

AGENDA ITEM 1.M

REQUEST

RECEIVE UPDATE REGARDING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE TRACY HOMELESSNESS COUNCIL AD HOC COMMITTEE AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE HOMELESS STRATEGIC PLAN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On April 16, 2019, the Tracy City Council formed an ad hoc committee to draft a Homelessness Strategic Plan. This report serves as an update regarding the Council Ad Hoc Committee and development of a Homelessness Strategic Plan.

DISCUSSION

At the December 17, 2019 City Council meeting, Council Member Vargas, seconded by Council Member Arriola, requested to place on the Council agenda an item to update the Council on the activities of the Tracy Homelessness Council Ad Hoc Committee.

Below is a chronological summary of key activities that have occurred since the formation of the Council Ad Hoc Committee and milestones associated with the development of a Homelessness Strategic Plan.

Date	Action/Activity
April 16, 2019	Council discussed homelessness in Tracy and formed a council ad hoc committee to draft a strategic plan to address homelessness in Tracy.
June 18, 2019	Council received an update from the committee and authorized staff to explore and submit grant applications to fund the creation of a Homelessness Strategic Plan.
July 2019	Staff applied for technical assistance through the State of California to assist in the development of a Homelessness Strategic Plan.

August 2019	The City was granted technical assistance at no cost through a grant from the State of California Department of Housing and Community Development. Technical Assistance Collaborative (TAC) was assigned to assist the City in developing its Homelessness Strategic Plan.
September 3, 2019	Council formally codified the Tracy Homelessness Strategic Plan Development Ad Hoc Committee, via Resolution No. 2019-187, expiring on December 31, 2019 and expanded the committee's scope to include exploration of a temporary shelter in Tracy.
November 19, 2019	TAC facilitated a community/service provider workshop to identify existing local resources and gaps in services. Approximately 50 people attended providing for broad representation ranging from homelessness advocates, service providers including Tracy Unified School District and County Behavioral Health, as well as local and State officials. The day-long session provided a forum to begin developing the backbone of goals and objectives to inform the strategic plan. The group identified a need for better coordination between local government, the school district and local providers. The lack of affordable housing options and the need for a local emergency shelter were also discussed. The inconsistent use of the centralized Homelessness Management Information System (HMIS) by Tracy area service providers highlighted the need for training/education for local providers.
December 7, 2019 & December 11, 2019	City staff facilitated two community listening sessions to further inform the City's strategic plan. Approximately 50 people attended the two meetings. The groups consisted of community members, non-profit representatives, County representative including Housing Authority of San Joaquin and the County Program Administrator for Homeless Initiatives, as well as representatives from the California Highway Patrol. The groups discussed concerns about the impacts of homelessness, including the need for an emergency shelter and increased opportunities for affordable housing options in the City for all including those currently experiencing homelessness and/or those at risk for becoming homeless.

December 17, 2019	Council established the Tracy Homelessness Council Ad Hoc Committee for calendar year 2020, expiring June 30, 2020.
January 14, 2020	<p>TAC consultants facilitated a community meeting with the purpose of presenting and discussing draft goals compiled from the previous three community meetings for the Homelessness Strategic Plan. The consultants presented preliminary feedback heard from community and stakeholder participants based on feedback compiled to date.</p> <p>Approximately 75 people attended. Attendees included community members, homelessness advocates, those with lived experience, non-profit representatives, staff, as well local and state representatives.</p> <p>Audience members discussed their concerns over the perceived growth of homelessness in the community, need for a designated warming center, and lack of action by City.</p>

Next Steps

The next Council ad hoc meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 22, 2020 and will include the strategic plan consultants. The committee will review the input collected from the community and stakeholder meetings and revise and refine the goals and objectives. A draft strategic plan will be presented for the full Council's consideration at the March 17, 2020 City Council meeting.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

STRATEGIC PLAN

This agenda item is a routine operational item that does not relate to the Council's Strategic Plans.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council receive the update.

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