

# Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE March 25, 2024

Honorable Members of the City Council Housing and Homelessness Solutions Committee:  
TO Jesse Moreno (Chair), Cara Mendelsohn (Vice Chair), Zarin D. Gracey, Chad West, Gay Donnell Willis

SUBJECT **Office of Homeless Solutions – Temporary and Alternative Housing Update**

The following memorandum is in response to inquiries from the City Council concerning best practices for intermediate housing and providing an outline of prior staff communications, and next steps. The request for information results from the special called meeting, held on January 18, 2024, by the Housing and Homelessness Solutions (HHS) Committee to discuss the [Task Force on Homelessness, Organizations, Policies, and Encampments \(HOPE\) Report](#).

## **Current Progress**

The Office of Homeless Solutions (OHS) staff, in partnership with relevant City departments, is compiling national best practices for temporary and alternative housing, to determine overall needs for a proposed initiative. Recent actions include:

- Meeting with peer cities running successful programs, through presentations via the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) ALL INside initiative
- In January of 2024, several councilmembers and staff traveled to Los Angeles, California, to visit sites related to the provision of temporary and alternative housing for area unsheltered individuals. The following sites were toured: Los Angeles Pallet Homes, Volunteers of America Facility, and Bienstar Harm Reduction Center

## **Next Steps**

Staff is continuing to compile best practice data and models on bridge and alternative housing based on White House data and lessons learned from other major, urban cities, including an upcoming trip to view additional models. Later this spring, staff will present to HHS on the best path(s) forward, seeking Committee feedback and input.

## **Prior Action Chronology**

- September 19, 2023 – A presentation was given to HHS that went over a proposed pilot project for temporary housing. This presentation covered the Aids Healthcare Foundation (AHF) presence in Dallas and their purchase of a former hotel. This site includes 200 turnkey units, of which 28 - 48 are being renovated and reserved

DATE March 22, 2024  
SUBJECT **Temporary and Alternative Housing Update**

for permanent supportive housing through collaboration with the local Continuum of Care (CoC), at no cost to the City

- August 8, 2023 – A briefing was requested by the City Council on temporary housing in relation to tiny/pallet homes
- April 7, 2023 – Staff sent a memorandum to the City Council to recap and add additional clarity to the presentation made on April 4, 2023; an overview of the Community Development Block Grants – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Funds and Tiny Homes findings
  - Staff recommended that funding be used to support existing projects in the Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization portfolio with financial needs that could be met with these CDBG-DR funds
  - Staff also recommended devoting attention and finances to increasing permanent supportive housing through public/private partnerships on adaptive reuse projects, per the homelessness system's best practices
- April 4, 2023 – Staff presented their findings on the feasibility of using Community Develop Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CBDG-DR) funds to support a proposed tiny homes project to house unsheltered individuals at the City Council Briefing, but due to loss of a quorum, were unable to answer questions from councilmembers at that time
- March 8, 2023 – A briefing was requested by the City Council on the feasibility of using CBDG-DR funds to support a proposed tiny homes project to house unsheltered individuals

In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact me or Christine Crossley, Director of the Office of Homeless Solutions.

Service First,



Kimberly Bizer Tolber  
Deputy City Manager

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager  
Tammy Palomino, City Attorney  
Mark Swann, City Auditor  
Billerae Johnson, City Secretary  
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge  
Jon Fortune, Deputy City Manager

Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager  
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Assistant City Manager  
Dr. Robert Perez, Assistant City Manager  
Jack Ireland, Chief Financial Officer  
Genesis D. Gavino, Chief of Staff to the City Manager  
Directors and Assistant Directors