FAQ
Embarcadero Navigation Center | Seawall Lot 330

What is the proposed extension of the Embarcadero Navigation Center, who will it serve?
The Embarcadero Navigation Center opened in December 2019 on Seawall Lot 330, and provides temporary shelter to adults experiencing homelessness. HSH is proposing to enter into a new agreement with the Port of San Francisco term to extend the use for two years with an option to extend for up to two more years, subject to termination if the site is needed for development. As the long-term development for the site is not yet ready to break ground, HSH would like to continue the interim use of the site as the Embarcadero Navigation Center.

The Embarcadero Navigation Center provides temporary shelter for up to 200 adults experiencing homelessness, and provides 24-hour staffing and onsite social services through Five Keys Schools and Programs (“Five Keys”), the non-profit operator of the program.

What is a Navigation Center?
A Navigation Center is a program model that San Francisco first piloted in 2015 that provides low-barrier temporary shelter with amenities and services that offers flexibility for partners, pets and possessions.

How was the provider selected?
Five Keys Schools and Programs (Five Keys) was selected in 2019 to operate and provide shelter services at the Embarcadero Navigation Center. Five Keys has extensive expertise in operating homeless services including temporary shelter and supportive housing.

What is the site currently being used for?
Seawall Lot 330 is currently being used as the Embarcadero Navigation Center through a Memorandum of Understanding between HSH and the Port of San Francisco. There is long-term development planned for the site. HSH wishes to continue to operate the Embarcadero Navigation Center as interim use of the site until the long-term development is ready to break ground.

How do guests access the site?
Guests access this shelter through direct referrals from outreach teams and the city’s centralized shelter placement process. People cannot walk up and request access to this program.

What is the process for approval and moving forward? Also, what is the timeline?
The proposed extension must be heard and approved by the Port Commission. The Port Commission will hear this item in fall 2023, and will not vote on this item before September 1, 2023. Port Commission meeting agendas can be found on the Port Commission’s webpage; Once hearing dates are confirmed, this information will be also be posted on HSH Proposed Projects.

HSH will be facilitating a community engagement process around the proposed extension during the summer of 2023. For more information on upcoming community meetings and the proposed extension, please visit the HSH Proposed Projects page: https://hsh.sfgov.org/get-involved/notices/