



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Mayor Sam Liccardo
Councilmember Raul Perez

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: October 1, 2021

Approved by:

Date: 10-1-2021

**SUBJECT: CONSTRUCTION OF THE EMERGENCY INTERIM HOUSING AT
THE POLICE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING PARKING LOT E**

RECOMMENDATION

Accept staff recommendation with additional direction:

1. In collaboration with Councilmember Perez's office, create a neighborhood advisory committee following the completion of the construction of Lot E EIHC and facilitate a first meeting prior to any residents moving in.
2. Continue to pursue opportunities to pilot a program that would employ work-ready and willing residents from the Lot E community to clean-up, beautify, repair, and steward the Guadalupe River Park in exchange for a living wage.

BACKGROUND

Our appreciation and thanks to Peter and Susanna Pau of Sand Hill Properties for contributing the living units and community buildings for the Lot E emergency interim housing community (EIHC), which has allowed this development to move forward. Their generosity has already spurred interest from private philanthropy on a future EIHC development and our hope is that more private philanthropy will contribute significantly to move forward future EIHCs across our City.

At the request of many neighbors in the community, a neighborhood advisory committee should be set up for Lot E once construction has been completed. This works best when the Councilmember leads the initial convening of these neighborhood advisory groups in concert with Housing staff. In District 3, at the City's first Bridge Housing Community (BHC), quarterly meetings are held to provide updates and address concerns. The meetings include housing staff, the onsite operator, residents from the surrounding neighborhoods, and the BHC residents themselves. Similarly, there are monthly meetings that are held by Casitas de Esperanza, a tiny home site operated by the county. Oftentimes, these projects are met with apprehension from the larger community. An

advisory group can mitigate these feelings and encourage relationship building between the neighboring community, the residents moving into the new community, and staff.

Finally, given the site's proximity to the Guadalupe River Park and the original intent to engage future Lot E residents in park beautification efforts, we should continue to work towards programming for this site similar to SJ Bridge that offers employment opportunities to work-ready residents who would be paid a living wage to maintain the park.