

Weekly Report

Date: Friday, September 8, 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

- Compass at First Presbyterian
 - The new 100-bed shelter operated by Compass Housing and located at the First Presbyterian Church on First Hill is operational and has provided daily vacancy availability to the Navigation Team for real-time referrals.
- 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 hosted a community meeting on a potential site on Port property, just north of the Magnolia Bridge, on Wednesday. The Port of Seattle Commission is expected to vote on Sep. 12 to authorize staff to negotiate a lease of this property with the City, for temporary use as an encampment site.

Mission 2: Reduce Trash

Lead: Ken Snipes, Seattle Public Utilities Solid Waste Director

- As of Sept. 5, a total of 3,045 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:
 - Sixth Avenue and James Street to Seventh Avenue and Cherry Street
 - 815 South Seattle Boulevard
 - James Street exit along I-5

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.
- Again, this week, the team's emphasis has been extensive and repeated outreach along the Spokane Street viaduct corridor. This will continue through at least next week.
- In just six months (Feb. 20-Sept. 1, 2017), the Navigation Team's outreach to people living outdoors has resulted in:
 - 4,667 total contacts to a total of 1,251 individuals.

Seattle EOC Homelessness Response Activation

- Of those 1,251 individuals, 463 (37%) accepted relocation to safer spaces, including shelter, authorized encampments and reconnecting with family or other support system.
- 793 of 1,251 (63%) 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.



Above: Before and after the cleanup at 815 South Seattle Boulevard.

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Below: Before and after the cleanup at the James Street exit along I-5.



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, this Tuesday, Sept. 12 at 6 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

- 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.
- Provided technical assistance to county staff on risk mitigation claims with a view toward maintaining long-term property owner participation.
- Met with Create Housing associated with HNN, a property management company, that we hope will develop a relationship leading to housing opportunities for HRC households.

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).
- Assisted with communications for the community meeting for the potential use of the Port of Seattle site near the Magnolia bridge.
- Responded to media inquiries.