

Weekly Report

Date: Friday, June 16, 2017

Links:

- **Homelessness Response Blog** - <http://homelessness.seattle.gov/>
- **SCC Insight Blog** - <https://sccinsight.com/2017/06/15/catching-homelessness-response/>

MISSION UPDATES:

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

Lead: Jason Johnson, HSD Deputy Director

- Navigation Center – (Continuing planning for opening)
 - Our contracted operators, DESC and Operation Sack Lunch are finishing some minor construction and moving in furniture and equipment.
 - Recruiting and training efforts for the center's new staff continues.
 - Planning for community stakeholders and a public open house is underway.
- 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. This new shelter will operate 24 hours a day/seven days per week for a co-ed population. Opening is expected in August.
- Identifying 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 that can be accommodated at each site. The three newest sites at Georgetown, Myers Way, and Licton Springs are all operating successfully but are also nearing capacity. Currently, 167 spaces have been added at the new, authorized encampments.
- Planning for potential new authorized encampments continues. Evaluation of current authorized encampments is underway 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 2,800 tons of trash and debris removed (over 5.6 million pounds).

Seattle EOC Homelessness Response Activation

- Approximately 14,500 sharps have been collected from the ground and from drop-boxes.
- Last weekend, on Saturday and Sunday we had separate clean-up operations along areas of East Marginal Way S, south of Spokane Street and in the state-owned Glassyard site.
- This week, our crews were at several sites for trash cleanup operations:
 - Fourth Ave S, near Edgar Martinez Drive S
 - N 88th St and Aurora Ave N
 - Colonnade Park
 - 12th Ave W and W Blaine St



Trash and debris in the West Queen Anne Greenbelt

- Planning efforts continued this week for the sites in several areas that the crews will clean beginning 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.
 - Since Feb. 22, approximately 2/3 of the people approached and engaged by our Navigation Team have accepted offers of various services and/or safer living arrangements. The team has had meaningful contacts with 746 people,

and sometimes, after multiple discussions on different days, can result in a person eventually accepting a safer living arrangement.

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.
- Planning is underway for the MDAR Oversight Committee, and a first meeting of the committee is expected in mid-July.

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

Lead: Robin Koskey, Office of Housing

- The County has hired two interim staff. One to maintain relationships with existing Landlord Liaison Project property owners in advance of the ending of the YWCA contract on June 30. The other new staff member will manage tenant issues and fill vacancies until the new program is launched.
- A HUD technical assistance provider attended the Mission 5 meeting this week to share best practices and implementation experiences of other communities that operate tenant and property owner connection programs.

Mission 6: Engage the Public and Mobilize Community Response

Lead: George Scarola, Mayor's Office

- Today, our guests at the EOC activation were representatives of the Coalition to End Urban Native American Homelessness. We described the efforts of the various missions that make up the work of the coordinated response to homelessness. We also provided a preliminary report of the Navigation Team's contacts with people that are Native American or Alaskan Native. We discussed unique barriers to serving the native population and ways the City and native community organizations might be able to collaborate to serve native homeless people more effectively.
- Planning continues for the second meeting for business leaders on June 22.

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

Seattle EOC Homelessness Response Activation

- 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).
- Assisted with planning and creating presentation materials for this week's briefing before the Human Services and Public Health committee of the City Council (see Seattle City Council Insight story, link above).
- Responded to media inquiries.