

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO. D(8)

**AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT
MEETING DATE: June 19, 2007**

TITLE: Discussion of the Ten-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness and Appointment of a Board Member to the Executive Steering Committee Responsible for the Implementation of the Plan

DEPARTMENT: Economic and Community Development	PUBLIC HEARING: NO
ATTACHMENTS: A. Resolution	FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: James Harris, 918-7319

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this item is to give the Board members an opportunity to discuss the Ten Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness and appoint a member of the Board of Aldermen to the executive steering committee which will be responsible for providing oversight to the implementation of the plan.

BACKGROUND:

In March 2005, the Orange County Partnership to End Homelessness (Partnership) was formed to institute a countywide effort that will culminate in the development and implementation of a Ten-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness in Orange County. Membership included Orange County; the Towns of Chapel Hill, Carrboro and Hillsborough, Triangle United Way, Orange Congregations in Mission; the Inter-Faith Council, OPC Area Program, the Hillsborough Chamber of Commerce, and UNC.

In October 2005, Orange County (on behalf of the Partnership) entered into a consultant agreement with J-Quad and Associates, LLC, to develop a Ten Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness in Orange County. Since that time, the Partnership Steering Committee, led by County Commissioner Moses Carey, Jr. and Carrboro businessman Nathan Milian, the Partnership Working Group, community focus groups, and graduate students from the UNC School of Public Health have worked with J-Quad to develop the County's 10 Year Plan that was formally approved at the Partnership's March 14, 2007 meeting. The Town of Carrboro also appointed representatives to serve on the Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness steering committee and work group. The Town appointed four members to the steering committee - Mark Chilton, Jacquelyn Gist, Steve Stewart and James Harris. James Harris also served on the Ten Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness Partnership Work Group, which will continue to provide support to the implementation of the plan.

On May 1, 2007, Moses Carey, chair of the Orange County Board of Commissioners, presented the Ten Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness to the Board of Aldermen. The Board had some discussion of the plan but staff was asked to put the item on an agenda for additional discussion after the members had a chance to read the document.

The focus of the plan is to end chronic homelessness without excluding the needs of all homeless individuals and families. To that end, the plan contains five goals towards the elimination of homelessness in Orange County.

Goal 1:Reduce Chronic Homelessness

Goal 2:Increase Employment

Goal 3:Prevent Homelessness

Goal 4:Increase Access to Services

Goal 5:Increase Public Participation in Ending Homelessness

FISCAL IMPACT:

Acceptance of this plan does not have any direct financial implications. However, in order for the plan to be implemented, it is anticipated that a staff position would be created to carry out the work set out in the plan. The Human Services Commission reviewed and discussed the request and recommended funding Carrboro's portion of this position.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

It is recommended that the Board accept the Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness in Orange County and appoint a member of the Board to the new executive steering committee to provide oversight to the project.