A FRESH START TO ENDING FAMILY HOMELESSNESS

Short-term Family Housing Roll Out
February 2016
Families with Children

School Ages of Children at DC General

- Infant/Toddler: 41%
- Elementary: 48%
- MS/HS: 11%

Children in families under the age of 4: 41%
Householded headed by transition aged youth: 43%
Single parent households: 75%
Previously lived with family/friends: 80%
Voters Approve Homeless’ Right to Shelter

By Sandra G. Bookman
Washington Post Staff Writer

The nation’s first referendum guaranteeing homeless people the right to overnight shelter was overwhelmingly approved yesterday by District of Columbia voters.

Although the District government and some advocates for the homeless waged a vigorous campaign against the controversial referendum known as Initiative 17, unofficial returns showed the measure receiving 339,089 votes, or 72 percent, with 159,169 votes, or 27 percent opposed.

“We’re very pleased,” said Stephen O’Neill, a member of the Community for Creative Non-Violence, a nationally known advocacy group that sponsored the initiative. “It’s a powerful statement and a clear message to the city that despite their campaigning against it, the majority of voters think shelter is a good thing.”

CCNV members and more than 700 residents of the group’s downtown Washington shelter ate a victory dinner of sausage, potato salad and green and watched the returns on a giant screen TV rented for the occasion. Yesterday marked the first time homeless people in the District were permitted to vote.

Disappointed city officials said they planned to ask a Superior Court judge to declare the initiative invalid. Because both sides expected the initiative to pass, a hearing has already been scheduled for Nov. 13. If the court upholds the referendum, it would not become effective for at least 90 days.

“Obviously we’re disappointed but [homelessness] is a very emotional issue and CCNV was very well organized,” said Charles Siegel, a spokesman for the D.C. Department of Human Services. “I think it’s clear a statement that we understand but the question is, should it become law? That is what the court will decide.”

Providing “adequate overnight shelter” to as many as 10,000 homeless people, city officials have estimated, could cost $45 million, 10 times the amount currently allocated. District officials tried unsuccessfully to knock the initiative off the ballot in printed leaflets urging its defeat, which were distributed at polling places.

But David A. Clarke, chairman of the City Council, which has the power to change the initiative, took a more moderate view of the potential fiscal implications. “It’s not as scary as some people said it would be,” he said. “We can do it for less and it will give us room to make our own regulations.”

Passage of the initiative was the latest in a string of victories for CCNV. On Sunday its leader, Mitch Snyder, ended a widely publicized 51-day hunger strike after the Reagan administration agreed to make substantial renovations that would transform CCNV’s subsidy-bed downtown Washington shelter into a “model physical facility.”

The initiative would require city officials to provide shelter that is “accessible, safe and sanitary and has an atmosphere of reasonable dignity.” Persons who enter the District “for the express purpose of obtaining free shelter” would be excluded from coverage, a provision opponents say is unenforceable and possibly unconstitutional.

Supporters of the initiative—the only referendum question on the District ballot—printed more than 100,000 sample ballots and brochures, which they said were distributed by more than 400 volunteers at polling places.

The District government spent $6,000 to print more than 90,000 yellow pamphlets and 600乙烯基白色 posters urging a “No” vote.

CCNV members said they were angered by what they termed the District’s heavy-handed tactics. “We think the city is raising the taxpayer’s money and they’re using public funds to print these things,” said Mary Ellen Hensley, a CCNV leader.

But Siegel and city officials did not see anything wrong with the action. “We’ve checked with our lawyers and we don’t believe there are any legal or ethical violations involved.”

The referendum also caused bitter divisions among advocates for the homeless, some of whom opposed CCNV’s tactics. Others argued that passage could cause the District to become a magnet for homeless people on the East Coast.

