

# Weekly Report

Date: Friday, August 25, 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.
  - This new low-barrier shelter, is at capacity with 75 people living in this 24/7 facility.
- Planning for the 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.
  - Training of staff is also occurring now.
  - This new shelter will operate 24 hours a day/seven days per week for a co-ed population. Opening is expected next week.
  - The shelter will open in late August, with beds available for Navigation Team referrals beginning Sept. 6.
- 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. 23, a total of 3,022 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:
  - Rainier Avenue & Dearborn areas
  - Myers Way areas
  - Spokane Street areas – Approximately 10,000 pounds of trash have been collected from this area in the last several days.
  - First Avenue South and Denver Avenue South
  - La Villa Meadows (Fisher Place Northeast and Lake City Way)

*Seattle EOC Homelessness Response Activation*



*Before and after a litter pick along First Avenue South and Denver Avenue South.*



*Before and after a cleanup at La Villa Meadows.*

**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. Outreach locations this week included:
  - Spokane Street viaduct corridor
  - Georgetown

## Seattle EOC Homelessness Response Activation

- Blanchard and Bell streets, near Western Avenue
- Myers Way in West Seattle
- I-5 & Northeast 45<sup>th</sup> Street
- To best serve those living along the Spokane Street corridor as the City works to close that area to camping, the Navigation Team outreach coordinator is organizing a collaborative outreach effort with multiple partner agencies, including DESC-HOST, REACH, LEAD, Metropolitan Improvement District (MID), University of Washington/Harborview, Pioneer Human Services, Real Escape from the Sex Trade (REST), Valley Cities, Seattle Central Colleges, YouthCare, Veteran's Affairs, UGM, Salvation Army, Millionair Club. Beginning at 10 a.m. Monday morning "need-specific" outreach will begin, and individuals will receive engagement from agencies that meet their specific needs. To those interested, service offers will be immediate and will include substance use recovery options, mental health treatment, coordinated entry housing assessment, relocation to appropriate alternative living arrangements, reconnection with family or other support systems.

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

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

- Materials are being developed for briefing the Multi-Department Rules (MDAR) Advisory Committee for its next meeting on September 12 at 6:00 p.m. in the Boards and Commissions Room L-280 of City Hall.
- Developing alternatives for interventions for homeless individuals who are in crisis and reside in vehicles.

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

*Lead: Robin Koskey, Office of Housing*

- Office of Housing and King County staff hosted a well-received call with property owners and managers to provide an update on program development.
- Research continues to inform program development both in state and nationwide with other jurisdictions working to engage property owners.
- Staff continues to work closely with King County interim staff on monitoring risk mitigation claims and other interim operations with a view toward informing program development of the new initiative and 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.
- A training for City employees engaged in cleanup work in and around encampments was held on Tuesday, August 22. Training elements included an overview of the City's response to homelessness, personal safety, de-escalation techniques, and rules and procedures to respect the rights of unsheltered people.

**Mission 9: Communications**

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

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