

# **Spenard Community Council Resolution 2021-03**

## **A Resolution Regarding Housing and Homelessness Solutions**

WHEREAS, on the July 27th, 2021, the Anchorage Assembly passed a resolution committing to a collaborative process for interim and long-term planning to address housing and homelessness in the Municipality, we, the Spenard Community Council, would like to support the Mayor and the Assembly in their efforts,

WHEREAS, evidence gathered from successful housing and homelessness programs nationwide has shown that Housing First initiatives and stabilizing homeless individuals through housing with services leads to better outcomes and a subsequent higher degree of self-sufficiency for homeless individuals as well as significant tax savings to cities on emergency services,

WHEREAS, the current experts and providers working in the field of homelessness have spoken extensively on July 21<sup>st</sup>, August 11<sup>th</sup> and August 18<sup>th</sup> about the current barriers to immediately reducing homelessness in our city and the Homeless Resource Advisory Council (HRAC) has released a document on July 15<sup>th</sup> with recommendations from people with lived experience in homelessness as well as community stakeholders.


THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Spenard Community Councils asks the Assembly and Mayor to consider the following recommendations:

1. That a series of smaller shelters throughout the municipality be considered in lieu of a single large navigation center and that any facility built be limited to a capacity of 150 individuals to assure the safety of the clients it serves as well as the integrity of the surrounding neighborhoods.
2. That equivalent resources are dedicated to purchase, renovate, and staff treatment facilities, rapid rehousing, diversion and permanent supportive housing concurrently with or preceding the purchase or construction of a new shelter facility, and that all efforts be made to immediately house those that are able to be housed.
3. That a Municipality sanctioned camp as described by HRAC is designated in a separate location from any homeless shelter location, renovated, and staffed for unhoused individuals who decline shelter or cannot stay at a shelter.
4. That a plan is established for transporting shelter residents to substance abuse treatment facilities, employment sites, legal campgrounds, and other sites.
5. That protocols supported by the city be established regarding security and clean-up for neighborhoods in the vicinity of emergency shelters.

6. That the Mayoral Administration and Assembly continue to seek the advice of subject matter experts and individuals with lived experience in regards to housing and homelessness.

With these recommendations so stated, it is resolved that the Spenard Community Council supports the Mayor and the Assembly as they continue negotiation for both short- and long-term solutions to housing and homelessness in our city.

Resolved, this 1 day of September 2021.

  
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Spenard Community Council President

9/1/2021 \_\_\_\_\_

Date

Vote: 23 in favor, and 5 opposed.