2015 RES-072 HOMELESS DAY RESOURCE CENTER

Over the past three years, Dane County has explored several options to site a comprehensive day resource center for the homeless. As a result of recent court action, the county will not build a facility in the Town of Madison, and must begin again to identify a location to best meet the needs of the county's homeless population.

The 2013 Capital Budget included \$600,000 to purchase and renovate a facility to serve as a permanent center. This funding authority has carried forward and is available today. However, based on recent experience, it is clear that this sum is not sufficient.

While homelessness is a countywide issue, many services to support those without housing are located in downtown Madison. While the county is committed to finding cost-effective solutions to problems, siting a permanent homeless day resource center in downtown Madison would best serve the needs of the homeless. This was the recommendation of the Day Center Report drafted by Human Services staff and approved by the Homeless Issues Committee early in 2013.

Providing support for our homeless residents is a communitywide issue. Therefore, Dane County should identify partners and forge relationships with not-for-profit organizations and other local governments, including the City of Madison, the Madison Metropolitan School District, and Madison College.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Dane County 2015 Capital Budget be amended to allocate \$2 million, in addition to the remaining \$560,000 in funds budgeted in 2013, for the purchase of a downtown Madison permanent homeless day resource center.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Dane County work with community providers, the faith community, City of Madison and other local governments to develop a collaborative approach to siting a day resource center.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Dane County real estate staff, in consultation with City of Madison staff, identify properties available in the downtown area which meet the criteria specified in the Day Center Report regarding proximity to the night shelter system, bus routes, and services. The real estate staff shall delineate the costs and benefits associated with each property, and report to the County Board by September 1, 2015.