



City of Tacoma
Planning and Development Services

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING
October 10th, 2017

SUBJECT

The subject of the public hearing includes the following components:

- (1) The retention and modification of the Emergency Temporary Shelters Interim Regulations as enacted pursuant to Ordinance No. 28432, adopted on June 6, 2017;
- (2) The authorization of certain implementation measures pertaining to TMC 13.06.635.B.4, concerning Temporary Homeless Camps; and
- (3) The extension of the interim regulations for six months, effective through April 16, 2018.

SUMMARY

The interim regulations contain the following key modified provisions:

Modifications to Emergency Temporary Shelters Interim Regulations

- Governmental entities shall be allowed to host emergency shelters; faith-based organizations and non-profit organizations shall be allowed to host temporary homeless camps
- The City Manager, instead of the Director of Emergency Management, shall be vested with said authority.

Modifications to Temporary Homeless Camps Provisions

- Number of residents per camp shall be maintained at the 100 person limit during the period of the interim regulations.
- Allow indoor sheltering at the request of an applicant and ensure that the building are sprinklered and meet all other required life safety regulations.
- Current regulations allow for 93 consecutive days with a 40 day extension. Based on best practices and needs of potential providers, extend the duration to 185 consecutive days with an inclement weather season provision to allow camp extensions during harsh winter weather.
- Current regulations prevent a provider from hosting a camp within two (2) years of the start date of the previous camp hosted on the same site. This recurrence period should be shortened to six (6) months between end and start date of a camp hosting period.
- Current regulations allow only two (2) camps to be concurrently hosted within the City. A maximum of six (6) camps should be allowed in the City, regardless of size, and a maximum of two (2) camps should be allowed in a Police Sector. A minimum of one mile must separate each emergency temporary shelter and/or temporary homeless camp.
- In order to properly consider the needs of families in need of assistance, during the period of interim regulations, unaccompanied minors will not be accepted, but those aged under 18 accompanied by a guardian will be allowed access to faith-based organization and non-profit run temporary homeless camps.

LEGISLATIVE INTENT

These interim regulations as modified are an important element of the City Manager's 3-phase Emergency Aid and Sheltering Program to address homelessness. With the inclusion of faith-based organizations and non-profits, members of the community will be able to support additional people as means and methods to combat this epidemic are developed.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please visit the City of Tacoma's website at

<http://www.cityoftacoma.org/cms/one.aspx?portalId=169&pageId=135137>.