

City Council Memorandum

City of Arts & Innovation

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL **DATE: JUNE 20, 2017**
FROM: COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT **WARDS: ALL**
DEPARTMENT
SUBJECT: UPDATE ON HOMELESS SERVICES

ISSUE:

Receive an update on City efforts to address Riverside's homeless issues that include action items for new initiatives and receive an update on previously authorized action items.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the City Council:

Receive an update on the previously authorized Homeless Services initiatives and take action on the following recommendations;

1. Approve and authorize the City Manager, or designee, to execute a Lease Agreement with Health to Hope to occupy and operate a medical clinic that serves the homeless and low income population at the City owned property located at 2880 Hulen Place for \$1 per year, including making minor and non-substantive changes;
2. Approve and authorize the City Manager, or designee, to execute a Contract for Clinical and Instructional Programs between the City and Loma Linda University to provide up to five social work students that will work alongside the Homeless Outreach Team when engaging homeless individuals on the streets to gain experience in social work, including making minor and non-substantive changes;
3. Approve and authorize the City Manager, or designee, to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the County of Riverside Workforce Development to collaborate with the Riverside at Work (RAW) program participants by providing employment readiness assessments and provide necessary support such as education, job training, and connections with local employers to RAW Program Participants;
4. Approve and authorize the City Manager, or designee, to execute a Grant Agreement between the City and Health to Hope Medical Clinic for the RAW Program in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 to provide physical and behavioral health services to RAW Program Participants and serve as a conduit for distribution of associated RAW Program; and

5. Direct staff to return to the City Council in January 2018 to present two to three eligible sites for potential Housing First projects within each ward.

Receive an update on new efforts and take action on the following recommendations;

1. Adopt the attached Statement of Principles that identifies a common set of principles that reflect the challenges associated with addressing the homeless population and provides a strategy framework to address these challenges collaboratively;
2. Receive an update on the What Works Cities program as it relates to using data-driven decision-making and the use of open data focused on the City's homeless efforts;
3. Authorize The Community Foundation to release the City's initial contribution of \$10,000, made in 2009 to the Riverside Ending Homelessness Fund to be used to support homeless programs and services.

BACKGROUND:

On October 11, 2016, the City Council held an all-day workshop to discuss the current conditions contributing to homelessness and the programs and services available, and to present new options for policies and programs. The discussion was focused on ways to improve quality of life in the City - for the homeless, the neighborhoods, and the business community.

Speakers at the workshop included members of the community, city staff, nonprofit service providers, County of Riverside staff, and regional experts on addressing homelessness. The topics discussed during the workshop included:

Addressed in this report:

1. Continuing Efforts to establish a full service campus
2. The Housing First Model of Service Delivery
3. The Community Response Team
4. The Riverside at Work Program

To be addressed in a future update:

1. Enforcement Models
2. Affordable Housing
3. Homeless Court Program
4. Community Education for responsible, effective assistance
5. Parks Programs

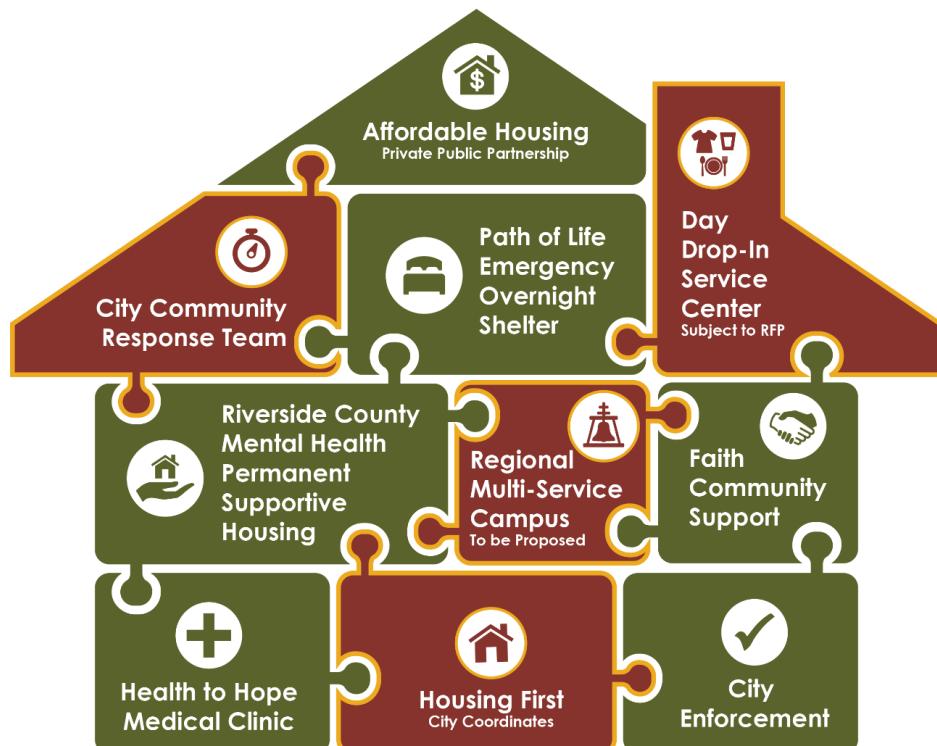
At the end of the workshop, the City Council directed staff to explore various opportunities and return with a full analysis and recommendation.

