City of Seattle’s Response to Homelessness
King County Regional Law, Safety & Justice Committee

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CITY OF SEATTLE HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT
DECEMBER 3RD, 2015
Seattle’s Landscape

- Seattle is one of the nation’s fastest growing city
- This is a city and region of great prosperity
- City invests $89M annually in the human services safety net
- Severe and persistent economic and racial inequalities exist
Data reflects following in Seattle:

- 22% of people of color live at or below the poverty line
- 30% children of color live in poverty
- 50-62% of children of color graduate from high school on-time (compared to 84% of white children)
- 9% of people of color are unemployed (compared to 5% of whites)
- One in three residents pay 30% or more towards housing expenses
Seattle’s Homelessness Crisis

- Seattle like other cities across the country is facing a crisis

- 2015 One Night Count found
  - 3,772 individuals were living outside
  - Most of these individuals were counted in Seattle (2,800)
  - 21% increase from 2014

- Reason for crisis are complex, including cuts & chronic underfunding
Seattle’s Homelessness Crisis

- City of Seattle funding makes **1,600 shelter beds** available each night

- Over **6,000 units** of affordable housing produced in last 15 years

- The City of Seattle’s investments to address homelessness
  - More than $40 million annually for human services
  - 8% increase to the base human service budget
  - An additional $7.2 million in one-time funding for 2016
Homelessness State of Emergency

1. Prevention Efforts (making homelessness rare)

2. Encampment Outreach (making homelessness brief)

3. Meeting Basic Needs (making homelessness one-time)
# Homeless SOE Implementation Framework

**Results:**
1. Reduce the number of people unsheltered (street or cars) in Seattle by 50% by January 30, 2017
2. Increase Public Awareness and Involvement
3. Increase engagement of Federal and State Partners

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<th>Subcabinet Members</th>
<th>HSD</th>
<th>Parks</th>
<th>SPD</th>
<th>DON</th>
<th>AHKC</th>
<th>DPD</th>
<th>WSDOT</th>
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<td>PHSC</td>
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<td>SDOT</td>
<td>Fire</td>
<td>Muni Court</td>
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### Strategy Focus
- Homeless children
- Flex funds
- Youth case management
- Vehicular residency
- Public health precautions
- Data capacity

### Implementation Team
- HSD – Lindsey Garrity (*lead), Josh Hall, Amy Huang, Christa Valles, Jeff Sakuma
- PHSKC – John Gilvar
- DEEL – Leilani Dela Cruz, Sara Rigel, Isabel Munoz Colons
- SDOT – Mike Estey
- Mayor’s Office – Leslie Price, Robert Feldstein
- AHKC – Kira / Mark
- KC – Hedda McClendon
- Parks – Katie Gray, Kelly Guy

- HSD – Ann Margaret Webb (*lead), Jim Theofelis, Edwin Obras, Christa Valles
- SPD – Sgt. Paul Gracy
- PHSKC – John Gilvar
- FAS – Scot Thompson
- Parks – Dan Johnson, August Drake Ericson
- SDOT – Roxanne Thomas
- WSDOT –
  - Law – Brendan Brophy
  - Mayor’s Office – Scott Lindsay
  - DOC – Donna Waters

- HSD – Kim von Henkel (*lead), Sola Plumacher, Adrienne Easter, Christa Valles
- DPD – Diane Sugimura, Mike Podowski
- OH – Maureen Kostyack
- DON –
- FAS – Mike Ashbrook
- AHKC – Kira / Mark
- KC – Mark Ellerbrook
- Mayor’s Office – Maggie Thompson

### Community Partners
- YWCA, Compass Housing, PSKS, DESC, YouthCare
- REACH, Compass Housing, YWCA, YouthCare, DESC (HOST/MH Outreach), Wellspring
- YWCA, Mary’s Place, DESC, Compass Housing, YMCA, YouthCare, PSKS

### Proposed Baseline Data
- **ONC (streets, vehicles)**
- **# of fatalities**
- **# of homeless children**
- **Flex funds – outcome & $ spent**

- **ONC (streets, vehicles)**
- **# of fatalities**
- **# of SERIS complaints**
- **# of clean ups & $ spent**
- **Bx. health services & profile**
- **Disposition plan (services, shelter)**

- **# people sheltered (new, exited, total)**
- **Demographic profile of people in shelter**
- **Disposition plan (exit plan)**
Homelessness Investment Policy

- HSD funds services for youth, families, single adults, veterans, elderly

- Analysis of city’s homelessness investments in 2015
  1. Portfolio contract model
  2. Evaluation of new pilots for scalability
  3. System readiness and capacity

- City’s goal is to achieve systemic transformation focused on:
  - Achieving results that increase racial equity
  - Ensuring strong public stewardship
Partnership Opportunities

- Advancing a state and federal legislative agenda
- Leveraging funds sources to support long-term investments
- Addressing the capacity of the provider network
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