



Recommendation for Action

File #: 19-2401, **Agenda Item #:** 177.

6/19/2019

Posting Language

Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Office of Real Estate Services Capital Budget (Ordinance 20180911-001) to increase appropriations by \$8,600,000 to acquire a building to provide shelter and support services to those experiencing homelessness. Related to Items #178 and #179.

Lead Department

Office of Real Estate Services.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is attached.

Prior Council Action:

January 31, 2019, Council approved Resolution 20190131-078 relating to a pilot project to provide immediate shelter and support services for those experiencing homelessness on a 10-0 vote. Council Member Flannigan was off the dais.

June 6, 2019, Council approved Resolution 20190606-049 relating to implementing the responses directed in Council Resolution No. 20190131-078, including taking all actions necessary to implement the provision of immediate shelter structure(s) and services on a 10-0 vote. Council Member Harper-Madison was off the dais.

For More Information:

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Additional Backup Information:

According to Strategic Direction 2023, the issue of homelessness has been identified as the Council's top priority. The number of people experiencing homelessness in Austin continues to rise, with the Point-In-Time Count reflecting an increase from 2,147 in 2018 to 2,255 in 2019. As a subset, the number of unsheltered individuals increased from 1,014 to 1,086 within this period. Over the past five years this same population grew by 638 individuals, an increase of nearly 63%.

The Office of Real Estate Services has identified the building at 1112 West Ben White Boulevard as a property that would be able to provide shelter and support services to those experiencing homelessness. The estimated purchase price is \$8,500,000 with an additional \$100,000 for closing costs and other related fees. Renovation costs are unknown at this time. Upon determination of estimated renovation costs, staff will report back to Council on necessary funding during the Fiscal Year 2019-20 budget process, or a future Council agenda. Additionally, \$2.5 million in estimated annual operating and maintenance costs will also be necessary upon completion of the renovations.

This action authorizes the negotiation and execution of a Purchase and Sale Agreement with Alma Tierra Ventures, LLC (owner), to acquire a building to provide shelter and support services to those experiencing homelessness. The acquisition will include approximately 26,594 square feet of commercial building space located on a 1.66 acre lot.

