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CITY SECRETARY  
DALLAS, TEXAS

CITIZEN HOMELESSNESS COMMISSION  
SPECIAL-CALLED MEETING  
WebEx Virtual Meeting  
Monday, June 22, 2020  
3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Agenda:

1. Call to order - 3:01 pm by Chair Ann Margolin

2. Roll call performed by Kelly Hunt (see attachment)

Quorum determined, and Chair Margolin commented on the following matters:

- Welcomed everyone to the special CHC virtual WebEx meeting, and introduced new Commission members Tami Fowler appointed by Carla Blackmon for District 9, and Britton Branowsky appointed by Omar Narvaez for District 6.

3. Public Comment:

No public speakers registered for WebEx Virtual Meeting

4. Austin Street Center Zoning Change Request (Voting Item)

Presented Daniel Roby, CEO and Angela Hunt, attorney for Austin Street Center.

- Mr. Roby, CEO of Austin Street Center located at 2929 Hickory St, proposed their Zoning Change Request to build a new overnight general-purpose shelter, new from the ground up, with private funds totaling \$15 million, thus increasing their current footprint from their current location, to an adjacent 2.5 acres at Malcom X and Hickory Street.
- The Zoning Change will be presented to City Council next Wednesday, June 24, 2020, and specifically requests that the new Planned Development boundary expand to include the new facility, with the additional capacity of 65 beds for a total of 495, and new Day Shelter services.
- Improvements include a new intake process with a reserved-bed program to mitigate lines outside the old shelter that spill into community. Additionally, there is focus on improved security enforcement to discourage loitering and strengthen safety, daily litter pick-up around the perimeter of the site, and regularly-held meetings between stakeholders and Austin Street Center.
- Angela Hunt discussed community outreach to notify stakeholders of zoning plan: sent out bilingual flyers, covering a radius of 500 feet between I-30 thru I-45, and the southern Dart Rail area triangle. ASC held a public meeting with District 7 Councilman Adam Bazaldua on Feb 24, 2020, and two virtual phone conferences on May 12 and 14, all of which were focused on answering concerns about public safety, trash pick-up, and outreach.
- Commissioner Linda Garner addressed the need for this plan to have been vetted through Office of Homeless Solutions, specifically on how it fits into Track 4 of OHS' Homeless Strategy Plan, and the nine, pre-approved homeless housing sites. Additionally, she stated that there is a large concentration of services already in existence within the proposed area, which falls short of OHS' goal of decentralizing services and broadening access to areas throughout the city where needs are unmet. Within this concentration is inadvertent segregation, as Dallas homeless citizens make up 67% African American; this proposal further concentrates Black citizens into an area of little opportunity. She referred to Dr. Woody's statement on racism as a barrier to ending homelessness.
- Vice-Chair David King stated that the public good would be served through this expansion by:

1. Increasing the number of homeless neighbors that can be sheltered there at a time.

2. Providing day services which will improve recovery and development of stability for shelter guests while reducing the numbers of homeless citizens who are wondering the streets because they have nowhere to go.
3. Enabling on site meal prep which will provide more direct ability to serve nutritional meals, a critical service for populations that suffer from the most extreme food insecurity and cadre of health conditions. Healthy food provision can have a surprising impact on the number of emergency medical situations that plague our homeless neighbors.
4. Enabling Austin street to better handle ongoing pandemic concerns by increasing the capacity for social distancing and isolation when necessary.
5. Vice-Chair King also questioned whether the area Austin street is in could be considered a low opportunity area with its close proximity to downtown Dallas and addressed the difference between spending millions of public dollars to relocate Austin street through track 4 of OHS's strategy plan and allowing them to expand through their own private investment. He also expressed an opinion that segregation and redlining must be addressed in the establishment of permanent affordable housing, not temporary shelter.

- Commissioner Garner and Vice-Chair King both agreed that further focus and discussion is necessary regarding the issues of racial housing discrimination and the impact of redlining as the CHC continues to address the problem of lack of housing for homeless populations

- **OFFICIAL ACTION OF THE COMMISSION**

MOTION by Vice Chair David King:

Move to endorse Austin Street Center's request for rezoning in support of their proposal to construct a new facility to address homelessness. MOTION SECONDED by Alan Tallis  
MOTION PASSED (13 Yes; 1 No; and 1 absent)

5. **Upcoming events:**

Next meeting will be July 9, 2020.

6. **Adjourn - 4:50 pm**

APPROVED BY:

  
Ann Margolin, Chair  
Citizen Homelessness Commission

Date: 8-18-20

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SPECIAL-CALLED MEETING  
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**Attendance Sheet**

**Commissioners Present:**

Ann Margolin - Chair  
Jennifer Snow, District 1  
Linda Garner, District 2  
LeTitia Owens, District 3  
Brandon Vance, District 4  
Christian Marquez, District 5  
Britton Banowsky, District 6  
Josh Cogan, District 7  
David King - Vice Chair, District 8  
Tami Fowler, District 9  
John Shellene, District 10  
Alan Tallis, District 11  
Kevin Cooper, District 12  
Lisa Marshall, District 13

**Commissioners Absent:**

Amy Desler, District 14

**Staff Present:**

Kevin Oden  
Kelly Hunt  
Latrisce Johnson