

# **Tweedledum & Tweedledee**



Helen Keller

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## **Sacramento's \$22.5 Million plan for homelessness:**

### **500 new shelter beds to open in 2020**

Sacramento Bee - December 4, 2019

**"After years of struggling to combat the city's growing homeless population, the Sacramento City Council has a plan to get hundreds of people off the street in 2020.**

**The Council on Tuesday took a step toward spending \$22.5 Million in expected private and state money to open 500 shelter beds in large semi-permanent tents, cabins, converted motels and scattered existing apartments. While the council did not take a formal vote on the spending plan, it directed city housing officials to move forward with the funding and a timeline for opening the facilities.**

**"I just insist following tonight that we follow through with urgency, with passion and with speed," Mayor Darrell Steinberg said. "Not just raise the money, not just pass resolutions, but actually get more people indoors."**

**The city's 100-bed Meadowview shelter with on-site services, originally set to open in February for women and children, will now open in April for women only, officials said. A 100-bed shelter for adult men and women with services is set to open in May under the W/X freeway in North Oak Park.**

**The council previously approved roughly \$20 Million to open the two shelters and plans to spend about an additional \$6.4 Million to operate them for two years.**

**In the meantime, the city may be able to open a parking lot where homeless can safely sleep in their vehicles. Officials said that facility could open as early as January.**

**Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency officials estimate the safe parking lot would cost \$1.1 million per year to operate, serving about 60 people at a time.**

**Councilman Rick Jennings sent staff from his office to visit several other cities in the state that operate safe parking lots for the homeless. He is searching for a site in his district, which includes Pocket, Greenhaven and Valley Hi, said Dennis Rogers, his chief of staff.**

**Rogers said it would be less expensive if guests can use bathrooms in an existing building on the site. "**

complete article at the Sacramento Bee website:

<https://www.sacbee.com/news/local/article237980199.html>

**Like most everyone else, I would love to get these poor, struggling people off the streets and into warm dry environments, housing, shelter etc.... but I have a question..... Do any of these officials and decision makers own a CALCULATOR?**

**Just for the exercise, try getting your calculator out and do the math to get an idea of the cost per individual helped with the Sacramento City plan.**

**Using the City's numbers provided in the Sacramento Bee, it appears they plan/hope to help about 750 to 760 homeless people at a cost of \$22.5 Million. On my calculator that works out to a cost of \$29,605 per person helped. Am I wrong?**

**Stop Pulling the Wagon**

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**Can any of these City Administrators spell MAGNET?**

**Bob Bandy - December 2019**