On January 17, 2017 the City Council received the first update on staff efforts. Following discussion, the City Council authorized the following, which are all addressed in this report:

1. Issue a Request for Proposal to implement a Day Drop-In Service Center;
2. Negotiate with Arlington Temporary Assistance to operate a food pantry and provide homeless services;
3. Apply for grant funding from the Community Based Transitional Housing Program to develop the housing first model project and incorporate the proposed Community Response Team;
4. Negotiate with local service providers to collaborate in formation of the Community Response Team;
5. Seek and identify viable sites for the development or implementation of the proposed housing first model; and
6. Negotiate with Riverside Works to implement the Riverside at Work Program.

DISCUSSION:

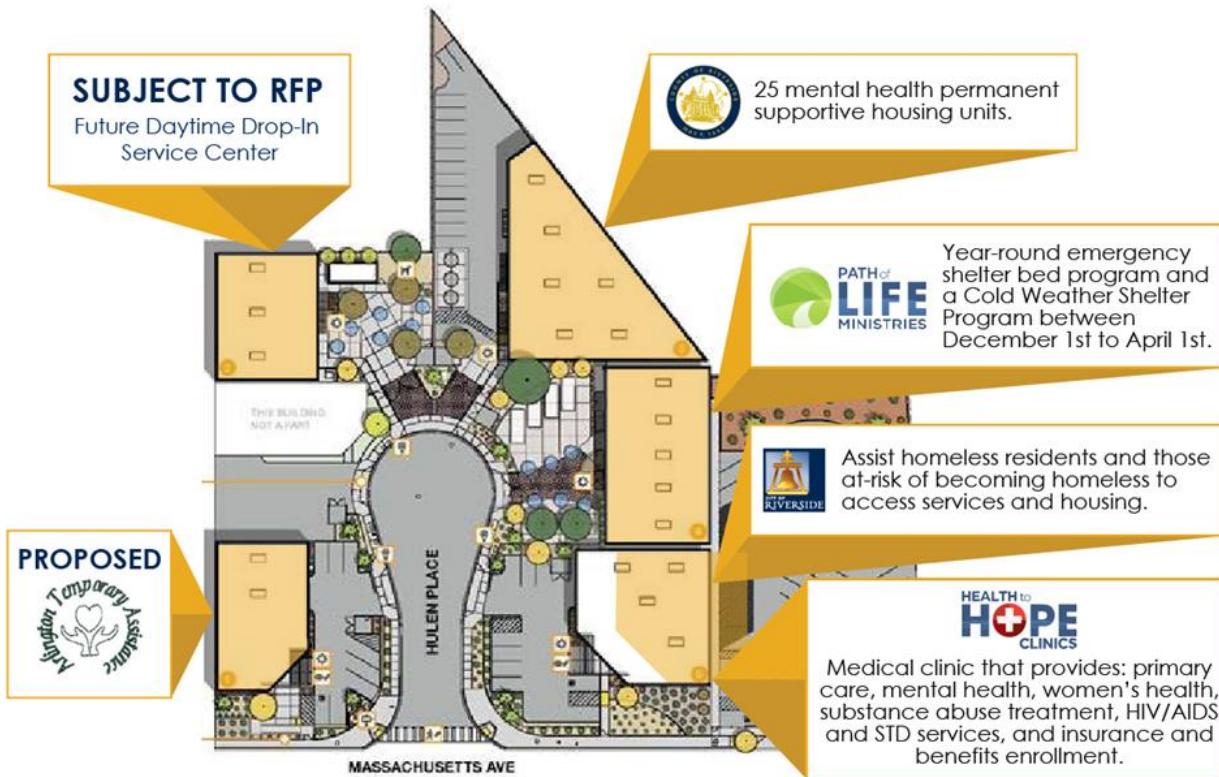
An efficient homeless services program needs collaborative partnerships that can offer a menu of core services to a diverse population in need. The community has identified several gaps in core service delivery that must be filled. Over the course of the next five years, staff will work on filling those gaps in the core service delivery menu. The image below identifies the existing resources and the main gaps needed to develop the value-added partnerships needed to fully address homelessness.



