

Weekly Report

Date: Friday, May 26, 2017

Links:

- **Homelessness Response Blog** - <http://homelessness.seattle.gov/>
- [It takes a community: First Hill residents give blessings to 24/7 homeless shelter at First Presbyterian](#) – **Capitol Hill Times**
- [One woman's journey to beat homelessness in Seattle](#) – **Q13 Fox News**

MISSION UPDATES:

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

Lead: Jason Johnson, HSD Deputy Director

- Navigation Center – (Continuing planning for opening)
 - Construction build out continued this week.
 - Recruiting and training efforts for the center's new staff continues.
 - Community engagement meetings continued this week.
- 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. Provided support for a public meeting on Monday evening. See link to the Capitol Hill Times recap above.
- The identification of 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 at each site. The three newest sites at Georgetown, Myers Way, and Licton Springs are all operating successfully but are also nearing capacity. Currently, 130 spaces have been added at the new, authorized encampments.
- Planning for potential new authorized encampments continues. Evaluation of current authorized encampments is underway in order 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 2,665 tons of trash and debris removed (over 5.3 million pounds).

Seattle EOC Homelessness Response Activation

- These removal operations have had a perfect safety and no-injury record!
- A clean-up operation began this week at the encampment located near S Poplar and S Dean Street.



The hillside below the Dr. Jose P Rizal Bridge along Dearborn Street, last month (on the left, looking toward Dearborn) and this week (on the right, from Dearborn looking toward the bridge).

- Planning for cleanup in the east Queen Anne greenbelt next week.

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.
- For the outreach efforts at the Poplar & Dean site, the Navigation Team reports the following results:
 - Of 37 people contacted, 19 people have moved to alternate living arrangements, including 10 who moved to sanctioned encampments, seven people were referred to other shelters and three people were assisted in reconnecting with their family support systems.
 - Two people were provided with specific case management assistance.

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- Continued outreach to RV owners who set up on the WSDOT-owned Glass Yard property. At least one individual has already accepted a referral to Camp Second Chance (see Q13 story above). Provided notice that any vehicles remaining as of June 1 will be impounded.

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

- Continued the hiring process for two temporary staff that will be hosted at King County. 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.
- Continued the planning for the second property owner workshop, scheduled for June 7.

Mission 6: Engage the Public and Mobilize Community Response

Lead: George Scarola, Mayor's Office

- Planning continued this week for the upcoming faith-based organizations meeting at the EOC on June 2.
- Coordination continued this week with the Coalition to End Native American Homelessness to assist it with connections to our Navigation Team staff and to plan an upcoming meeting at the Emergency Operations Center.

Mission 7: Maintain Situational Awareness

Leads: Daniel Kirk & Desiree Omlie, 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).
- Provided Navigation Team outreach stats to Q13 reporter for success story (see link above).

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- Ongoing preparation with staff for the field efforts.
- Advance communication efforts to lessen the instances of misinformation and rumor.
- Assisted with compilation of responses to questions that have been received from various sources.