



Friday, July 14, 2017

Jeff Kositsky  
Director  
Department of Homelessness & Supportive Housing  
1650 Mission St.  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Site Visits at Navigation Centers

Dear Director Kositsky:

The purpose of this correspondence is to receive clarification from the Department of Homelessness & Supportive Housing regarding implementation and monitoring of the Standards of Care at the Navigation Centers.

As a Committee, we are charged with ensuring that San Francisco's shelters are safe, sanitary and a dignified environment for our homeless residents. To this end, we believe that the Navigation Centers fall under our purview to maintain an equitable homeless shelter system and ensure all homeless clients receive secure, professional services.

In 2016, the Board of Supervisors passed Ordinance No. 117-16 that amended Administrative Code Chapter 106 and required San Francisco to open and operate no fewer than six Navigation Centers by July 31, 2018. We believe it is contrary to the spirit of this legislation not to have an outside agency review the Navigation Centers' compliance with the Standards of Care

As a Committee we are obligated to provide the Mayor, the Board of Supervisors, the Local Homeless Coordinating Board, and City agencies with accurate and comprehensive information related to the conditions and operations of our City's homeless shelters and resource centers. Without access to Navigation Center clients and the facilities in which they reside, we are unable to fulfill these obligations.

Under the Planning Code Section 102, a "Homeless Shelter" is defined as "living and/or sleeping accommodations without any fee to individuals and families who are homeless." Undoubtedly, the Navigation Centers fit this definition and are shelters. Furthermore, the same section of the Planning Code states "homeless shelters shall comply with the requirements of the Standards of Care for City Shelters contained in Administrative Code, Chapter 20, Article XIII, including the requirement for operational standards in Section 20.404(d)."

Please let us know the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing's position regarding this matter at your earliest convenience, but no later than July 31, 2017.

Sincerely,

Moses Mukami, Chair