

# Weekly Report

Date: Friday, June 23, 2017

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Link:

- **Homelessness Response Blog** - <http://homelessness.seattle.gov/>
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## **MISSION UPDATES:**

### **Mission 1: Make an additional 200+ safer living spaces available**

*Lead: Jason Johnson, HSD Deputy Director*

- Navigation Center – (Continuing planning for opening)
  - Our contracted operators, DESC and Operation Sack Lunch are finishing some minor construction and moving in furniture and equipment.
  - Recruiting and training efforts for the center's new staff continues.
  - Staff is visiting with people in the neighboring community this week to discuss the new operation and to inform them of next week's open house on June 29 at 5 p.m.
- Planning for the construction and opening continues for the new 100-bed shelter that will be operated by Compass Housing and located at the First Presbyterian Church on First Hill.
  - This new shelter will operate 24 hours a day/seven days per week for a co-ed population. Opening is expected in August.
  - Recruitment and training of staff is also occurring now.
- Identifying the new permanent location for Operation Nightwatch continued this week. A new location is expected to be operational in September coinciding with the planned closure at the current site.
- Planning and field work for potential new authorized encampments continues. Evaluation of current authorized encampments is underway to learn lessons for the next iterations of encampments.

### **Mission 2: Reduce Trash**

*Lead: Ken Snipes, Seattle Public Utilities Solid Waste Director*

- Work continued this week by the hard-working crews from **Seattle Public Utilities, Seattle Parks and Recreation, Seattle Department of Transportation as well as the Washington Department of Transportation.**
- Planning for next week's crew appreciation event. Our crews have been responsible for the collection of nearly 3,000 tons of trash and debris removed (over 6 million pounds).
- This week, our crews were at several sites for trash cleanup operations:
  - 13<sup>th</sup> and Lane Street

## Seattle EOC Homelessness Response Activation

- Areas beneath the Magnolia Bridge
- Under I-5, at Northeast 65<sup>th</sup> and Ravenna Boulevard.
- Under I-5, at East Shelby Street and East Gwinn Street
- 2700 block of East Montlake Boulevard East
- Sixth Avenue, between James Street and Yesler Way, along I-5.



### **Mission 3: Connect people with services and mitigate most hazardous encampments**

*Lead: Lt. Jason Verhoff, Navigation Team*

- The Navigation Team continues its daily contact with dozens of people at sites spread across the city. This team is made up of outreach staff including a dedicated team from the Seattle Police Department and professional outreach providers.
  - This team offers a full range of options that include specific resources and a continuum of care, tailored to the specific needs of the client.
    - Successful referrals to drug and alcohol counseling programs.
    - Aid people needing transportation to medical appointments and to offices to receive new identification cards.
    - The team's management staff has been working on internal assessments of the work to-date to use in future reports.

### **Mission 4: Implement Revised MDARs**

*Lead: Chris Potter, Finance and Administrative Services Operations Director*

## *Seattle EOC Homelessness Response Activation*

- Planning work with staff from Seattle Office for Civil Rights and the Navigation Team for the upcoming outreach/field work observation visits.
- Conducted analysis of current practices for engagement with the homeless people living in vehicles who can no longer comply with parking regulations.
- Planning continues for the MDAR Advisory Committee, and its first meeting, scheduled for July 11.

### **Mission 5: Incubate Housing Resource Center (HRC) to Increase Housing**

*Lead: Robin Koskey, Office of Housing*

- The County has hired two interim staff. One, who started work this week, to maintain relationships with existing Landlord Liaison Project property owners in advance of the ending of the YWCA contract on June 30. The other new staff member starts work next week and will manage tenant issues and fill vacancies until the new program is launched.
- Robin met with staff from Atlanta's Open Door program this week in an ongoing effort to learn about that program's operational model.
- Planning continued for next week's workshop for property owners.

### **Mission 6: Engage the Public and Mobilize Community Response**

*Lead: George Scarola, Mayor's Office*

- The second meeting for business leaders was held yesterday at City Hall. Representatives from several communities and business organizations attended, including SODO, Georgetown, University District, Rainier Valley and the Downtown Seattle Association.
  - The group expressed appreciation for the noticeable trash removal operations that have occurred over the last several months.
- The proactive work of City staff to listen to and have the business representatives provide their concerns and observations, inform and enable our future work to prioritize and implement upcoming operations based upon the needs throughout the city.

### **Mission 7: Maintain Situational Awareness**

*Leads: Daniel Kirk & Desiree Omli, City Budget Office*

- Measurement collection continues for situational awareness and for budget planning.

### **Mission 8: Employee Training and Communication**

*Lead: Jessica Kennedy, Seattle Dept. of Human Resources Labor Relations*

- Continuing implementation of the training plan for encampment removal work.
- Ongoing communication with City labor unions.

*Seattle EOC Homelessness Response Activation*

**Mission 9: Communications**

*Leads: Julie Moore, Communications Team, FAS and Meg Olberding, Communications Team, HSD*

- Published blog postings and updated content on the Homelessness website (see link above).
- Responded to media inquiries.