

CITY OF SANTA ROSA
CITY COUNCIL

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: DAVID GOUIN, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING

SUBJECT: RESTROOM OPTIONS FOR THE UNSHELTERED

AGENDA ACTION: STUDY SESSION

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Economic Development and Housing Department that the Council receive the study session information and provide input on restroom options for the unsheltered. Staff recommends the restroom and shower trailer option because of the potential for greater service impact.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Many unsheltered individuals struggle to find public restrooms, making sanitation an issue on a daily basis.

City staff met with the County of Sonoma and local nonprofits to explore ways to expand restroom options and increase access.

This study session will summarize the options that came out of these collaborative meetings and weigh the costs, benefits, and concerns for each option up for Council consideration.

The study session relates to Council Goal 6: Committed to making Santa Rosa a community where people feel safe to live, work and play.

BACKGROUND

- 1.) On May 19, 2015, Council held a study session to review services currently provided for the homeless people in Santa Rosa and related responses from city departments and the community.
- 2.) On June 9, 2015, the Council reviewed options for the possible expansion of services and, in alignment with the County of Sonoma, selected the Homeless

Outreach Service Team (HOST) Program's approach to directly engage homeless people and invite them into services.

- 3.) At the close of the Council study session on June 9, 2015, Council asked staff to return with options to provide restroom facilities for homeless people that would be supported by service providers.
- 4.) Staff worked with Catholic Charities, Social Advocates for Youth, and Buckelew Programs to review the primary restroom options available for homeless:
 - a. City-owned facilities
 - b. Portable toilets with hand washing stations
 - c. Shower + restroom combination trailer
 - d. No changes, use existing engagement tools

PRIOR CITY COUNCIL REVIEW

On May 19, 2015, City Council held a study session to review current homeless services provided by the City, County of Sonoma and local non-profits.

On June 9, 2015, the Council reviewed options for the possible expansion of services and, in alignment with County of Sonoma practices, selected the Homeless Outreach Service Team (HOST) Program's approach to engage Santa Rosa's homeless population. Council asked staff to return with restroom options that could be supported by service providers.

ANALYSIS

The study session options and preliminary costs provide Council an opportunity for input.

FISCAL IMPACT

Staff's outreach with City staff, the County of Sonoma, and nonprofit service providers, derived these preliminary options and fiscal impacts:

One City-owned facilities restroom	\$72,000 annually
10 Portable toilets + hand washing stations	\$24,000 annually
Restroom + shower trailer	\$74,400 annually
No changes, use existing engagement tools	No additional costs

The restroom and shower trailer option, if selected would provide the greatest service impact and can be accomplished through an amendment to the HOST contract. An amendment would require an additional appropriation.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it is not a project which has a potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment, pursuant to CEQA Guideline section 15378.

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Not applicable.

NOTIFICATION

Not applicable.

ATTACHMENTS

- Restroom Options for the Unsheltered PowerPoint Presentation

CONTACT

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