



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

Legislative Summary

CB 118863

Record No.: CB 118863

Type: Ordinance (Ord)

Status: Passed

Version: 1

Ord. no: Ord 125217

In Control: City Clerk

File Created: 10/27/2016

Final Action: 12/08/2016

Title: AN ORDINANCE relating to funding policies for the Homelessness Prevention and Housing Stability Services Program funded through the Seattle Housing Levy.

Date

Notes:

Filed with City Clerk:

Mayor's Signature:

Sponsors: Burgess

Vetoed by Mayor:

Veto Overridden:

Veto Sustained:

Attachments: Ex A - Homelessness Prevention and Housing Stability Services v3

Drafter: Joy Garlin Hunt

Filing Requirements/Dept Action:

History of Legislative File

Legal Notice Published:

☐ Yes

☐ No

Version:	Acting Body:	Date:	Action:	Sent To:	Due Date:	Return Date:	Result:
1	Mayor	11/08/2016	Mayor's leg transmitted to Council	City Clerk			
1	City Clerk	11/08/2016	sent for review	Council President's Office			
Action Text: The Council Bill (CB) was sent for review. to the Council President's Office Notes:							
1	Council President's Office	11/09/2016	sent for review	Affordable Housing, Neighborhoods, and Finance Committee			
Action Text: The Council Bill (CB) was sent for review. to the Affordable Housing, Neighborhoods, and Finance Committee Notes:							
1	Full Council	11/14/2016	referred	Affordable Housing, Neighborhoods, and Finance Committee			

- 1 Affordable Housing, Neighborhoods, and Finance Committee 11/22/2016 pass Pass

Action Text: The Committee recommends that Full Council pass the Council Bill (CB).

Notes:

In Favor: 3 Chair Burgess, Vice Chair Herbold, Member Johnson

Opposed: 0

- 1 Full Council 11/28/2016 passed Pass

Action Text: The Council Bill (CB) was passed by the following vote, and the President signed the Bill:

Notes:

In Favor: 5 Councilmember Bagshaw, Councilmember Burgess, Council President Harrell, Councilmember Johnson, Councilmember Juarez

Opposed: 0

- 1 City Clerk 11/29/2016 submitted for Mayor's signature Mayor
- 1 Mayor 12/08/2016 Signed
- 1 Mayor 12/08/2016 returned City Clerk
- 1 City Clerk 12/08/2016 attested by City Clerk

Action Text: The Ordinance (Ord) was attested by City Clerk.

Notes:

CITY OF SEATTLE

ORDINANCE

125217

COUNCIL BILL

118863

AN ORDINANCE relating to funding policies for the Homelessness Prevention and Housing Stability Services Program funded through the Seattle Housing Levy.

WHEREAS, in 2016 the voters of The City of Seattle approved the levy of property taxes for the purpose of financing and supporting housing for low-income households; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 125028 provides for periodic adoption by the City Council of an

Administrative and Financial Plan for programs funded by the 2016 Housing Levy; and

WHEREAS, the full Administrative and Financial Plan is slated for completion by the Office of Housing and Council adoption in 2017; and

WHEREAS, the Human Services Department operates Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Rehousing programs supported by the Levy which are renewed annually and provide services to the community on a continual basis; and

WHEREAS, waiting for the adoption of the full Administrative and Financial Plan in 2017 would cause a delay in services for Levy-funded Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Rehousing programs of approximately six months; and

WHEREAS, the Human Services Department therefore proposes advanced approval of the portion of the Levy Administrative and Financial Plan related to Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Rehousing programs to avoid a delay in service delivery to the community; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Council hereby adopts the portion of the 2016 Seattle Housing Levy Administrative and Financial Plan policies related to Homelessness Prevention and Housing

Stability Services for Program Years 2017 and 2018, attached to this ordinance as Exhibit A
("Homelessness Prevention and Housing Stability Services").

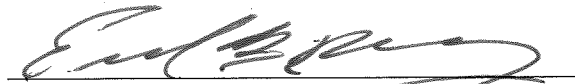
Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force 30 days after its approval by the Mayor, but if not approved and returned by the Mayor within ten days after presentation, it shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Section 1.04.020.

Passed by the City Council the 28th day of November, 2016,
and signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this 28th day of
November, 2016.



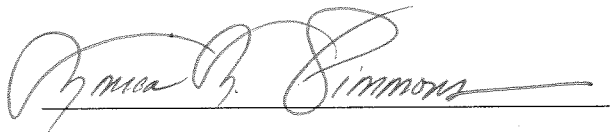
President _____ of the City Council

Approved by me this 8th day of December, 2016.



Edward B. Murray, Mayor

Filed by me this 8th day of December, 2016.



Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

(Seal)

Exhibits:

Exhibit A – Homelessness Prevention and Housing Stability Services

HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION AND HOUSING STABILITY SERVICES

Program Goal: 4,500 households

The Homelessness Prevention and Housing Stability Services Program serves vulnerable families and individuals who are at risk of homelessness or experiencing homelessness. The program addresses housing-related barriers through a combination of housing stabilization support services and financial assistance. A housing stability assessment is required at the onset of services to determine the level of need and the amount of assistance required. Stabilization services typically include but are not limited to assistance with housing search, landlord negotiations, budget and financial coaching, assistance applying for mainstream benefits, reviewing leases, and meeting with participants to assess their ongoing level of need.

