

CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW
RESOLUTION NO. 18301

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW
DECLARING A SHELTER CRISIS

WHEREAS, the County of Santa Clara (the “County”) completes a biannual count of homeless, which includes the unsheltered and sheltered homeless persons, and includes persons living in the City of Mountain View (the “City”); and

WHEREAS, this count serves as a baseline for understanding homelessness in the region, capturing individuals and families sleeping in emergency shelters and transitional housing, as well as people sleeping on the streets, in vehicles, abandoned properties, or other places not meant for human habitation; and

WHEREAS, according to the County’s counts, Mountain View homelessness nearly doubled from 139 in 2013 to 276 in 2015; rose further to 416 homeless individuals in 2017; and is anticipated to rise again with the 2019 count (conducted in late January 2018 with results available in the spring of 2019); and

WHEREAS, the City conducts its own street-by-street count conducted by the Police Department over the past two years (conducted in December 2017 and 2018) of persons that appeared to be living in vehicles throughout the City, averaging 290 vehicles showing signs of habitation (more than half are recreational vehicles—RVs); and

WHEREAS, existing shelter capacity cannot meet Mountain View’s homeless need, having total capacity of 95 persons, with the County’s Cold-Weather Shelter Program for Mountain View and North County residents only having capacity to serve 50 people total (consisting of 10 to 15 families and single women), Graduate House (Life Moves) transitional shelter having capacity for five adults; and Quetzal House (Bill Wilson) youth shelter having capacity for 40 youth; and

WHEREAS, the City is working with a local nonprofit to provide safe parking for persons living in vehicles in Mountain View, which currently provides eight passenger vehicle parking spaces, and a pending site will accommodate 10 to 11 passenger vehicles or 7 to 8 RVs (or some combination of both); and

WHEREAS, the homeless are at risk of injury, illness, and harm due to weather exposure and have inadequate access to other basic human services (utilities, sanitary

waste facilities, and garbage services) that can have adverse consequences for themselves and the surrounding community; and

WHEREAS, Government Code Section 8698.2 authorizes the City of Mountain View to declare the existence of a shelter crisis upon finding that a significant number of residents are without the ability to obtain shelter, resulting in a threat to their health and safety; and

WHEREAS, Government Code Section 8698.2 provides limited immunity for ordinance negligence in the provision of emergency housing by opening public facilities to the homeless and suspends strict compliance with housing, health, or safety standards to the extent strict compliance would prevent, hinder, or delay the mitigation of the shelter crisis effects; moreover; the City may, in place of such standards, enact City health and safety standards to operate during the housing emergency consistent with ensuring minimal public health and safety;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Mountain View finds that a shelter crisis exists within Mountain View because a significant number of residents in the City are without stable housing or the ability to obtain shelter, resulting in threats to their health and safety.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council hereby declares the existence of a shelter crisis in Mountain View.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the shelter crisis declaration shall continue to be in effect until June 30, 2020, unless extended by the City Council before this date.

The foregoing Resolution was regularly introduced and adopted at a Special Meeting of the City Council of the City of Mountain View, duly held on the 19th day of March 2019, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Clark, Hicks, Kamei, McAlister, Ramirez, Vice Mayor Abe-Koga, and Mayor Matichak

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ATTEST:

APPROVED:




LISA NATUSCH
CITY CLERK



LISA MATICHAK
MAYOR

I do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Mountain View at a Special Meeting held on the 19th day of March 2019, by the foregoing vote.



City Clerk
City of Mountain View

KST/2/RESO
609-03-19-19r