

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Kiely Hosmon, Director, Youth Commission

FROM: John Carroll, Assistant Clerk,
Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee

DATE: October 30, 2020

SUBJECT: LEGISLATIVE MATTER INTRODUCED

The Board of Supervisors' Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee has received the following ordinance, introduced by Supervisor Mandelman on October 20, 2020. This item is being referred for comment and recommendation.

File No. 201187

Ordinance amending the Administrative Code to require the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing to establish a Safe Sleeping Sites Program to provide unsheltered persons with a safe place to sleep overnight; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

Please return this cover sheet with the Commission's response to John Carroll, Assistant Clerk, Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee.

RESPONSE FROM YOUTH COMMISSION Date: ___November 2, 2020___

___ No Comment
X Recommendation Attached

Chairperson, Youth Commission

Youth Commission
City Hall ~ Room 345
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YOUTH COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: John Carroll, Clerk, Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee
FROM: Youth Commission
DATE: Tuesday, November 2, 2020
RE: Referral response to BOS File No. 201187 - [Administrative Code - Safe Sleeping Sites Program]

At our **Monday, November 2, 2020, meeting**, the Youth Commission voted to take no position on the following motion:

No position on BOS File No. 201187 - [Administrative Code - Safe Sleeping Sites Program]

The Youth Commissioners voted to include the following questions, comments, and recommendations:

Questions:

- What is the long-term goal of this legislation to bridge the needs of houseless folks? Similarly, are these encampments just because of the pandemic or a longer term strategy?
- How is this related, or does it include, other places homeless people sleep (for example, homeless people using their vehicles)?
- How does this incorporate taking care of not only physical safety but also mental and emotional safety?
- What other/alternative plans do they have to provide resources at the sites?
- How is the need of housing included in this legislation?
- What percentage of people in Safe Sleeping Sites are Transitional Aged Youth (TAY) and how does this compare to the general TAY population experiencing homelessness?
- Since many Safe Sleeping Sites have been opened in the last 6 months why is there a slowing of urgency when the COVID-19 pandemic is still happening?
- Why is public transportation not available for those using Safe Sleeping Sites?

Recommendations:

- Using data, specific targets should be set based on the number of TAY in Safe Sleeping Sites so TAY needs aren't excluded
- There should be clear links to coordinated entry and be explicit on how this is connected to the coordinated entry as well as
- Be explicit and intentional with connecting TAY in Safe Sleeping Sites to TAY specific services since their needs are different than adults

Comments:

- The Youth Commission advises the legislative sponsors to expand their idea of what this legislation could be. As there was no legislative expert from a sponsoring office to speak on this legislation, the Youth Commission posed concerns of the long-term sustainability.
- The broad sentiment from the Youth Commission is that this seems “bare minimum” and there was overall concern that there was nothing mentioned on TAY specific population and their needs.
- In general, more intentional focus is needed not only on TAY specific resources and support but also more emphasis on resources and support as a response to a global pandemic (PPE/masks, etc.) to keep this particular population safe and healthy.

Youth Commissioners thank the Board of Supervisors for their attention to this issue. If you have any questions, please contact our office at (415) 554-6446, or your Youth Commissioner.



Nora Hylton, Chair
Adopted on November 2, 2020
2020-2021 San Francisco Youth Commission