## Sub \_\_\_\_\_, 2015 RES-229 (PROPOSED – WEGLEITNER)

## DESIGNATING SPACE IN THE DOWNTOWN COUNTY PARKING RAMP FOR PERSONAL STORAGE LOCKERS FOR THE HOMELESS

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4 In August, 2012, Res. 87, 12-13 was introduced to address unmet basic needs of homeless 5 persons in the downtown area, particularly the need for restrooms, personal storage space, and 6 showers. When the final substitute amendment of the resolution was adopted, it authorized the 7 county to rent space at 827 E. Washington for a day shelter for the homeless that was to meet 8 these basic needs. Although showers never materialized at the day shelter, during shelter 9 hours, homeless persons could access restrooms and storage lockers. Additionally, a portable 10 toilet was placed in the County Parking Ramp on Henry St. shortly after passage of Res. 11 87. Later, an additional handicapped accessible portable toilet was placed outside the City-12 County Building near the corner of Doty St. and Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. Personal storage 13 space was accessible at 827 E. Washington until the day shelter closed March 31, 2013. 14 Since the closure of the temporary day shelter, Dane County has worked with the City of

15 Madison to address unmet needs, including, but not limited to showers and personal storage 16 space. The City of Madison has funded a storage program located at the Social Justice Center 17 at 1202 Williamson St. Space at the Social Justice Center site is limited, however, and over one 18 (1) mile from downtown locations where homeless persons utilize public spaces and access 19 services and shelters. More recently, the City of Madison created a fenced in area outside the 20 Madison Municipal building to store belongings of persons sleeping around the City County 21 Building, but it has since closed due to a number of problems associated with it. Due to the 22 lack of a comprehensive davtime resource center downtown offering personal storage space for 23 homeless persons, additional space is needed to ensure homeless persons have the ability to 24 safely store their personal belongings, including, but not limited to gear for sleeping on the 25 streets. Homeless persons should not have to carry all of their belongings on their backs when 26 they are going to work, applying for jobs, going to a doctor's appointment, or accessing other 27 services. Since disabled persons are over-represented among the homeless population, 28 persons with disabilities are even more burdened by having to carry all their belongings on their 29 person.

30 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the County designate space and place <u>100</u>

- personal storage lockers in its downtown parking ramp which can be utilized <u>24 hours per day</u>
- 32 and seven (7) days per week by homeless persons to securely store their personal belongings;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the storage lockers shall be large enough to store sleeping
 gear and a backpack with a minimum size of 4.5 cubic feet and be secured with a combination
 lock;

- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the necessary costs to purchase and service the lockers will
  come from borrowing proceeds;
- 38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County requests the City of Madison work with its
- parking utility to designate space for <u>an additional 100</u> lockers in the City of Madison downtown
  parking ramps;
- 41 <u>BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Dane County Department of Human Services work with the</u>
  42 <u>Dane County Department of Administration, downtown homeless services providers, outreach</u>

- 43 workers, and advocates, to establish a registration system for the lockers. The registration
  44 system shall be approved by the Homeless Issues Committee prior to its implementation.
- 45 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that these lockers shall remain in place until such time as a
- 46 comprehensive day resource center offers equivalent access to personal storage for homeless
- 47 persons in the downtown area.