

# Weekly Report

Date: Friday, June 9, 2017

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Link:

- Homelessness Response Blog - <http://homelessness.seattle.gov/>
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***Today marks the end of the 16<sup>th</sup> week of activation in response to the homelessness emergency at the Emergency Operations Center.***

## **MISSION UPDATES:**

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

*Lead: Jason Johnson, HSD Deputy Director*

- Navigation Center – (Continuing planning for opening)
  - All occupancy permits are in process and expected to be finalized today.
  - Recruiting and training efforts for the center's new staff continues.
  - Initial walk-through tour for departmental staff working on the homelessness activation occurred yesterday.
- Planning continues for the opening of 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.
- 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.
- Work continues with the operators at all the sanctioned encampments to prepare and provide as many new spaces that can be accommodated at each site. The three newest sites at Georgetown, Myers Way, and Licton Springs are all operating successfully but are also nearing capacity. Currently, 167 spaces have been added at the new, authorized encampments.
- Planning 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.**
- More than 2,800 tons of trash and debris removed (over 5.6 million pounds).
  - These removal operations have had a perfect safety and no-injury record!
- Final planning for this weekend’s clean-up operation along areas of West Marginal Way SW, south of Spokane Street.
- Crews worked to clean greenbelt areas on the west side of Queen Anne this week.



*West Queen Anne greenbelt trash*

- Crews worked in several areas within Ravenna Park yesterday to remove accumulated trash from unauthorized camping sites. There are some spots within the park that will need a future date scheduled using crews that have been trained for rope climbing in order to access high spots that are part of the underside of the bridge abutment structure.



*Ravenna Park: Trash left behind before clean-up (left) and area under bridge after clean-up (right).*

**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 & alcohol counseling programs.
    - Aided people needing transportation to medical appointments and to offices to receive new identification cards.
    - Since February 22, approximately 1/3 of the people approached and engaged by our Navigation Team have accepted offers of various services and/or safer living arrangements.

**Mission 4: Implement Revised MDARs**

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

- Planning work with staff from Seattle Office for Civil Rights and the Navigation Team for the upcoming outreach/field work observation visits.
- Streamlined processes for retrieval and delivery of belongings that were stored after clean-up operations.

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

*Lead: Robin Koskey, Office of Housing*

- The Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce hosted a second successful property owner and manager workshop on June 7 that was facilitated by Slalom Consulting to refine participation incentives and test messaging. Almost everyone who attended the first workshop, also came to the second, demonstrating interest and commitment on behalf of the property owner community.
- The County is working out final administrative details to hire two interim staff to preserve relationships with existing Landlord Liaison Project property owners with a goal of a June 19 start date, two weeks before the end of the YWCA contract on June 30. These new staff will assist in maintaining the existing relationships with the project's property owners. They will also manage tenant issues and fill vacancies until the new program is launched.
- Seattle Housing Authority and King County Housing Authority were invited to begin attending our Mission 5 meetings at the EOC, to better coordinate our efforts.

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

*Lead: George Scarola, Mayor's Office*

- Planning continued this week for the next scheduled business representative meeting on June 22.

**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.

**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).
- Assisted with planning and creating presentation materials for our briefing before the Human Services and Public Health committee of the City Council on June 14.
- Responded to media inquiries.