



**Council Member Motion
For the Closed Council Meeting of November 15, 2018**

Date: November 9, 2018
From: Councillors Thornton-Joe and Alto
Subject: Extreme Weather Shelter Mats

Background

The Extreme Weather Protocol (EWP) is a community program with various groups working together to increase the number of shelter spaces available during acute winter weather conditions of heavy wind, snow, rain and temperatures of zero and below. This initiative was first introduced after a severe cold snap in January 2004 when the City's Silver Threads building was used as a short term emergency shelter.

Year round there are approximately 220 spaces with an additional temporary 145 spaces made available from approximately November 1 to April 1. In addition, from November to April, if the Extreme Weather Protocol is activated, Tier 1, which has 85 mats are provided in 3 locations. In the event that all shelter beds and mats are full, Tier 2 provides for 15 more mats. This year, the location for the 15 Tier 2 mats is not available. Our Place has requested that the upstairs of the My Place shelter be used for the 15 additional Tier 2 mats. Last year, Tier 2 was activated 6 times.

Consultation

The My Place monthly committee meeting attendees are supportive as long as:

1. Appropriate number of staff are provided and funded by BC Housing
2. It is only used for up to 15 Tier 2 mats
3. That the clientele for this shelter matches the clientele that are currently at the shelter which is a medium to high barrier shelter
4. That the shelter individuals are transported to and from the My Place shelter each day
5. That in the event that it becomes problematic for the neighbourhood that it not continue

Recommendation

That the City Owned Building at 1240 Yates which currently houses the My Place Shelter be approved as a Tier 2 location for the Extreme Weather Protocol for the November 2018-April 2019 season with the above listed conditions.

Respectfully submitted,

Handwritten signature of Charlayne Thornton-Joe in black ink.

Councillor Thornton-Joe

Handwritten signature of Councillor Alto in black ink.

Councillor Alto