

Martinez, Ruben

From: New Mail <
Sent: Monday, December 06, 2021 3:33 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Cc: Gordo, Victor; Wilson, Andy; Rivas, Jose; Hampton, Tyron; Kennedy, John J.; ck@aol.com; Kurtz, Cynthia
Subject: Public Comment Item 1. AUTHORIZATION TO AMEND CONTRACT NO. 31830 WITH THE FID GROUP, DBA FRIENDS IN DEED, FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE PROVISION OF MOTEL-BASED SHELTER SERVICES INCLUDING WEATHER-ACTIVATED MOTEL VOUCHERS DURING THE UPCOMI...

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Dear Mayor Gordo and City Councilpersons,

While I do not wish to comment against an increase of \$108,000 to the contract providing funds for Friends In Deed to provide motel-based shelter services, I do wish to emphasize that our unsheltered residents are in need of much more than a relatively small number of scattered site motel vouchers.

Motel vouchers are good for protective non-congregate shelter, an improvement over congregate bad weather shelters especially in these times of COVID virus precautions. However the 2020 Pasadena Homeless Count found 527 living on our streets, far more than the 79 who were provided vouchers in 2012 or those who were provided single night bad weather shelter.

As the staff report submitted for the December 8th ED Tech meeting states, *"Providing motel vouchers to everyone on the streets will not end homelessness nor is it a viable solution."*

I urge the City to rapidly seek viable solutions as many of our neighboring communities have done, such as providing interim tiny shelter villages and repurposing motels.

Thank you.
Ferne Hayes
District 7

12/06/2021
Item 1