

Weekly Report

Date: Friday, August 18, 2017

Link:

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

We were pleased to host Councilmember Rob Johnson and Geri Morris, his legislative aide, at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) this morning. The Councilmember shared his observations and feedback that his office has received from his constituents on the homelessness response efforts of the City. In addition, the Navigation Team, led by Lt. Jason Verhoff, described its work in partnership with the outreach workers that contact multiple people daily who have been living unsheltered as they consider their individual options for better living situations.

MISSION UPDATES:

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

Lead: Jason Johnson, HSD Deputy Director

- Navigation Center.
 - This new low-barrier shelter, is at capacity with 75 people living in this 24/7 facility.
- 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 late 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

- As of Aug. 16, a total of 3,014 tons of trash and garbage have been removed from locations across the city.
- Crews have been inspecting upcoming work locations as well as working at several sites this week to remove accumulated trash:
 - Fourth Avenue South emphasis area
 - Carkeek Park
 - MLK Jr. Park
 - St. Marks greenbelt
 - Mercer corridor
 - Spokane Street area

Seattle EOC Homelessness Response Activation



Before and after cleanup, along the Mercer corridor.



Before and after cleanup, I-5 northbound on-ramp at Mercer Street.

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

Lead: Lt. Jason Verhoff, Navigation Team

- Through Aug. 11, the Navigation Team has made 4,199 outreach contacts to a total of 1,157 individuals. Of those individuals, 721 (62%) have accepted some sort of service, including 419 who have exited encampments to an alternative living arrangement.
- Other services include case management support/referral; mental health support/referral; substance use disorder treatment referral; state ID acquisition assistance; medical support/referral; coordinated entry housing assessment (VISPDAT); King County Housing Authority lottery registration; employment support; benefits activation support; vehicle repairs; and basic needs.
- 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.

Mission 4: Implement Revised MDARs

Lead: Chris Potter, Finance and Administrative Services Operations Director

- 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

- The Mission 5 EOC group continued walking through decision points and program development issues that need to be addressed to work toward a successful program launch by the end of the year.

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.

Mission 7: Maintain Situational Awareness

Leads: Daniel Kirk, 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, FAS Communications and Meg Olberding, HSD Communications

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- Published blog postings and updated content on the Homelessness website (see link above).
- Responded to media inquiries.
- Compiled information for Councilmember Johnson's visit to the EOC today.