



Memorandum

**To: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL**

From: Councilmember Tam Nguyen

Subject: SEE BELOW

Date: June 27, 2016

Approved:

6.27.16.

SUBJECT: EXTENSION OF CHURCH SHELTER URGENCY ORDINANCE

RECOMMENDATION

Accept staff recommendations to allow a church/religious assembly use; if it is a legal use, to provide temporary shelter to homeless persons without obtaining a Special Use or Conditional Use Permit, but with the following changes:

1. Increase the maximum allowed occupancy under this urgency ordinance from 15 to 30 people per location; and
2. Allow the temporary shelter to be provided no more than twice a year, for a total of no more than 90 days.

BACKGROUND

As reported by staff, and through the efforts of the Winter Faith Collaborative, this program has already shown much success. Ten locations have provided emergency shelters and have recorded much success. Six of them reported back having:

- Sheltered 91 people
- Provided 170 days of shelter
- Mobilized over 1,670 volunteers

This work demonstrates that many in our community are willing to work together to have an impact in the lives of homeless individuals. While getting people into permanent housing is the goal, it takes time and money to do it right. Empowering these churches and religious organizations allows for an immediate impact that gets many of the most vulnerable people out of our creeks, streets, and parks at times when they need the most help.

I thank the Winter Faith Collaborative for their efforts and all they have done to help those in need. I hope we can continue to find ways to help them continue and expand their efforts helping people and making San Jose a better city for all.