



**CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH
SUPPLEMENTAL COMMUNICATION**

**Joan L. Flynn, City Clerk
Office of the City Clerk**

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers

FROM: Joan L. Flynn, City Clerk 

DATE: 3/21/2016

SUBJECT: SUPPLEMENTAL COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE MARCH 21, 2016, REGULAR CITY COUNCIL/PFA MEETING

Attached are the Supplemental Communications to the City Council (received after distribution of the Agenda Packet):

STUDY SESSION

Email communication from Amory Hanson

**SUPPLEMENTAL
COMMUNICATION**

The Honorable
James Katapodis
Mayor of Huntington Beach
2000 Main Street
Huntington Beach CA 92648

Meeting Date: 3/21/2016

Agenda Item No. 55

Dear Mister Mayor:

I would like to express my concerns regarding the Homelessness Task Force's Recommendations. Many of these recommendations will hinder the quality of life of actual residents of Huntington Beach.

I had no objections to the forming of the task force.

However, The Majority of Presentations were from Organizations providing assistance not punishment. Only 3 City Police Departments in Orange County and 1 in Los Angeles County were consulted. In addition, The Police Departments of The three Cities in Orange County with a larger population then Huntington Beach, Anaheim, Santa Ana, and Irvine, were not consulted. It is of note that Santa Ana has a significant Homeless Enclave at The Orange County Civic Center. Also, The Orange County Sheriff's Department was not consulted. Also, no presentations relating to the victims of homelessness were heard.

I am also concerned about the use of Subcommittees. Subcommittees are not required to comply with The Ralph Brown Act. The use of subcommittees made much of the work of The Homelessness Task Force not transparent

Wit that said, here are my opinions on the recommendations of The Homelessness Task Force.

Police Subcommittee

1. An Ordinance is needed to insure Homeless men and women are punished for committing crimes.
2. A "Chronic Offender Program" is not needed. If The City Attorney's Caseload is indeed high, perhaps an additional City Attorney should be appointed. However, No Prosecutor should only handle cases from a certain group. It would not be acceptable to have a prosecutor handle only cases with African-American or female defendants, for example. For the same reasons, we should not have a program specifically for Homeless defendants.
3. I would strongly discourage the elimination of The Downtown Ambassador Program. This program has substantially helped the downtown community. If lack of training to deal with The Homeless is a concern, perhaps the Huntington Beach Police Department could ask the Orange County Sheriff's

Department to develop a training program for dealing with the Homeless, to be provided not only to the Sheriff's Deputies but to all law enforcement officers.

4. I have no objections to a park ranger program, however I am concerned, based on the staffing levels of the Huntington Beach Police Department, that it will be difficult to find park rangers.
5. I would prefer this funding be allocated for General matters relating to the Homeless. This way, this funding could fund both outreach and penal measures.

1st Housing subcommittee

1. I support a general voucher system. However, The Vouchers must not be provided to those who have been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor. This rule should apply to all men and women, regardless of whether they homeless or not.
2. I also support construction of additional low-income housing units. However, those who have been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor should not be allowed to live in these units. This rule should apply to all men and women, regardless of whether they are homeless or not. In addition the residents of these low-income housing units should be given no second chances when violations of their rent agreement are made.
3. I do not support a temporary housing location. It will create dependency and the Homeless will never move out. We must instead insure we have enough houses.

2nd Housing subcommittee

1. I support the funding of permanent housing, but not transitional housing.
2. We do not need homeless men and women sleeping in warehouses. That is not a civilized activity.
3. We do not need homeless men and women, sleeping in "Shipping containers". That is not a civilized activity.

Coordination of services subcommittee.

1. A database of organizations should be made. However, It is my opinion that no landlord should be "felony-friendly." Also, The Homeless are not "residents" of any city. Therefore, they should not be treated as residents of Huntington Beach.
2. A database of all homeless men and women should be made and should also include information on felony and misdemeanor convictions.
3. I do not believe it is appropriate for a "faith based community" to be authorized by the city. It is a violation of the 1st amendment to the United

States constitution. I would support a concerned group of citizens, but it should not be limited to "senior pastors".

Economic Self-Sufficiency subcommittee

1. Job training is important. However, No Homeless person is "ready to work." You cannot work if you do not have an address. Employees and Employers will be unable to send communications through the United States Postal Service.
2. I would prefer using the Huntington Beach Chamber of Commerce as a resource.
3. If the city is going to have an 'Employment Bureau intake employee.'" It needs to provide equal employment opportunities to all men and women, regardless of whether they are homeless or not.
4. Businesses should be helping all men and women, regardless of whether they are homeless or not, find employment.

Health subcommittee

1. A clinic will not be enough to provide care to The Homeless. A second Hospital, run by the city of Huntington Beach is needed. This Hospital should have a full psychiatric ward
2. We cannot not pay our physicians and nurses for their dedicated efforts.
3. No early releases should be allowed at any hospital. The Frank Lanterman-Nicholas Petris-Alan Short act requires a 72-hour hold, nothing more, nothing less
4. We must insure that drug abuse is treated as a legal problem and a healthcare problem.

I am hopeful that the City will represent the interests of actual Huntington Beach residents and insure a swift and effective resolution of the Homelessness problem.

Sincerely Yours,

Mr. Amory Hanson

CC: The Honorable David Sullivan
CC: The Honorable Barbara Delglieze
CC: The Honorable William O'Connell
CC: The Honorable Michael Posey
CC: The Honorable Erik Peterson
CC: The Honorable Jill Hardy
CC: Mr. Fred Wilson
CC: The Honorable Joan Flynn