



AGENDA REPORT

TO: Edward D. Reiskin
City Administrator

FROM: Melinda Drayton
Interim Fire Chief

SUBJECT: Informational Report on Use of Clean
Air Buildings During the Shelter in
Place Order

DATE: September 3, 2020

City Administrator Approval

Date:

Sep 3, 2020

RECOMMENDATION

Staff Recommends That The City Council Receive An Informational Report From The Oakland Fire Department's Emergency Management Services Division On The Emergency Response And The Creation Of Clean Air Buildings For Use By The Community During The County's COVID-19 Shelter in Place Order.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This informational report from the Oakland Fire Department's Emergency Management Services Division (EMSD) provides a detailed update on the emergency response and the creation of clean air buildings for use by the community during the County's COVID-19 Shelter in Place order. This report is in response to a scheduling request submitted by Council President Rebecca Kaplan.

BACKGROUND / LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

On March 8, 2020, the City of Oakland Emergency Operations Center was activated in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Since that time, the Emergency Management Services Division (EMSD) has been actively working with the internal stakeholders (Oakland Public Libraries (OPL), Park and Recreation Youth Development (OPRYD), Department of Human Services (DHS), Oakland Public Works, (OPW), the American Red Cross, Alameda County Public Health Department, and other partner agencies and organizations to determine how to meet emergency sheltering needs while adhering to the current public health guidance.

Over the last six months, EMSD has been working with partner agencies to identify potential emergency sheltering sites and to assess their Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility and COVID-19 capacity. With recent extreme heat and poor air quality due to the fires throughout the region, EMSD has been focusing on sites suitable for Cooling and Clean Air Respite Centers.

City Council
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ANALYSIS AND POLICY ALTERNATIVES

In collaboration with the internal stakeholders, EMSD has drafted *Extreme Weather Center Activation* guidance based on the Alameda County Public Health [cooling center guidance](#). The City guidance has been submitted to Alameda County Public Health Department to ensure alignment with the Public Health order. Staff has established triggers for activating an *Extreme Weather Center* in coordination with the City of Berkeley: Clear Air Respite Centers will be activated when air quality reaches or exceeds 250 AQI Range as determined by [AirNow.gov](#). Cooling Centers will be activated when the temperature is forecasted by the National Weather Service to reach or exceed 95 degrees Fahrenheit for three consecutive days, or a single day of 100 degrees Fahrenheit. These triggers are still under evaluation.

With the assistance of OPW, EMSD assessed the list of City facilities for appropriate filtration system as recommended by the Center for Disease Control: only City employee workspaces such as the Oakland Police Administration Building (455 7th Street) and the Frank H. Ogawa Civic Center Complex have a filtration system with a minimum efficiency reporting value (MERV) of 13 or higher already installed. Subsequently, EMSD identified four facilities with the next best air filters installed (MERV 10): Dimond Library, 81st Ave Library, Rockridge Library, and North Oakland Senior Center. Additionally, EMSD met with staff representing the Oracle Arena and the Oakland Convention Center (550 10th street). EMSD is in the process of performing feasibility assessments, activation protocols, and cost analysis for activating those facilities.

Proposed locations of the Cooling and Clear Air Respite Centers were selected in collaboration with internal stakeholders and with the data from the [2019 Interactive Alameda County Heat Vulnerability Map](#), which asserts that environment, demographic, and health factors can increase heat vulnerability in our communities. Lack of access to services, social isolation, physiological conditions, and other demographic factors contribute to negative health outcomes. The proposed sites were evaluated and selected using an equity lens that prioritized their proximity to and overall accessibility by vulnerable populations which are at greatest risk of being directly impacted by extreme heat and poor air quality.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report; operational costs associated with activating one or more shelters has not yet been determined.

PUBLIC OUTREACH / INTEREST

There has been no specific public outreach on this recent work to date; however, these protocols will be incorporated into the City's next revision of its Emergency Operations Plan, currently under development, which will include public engagement. The residents of Oakland

benefit from enhanced coordination between the City of Oakland departments, our regional and jurisdictional partners, and key community stakeholders.

COORDINATION

The Building Services Division of Oakland Public Works played a key role in the development of this project and subsequent report. Currently, there are no legal or fiscal questions that require coordination with the City Attorney's Office or the Budget Bureau.

The activation staffing requirements were coordinated with the Human Resources Department (HRD), OPRYD, OPL, DHS, and Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Staff. EMSD submitted a request for staffing to the Disaster Service Worker Unit of the EOC to provide a pool of trained staff when air respite centers are activated.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic: There are no economic opportunities or impacts related to the acceptance of this report.

Environmental: There are no environmental opportunities or impacts related to the acceptance of this report.

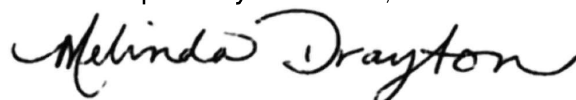
Race and Social Equity: The proposed sites presented in this report were evaluated and selected using an equity lens which prioritized their proximity to and overall accessibility by populations at greatest risk for being directly impacted by extreme heat and poor air quality.

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Staff recommends that the City Council receive and accept this informational report from the Oakland Fire Department's Emergency Management Services Division on the emergency response and the creation of clean air buildings for use by the community during the county's COVID-19 Shelter in Place Order.

For questions regarding this report, please contact Jessica Feil, Emergency Services Manager, Emergency Management Services Division at (510) 238-6067.

Respectfully submitted,



MELINDA DRAYTON

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