This program is structured to be flexible to meet the different financial and service needs of those at risk of homelessness and people experiencing homelessness using a progressive engagement framework. This approach is consistent with current national promising practices and local experience that point to the need for a holistic and flexible approach. In serving households at risk of homelessness, the program targets resources for households at greatest risk of homelessness including formerly homeless households and households experiencing extreme overcrowding.

Contractors are required to enter data in the Homeless Management Information System for the purpose of overall program planning as well as performance review. A key outcome measure is ongoing housing stability: the number of households who do not enter or return to homelessness 12 months after assistance to the household ends.

A. Eligible households

To be eligible to apply for program funds, households must meet all the following requirements:

- Homeless or at risk of homelessness
 - Households at risk of homelessness must have a documented housing crisis. For the purposes of this program, couching surfing or doubled up households with limited resources may be considered at risk of homelessness. Households must reside in Seattle at the time of program intake.
 - Homeless households must be literally homeless households staying in a place not meant for human habitation and must be referred through King County's regional Coordinated Entry for All system.
- 50% of Area Median Income or below
- Inadequate financial resources to secure or maintain stable housing without assistance
- Financial assistance may not exceed 12 months in a 36-month period

B. Eligible use of funds

Financial assistance is available for:

- Rent payments
- Rent or utility arrears needed to obtain or retain secure, stable housing
- Security and/or utility deposits and other move-in costs (background check fees, first and last month's rent)
- Legal and language interpretation fees needed to stop an eviction action

- Agency staffing and associated service delivery costs required to provide housing stabilization services
- Transportation assistance

C. Program requirements

Levy funds will be administered by contractors who demonstrate ability to do the following:

- Provide housing stabilization services
- Provide financial assistance to prevent or address homelessness using a progressive engagement framework
- Enter data directly into the region's Homelessness Management Information System (HMIS) for program planning and performance review

D. Program reporting

The Human Services Department will provide an annual program progress report to the Office of Housing to be included in the Housing Levy annual report due to the City Council no later than March 31st of each year. The annual data will be provided separately for homelessness prevention assistance to households at risk of homelessness, and for assistance to households who are experiencing homelessness. The data will include but not be limited to:

- Demographic data for program participants such as race, gender, disability status, household income, and household composition,
- Program financial information such as average amount of assistance per household,
- The number of households served; and
- Program performance outcomes including the following:
 - 1) The number and percent of households exiting to permanent housing at program exit;
 - 2) The number and percent of households exiting to other (homelessness, shelter, etc.) at program exit;
 - 3) The number and percent of households stably housed at 12 months;and
 - 4) The number and percent of households stably housed at 24 months.

SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE*

Department:	Contact Person/Phone:	Executive Contact/Phone:
Human Services	Joy Hunt/5-1574	Lisa Mueller/4-5339

** Note that the Summary and Fiscal Note describes the version of the bill or resolution as introduced; final legislation including amendments may not be fully described.*

1. BILL SUMMARY

Legislation Title: AN ORDINANCE relating to funding policies for the Homelessness Prevention and Housing Stability Services Program funded through the Seattle Housing Levy.

Summary and background of the Legislation:

The Homelessness Prevention and Housing Stability Services Program serves vulnerable families and individuals who are at risk of homelessness or experiencing homelessness. The program addresses housing-related barriers through a combination of housing stabilization support services and financial assistance. An ordinance is requested because this program is funded by the Seattle Housing Levy, which is governed by an Administrative and Financial Plan. Funding through the 2016 Levy will not be available until the Office of Housing completes and Council approves the full Administrative and Financial Plan in the first half of 2017. This would result in a delay to service delivery for the Homelessness Prevention and Housing Stability Services Program, which is contracted annually by the Human Services Department to a diverse network of community agencies. This ordinance will prevent a delay in service delivery by approving the portion of the Administrative and Financial Plan specific to the Homelessness Prevention and Housing Stability Services Program. The full plan will be submitted for approval in 2017 by the Office of Housing.

2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

☐ This legislation creates, funds, or amends a CIP Project.

3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

☒ This legislation does not have direct financial implications.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- a) **Does the legislation have indirect or long-term financial impacts to the City of Seattle that are not reflected in the above?**

No. The 2016 Seattle Housing Levy has already been approved by the voters.

- b) **Is there financial cost or other impacts of not implementing the legislation?**

Not implementing this legislation would result in a gap in service delivery of approximately six months.

- c) **Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?**

The Office of Housing partners with the Human Services Department to operate the Homelessness Prevention and Housing Stability Services Program. However, neither department will have staffing impacts.

d) Is a public hearing required for this legislation?

No. The Homelessness Prevention and Housing Stability Services Program is a portion of Housing Levy Administrative and Financial Plan and has been reviewed by the Housing Levy Oversight Committee.

e) Does this legislation require landlords or sellers of real property to provide information regarding the property to a buyer or tenant?

No.

f) Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required for this legislation?

No.

g) Does this legislation affect a piece of property?

No.

h) Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative. Does this legislation impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities?

Yes. The Homelessness Prevention and Housing Stability Services Program primarily serves communities of color. Enacting this legislation will prevent a delay in services.

i) If this legislation includes a new initiative or a major programmatic expansion: What are the long-term and measurable goals of the program? Please describe how this legislation would help achieve the program's desired goals.

A key outcome measure is ongoing housing stability: the number of households who do not enter or return to homelessness 12 months after assistance to the household ends.

j) Other Issues:

List attachments/exhibits below:

None.