

Vista Homelessness Working Group Meeting Agenda

September 21, 2023

2:00-3:30pm

I. Welcome & Purpose

Name	Organization	Title
Sergio Saucedo	City of Vista	Housing & Homelessness Staff Assistant
Aldo Hernandez	City of Vista	Public Works Supervisor
Rob Anderson	City of Vista	Recreation Manager
Imelda Huerta	City of Vista	Assistant City Manager
Faye Gray	City of Vista	Economic Development Specialist
Clarence Rich	City of Vista	Code Enforcement Manager
John Conley	City of Vista	City Manager
Jonathan Lung	City of Vista	Homeless Services Program Manager
Jose Heredia	City of Vista	Community Improvement Team
Javier Hernandez	City of Vista	Community Improvement Team
Johannah Knieff	City of Vista	Housing & Homelessness Senior Office Specialist
Bret Davidson	City of Vista	Deputy Fire Chief
Leila Sadrieh	City of Vista	Environmental Specialist II
Sam Anderson	San Diego County Sheriff	COPPS Deputy
Jorgen Pederson	San Diego County Sheriff	COPPS Deputy
Casey Drown	Caltrans	Encampment Superintendent
Leonard Saucedo	Caltrans	Encampment Manager

II. Discussion

- Asylum refugee drop offs
 - Border Patrol dropped off 200 asylum seekers at various transit centers in El Cajon, Oceanside, and San Diego
 - [Link to news article](#)
 - Interfaith is heading the efforts to assist, however we will continue to refer to Exodus who will then refer to Interfaith if needed.
- Blocking access to box culverts
 - Discussion of k- rails or flood gates
 - Consider safety measures and trash pile-up when there is rain and subsequent flooding
 - City Manager's Office to follow up with Engineering Department regarding k- rails or automated flood gates
- Notice of cleanup signs
 - Noticeable changes after placement on Sycamore

- Consider placement for next location(s)

III. Updates from each department/agency represented at the meeting

Each Working Group member to provide a brief update of any activities or interactions within your department/division, collaborate, pose questions, identify upcoming opportunities, etc.

- Caltrans
 - Collected 20 cubic yards of trash last month, noted this seems to be an increasing issue citing flooding from recent rain as a contributor to trash accumulating
 - Identified Vista Village as a “hot spot” location (Hacienda BPO)
 - Cut-resistant fencing has been highly effective, though it is expensive at ~\$180/linear foot
 - Would need to look into grant funding for implementation for Vista-owned fencing
- Sheriff’s Department
 - Have also noticed less encampments along Sycamore, but more around Vista Village
 - Sheriff’s department have also noticed increased in trash
 - Discussion around trash as a hazard to environment/waterways while also being considerate to those who rely on dumpsters for food and shelter
- Recreation and Community Services
 - 4 recent break ins, dumpster diving, issues in ball field dug outs. Rule violations occur after park hours, so are difficult to enforce. Notice of Cleanup signs would be difficult to enforce because parks are public facilities
 - Consider installing additional lighting and/or noise deterrents
- Public Works
 - 37 encampments cleaned this summer, 84 total this year
 - Total of 40 tons of trash and 150 labor hours
- Code Enforcement
 - 16 active cases, discussed those involving homelessness
- Fire Department
 - Runs report regarding calls for services for homelessness related issues every 6 months, will provide at next opportunity
 - Estimates an average of 3 calls related to individuals experiencing homelessness per day

IV. Overview of Strategic Plan Activities in Progress

- Rental Assistance
 - \$1.4 million in ARPA funds, RFP coming soon
- Shelter Beds with Alliance
 - Haven House & La Posada are local low-barrier shelters that are contracted with the City of Vista through Alliance for Regional Shelters
 - Have been at capacity for a while
 - Will be restructuring Alliance contract on a “per diem” type basis
- Buena Vista Navigation Center
 - Non-congregate shelter in partnership with the City of Encinitas
 - 24 units total- 18 for Vista, 6 for Encinitas
 - Senator Blakespear granted ~\$5 million for this project
- Safe Parking

- Accepting referrals: 858-637-3373, leave a voicemail to be contacted for an appointment
- In operation for one full month with 15 participants served
- Majority college students or older adults on fixed income
- Have noted some participants have traveled from far distances just for our program, this means its working!
- Will need to cone off Safe Parking spots prior to “Vista Block Party” event on October 14th
- Home share
 - Recently ended contract with ElderHelp and looking for new providers
 - Discussion regarding multiple vouchers per unit in a home share setting, can put individuals over qualifying income. Will need to ensure providers can accommodate for that in RFP

V. Next meeting

- November 16, 2023
2:00-3:30pm