Staff continues to maintain and strengthen the City's relationships with valued partners like WRCOG, Arlington Temporary Assistance, Health to Hope, various faith-based organizations and Loma Linda University. Staff is pursuing a Day Drop-In Service Center, implementation of the Housing First Model, and a Community Response Team working in partnership with various local nonprofits, faith-based organizations and private development partners.

UPDATE ON PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED HOMELESS SERVICES INITIATIVES:

Riverside Homeless Service Campus



Request for Proposal for the Day Drop-In Service Center

Additional services needed at Hulen Place include shower and laundry facilities, community meals, and training opportunities. Staff proposes to include all these resources within a Day Drop-In Service Center at 2801 Hulen Place. A Request for Proposal was released on January 20, 2017 and responses were due on May 1, 2017.

The City received one response from a partnership between Mercy House and Path of Life Ministries that proposes to rehabilitate the interior of the existing building to accommodate shower and laundry facilities, meal program, life skills and other supportive services. Staff is setting up an interview with the responder in June 2017 to discuss the scope of services.

Arlington Temporary Assistance

Arlington Temporary Assistance (ATA) has expressed interest in occupying the vacant offices and warehouse at 2881 Hulen Place. ATA provides emergency assistance to individuals, families and the homeless. Assistance includes food (limited to 6 times a year), clothing, and referrals to appropriate social service agencies; bus tickets are provided for medical appointments and emergencies. ATA's mission is to help individuals and families achieve self-sufficiency. This location would provide them with the opportunity to grow, as its current location has limited space.

When 2881 Hulen Place was acquired by the City, tenant improvements were to be completed under the Hulen Place Service Campus Improvements Project. Since the City has a tenant interested in occupying the property along with Homeless Services, the tenant improvements need to be completed prior to occupancy to address health and safety issues, accessibility requirements, and signage. The proposed tenant improvement cost is approximately \$65,000, which is being funded with fiscal year 2017/18 Community Development Block Grant funds. The tenant improvements are expected to be completed by fall 2017.

Staff is proposing to lease the vacant offices and warehouse at 2881 Hulen Place to ATA for up to 12 months with the option to renew annually for up to five years. The proposed annual lease payment is \$1 since the service provider is serving the City's homeless and low income population. The Lease Agreement is currently being reviewed by the ATA Board.

Health to Hope Expansion

Staff is proposing to temporarily relocate Homeless Services from 2880 Hulen Place to 2881 Hulen Place to allow Health to Hope to occupy the whole building located at 2880 Hulen Place and expand their medical services to include behavioral health. The proposed lease term is for a period of five years with the option to renew the lease for another five years. The proposed annual lease payment is \$1 since the service provider is serving the City's homeless and low income population. Health to Hope will be responsible for maintaining the property. The Lease Agreement (Attachment 1) is attached for approval.

