

**Internal Task Force on Homelessness
Teleconference Meeting Notes**

January 28, 2021

- I. Welcome & Purpose
- II. Department Updates
 - a. **Public Works:** December: Shopping cart retrieval with Code and SDSO. Done twice in December, collecting 92 shopping carts. Bags are distributed to individuals for personal belongings when shopping carts are retrieved. Public Works led a recent two-day clean-up in Brengle with SDSO and Code. Clean-up at Citrus and Broadway; Exodus helped to provide outreach. The Plumosa encampments will be cleaned by the County with SDSO; not COV jurisdiction. Encampments across from Plumosa in Caltrans property. Encampment returned on west side of Emerald. Vista Village, no one is being moved; only clean-up is happening. The BPO encampment off of Hacienda, was cleaned up about a year ago. It will take 1.5-2 week clean up. Probably \$20,000 to clean. Can SDSO help patrol this? COPPS unit and team may help with patrols. Confirm patrol schedule.
 - b. **Code Enforcement:** The Emerald/West Ave encampment site has posted a No trespassing sign. Property was cleaned up. SDSO supported. The 444 S. Santa Fe encampment, Public Works has scheduled Aztec, which did the clean-up. SDSO helped. At 600 and 1600 Hacienda Drive (BPO) encampments were posted. Exodus went out to make contacts and offer outreach resources. Public Works, Stormwater, SDSO, Code went out today and each was posted, photos taken. Clean-up is scheduled for Monday. Under bridge next to BMW, another
 - c. **Stormwater:** Arbor Glen/Amber Woods HOA clean up. Activity has shifted to Cubesmart property. Acknowledge and thank you to Code Enforcement officers for the work done at Vale Terrace. Stormwater has contacted Caltrans' stormwater department to get them to address the encampment near 78 and Vista Village. Caltrans can't do a full encampment removal unless authorized by the Governor's Office. Caltrans is being responsive, and their staff will do housekeeping (trash clean up) but not full removal at this time.
 - d. **Recreation & Community Services:** Conservancy Trail, owner was reached, per RCS Manager and SDSO. SDSO is making arrests at the site. Code Enforcement is working with property owner, but a date for clean up is forthcoming. Money is an issue; as there are liens on the property. There is a Black RV occasionally parked at Brengle tapping into power near Moonlight. Increase in folks camping out. SDSO offers that arrests could be made since COV and SDGE could be the victims. There is also a fire safety issue here, per SDSO. A code section could be created regarding the use of City electricity. Could be a fire code violation. Follow up discussion with the CMO to identify next steps for enforcement. Rec Staff has noticed a new homeless person sleeping in softball dugouts. SDSO sending out deputies today.
 - e. **Sylvia, Housing:** Exodus is unable to join today, but outreach updates include: The individual bringing artwork into Vale Terrace is being case managed by the social worker and she is attempting to place him in housing or in a stronger

supportive services program. There have been some short-term successes to note, a woman who has been chronically homeless off Williamston has recently been placed in a motel through the Alliance Shelter network. Two individuals have been placed at La Posada. An FAQ document is in progress to add to the City's website to address homelessness and many of the issues we discuss such as panhandling and encampments. This will be shared with the group and published soon. As a reminder for all members of the Task Force, please include City of Vista Housing Department on all emails/text to Exodus when requesting support for outreach so we can be mindful of their capacity and understand where/how we utilize this resource.

- f. **Economic Development:** Some Downtown businesses have brought to ED attention that there's an increase in homelessness. Is there unified messaging? This will be, in part, what the FAQ addresses. We are going to continue this discussion with ED directly and bring back to the group.

III. Education & Outreach Discussion

- a. Panhandling signs: How did these roll out in other cities, overview of Temecula and Fresno. Not successfully implemented, they were primarily used as toolkits for the business community. Still working on the goal and purpose of the signs and aligning broader communication strategy. City Manager is evaluating and continuing discussions with Council.

IV. Overview of Strategic Plan Activities in Progress

- a. Elderhelp - Home share contract is in progress.
- b. Alliance Shelter Contract: Q1 five shelter placements. Expecting this to increase.
- c. Going to council in Spring with updates on contracts and Strategic Plan.