CCNV members say they do not think passage of the initiative solves the complex problem of homelessness. “The first step is to get people off the streets,” said Romo. “You can’t . . . provide social services to people who are living on streets.”
A FRESH START TO ENDING FAMILY HOMELESSNESS
District-funded Homeless Services by Ward

- **Ward 1**: 65 Family Units, 49 Year-Round Beds for Singles, 75 Hypothermia Beds
- **Ward 2**: 31 Family Units, 15 Year-Round Beds for Singles, 25 Hypothermia Beds
- **Ward 3**: 69 Family Units, 79 Year-Round Beds for Singles, 80 Hypothermia Beds
- **Ward 4**: 30 Family Units, 30 Year-Round Beds for Singles, 30 Hypothermia Beds
- **Ward 5**: 1162 Family Units, 174 Year-Round Beds for Singles, 270 Hypothermia Beds
- **Ward 6**: 83 Family Units, 122 Year-Round Beds for Singles, 77 Hypothermia Beds
- **Ward 7**: 575 Family Units, 0 Year-Round Beds for Singles, 0 Hypothermia Beds
- **Ward 8**: 0 Family Units, 0 Year-Round Beds for Singles, 0 Hypothermia Beds
Strategy to End Homelessness in DC

Prevent homelessness by providing robust services

Offer safe and dignified short-term housing to people who experience homelessness

Help people transition into housing ASAP
Services & Supports

Wrap-around Services
- Permanent Housing Programs
- Housing Search
- Social Work Staff
- Early Childhood Screenings & School liaisons
- Education, Training, & Employment Services
- Health Care
- Financial & Budget Management Counseling

Partnerships with Community Service Organizations
- Health & Wellness
- Mentoring & Tutoring
- Programming & Activities for Children

24 Hour Staffing & Security
An All 8 Wards Solution

- 2105-2107 10th Street, NW
- 810 5th Street, NW
- 2619 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
- 5505 Fifth Street, NW
- 2266 25th Place, NE
- 700 Delaware Avenue, SW
- 5004 D Street, SE
- 6th Street and Chesapeake Street, SE
Factors Considered In Site Selection

• Enough units to close DC General (270 - 280)
• Roughly 30,000 square feet for each site
• Preferred access to services and transportation
• Economically Feasible
• 24 – 30 month development timeline
  • Existing properties in District inventory, OR
  • Private properties to buy or lease
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ward</th>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Construction Start</th>
<th>Completion</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2105-2107 10(^{th}) Street, NW</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>810 Fifth Street, NW*</td>
<td>March 2015</td>
<td>February 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2619 Wisconsin Ave, NW</td>
<td>February 2017</td>
<td>May 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>5505 Fifth Street, NW</td>
<td>November 2016</td>
<td>January 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>2266 25th Place, NE</td>
<td>February 2017</td>
<td>January 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>700 Delaware Avenue, SW</td>
<td>February 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>5004 D Street, SE</td>
<td>February 2017</td>
<td>September 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>6th St &amp; Chesapeake St, SE</td>
<td>February 2017</td>
<td>September 2018</td>
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* For unaccompanied, adult women
Ward 3: Community-Based Short-Term Family Housing

2619 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
(Wisconsin & Edmunds)
Ward 3: Community-Based Short-Term Family Housing

2619 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
(Wisconsin & Edmunds)
Ward 3: Community-Based Short-Term Family Housing

2619 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
(Wisconsin & Edmonds)
2619-23 Wisconsin Ave., NW – Ward 3  Elements of Cost

The Cost of developing the property:
  Acquisition of Land, Financing, Architectural, FF&E, Engineering and
  Construction Costs

Ward 3 Site Preliminary Cost Estimate:
  $14 Million

What’s Included in the $2.1 Million Rent:
  - Maintenance and repair
  - Management staffing
  - Interior (janitorial/trash/furniture)
  - Exterior (snow/landscape)
  - Unit turnover
  - Capital Replacement / Building Structure
Next Steps

• Council considers proposal (Hearing on March 17)
• Design Input meeting with community (April)
• Permits and zoning reviewed (TBD)
• Sites developed
• Good Neighbor Agreements drafted
• Open New facilities (2018)
• Close DC General (2018)
How to Get Information

All information is posted on our website
www.mayor.dc.gov/HomewardDC

Or Contact us at:
Email: DMHHS@dc.gov
Call: 202-442-8150