

MOTION

On February 9, 2016, the City Council approved a Comprehensive Homelessness Strategy ("the Strategy" – CF 15-1138-S1) encompassing more than sixty implementation items to address various aspects of the challenges faced by the City's 25,000-plus homeless residents and provide relief to housed residents from the impacts of having so many un-housed people on our streets.

The Strategy's section on Demographics points out that almost a third of the homeless population is aged 55 years or older. Additionally, the City's historically low rental vacancy rate and housing market forces that displace thousands of renters a year make many senior renters at risk of becoming homeless. The needs of these senior adults are generally anticipated or addressed by many of the individual strategies set forth in the adopted document yet those needs and ideas for addressing them are rarely specified or discussed.

A number of strategies relating to interactions with the homeless, data collection, shelter facilities, housing and service provision all could benefit from references to the unique needs of homeless seniors or seniors at risk of becoming homeless. The budgeting for the various strategies should align with the adequacy for addressing the high proportion of seniors in need.

I THEREFORE MOVE, that the City Administrative Officer and the Chief Legislative Analyst be instructed to work with the Department of Aging to identify specific areas of the Comprehensive Homelessness Strategy that can respond to the unique needs and challenges faced by homeless seniors and at-risk-of-homelessness seniors and present them to the City Council for incorporation into the Strategy as soon as possible.

PRESENTED BY:   
PAUL KORETZ, Councilmember, Fifth District

SECONDED BY: 

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MAR 02 2016

