

RESOLUTION NO. 379

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON, SUPPORTING KING COUNTY'S DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY DUE TO HOMELESSNESS AFFECTING KING COUNTY AND EXPRESSING THE CITY OF SHORELINE'S COMMITMENT TO WORK WITH KING COUNTY AND PARTNER AGENCIES ON PLANS TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS

WHEREAS, on November 2, 2015, the King County Executive declared a local proclamation of emergency regarding homelessness in King County; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, nearly 10,000 people are experiencing homelessness in King County on any given day, which is up from 8,000 people in 2005; and

WHEREAS, as noted in King County's declaration, regional and national issues of housing affordability, income inequality, a diminishing state and federal safety net, and regional population growth have vastly exaggerated the problem of homelessness in the region; and

WHEREAS, the City of Shoreline, being located in King County, has also experienced a significant increase in homelessness in recent years, including a 160% increase in the number of school children identified as homeless in the Shoreline School District between 2010 and 2015; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, over 750 individuals who resided in Shoreline's zip codes sought homeless housing services; and

WHEREAS, members of the Shoreline community should not be forced to live or sleep outdoors, in their vehicles, or on the street due to circumstances often beyond their control, including poverty, unemployment, lack of affordable housing, discrimination, addiction and/or mental illness, domestic violence, or exits from the foster care system; and

WHEREAS, many veterans who have served their country admirably are affected by homelessness in Shoreline and King County; and

WHEREAS, the Shoreline City Council is committed to continuing to help incentivize and aid in the development of affordable housing in the City of Shoreline to provide long term solutions for the root causes of homelessness; and

WHEREAS, human services and wrap-around supports for those most vulnerable in our community are essential to helping address issues that may lead individuals to being homeless, and to help address this need, the Shoreline City Council added an additional \$48,850 in funding for human service agencies to the proposed human services budget of \$499,800 for a total human services grant budget in 2016 of \$548,650; and

WHEREAS, despite the City's historical and current efforts and investments, the severity and magnitude of this regional emergency is beyond the response capability of local resources alone; now therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SHORELINE,
WASHINGTON AS FOLLOWS:**

That the City Council of the City of Shoreline hereby expresses its support for King County's declaration of emergency regarding homelessness in King County, including in Shoreline, and that the City of Shoreline will continue to promote policies and actions to address homelessness in Shoreline and King County, including continued participation in and support of the County's All Home Strategic Plan and its goals of making homelessness rare, and if it occurs, brief and one-time only.

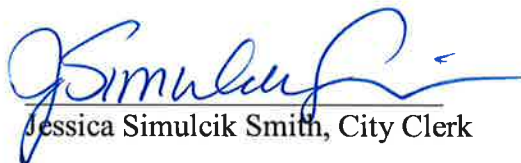
That the City of Shoreline will continue to implement policies that encourage and incentivize the development of affordable housing in the City of Shoreline, continue to review City policies and Codes that may create barriers for those experiencing homelessness and the development of housing for all members of the Shoreline community, and continue to support the City's human service partner agencies.

That the City Council of the City of Shoreline also calls on the Washington State Legislature and the United States Government to prioritize the funding of programs to help those experiencing homelessness and that will provide long-term solutions to address homelessness in King County as identified in the County's November 2nd emergency declaration.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON DECEMBER 14, 2015


Mayor Shari Winstead

ATTEST:


Jessica Simulcik Smith, City Clerk