

Weekly Report

Date: Friday, September 1, 2017

Links:

- **Homelessness Response Blog** - <http://homelessness.seattle.gov/>
- **An Outreach Worker's Perspective** - <http://homelessness.seattle.gov/spokane-street-corridor-collaborative-outreach-to-better-meet-peoples-individualized-needs/>

MISSION UPDATES:

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

Lead: Jason Johnson, HSD Deputy Director

- Compass at First Presbyterian
 - The new 100-bed shelter operated by Compass Housing and located at the First Presbyterian Church on First Hill opened on Wednesday.
 - Compass at First Presbyterian brings a holistic and responsive solution to Seattle's homelessness crisis. With an emphasis of providing stability, growth, and community to support services, Compass Housing Alliance will operate the 24/7 "enhanced shelter," which brings 100 new shelter beds to Seattle. Through a \$1.3 million grant from the City of Seattle, Compass Housing Alliance will combine safe shelter, complete wrap-around services—including meals, laundry and shower facilities—and intensive case management. The model aligns directly with the City's Pathways Home plan announced last fall.
 - The shelter will welcome 10 guests per day beginning today.
- Navigation Center
 - This new low-barrier shelter, is at capacity with 75 people living in this 24/7 facility.
- Planning and field work for re-siting two authorized encampments at the end of their two-year permit term continues. The Port of Seattle and the City will host a community meeting on a potential site on Port property, just north of the Magnolia Bridge, on Wednesday, September 6 from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. at the Magnolia Community Center, located at 2550 - 34th Avenue West, Seattle, 98199.

Mission 2: Reduce Trash

Lead: Ken Snipes, Seattle Public Utilities Solid Waste Director

- Because of staff vacations, updated trash collections numbers will be reported in the next report.
- Crews have been inspecting upcoming work locations as well as working at several sites this week to remove accumulated trash:
 - Spokane Street Viaduct corridor areas
 - Ballard Commons Park

Seattle EOC Homelessness Response Activation

- I-5/Mercer Street corridor
- Airport Way S and 6th Avenue S
- Pasadena Place NE (between NE 40th and NE 42nd streets)

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's emphasis has been extensive and repeated outreach along the Spokane Street viaduct corridor.
- 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 has organized 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, Millionaire Club.
 - This "need-specific" outreach includes engagement from agencies that meet 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.
- All 66 individuals found residing along Spokane Street from Airport Way to Colorado Avenue South were contacted multiple times. This week, while just the beginning of targeted outreach to this area, this effort saw several positive outcomes, including:
 - Four people transported to the Georgetown encampment.
 - One person transported to the Navigation Center.
 - Three individuals placed on shelter/Navigation Center waitlist.
 - One veteran connected with outreach toward working on obtaining ID and housing.
 - Three females are now working with Mary's Place toward shelter and housing.
 - Four people connected with mental health support services.
 - One person connected with case management to work on getting ID.
 - Five individuals received medical attention.
 - Two individuals were provided with legal assistance.
- An Outreach Worker's Perspective
 - The City's outreach coordinator who organized Monday's effort at the Spokane Street Viaduct corridor, Jackie St. Louis, MSC, LMHC, offered his compelling reflections on this and every day of outreach (see link above).



Outreach & Navigation Team staff meet at the Spokane Street Viaduct corridor

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

- The HRC workgroup had a robust discussion attended by all funders and both King County and Seattle Housing Authorities to define the client population to be served by the HRC. The group has agreed that literally homeless households primarily having rapid re-housing subsidies and Housing Choice Vouchers (Section 8), will be the initial primary focus for the HRC, with other populations to be phased in once the initiative gets off the ground and gains momentum.

Seattle EOC Homelessness Response Activation

- 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.

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).
- Managed outreach and communication for the opening of the new shelter on First Hill, Compass at First Presbyterian.
- Responded to media inquiries.