

From: Dee Abrahamse [<mailto:deeabra@gmail.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 1:06 PM

To: CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Subject: Agenda Item 24: Recommendation to City Manager to work with relevant departments ...

-EXTERNAL-

As a long term resident and participant in several initiatives concerned with homelessness, I strongly support this recommendation, and hope that the City Council will prioritize it for timely action. The proposal will take advantage of upcoming funding to meet the critical need of temporary non-congregant shelter and services for 500 at-risk senior and disabled homeless residents of our community by acquiring available empty motels . Long Beach has a large and needy population experiencing homelessness -over 1700 in the recently completed count- , a number expanding with the current pandemic and economic crisis. Their numbers create a public health crisis for the community as well as the individuals affected, and the provision of 500 beds would make a substantial reduction in the need for housing. Funding available for Immediate use could provide temporary shelter and immediate service, and could later be remodelled to offer bridge housing and programs as part of a city plan to respond to the recommendations of the Mayor's Everyone Home Task force for long term solutions to homelessness. Since funding sources have been identified, and motel acquisition RFP begins on July 16, we request that the council set a report back date ordinance in two weeks, for an ordinance that would outline a plan for developing long term bridge housing. and services.

Dee Abrahamse

7085 Aivlis Streeet, Long Beach 90815

(Fifth District resident)

contact: deeabra@gmail.com

P

From: Padric Gleason Gonzales [<mailto:padric.gleason@gmail.com>]

Sent: Thursday, July 2, 2020 5:53 PM

To: CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Subject: Public comment for Agenda Item #24 for 7/7 City Council Meeting re: bridge housing for the homeless

-EXTERNAL-

Hello, my name is Padric Gleason Gonzales. I'm a resident of District 1 in beautiful downtown Long Beach! I'm writing in SUPPORT of this motion to explore the funding of bridge housing for our homeless neighbors. The 2020 Point-in-Time Homeless Count survey revealed that 50% of the homeless in Long Beach are without shelter due to economic reasons (loss of income or loss of housing). This is in contrast to the commonly held belief that all homeless are drug addicts or social deviants. Housing-first policies in other cities have proved successful in providing safety and stability for vulnerable people. Please support this measure to expand housing options for our neighbors and also to make use of otherwise vacant hotel and motel facilities during this time of crisis. You can't "shelter in place" if you have no shelter. We need to do more to help the homeless.

--

Padric Gleason Gonzales
Long Beach, CA 90802

Fulbright Mexico '12
MBA, St. Mary's University '12
B.A., Wheaton College '10