

# Weekly Report

Date: Friday, July 14, 2017

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Links:

- **Homelessness Response Blog** - <http://homelessness.seattle.gov/>
- <http://komonews.com/news/local/seattle-opens-innovative-24-hour-homeless-center>
- <http://www.kiro7.com/news/local/seattle-getting-new-and-enhanced-homeless-shelter/555591841>
- [http://www.seattlepi.com/homeless\\_in\\_seattle/article/Innovative-Seattle-homeless-shelter-to-open-11281319.php](http://www.seattlepi.com/homeless_in_seattle/article/Innovative-Seattle-homeless-shelter-to-open-11281319.php)
- <http://www.king5.com/news/local/homeless/seattles-homeless-navigation-center-opens-wednesday/455892107>

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**MISSION UPDATES:**

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

*Lead: Jason Johnson, HSD Deputy Director*

- Navigation Center
  - The Navigation Center opened on Wednesday providing 24/7 safer living spaces for 75 people. (see links to news stories above)
  - As of today, there have been 23 people referred to this new facility.
    - Of the referrals, one family of six people that had been living outside with no shelter have moved to the Navigation Center.
  - Mayor Murray toured the Center on Tuesday and spoke with media representatives.



*Mayor Murray speaking with media at Navigation Center*

## *Seattle EOC Homelessness Response Activation*

- Planning for the renovation 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.
- Planning and field work for potential new authorized encampments continues.

### **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.**
- Crews have been working at several sites this week to remove accumulated trash:
  - Spokane Street corridor, from 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue South to Airport Way South;
  - I-5 median areas between South Jackson Street and South Dearborn Street;
  - I-5 median areas adjacent to the southbound James Street exit;
  - I-5 northbound exit ramp areas at South Dearborn Street;
  - Dearborn Street, between I-5 and I-90;
  - Hillside to the west of Beacon Avenue South, south of Plum Street.

### **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. As of July 7, the team has made more than 3,091 contacts with a total of 895 individuals.
  - Leading up to the opening of the Navigation Center this week, this team of officers and outreach professionals have made repeat contacts with people that have expressed interest in being referred to the Center.

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

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

- Staff briefed the Human Services and Public Health committee of the City Council on Wednesday on the past monitoring by staff from the Seattle Office for Civil Rights (SOCR) of the unauthorized encampment cleanups.
- Planning work continues with staff from SOCR and the Navigation Team for future outreach/field work observation visits.

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

*Lead: Robin Koskey, Office of Housing*

- King County's two new interim staff are on-board and working to maintain relationships with existing Landlord Liaison Project property owners and to fill vacancies and manage tenant issues.

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

*Lead: George Scarola, Mayor's Office*

- Proactive work of City staff continues, as we engage business and community representatives to hear their concerns and observations. This informs and enables our future work to prioritize and implement upcoming operations based upon the needs throughout the city.
  - The second meeting with representatives of faith-based organizations occurred this week that continued the helpful collaboration to explore additional ways to provide needed assistance for people experiencing homelessness.
- The Advisory Committee on Implementation of Encampment Removal Rules met on July 11 for its first meeting. This committee will evaluate the implementation of the City's new MDARs addressing unsheltered homeless individuals, and specifically will review current policies and practices by the City of Seattle related to removal of unsanctioned encampments, and associated outreach and services to the people living in them.

**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).
- Responded to media inquiries.