy for the allocation of shelter resources.

The proposed ordinance would also require HSH to implement a system by which people experiencing homelessness may register for shelter by telephone. It would also require the Director of Real Estate to create, maintain, and update a list of real estate that may be used to operate the Program, and to provide the initial list to the Board of Supervisors.

Three months after HSH's submission of the Implementation Plan, the Clerk of the Board would be required to schedule a hearing at the full Board of Supervisors to consider the submissions.

The proposed ordinance would require HSH to annually update its estimate of the number of unsheltered people who need shelter or permanent supportive housing, and would require the Controller to submit a report to the Mayor, the Board, and HSH every other year evaluating the Program.

Background

This legislative digests reflects amendments made in the May 12, 2022 meeting of the Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee. Those amendments would:

- Require HSH to implement a telephonic shelter registration system;
- Expand the implementation plan to include an assessment of the needs of people experiencing homelessness for shelter and permanent supportive housing, and expand the implementation of the Place for All program to require the City to make available as many shelters, permanent supportive housing units, and safe overnight parking lots as necessary to accommodate all of the unsheltered people in San Francisco.
- Add Safe Overnight Parking Lots as a form of shelter;

- Delay the deadline for submission of the Implementation Plan to the Board of Supervisors from three months after the effective date to December 31, 2022;
- Add requirements to the Implementation Plan, including a geographic equity strategy;
- Require that the list of real estate properties be maintained and updated, instead of produced only one time;
- Reduce the percentage of shelter units that may be at Safe Sleep Sites from 20% to 10%.

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