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TITLE 7. PLANNING AND LAND USE [65000 - 66499.58] (Heading of Title 7 amended by Stats. 1974, Ch. 1536.)

DIVISION 1. PLANNING AND ZONING [65000 - 66342] (Heading of Division 1 added by Stats. 1974, Ch. 1536.)

CHAPTER 3. Local Planning [65100 - 65763] (Chapter 3 repealed and added by Stats. 1965, Ch. 1880.)

ARTICLE 12. Low Barrier Navigation Centers [65660 - 65666] (Article 12 added by Stats. 2019, Ch. 159, Sec. 7.)

65660. For purposes of this article:

(a) "Low Barrier Navigation Center" means a Housing First, low-barrier, service-enriched shelter focused on moving people into permanent housing that provides temporary living facilities while case managers connect individuals experiencing homelessness to income, public benefits, health services, shelter, and housing. A Low Barrier Navigation Center may be non-congregate and relocatable. "Low Barrier" means best practices to reduce barriers to entry, and may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- (1) The presence of partners if it is not a population-specific site, such as for survivors of domestic violence or sexual assault, women, or youth.
- (2) Pets.
- (3) The storage of possessions.
- (4) Privacy, such as partitions around beds in a dormitory setting or in larger rooms containing more than two beds, or private rooms.

(b) "Use by right" has the meaning defined in subdivision (i) of Section 65583.2. Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code shall not apply to actions taken by a public agency to lease, convey, or encumber land owned by a public agency, or to facilitate the lease, conveyance, or encumbrance of land owned by a public agency, or to provide financial assistance to, or otherwise approve, a Low Barrier Navigation Center constructed or allowed by this section.

(Amended by Stats. 2024, Ch. 297, Sec. 2. (SB 1395) Effective January 1, 2025.)

65662. A Low Barrier Navigation Center development is a use by right in areas zoned for mixed use and nonresidential zones permitting multifamily uses, if it meets the requirements of this article. A local jurisdiction shall permit a Low Barrier Navigation Center development provided that it meets the following requirements:

- (a) It offers services to connect people to permanent housing through a services plan that identifies services staffing.
- (b) It is linked to a coordinated entry system, so that staff in the interim facility or staff who colocate in the facility may conduct assessments and provide services to connect people to permanent housing. "Coordinated entry system" means a centralized or coordinated assessment system developed pursuant to Section 576.400(d) or Section 578.7(a)(8), as applicable, of Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations, as those sections read on January 1, 2020, and any related requirements, designed to coordinate program participant intake, assessment, and referrals.
- (c) It complies with Chapter 6.5 (commencing with Section 8255) of Division 8 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.
- (d) It has a system for entering information regarding client stays, client demographics, client income, and exit destination through the local Homeless Management Information System as defined by Section 578.3 of Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

(Added by Stats. 2019, Ch. 159, Sec. 7. (AB 101) Effective July 31, 2019.)

65664. Within 30 days of receipt of an application for a Low Barrier Navigation Center development, the local jurisdiction shall notify a developer whether the developer's application is complete pursuant to Section 65943. Within 60 days of receipt of a completed application for a Low Barrier Navigation Center development, the local jurisdiction shall act upon its review of the application.

(Added by Stats. 2019, Ch. 159, Sec. 7. (AB 101) Effective July 31, 2019.)

65666. The Legislature finds and declares that Low Barrier Navigation Center developments are essential tools for alleviating the homelessness crisis in this state and are a matter of statewide concern and not a municipal affair as that term is used in Section 5 of Article XI of the California Constitution. Therefore, this article shall apply to all cities, including charter cities.

(Added by Stats. 2019, Ch. 159, Sec. 7. (AB 101) Effective July 31, 2019.)