



REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Title: Request for Council Action – Resolution No. 32 for 2022

Preferred Agenda: November 8, 2022

Submitted By: Julie Fisher, Administrative Services Manager

Reviewed By: Kelcey Young, City Manager

Type of Action: Resolution X Motion X Roll Call Other

Relevant Code/Policy: Type Code/Policy Here

Towards Council Goal: I.WE ASPIRE to make Sweet Home a community people find desirable to live in.

II.WE ASPIRE to have an effective and efficient local government.

Attachments: Resolution No. 32 for 2022
Taskforce Letter to Oregon Legislature
OMA Press Release

Purpose of this RCA:

Council consideration and decision on Resolution No. 32 for 2022.

Background/Context:

The OMA Board of Directors approved the creation of the OMA Homelessness Taskforce in May 2022. The taskforce brought together 25 mayors from across the state to develop a response to homelessness that would help all communities statewide, regardless of size or locations, to address the issue. Over the summer and early fall, the taskforce met regularly to develop its homelessness plan, which was finalized and approved October 14. The plan was subsequently emailed to all 90 members of the Oregon Legislature and the three gubernatorial candidates.

The OMA Homelessness Taskforce's plan to humanely and timely address the homelessness crisis in Oregon is a partnership between the State of Oregon and its 241 cities. This partnership will allow for the establishment and expansion of local, community-based responses that provide immediate shelter, needed services, and secure safety for unhoused Oregonians. During the 2023 Legislative session, the OMA will *propose* two separate, yet parallel, budget proposals:

1. A budget package which provides direct allocation to cities for homelessness response and prevention services; and
2. A budget package that provides capital improvement funding for cities.

The Challenge/Problem:

Addressing the challenges of homelessness.

Stakeholders:

- Outreach Workers – Funding may include prevention, education and outreach, hygiene stations, and additional resources to help outreach workers make a greater impact.
- Unhoused Individuals and Families – Funding may include affordable housing, education and outreach, food bank assistance, Shelter and/or transitional housing which could greatly aid the unhoused population.
- Staff – Funding may include abatement/clean-up efforts, environmental mitigation, capital construction or improvement costs, and related operation costs.

Issues and Financial Impacts:**Direct Allocation**

A direct allocation of funding from the state to each incorporated city in Oregon for cities to use in their homelessness response and prevention services is being proposed by the OMA.

- It is proposed that each city will be allocated funds in an amount equal to \$40 per resident, in accordance with the latest official population estimates from Portland State University.
- The proposal requires that in no instance will an incorporated city receive less than \$50,000 in direct funding.
- OMA's proposal provides cities the ability to elect to use the funds for their own homelessness response and prevention services, or to redirect their funds to community partners who are required to use the funds for homelessness response and prevention services.

OMA's proposal states that funds must be used for homelessness response and prevention services, which may include:

- Abatement/clean-up
- Environmental mitigation
- Affordable housing
- Capital construction or improvement costs related to homelessness or affordable housing measures
- Community resource officers
- Education and outreach
- Food bank assistance
- Shelter and/or transitional housing
- Hygiene stations
- Operation costs
- Outreach workers
- Prevention

With a \$50,000 guarantee for all cities, and a \$40.00 per resident multiplier in place, based on the April 19, 2022, PSU population estimates, the total amount requested would equal \$123,575,800.00 annually.

Capital Allocation

In addition to the direct allocations, the Taskforce's proposal requires a meaningful allocation from the State for coordinated capital construction investments for specific shelter and transitional housing projects, statewide. It is expected that a final dollar amount for needed capital construction investments will equal between \$125 to \$175 million. The OMA is seeking information from Oregon cities about any needs they may have for capital construction investments from the state in their local responses to addressing the homelessness crisis.

Elements of a Stable Solution:

To obtain and funding that could be used for homelessness response and prevention services.

Options:

1. Option #1 – Do nothing, no action will be taken.
2. Option #2– Pass Resolution No. 32 for 2022 – Supporting OMA’s Taskforce’s Proposal.

Recommendation:

Option #2– Pass Resolution No. 32 for 2022 – Supporting OMA’s Taskforce’s Proposal.