



City of Seattle

Mayor Jenny A. Durkan

Office of the Mayor

City of Seattle

Jenny A. Durkan, Mayor

Executive Order 2021-01: City to implement the “Street to Housing” strategy by procuring rooms in hotels to temporarily house unsheltered individuals during the COVID-19 pandemic public health emergency.

An Executive Order directing the Director of the Department of Finance and Administrative Services (“FAS”) to negotiate and execute licensing agreements for the non-exclusive temporary use of hotel rooms to house unsheltered individuals.

WHEREAS, in my capacity as Mayor, I proclaimed that a civil emergency exists in the City of Seattle in the Mayoral Proclamation of Civil Emergency dated March 3, 2020, related to the public health emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the “Street to Housing” hotel surge strategy is a new model for temporarily housing unsheltered homeless individuals during COVID-19 pandemic occurring nationally across the country; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Public Health - Seattle & King County have data that show that vulnerable communities, such as the homeless population, are disproportionately impacted by the pandemic, so in order to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus among the vulnerable homeless population, the City is adding additional non-congregate housing capacity to temporarily house individuals to stop the spread of the virus; and

WHEREAS, in our region the King County government has initially led this effort to temporarily use hotel rooms to provide additional surge capacity to temporarily house individuals experiencing homelessness; and

WHEREAS, an important objective of this strategy is to provide unsheltered individuals access to mental health, substance use disorder and other human services and financial assistance to help individuals exit homelessness permanently; and

WHEREAS, the City has been allocated federal funding for “homeless assistance grants” to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, among individuals and families who are homeless or receiving homeless assistance and to support additional homeless assistance and homelessness prevention activities to mitigate the impacts created by coronavirus under the Emergency Solutions Grants program as authorized under subtitle B of title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11371 et seq.), as amended, and approval for the expenditure of that funding was included in the recently adopted 2021 City Budget; and

WHEREAS, the City does not own facilities or properties that are suitable for the purpose or particular configuration needs of homeless surge sheltering during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic; and

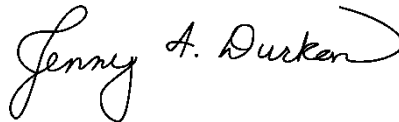
WHEREAS, the City has identified certain hotels that are available and suitable for immediate temporary housing needs in the next several months while the City continues to work on long term options and increase its supply of permanent supportive housing;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jenny A. Durkan, Mayor of Seattle, hereby order the Director of the Department of Finance and Administrative Services to negotiate and execute licensing agreements for the non-exclusive temporary use of hotel rooms to provide non-congregate housing for individuals who are experiencing homelessness and have a corresponding increased risk of contracting COVID-19.

- A. Effective immediately, the Director of the Department of Finance and Administrative Services (“Director”) or designee may negotiate and execute one or more license agreements for non-exclusive temporary use of real property with several hotel properties within the City of Seattle.
- B. The payments contemplated by the terms of any license agreement or amendment authorized in this Executive Order shall be charged to the appropriate expenditure allowance in the budget of the Human Services Department.

Inquiries regarding this Executive Order should be directed to Casey Sixkiller, Deputy Mayor, Office of the Mayor.

Dated this 18th day of February 2021.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jenny A. Durkan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping initial "J" and a stylized "A".

Jenny A. Durkan
Mayor of Seattle