

ITEM: HOMELESSNESS RESPONSE PLAN

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt a Resolution Approving Homelessness Guiding Principles to Address Homelessness Within the Community.

BACKGROUND:

The City recognizes the impact that homelessness has on the community and how the uncertainty of the current COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated this issue. The San Joaquin County Continuum of Care non-profit agency's most recent survey of homeless individuals residing within the geographic region of San Joaquin County, and subsequent report on the point-in-time count of the homeless dated April 22, 2019 found that as of January 2019, 14 unsheltered homeless individuals were found to be residing in Lathrop.

While the number of homeless in Lathrop is substantially smaller compared to other neighboring communities, Lathrop is nonetheless affected by the compounding public health and safety concerns surrounding homelessness such as blight, illegal encampments, panhandling, littering and loitering. Cooperation between governments, and private and non-profit businesses is essential to identify long-lasting, regional solutions to alleviating the strain homelessness creates on our local economies.

The following Homelessness Guiding Principles are offered to City Council as a starting point to identify strategies to alleviate the burden of homelessness on individuals and the community as a whole:

1. Collaboration

Work collaboratively with public and private agencies in support of system wide strategies which reduce barriers to housing, offer a continuum of coordinated services to the housing-vulnerable population, including emergency housing and community programs which aim to prevent homelessness before it occurs.

2. Accountability

Transparency in all decisions involving the homeless. Use an evidence-based and data-driven approach to addressing issues of homelessness.

3. Communication

Value the voices and experiences of the homeless community and homelessness advocates. Communicate frequently and openly in order to build trust and ensure engagement in a meaningful and collaborative way.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends City Council approve the proposed resolution accepting the Homelessness Guiding Principles.

COUNCIL GOAL(S) ADVANCED BY THIS AGENDA ITEM:

This response to homelessness and the Homelessness Guiding Principles intends to further the goals of inter-agency cooperation and community values.

FISCAL IMPACT:

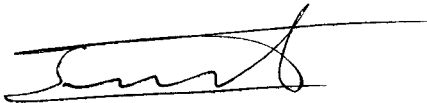
None.

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Lathrop Approving the City of Lathrop Homelessness Guiding Principles.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT
MAY 10, 2021 CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
HOMELESSNESS RESPONSE PLAN**


APPROVALS:



Salvador Navarrete
City Attorney

5-4-2021

Date



Stephen J. Salvatore
City Manager

5.4.21

Date

RESOLUTION NO. 21-_____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LATHROP
APPROVING HOMELESSNESS GUIDING PRINCIPLES TO ADDRESS
HOMELESSNESS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY**

WHEREAS, the City recognizes the impact that homelessness has on the community and how the uncertainty of the current COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated this issue; and

WHEREAS, while the number of homeless in Lathrop is substantially smaller compared to other neighboring communities, Lathrop is nonetheless affected by the compounding public health and safety concerns surrounding homelessness such as blight, illegal encampments, panhandling, littering and loitering; and

WHEREAS, cooperation between governments and private and non-profit businesses is essential to identify long-lasting, regional solutions to alleviating the strain homelessness creates on our local economies; and

WHEREAS, the following Homelessness Guiding Principles would serve as a starting point to identify strategies to alleviate the burden of homelessness on individuals and the community as a whole:

1. Collaboration

Work collaboratively with public and private agencies in support of system wide strategies which reduce barriers to housing, offer a continuum of coordinated services to the housing-vulnerable population, including emergency housing and community programs which aim to prevent homelessness before it occurs.

2. Accountability

Transparency in all decisions involving the homeless. Use an evidence-based and data-driven approach to addressing issues of homelessness.

3. Communication

Value the voices and experiences of the homeless community and homelessness advocates. Communicate frequently and openly in order to build trust and ensure engagement in a meaningful and collaborative way.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Lathrop, does hereby adopt the Homelessness Guiding Principles listed above.

The foregoing resolution was passed and adopted this 10th day of May, 2021, by the following vote of the City Council, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:


ABSTAIN:

Sonny Dhaliwal, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Teresa Vargas, City Clerk



Salvador Navarrete, City Attorney

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