

## Orozco, Norma

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**From:** Tim Johnson <tjohnson@jlkrlp.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 04, 2021 12:54 PM  
**To:** eComment  
**Cc:** Sarmiento, Vicente; Lopez, Jorge (SAPD); Bacerra, Phil; Penaloza, David; Phan, Thai; Mendoza, Nelida; Hernandez, Johnathan  
**Subject:** Item 26- Project Roomkey

Council will be discussing whether to have the City Manager and staff look into utilizing Project Roomkey at your council meeting tonight with agenda item 26. I urge you to quickly and promptly have the city Manager come up with a plan to immediately implement housing alternatives using Project Roomkey funding that is currently available. As you likely know, the county was previously operating this program but is no longer but has indicated that they will provide the logistical support to any city who wants to work with the program.

Since funding is only provided through the early Fall 2021 which is quickly approaching, I believe that it may even be prudent to utilize emergency authority to move this along even quicker. I also would not be surprised if our city is in violation of the OCCW settlement with Judge Carter since our city no longer has a local city operated emergency shelter within our city limits since The Link was shut down and moved to Fullerton. Additionally, the Link was already seeming to be lower capacity than ordered by the Judge also...I am sure you are already aware of that.

I believe that Project Roomkey will allow you not only to be in compliance with the settlement agreement but also provide necessary housing to those who are willing to accept it- including a locking door instead of a congregate living site. Additionally, since Roomkey was designed to utilize motels, this may even help a motel owner in our city also.

Additionally, since Project Roomkey is only a temporary solution, I would urge you to work with the county to transition each of the individuals who may accept help in finding appropriate housing after this program is ceased. Also, please provide those who need mental health services, physical health services, and addiction counseling while in the program so that they are able to transition into society. I believe that funding should be available through the county and state for helping in this area.

Again, I urge you to explore this option. Hopefully it has already started as I believe I urged previously the same thing with the encampment on Ross. Thanks for taking steps to improve the life of all of our residents in Santa Ana.



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