



DATE: July 26, 2021

TO: Mayor Robinson and City Councilmembers

FROM: Jennifer Robertson  
*Councilmember*

SUBJECT: Work Program Around Impact Mitigation for Permanent Supportive Housing

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At the most recent City Council meeting, I followed up on some of our recent discussions about Permanent Supportive Housing and certain impacts that this land use may create. I have asked the Council to consider opportunities to create a set of conditions that would ensure that future owners and operators of these facilities do so in a manner that continues to integrate these uses into our community well, maintains the high quality of life enjoyed by our residents, and includes conditions that will benefit the residents of these types of projects. In general, when operated well, these facilities are unlikely to create negative impacts for the community and provide a valuable service to their residents. It is my goal to make every supportive housing project in Bellevue successful for the residents living there and the greater community. It is not my intent to create added barriers or difficulty in getting necessary approvals; but rather to create expectations around the operation and security of these units to facilitate success for all concerned.

At the last meeting, I indicated that I had asked Staff to research which types of operational considerations were A) already part of the standard conditions of approval for a funding award or already addressed through the land use code; B) which operational considerations were being evaluated as part of an ongoing work program; or C) which things would be “new” or additive work. This analysis from staff is attached to this cover memo. You will see that some things that I have discussed with the Council in the recent past are already in the work plan and some are not in the work program at the current time.

Given the on-going interim official control on supportive housing that is starting to work its way through the land use process and the City Council’s commitment to significant increased financial contributions to these types of projects, making sure that our land use code and grant agreements are adjusted for future success of these types of projects is important. Therefore, I am asking the City Council to add the items contained in the attachment (2.c.ii-vi) to the work program for analysis and consideration to be brought back to the City Council for discussion. If approved, staff would prepare an

analysis of the various operational considerations, pros/cons of regulating permanent supportive housing in these ways, and recommendations of the best tool or “place” to regulate these operational considerations (i.e., land use code, funding agreement, etc.).

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.