



ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF RULES OF REMOVING UNSANCTIONED HOMELESS ENCAMPMENTS

REVIEW OF ENCAMPMENT CLEANUP RULES

FEBRUARY 13, 2018

RULE REVIEW

THE COUNCIL INTENDS THAT THE EXECUTIVE SHALL REVIEW MDAR 17-01 AND FAS 17-01 PROTOCOLS TO IMPROVE THE UNAUTHORIZED ENCAMPMENT REMOVAL PROCESS AND REDUCE HARM TO UNSHELTERED INDIVIDUALS AND PROVIDE A REPORT BY APRIL 6, 2018, TO THE CHAIR OF THE HUMAN SERVICES AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL CENTRAL STAFF DIRECTOR. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CHANGES TO THE EXISTING POLICIES, PROPOSING NEW POLICIES, OR LEGISLATION SHOULD ALSO **CONSIDER INPUT FROM THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF RULES OF REMOVING UNSANCTIONED HOMELESS ENCAMPMENTS** AND THE OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS' ENCAMPMENT MONITORING REPORTS.

- 2018 BUDGET GS 240-1-C-2

RULES INCLUDE

- STORAGE OF BELONGINGS
- OUTREACH
- SAFE ALTERNATIVES
- PRIORITIZATION
- OBSTRUCTION AND HAZARD PROTOCOLS
- “72-HOUR” PROTOCOLS
- EMPHASIS AREA PROTOCOLS

STORAGE OF BELONGINGS

- BELONGINGS STORED FOR A MINIMUM OF 70 DAYS
- OFFER OF DELIVERY IS STATED ON ALL NOTICES
- FROM FEBRUARY 22, 2017 TO DECEMBER 31, 2017, THE CITY STORED:
 - 865 BINS, BIKES AND LARGE ITEMS.
 - 41 PEOPLE RECOVERED THEIR ITEMS.
- RECOVERY REQUIRES A PHONE CALL

OUTREACH

- 7,342 CONTACTS WITH 1,829 INDIVIDUALS
- 675 REFERRALS TO SAFE ALTERNATIVES

SAFE ALTERNATIVES

- CONTINUOUS AVAILABILITY OF LESS-DESIRABLE OVERNIGHT ALTERNATIVES
- 72% OF REFERRALS HAVE BEEN TO 24/7 SHELTER OPTIONS—BY FAR THE MOST REQUESTED OPTION
- LIMITED AVAILABILITY OF 24/7 SHELTER OPTIONS HAS REDUCED THE PACE OF ENCAMPMENT REMOVALS

PRIORITIZATION

- CURRENT CRITERIA ARE COMPREHENSIVE OF HAZARDS
- CLEANUP SITES ARE THOROUGHLY DOCUMENTED IN PHOTOGRAPHS DURING INSPECTION AND CLEANUP. THESE SITE JOURNALS ARE POSTED ON HOMELESSNESS RESPONSE BLOG.
- FREQUENT AND PERSISTENT COMMUNITY FRUSTRATION ABOUT CERTAIN LOCATIONS WHERE CONDITIONS DO NOT MEET CRITERIA FOR PRIORITY REMOVAL.

OBSTRUCTION AND HAZARD PROTOCOLS

- NEEDED BY THE CITY TO PRESERVE ABILITY TO ACT IMMEDIATELY IN UNSAFE AND UNREASONABLE SITUATIONS
- PROTOCOLS WERE USED IN ABOUT 11% OF ENCAMPMENT REMOVALS OVER THE LAST SIX MONTHS
- MANY PARKS HOST SUBSTANTIAL ENCAMPMENTS, EVEN THOUGH ENCAMPMENTS IN PARKS ARE CONSIDERED OBSTRUCTIONS

“72-HOUR” PROTOCOLS

- MOST COMMONLY USED PROTOCOL
- 3 DAYS IS MINIMUM REQUIRED NOTICE
- THE MEDIAN ACTUAL NOTICE HAS BEEN 5 DAYS

EMPHASIS AREA PROTOCOLS

- CURRENTLY 8 DEFINED EMPHASIS AREAS. CITY CAN HAVE UP TO 10 EMPHASIS AREAS.
- STRATEGY HAS DECREASED ENCAMPMENTS IN MANY CHALLENGING LOCATIONS
- EMPHASIS AREAS ARE RARELY COMPLETELY CLEAR OF ENCAMPMENTS
- OBSTRUCTION ENFORCEMENT OF MOST ACCESSIBLE AREAS
- 72-HOUR CLEANUP STRATEGY FOR ENFORCEMENT IN LESS ACCESSIBLE AREAS
- SIGNAGE IS HARD TO MAINTAIN

SUMMARY

- CURRENT RULES REPRESENT A BASELINE TO SAFEGUARD THE INTERESTS OF UNSHELTERED PEOPLE
- MANY PEOPLE REMAIN UNSHELTERED – REMOVALS ARE NOT A SOLUTION TO THE HOMELESSNESS CRISIS
- CITY HAS REMOVED 6.5 MILLION POUNDS OF WASTE THROUGH CLEANUPS – THIS IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF CITY'S WASTE MANAGEMENT AND SANITATION MISSION TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC'S HEALTH
- 675 PEOPLE ACCEPTED SAFE ALTERNATIVES AS PART OF THIS PROGRAM.
- THERE ARE FEW DAILY VACANCIES IN THE 341 NEW SAFE SHELTER OPTIONS CREATED IN 2017. THIS LOW AVAILABILITY SLOWS THE PACE OF ENCAMPMENT REMOVAL.