

Update from the City of Austin Homeless Strategy Office

May 26th, 2021

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Outline

- Summit to Address Unsheltered Homelessness
- City of Austin Initiatives
 - Capital development of Permanent Supportive Housing
 - HEAL Initiative
- Implementation of Camping Ordinance
 - Phased Approach
 - Potential Sanctioned Encampments

Summit to Address Unsheltered Homelessness

Our overarching, initial implementation goals

1

Unlock 3,000+ Homes in 3 Years

- **Secure 2,300 rental units** using landlord incentives (hold fees, risk mitigation fund)
- **Develop 1,000 units** of PSH (234 units in pipeline)

2

Fortify Provider Capacity

- **Add 200 staff** (case managers / outreach / housing navigators)
- **Add new culturally-reflective providers**

3

Rehouse Encampments Equitably

- **Repurpose, expand and retrain outreach teams**
- **Initiate Encampment Rehousing Activiations** steered by committee of equity and lived-experience advocates

Summit Recommendations: Encampment Rehousing

1

Target activations to a single encampment/area with the goals of building trust and support, then rehousing everyone initially present within the activation time frame

2

Operate on 2-4 week cycles depending on the needs of those in each camp, while continuing outreach post activation

3

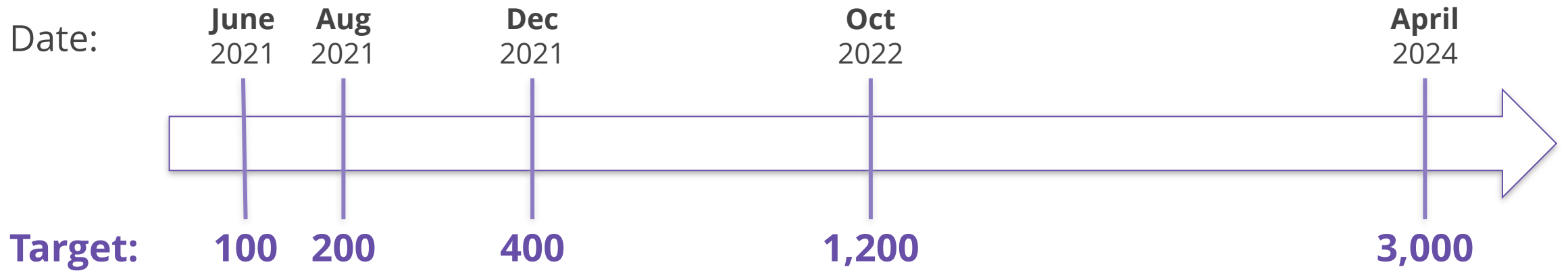
Expand teams to include outreach, behavioral health, storage, transportation, sanitation, peer support specialists and rehousing case managers (with no law enforcement)

4

Design primary rehousing pathway to be direct-from-encampment but do offer non-congregate shelter option for individuals, at their discretion, while their unit is prepared

Summit Rehousing Milestones

Rehousing 3,000 people in 3 years (in addition to our current capacity)



Funding the Summit Strategy

Costs and Gap

\$240M Services & Rents

\$275M Capital

\$515M Total

Committed & Anticipated

\$ 72M Services & Rents

\$150M Capital

\$222M Total

To Fund (Private & Public): ~ \$293M

Current PSH Unit Pipeline (Capital Development)

**Limited to units with capital commitment on part of AHFC; additional 50 Scattered Site PSH Units in Process*

Project	Sponsor(s) & Service Providers	# PSH Units	AHFC Capital Commitment	Other Funding	Earliest Occupancy Date
Espero at Rutland	Caritas of Austin/Vecino Group	51	\$2.5M <i>(pro-rated for PSH only)</i>	AHFC Vouchers (51) APH Services, HACA Vouchers	September 2022
PSH Conversion: Texas Bungalows	City of Austin & Integral Care	60	\$6.5M	APH Services & Operations, 50 HACA Project-Based Vouchers	August 2021
Hotel Conversion: Candlewood Suites	City of Austin & Caritas of Austin	80	\$9.75M	APH Services & Operations	August 2021
TOTALS		191	\$18.65M		

Other known projects in feasibility stage: Approximately 300 units

HEAL Collaboration: Key Partners



Outreach & Engagement

HOST Team, PATH



Southbridge Shelter

Front Steps



Rapid Rehousing

Family Eldercare, Integral Care, Downtown Austin Community Court

Coordination with ECHO, Service Providers, Community Engagement, Communications, Site Improvements

Requests for Council Action

Housing-Focused Encampment Assistance Link (HEAL)

