Temporary Emergency Shelter Facilities in the San Pedro Area

The latest homeless count showed there were 614 people living without homes in San Pedro and 514 were unsheltered. On October 29, 2019, the Board of Supervisors declared a shelter crisis for the County pursuant to Government Code Section 8698 et seq. (Shelter Crisis), which allows the County to designate certain public facilities to be used as homeless shelters during the period of the Shelter Crisis. Accordingly, the Chief Executive Office (CEO) identified a partially vacant County Department of Public Health facility in San Pedro, located at 122 West 8th Street, San Pedro, CA 90731 (San Pedro Public Health Clinic), as a site that can be used as a temporary homeless shelter for 3 years occupied by homeless persons on a temporary basis. Currently, the site is surrounded by tents occupied by 56 homeless individuals on any given night. The San Pedro Public Health Clinic, which is proposed as a temporary emergency shelter, will hereinafter be referred to as the "Temporary San Pedro Emergency Shelter Facility."

The proposed Temporary San Pedro Emergency Shelter Facility will provide interim housing for 40 individuals and include minor improvements to the existing second
level of the San Pedro Public Health Clinic, which is approximately 14,000 square feet.

During the period of the Shelter Crisis, Harbor Interfaith-San Pedro (Harbor Interfaith), as the shelter provider at the Temporary San Pedro Emergency Shelter Facility, will provide effective bridge programming at the facility, linking individuals to long-term housing solutions and gainful employment opportunities. Harbor Interfaith will provide homeless services at the Temporary San Pedro Emergency Shelter Facility pursuant to a gratis license agreement with the County. Pursuant to Government Code Section 26227, the Board has authority to make available real property not needed for County purposes to non-profit entities for operation of programs that serve public purposes and are necessary to meet the social needs of the population of the County. Not only will this facility provide immediate respite from weather 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, but it will also provide critical bridge housing resources to assist individuals in permanently exiting cycles of homelessness.

I, THEREFORE MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Find the proposed Temporary San Pedro Emergency Shelter Facility and related actions exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 21080(b)(4) of the Public Resources Code and Section 15269(c) of the State CEQA Guidelines, which exempt specific actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency; Section 15332 of the State CEQA Guidelines, which applies to in-fill development projects; and Sections 15303(e) and 15311(c) of the State CEQA Guidelines, which are applicable to accessory structures, including temporary use items, and it also meets the definition of a by-right Low Barrier Navigation Center Development pursuant to Section 65662 of the Government Code. In addition, based on the
proposed project records, it will comply with all applicable regulations, and it is not in a sensitive environment and there are no cumulative impacts, unusual circumstances, damage to scenic highways, listing on hazardous waste site lists compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5, or indications that it may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource that would make the exemption inapplicable. Upon approval of the recommended actions, the CEO will file a Notice of Exemption with the County Clerk pursuant to Section 21152 of the California Public Resources Code;

2. Pursuant to Government Code Section 26227, find that the services to be provided by Harbor Interfaith, a nonprofit corporation, are necessary to meet the social needs of the population of the County and serve public purposes which benefit the County;

3. Find that the applicable portions of the former San Pedro Public Health Clinic are not currently needed for any other County purposes;

4. Designate the Temporary San Pedro Emergency Shelter Facility as an additional County public facility to be occupied by homeless persons in the San Pedro area for emergency housing during the period of the Shelter Crisis for a three year period;

5. Direct the CEO Homeless Initiative to work with Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), the Department of Health Services (DHS), Fire Department, Department of Public Works, County Counsel, and other pertinent County departments to ensure readiness for operation of a 24-hour emergency shelter at the Temporary San Pedro Emergency Shelter Facility, pursuant to Government
Code Section 8698 et seq;

6. Authorize the establishment of Capital Project No. 87694, Temporary San Pedro Emergency Shelter Facility Improvements, in the Fiscal Year 19-20 Capital Projects/Refurbishments Budget;

7. Authorize the Director of Public Works or his designee to repair, refurbish, and remodel the Temporary San Pedro Emergency Shelter Facility using Board-approved Job Order Contracts to allow for operation of the temporary emergency shelter during the Shelter Crisis, for an initial amount of $200,000 to immediately open the temporary shelter, and an amount not to exceed $100,000 for additional as-needed refurbishments subject to appropriation of funds for this purpose;

8. Approve the Temporary San Pedro Emergency Shelter Facility as a Supervisorial District Four Interim Housing Capital Fund Pool project, subject to the availability of funds through the replenishment of the Interim Housing Capital Fund Pool;

9. Direct the CEO and LAHSA DHS to use Measure H funding to fund the operation for 40 beds at the Temporary San Pedro Emergency Shelter Facility;

10. Authorize and direct the CEO, or her designee, to negotiate and execute a License with Harbor Interfaith, for use of the applicable portions of the San Pedro Public Health Clinic as a temporary emergency shelter on a gratis basis with Harbor Interfaith being responsible for all maintenance and operational costs for the duration of the Shelter Crisis, and any extensions thereof declared by the Board;

11. Authorize and direct the CEO, or her designee, to negotiate and execute any other ancillary documentation, approved as to form by County Counsel, necessary to effectuate the License, and to take any other actions necessary and appropriate
to implement and effectuate the License;

12. Authorize the CEO or her designee to take any other actions consistent with and/or necessary for the implementation of the foregoing actions;

13. Direct the CEO or her designee and the Sheriff Homeless Outreach Services Team (HOST) to collaborate with the City of Los Angeles Police Department for outreach efforts in or around the facility.

#    #    #

JH:lo