

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN JOSE (A) DESIGNATING THE FOLLOWING TWO CITY-OWNED FACILITIES TO BE OCCUPIED AS OVERNIGHT WARMING LOCATIONS BY INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS DURING THE COLD WEATHER SEASON: (1) ROOSEVELT COMMUNITY CENTER, 901 EAST SANTA CLARA STREET, SAN JOSE, CA 95116; AND (2) TULLY COMMUNITY BRANCH LIBRARY, 880 TULLY ROAD, SAN JOSE, CA 95111; AND (B) AUTHORIZING THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF HOUSING OR DESIGNEE TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH HOMEFIRST, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,127,190 TO IMPLEMENT THE OVERNIGHT WARMING LOCATIONS, RETROACTIVE TO OCTOBER 1, 2023 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2024

WHEREAS, the 2023 homeless census and survey counted 6,266 individuals experiencing homelessness in San José, of whom 4,386 were unsheltered, meaning that 70% of San José homeless population sleeps outdoors, in encampments, vehicles, parks, tents, abandoned properties, bus and train stations, and on the street; and

WHEREAS, the City of San José (“City”) currently has a total of 1,916 emergency shelter beds for individuals experiencing homelessness, which is 81% of the total County of Santa Clara emergency shelter beds (2,376); and

WHEREAS, although the 2023 homeless census and survey show that there was an 11.3% decrease in San José’s unsheltered homeless population, there is still a significant shortage of available shelter beds in comparison to the total number of unsheltered individuals; and

WHEREAS, on October 24, 2023, City Council adopted a resolution declaring the continued existence of a shelter crisis proclaiming a local emergency caused by

conditions of homelessness in San José and allowing the City to continue to streamline the development of emergency bridge housing, as well as homeless shelters; and

WHEREAS, given to the high number of unsheltered individuals in San José and the lack of available shelter beds, the Housing Department is proposing to resume operating Overnight Warming Locations (“OWL”) every night for approximately five months during the cold weather from November 27, 2023 to April 30, 2024; and

WHEREAS, on October 24, 2023 City Council also adopted an ordinance amending Title 5 of the City Municipal Code to add Chapter 5.12, adopting reasonable local standards for homeless shelters which will streamline the development of homeless shelters by adopting a minimum health and safety standards for emergency housing programs, such as OWL and other types of emergency shelter; and

WHEREAS, each year identifying and securing locations to operate OWL requires multiple steps and the City Housing Department partnered with the City Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Services (“PRNS”) and the City Public Library departments to review site selection minimum criteria, evaluate possible locations, and select from recommendations; and

WHEREAS, in July 2023 discussions began between the Housing Department, PRNS and the Library to review and evaluate potential locations for the cold weather season OWL program and after reviewing the site selection minimum criteria, the PRNS and Public Library departments recommended the Roosevelt Community Center and Tully Community Branch Library as the locations to evaluate; and

WHEREAS, the Roosevelt Community Center was a popular OWL in past years with the nightly capacity to serve up to 30 individuals and is centrally located near downtown

San José with an adjacent park that unsheltered individuals and homeless outreach teams frequent; and

WHEREAS, the Housing Department rotated the OWL program each year with the intent of minimizing operational impacts to the cities, the PRNS Department recognized that there are efficiencies in identifying a consistent location, which may include making facility improvements specific to the needs of the OWL program and smoother program operations with trained PRNS staff; and

WHEREAS, additionally, having a designed location significantly reduces the staff time spent evaluating and securing a new site location, which requires an immense amount of staff time and coordination; and

WHEREAS, the PRNS Department is also balancing the needs of other community center/site designation priorities for emergency and inclement weather purposes such as evacuation centers or cooling centers, which consideration further contributed to the selection of the Roosevelt Community Center as the permanent OWL program location; and

WHEREAS, the Tully Community Branch Library was selected for this year's cold weather season OWL program location and it was a popular OWL in past years largely because of the high number of individuals residing in nearby homeless encampments; and

WHEREAS, since 2015, the Housing Department has worked with HomeFirst, a leading provider of services, shelter, and housing opportunities for people experiencing homelessness in the Bay Area, to operate the OWL program and provide at both locations, in coordination with City departments, daily site set up and supervision, daily site break down and clean up, nightly security services with a professional and

established agency, daytime case management services, onsite storage for program participant belongings, warm drinks, snacks, and meals each evening, and transportation resources for OWL programs participants; and

WHEREAS, the Housing Department staff will work with staff from PRNS, Public Library, Fire, Public Works, Police Departments and HomeFirst to prepare the buildings, provide janitorial and manage the program locations; and

WHEREAS, the City now desires to designate both City-owned facilities, the Roosevelt Community Center and Tully Community Branch Library, as the OWLs to be occupied by homeless individuals during the cold weather season and authorize the Acting Director of Housing or designee to negotiate and execute an agreement with HomeFirst, in an amount not to exceed \$1,127,190 to implement the OWLs, retroactive to October 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, as set forth in the Memorandum from the Housing, Public Library, and PRNS Departments, dated October 16, 2023;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN JOSE THAT:

- A. The following two City-owned facilities are hereby designated to be occupied as Overnight Warming Locations by individuals experiencing homelessness during the cold weather season:
 - 1. Roosevelt Community Center; 901 East Santa Clara Street, San José, CA 95116; and
 - 2. Tully Community Branch Library, 880 Tully Road, San José, CA 95111.

- B. The Acting Director of Housing or designee, is hereby authorized to negotiate and execute an agreement with HomeFirst for implementation of two Overnight Warming Locations in an amount not to exceed \$1,127,190, retroactive to October

1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, as set forth in the Memorandum from the Housing, Public Library, and Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Departments, dated October 16, 2023.

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2023, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

DISQUALIFIED:

MATT MAHAN
Mayor

ATTEST:

TONI J. TABER, CMC
City Clerk