ITEM: 5-5

SUBJECT: Introductory Discussion of Existing Programs Available to Homeless on the Waterfront

RECOMMENDATION

Provide direction to staff on areas of future discussion.

DISCUSSION

Community comments regarding homelessness in Albany, including the waterfront, have been increasing in recent months. Homelessness is a multi-dimensional issue that may involve an individual’s family, health and social service agencies, affordable housing programs, job training programs, and the faith community. Successful transition of people in a homeless situation to a more stable environment also often requires the assistance of committed and experienced case workers. Historically, the City of Albany like most small cities, has not been involved in directly providing services and resources to homeless. Instead, these services have been provided by a range of agencies and non-profit organization that are staffed with qualified professionals. The following is a list of some of the organizations that provide services in or near Albany:

- Alameda County Housing & Community Development Department
  (http://www.everyonehome.org/ & http://www.acgov.org/cda/hcd/)
- Berkeley-Albany Mental Health District
  (http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/mentalhealth/)
- Veteran’s Administration
- City of Berkeley Multi-Agency Service Center
  (http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/ContentDisplay.aspx?id=5562)
- Berkeley Food & Housing Project (http://bfhp.org/)
- Building Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency (BOSS) (http://www.self-sufficiency.org/)
- Homeless Action Center (http://homelessactioncenter.org/)
- Rubicon (http://www.rubiconprograms.org/)