Integral Care	Agenda Item # 16
	Expanding existing rapid rehousing (RRH) contract to include RRH for HEAL Initiative
	\$500,000 (General Fund)
Family Eldercare	Agenda Item # 17
	Expanding existing rapid rehousing (RRH) contract to include RRH for HEAL Initiative
	\$1,400,000 (General Fund)
Front Steps	Agenda Items #18 and #20
	Funding for operation of Southbridge Shelter
	\$2,600,000 (General Fund)
	\$1,255,787 (ESG-CV: HUD Emergency Services Grant – COVID)

Additional RCA's anticipated for increased outreach and RRH capacity via Downtown Austin Community Court

Background



- On May 6, 2021, Austin City Council adopted Resolution No. 20210506-070, directing the City Manager to provide information and analysis regarding possible sanctioned encampments for people experiencing homelessness in the City of Austin.
- On May 14, 2021, staff provided the initial memo, with additional reports to follow by June 1st and July 1st.

Encampment Photo – Denver, CO



Key Practices & Considerations

- **Basic infrastructure**
 - Water and Electricity
 - Hygiene: Restrooms and Hand-Washing Stations (permanent or mobile)
 - Waste: Trash, Hazardous Materials
 - Lighting
 - Pest & Vector Control
- **Additional suggested services**
 - Laundry Facilities
 - Storage Space
 - Meals and Safe Food Distribution
 - Accommodations for pets
 - Access to transportation, proximity to other services/amenities
- **Staffing:** 24/7 inclusive of operations staff and security personnel
- **Services:** Basic needs and a focus on exit to permanent housing
- **Consider:**
 - Uniform tents/individual shelters
 - Timeline for demobilization



Initial Analysis Locations



- Staff reviewed over **70 city-owned properties** for suitability as a sanctioned encampment location.
- These sites are managed by an array of city departments for a variety of purposes. Preliminary prospects include locations managed by:
 - Parks and Recreation
 - Austin Housing Finance Corporation
 - Public Works
 - Austin Resource Recovery
 - Austin Water Utility
- The initial round of site analysis has been completed using the criteria noted in the initial report.

Initial Analysis of Locations



- This is an initial analysis of properties owned by the several city departments.
- Staff will be working with each council district.
- Community engagement
- All will be reviewed by the Law department.
- We are looking for suggestions about other properties.
 - Public and private properties.
- We have more work to determine feasibility.

Next Steps

- Property Owners/Collaborators reviewing property for future operational plans (development, solicitation processes, agreements/leases, etc.)
- Legal/Financial constraints specific to each the property
- Alternative opportunities beyond known COA properties
- Report to Council June 2nd

Questions

Locations – Initial city-owned land options under review

- Walter E. Long 11455 Decker Lake Rd
- John Trevino 9501 FM 969
- Walnut Creek Sports Park 7800 Johnny Morris Rd
- Given Recreation Center 3811 E. 12th Street
- Fleet Service Yard, 8401 Johnny Morris Road
- Colony Park land
- 3511 Manor Road
- Tannehill Lane
- Onion Creek Metro North
- 7720 ½ Kellam Rd
- 5400 E. William Cannon, Decommissioned WWTP
- FM 812 at FM 973
- Eco-Park at FM 973
- W. Slaughter and 8908-8916-9006 Cullen Road
- Parque Zaragoza Recreation Center 2609 Gonzales St
- South Austin Recreation Center 1100 Cumberland Rd
- Roy G Guerrero 400 Grove Blvd
- 6700 Bolm Road District Park
- Edward Rendon Dellgado Pavilion
- 4800 - 4906 Bolm Road
- Levander Loop
- 1311 Tillery Street
- Gus Garcia 1201 E Rundberg Ln
- 7211 N IH35
- 7309 N IH 35
- Mary Moore Searight 907 W. Slaughter Ln
- Lakeline Neighborhood Park
- 12101 Anderson Mill Road

Locations – Initial city-owned land options under review

- 10900 FM 2222 (WWT)
- Commons Ford Park 614 N. Commons Ford Rd
- Walnut Creek/Havens
- Northwest Recreation Center
- Sir Swante Palm Neighborhood Park East 3rd Street
- Duncan Park 900 W. 9th Street
- San Beach on Cesar Chavez
- Patterson Park 4200 Brookview Rd
- Bull Creek Park Lakewood Dr
- Ryan Drive Warehouse
- Circle C
- Dick Nichols 8011 Beckett Rd
- 11800 FM 1826
- 9513 Circle Drive
- 4905 Convict Hill Rd
- Norwood Tract
- Austin Recreation Center