

Weekly Report

Date: Friday, September 22, 2017

Link:

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

MISSION UPDATES:

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

Lead: Jason Johnson, HSD Deputy Director

- Planning and field work for re-siting two authorized encampments at the end of their two-year permit term.
 - Planning work continues on the possible use of the Port of Seattle property as a new authorized encampment on its property located just north of the Magnolia Bridge. The City is considering the site as the new location for Tent City 5, currently located at 3234 17th Ave. W., which must move by mid-November due to an expiring permit.
 - We are also continuing to narrow our list of potentially suitable sites for the replacement of the current encampment in Ballard.

Mission 2: Reduce Trash

Lead: Ken Snipes, Seattle Public Utilities Solid Waste Director

- As of Sept. 20, a total of 3,057 tons of trash and garbage have been removed from locations across the city.
- Crews conducted cleanups:
 - I-5 corridor, between Northeast 45th and Northeast 50th streets.
 - Alaskan Way Viaduct, Yesler Way to Columbia Street.
 - Yesler Way and Ninth Avenue.



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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 week the team was working with and providing outreach services to people living along I-5, between Northeast 45th and Northeast 50th streets. Three campers accepted alternative shelter; 12 people refused services.
- From Feb. 20-Sept. 21, 2017, the Navigation Team's outreach to people living outdoors has resulted in:
 - 5,127 total contacts to a total of 1,340 individuals.
 - Of those 1,340 individuals, 528 (39%) accepted relocation to safer spaces, including shelter, authorized encampments and reconnecting with family or other support system.
 - 864 of 1,340 (64%) accepted some sort of service, including 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.

- For the outreach efforts at the Spokane Street corridor, the City's offers to individuals over the last seven weeks resulted in 46 people moving to safer alternative living spaces. As of Monday, Sept. 11, the day before the cleanup began, 21 people had accepted and relocated to alternative shelter following repeated outreach efforts since early August. Over the four days of last week's cleanup efforts, Tuesday-Friday, 25 people relocated to alternative living spaces, including 22 who completed intake at the new 24/7 low-barrier Compass at First Presbyterian shelter.

Mission 4: Implement Revised MDARs

Lead: Chris Potter, Finance and Administrative Services Operations Director

- The Multi-Department Rules (MDAR) Advisory Committee will next meet on Oct. 10 in the Boards and Commissions Room L-280 of City Hall.

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

Lead: Robin Koskey, Office of Housing

- Continuing development of the overall strategy and recruitment for a leadership group of property owners, managers, and other business leaders to move toward an effective initiative launch in early 2018.

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.
 - City staff working on the homelessness response met on Sep. 22 with the SODO Business Improvement Area (BIA) staff and business representatives to share information about the current conditions in that neighborhood relating to people living unsheltered and the impacts to the operations of those businesses and to their employees.

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.

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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.