

CITY COUNCIL: 06/18/2024

FILE: 24-147359

ITEM: 8.4



# Memorandum

**TO:** City Council

**FROM:** Councilmember Bien Doan  
Councilmember Arjun Batra

**SUBJECT:** SEE BELOW

**DATE:** June 13, 2024

**APPROVED:**

*Bien Doan Arjun Dev Batra*

**SUBJECT: POTENTIAL SUPPORTIVE OUTDOOR SLEEPING/TEMPORARY  
ALTERNATIVE SLEEPING SITES AND RELATED IMPLEMENTATION  
ACTIONS**

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Accept the staff recommendation with the following inclusions:
  - a. Allow the development and construction of the Kelly Park site for only tensioned membrane buildings with customizable modular interiors only.
  - b. Restrict the allowable use of the Tully and Monterey site to solely be used for recreational vehicle safe parking.
  - c. Ensure that each selected site has adequate security to ensure safety for its residents and that a community safety plan is developed to mitigate any issues originating from the sites for the surrounding neighborhoods.
  - d. Allow all sites near schools to be used for EIH or other standard interim housing options only.

## **DISCUSSION**

The Kelly Park Site was not intended to be offered to staff as an option for Safe Outdoor Sleeping. Councilmember Doan specifically offered that site to staff for exploration of a tensioned modular shelter.

The recommended option would consist of tensioned membrane structures with movable walls and dividers. Some key benefits of using modular interior customization in shelters include:

- Create semi-private sleeping areas or separate spaces for different groups,
- Allow shelters to create gender-specific spaces or separate families from single individuals,

- Creating separate semi-private areas for individuals or families helps to reduce conflicts,
- The capacity to reconfigure spaces as needed based on capacity and separating higher-risk populations enhances safety management,
- Maintain open sightlines for staff monitoring,
- Provide noise reduction between different areas of a shelter, and
- Offer a more cost-effective solution compared to permanent construction,

Modular interior customization come in various styles like portable partitions, accordion walls, or sliding panel systems, giving shelter options to suit the needs of the individual and deliver on budget. These systems are more versatile than permanent structures, enabling shelters to reconfigure spaces – subdivided or opened – based on capacity needs. Using this approach is a cost-effective solution compared to permanent construction. Movable walls allow for rapid configuration of shelter spaces. Their modular and demountable design enables walls to be easily assembled and disassembled without major construction work.

It is our belief that safe sleeping sites should not be located near schools. We worked hard this year to incorporate 150-foot distances of encampments from schools and we must be diligent and purposeful with our decision making to protect our children and limit their exposure to anything which may negatively impact them.