

## RESOLUTION NO. 1213

### A RESOLUTION OF THE EDMONDS CITY COUNCIL REGARDING THE COUNCIL VALUES AND DIRECTION REGARDING TEMPORARY HOMELESS SHELTERS

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Whereas, Edmonds applauds and supports the work of community organizations which administer programs designed to prevent homelessness, provide shelter for the homeless, construct supportive housing for the homeless, and offer essential services to stabilize housing situations and increase levels of self sufficiency; and

Whereas, Edmonds recognizes organizations and individuals involved in homelessness prevention services that target persons and families at-risk for homelessness for the future; and

Whereas, Edmonds recognizes that poverty is the primary factor contributing to homelessness, however, the recent housing crisis and recession have further added to the nationwide numbers of homeless persons; and

Whereas, Edmonds acknowledges that the 2009 Snohomish County annual Point In Time homeless count shows an increase over the 2008 Point In Time homeless count, and included an estimated 625 individuals who were children under the age of 18; and

Whereas, a number of faith communities in Edmonds created a coalition to respond to the homeless population in the Edmonds area by providing 474 beds over 34 nights in 2008/2009;

Whereas, Edmonds recognizes that exposure to cold temperatures can cause death, and in the past, has caused death for Snohomish County's homeless population; and

Whereas, during winter months, Snohomish County homeless shelters frequently do not have sufficient capacity to provide shelter for all who seek refuge from extreme weather conditions; and

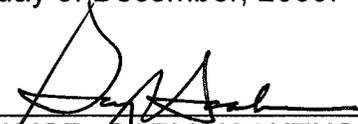
Whereas, Ordinance No. 3730 affirms the City's commitment to support public and nonprofit agencies as they prepare to provide needed services to indigent persons and allows for a compliance permitting process for exemptions to State Building Code;

Now, therefore, the Edmonds City Council proclaims that protecting lives from potentially deadly consequences of severe weather constitutes a compelling, countervailing public interest, and

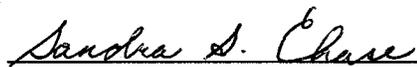
Therefore directs staff and the Planning Board to review the existing Ordinance to incorporate the greatest amount of flexibility for proposed temporary shelters as is possible, as has been done in some of our surrounding cities, and

Therefore commits the City of Edmonds to join other jurisdictions in taking the most aggressive course available to ensure the safety and shelter of individuals and families during cold weather months or times of calamity or natural disaster through implementation of alternative solutions to the existing Cold Weather Shelters Minimum Safety Guidelines.

Passed, Approved, and Adopted this 15th day of December, 2009.

  
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MAYOR, GARY HAAKENSON

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:

  
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CITY CLERK, SANDRA S. CHASE

FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK: 12-11-09  
PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL: 12-15-09  
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