

From: [Mary Emerson](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#); [Wheeler, Mayor](#); [Commissioner Rubio](#); [Commissioner Mapps](#); [Commissioner Ryan](#)
Subject: Proposed Amendments to Agenda item 929
Date: Wednesday, November 2, 2022 11:06:06 AM

Commissioners and Mayor,

I support the amendments proposed by Commissioners Hardesty (amendments 1 - 10) and Rubio (amendments 1 - 3), and by Mayor Wheeler (amendment 1) to agenda items 927 - 931. I would like to add two additional amendments to agenda item 929 and expand/amend Mayor Wheeler's amendment as well.

Agenda item 929 - Connect mental health and substance abuse recovery services to unhoused individuals.

This item should be amended to provide some emergency measures to address two of the key contributors (if not the root cause) of the high level of mental health issues experienced by the unhoused - specifically, the lack of a stable and permanent home and the loss of a stable and permanent home.

Emerson Amendment 1: In addition to the temporary outdoor facilities contemplated in this resolution, the city shall work cooperatively with the county to immediately continue and expand funding of the pilot project Move-In Multnomah, enabling people who need stable indoor housing to immediately move into already-built and vacant permanent housing.

The city shall also work collaboratively with nonprofits, the county and the state to identify other opportunities to use existing facilities to create homes more quickly - for example converting Air BnB's to permanent housing.

With a stable home, people will be able to move towards personal stability and case workers will more easily connect with people to provide ongoing services.

Emerson Amendment 2: To avoid increasing the number of people living unhoused, it is imperative to address the needs of people who are at risk of losing their housing due to lack of funds or appropriate supportive services. Working with the county and state governments, the city shall immediately create and administer an emergency fund to provide rental assistance to low- and middle-income renters that are at risk of being evicted due to non-payment, and to connect them with supportive services if needed.

Emerson Amendment 3: Expand the annual report contemplated by Wheeler amendment 1 to include: (1) Audit the number of housing units available and placements made to permanent housing solutions, such as Move-In Multnomah. (2) Audit number of notices of eviction due to non-payment and refer landlords and renters to services to help resolve issues and maintain the tenants in a stable permanent home.

Regards,

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