

CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION
DRAFT MINUTES
Monday, June 6, 2022
Council Chambers, 1175 E. Main Street

Mayor Akins called the Council Study Session to order at 5:30 p.m.

Councilors' Hyatt, Moran, DuQuenne and Jensen were present. Councilors' Graham and Seffinger were absent.

1. Public Input (15 minutes, maximum)
None.
2. Housing and Human Services Commission Report on Severe Weather Event Shelter

Housing Program Specialist Linda Reid gave a Staff Report joined by Housing and Human Service Commissioners Echo Fields, Joy Fate & Rich Rohde. Reid presented a PowerPoint (*see attached*).

Items discussed were:

- Housing and Human resource services
- Recommendations:
 - City Council Request
 - Make City Buildings available for emergency purposes
 - Funding for a coordinator or a contract with outside agency
 - Shelter Coordination
 - Discussed Medford thresholds

Council discussed options.

Council thanked Staff for their work.

DuQuenne/Hyatt moved to direct Staff to bring back this item to the business meeting tomorrow (06/7/2022) to provide money to keep the pallet shelter open for another month.

Discussion: DuQuenne thanked Staff for their work and spoke that she is looking forward to move forward with the grant and finding a permanent home for the unhoused Community. Hyatt spoke that the Community is in need of different policies. She thanked Staff for their work and spoke in support to the motion. Jensen questioned if this is a doable ask to Staff. Mr. Lessard spoke that Staff will do their best to be prepared and this will need to be an emergency item. **Roll Call Vote: Hyatt, Moran, DuQuenne and Jensen: YES. All Ayes motion passed unanimously.**

3. Mobile Integrated Health Report

Fire Chief Sartain gave a brief Staff Report. Items discussed were:

- Cold Weather Thresholds
- Extreme Heat Thresholds

Council discussed the Mercy Flights program.

4. Look Ahead

Council discussed the Look Ahead.

5. Adjournment

The Study Session was adjourned at 6:50 PM

Respectfully submitted by:

City Recorder Melissa Huhtala

Attest:

Mayor Akins

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Administrator's office at (541) 488-6002 (TTY phone number 1-800-735-2900). Notification 72 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to the meeting (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title I).

SEVERE CLIMATE SHELTER RECOMMENDATIONS

HOUSING AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

City Council Study Session
June 6, 2022

City Council Request

- Work with local partners, stakeholders, and staff to develop recommendations.
- Develop a proposal for how the city will address weather related emergencies.
- Identify the City's role in a severe climate event
- Develop threshold recommendations to comprehensively address all weather-related emergencies, including:
 - ▣ Smoke
 - ▣ Extreme Heat
 - ▣ Extreme Cold

Process Identified in Existing Resolution-2013-04

- Only identifies cold weather parameters (20 degrees or at the City Administrators discretion).
- Identifies the CERT coordinator as the lead for shelter coordination.
- Makes City facilities available in case of a severe cold weather event.

Housing and Human Services Process

The Housing and Human Services Commission formed a workgroup consisting of three members.

- Workgroup met for several months to plan stakeholder engagement and recommendations.
- Researched other City's shelter policies and thresholds.
- Researched national weather-related health recommendations and best practices.
- Held two stakeholder input meetings and one shelter event debrief meeting.
- Worked with staff and the commission to draft the final recommendations.

Recommendations

- Make City buildings available for emergency shelter purposes even if reservations need to be rescheduled.
- Establish agreements with other institutions (SOU, ASD) for the use of their spaces for sheltering needs.
- Develop a commercial kitchen for use during emergencies, including but not limited to severe weather emergencies.
- The City should set aside funding to pay for a shelter coordinator, either as part of an existing staff's role or through a contract with and outside agency.

Recommendations Continued

- The City's primary role should be shelter coordination.
 - ▣ The City should establish a Decision-Making Activator Team with the City Manager as the lead, and include staff from parks, police, and fire, to help with location identification, emergency resources and public and regional communication.
 - ▣ The City should coordinate groups inside and outside the City during severe weather events and host a site for communication about volunteers and emergency contacts.
 - ▣ There should be ongoing local and regional coordination to improve processes and best practices and to coordinate around regional resources and population needs.

Extreme Climate Event Thresholds

- Cold Weather Threshold
 - ▣ 32 degrees or below if there are other factors or when the National Weather Service issues a Weather Warning.
- Extreme Heat Threshold
 - ▣ 95-100 degrees or above depending on other factors or when the National Weather Service issues an Extreme Heat Warning.
- Smoke Threshold
 - ▣ 150 or above, the designation of “Unhealthy for Everyone.

Questions-Discussion



Thank you!