Housing First Model

Staff has been meeting with various community groups throughout the City to explain and discuss what the Housing First Model is, the benefits it provides from an economic and community standpoint, and what it is not. City staff is continuing its outreach efforts with the following community groups:

COMMUNITY GROUP	MEETING DATE
Downtown Area Neighborhood Alliance (DANA)	December 21, 2016
Magnolia Area Neighborhood Alliance (MANA)	February 8, 2017
Optimist Club	April 5, 2017
Eastside Neighborhood Forum	May 4, 2017
La Sierra Business Council	May 15, 2017
Magnolia Center Business Council	June 7, 2017
EastHills Business Council	June 9, 2017
Downtown Business Council	June 21, 2017
Arlington Business Council	June 26, 2017
Hunter Park Business Council	TBD, 2017
The Group	TBD, 2017
Riverside Neighborhood Partnership (RNP)	TBD, 2017

COMMUNITY GROUP	MEETING DATE
Latino Network	TBD, 2017
Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce	TBD, 2017
Councilmember's Ward Meetings – All Wards	TBD, 2017

Staff is pursuing potential partnership opportunities with private developers and service providers to build and operate the proposed Housing First Model. St. Michael's Church has recently formed a partnership with Mercy House to consider the development of Housing First and affordable housing units for a mixed population at 4070 Jackson Street, Ward 5. Mercy House, a Housing First and supportive services provider, located in Santa Ana, has experience in providing a continuum of care services designed to help their clients achieve self-sufficiency and is expected to lead operations. The private-public partnership development will combine decent, safe, and affordable housing with supportive services designed to help individuals stay housed and live a more productive life under a single roof. This partnership is in the early stages and will require extensive community outreach.

To optimize affordable housing funding resources that will become available in winter 2018, staff is exploring Housing First Model sites owned by faith-based organizations in Wards 2 and 7. These sites came forward through the Mayor's Love Your Neighbor initiative.

Community Response Team

On October 11, 2016 the City Council approved the exploration of a Community Response Team (CRT) which would be comprised of a Homeless Outreach Specialist, Police Officer, certified substance abuse counselor, licensed mental health clinician, psychiatrist, and registered nurse. This team would provide housing and supportive services to homeless individuals and families, and work alongside the City's Code Enforcement Division and Public Works Department to address trash, debris, and encampments. The CRT will also coordinate with the Riverside Police Department to address criminal activity.

The first year's start-up costs are estimated to be \$539,836, with an annual operating cost of \$489,836 thereafter.

In the last update, staff had proposed to pursue a Community-Based Transitional Housing Program grant that would cover CRT program related costs. However, a site must be identified before a grant application can be submitted. Therefore, staff will continue to look for opportunity sites for housing first projects. Staff intends to headquartered the City's Homeless Services and proposed CRT at a housing first project site.

Partnership Agreements for the Community Response Team

Loma Linda University

Loma Linda University expressed interest in partnering with the City by providing up to five interns from its Masters of Social Work Program to be assigned to the CRT. Candidates are required to complete 160 hours of practicum each quarter. Interns would:

1. accompany Homeless Outreach staff in making initial and sustaining contact with potential clients;
2. assist established clients with enrollment of mainstream benefits and housing navigation services; and
3. assist the clinician with case management and coordinate referrals to appropriate behavior health services.

This partnership opportunity allows existing Homeless Outreach staff to better leverage their time and resources, and results in a budget savings of one proposed homeless outreach staff position-\$60,000 per year.

The Contract for Clinical and Instructional Programs between the City and Loma Linda University (Attachment 2) provides up to five social work students that will work alongside the Homeless Outreach Team when engaging homeless individuals on the streets to gain experience in social work.

Riverside at Work Program

The Riverside at Work (RAW) Program is a component of Housing First. After basic needs are met, the program participant will be guided through an assessment of their job readiness, be offered opportunities to build on their current knowledge and ultimately, be offered a paid training opportunity with a willing employer.

A Grant Agreement is being sought with the Health to Hope Medical Clinic to integrate primary care and behavioral health services into the RAW Program to ensure participant success. Health to Hope will also provide program participants with monthly stipends for their active and successful participation in the RAW Program. The stipend for RAW program participants has been provided to the City in the form of a \$20,000 grant from Altura Credit Union, and is augmented by \$10,000 of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. The City will provide Health to Hope with \$20,000 to provide program participants a monthly stipend for their program participation. The remaining \$10,000 of CDBG funds will be used to purchase employment related equipment and uniforms necessary for RAW program participants to carry out their employment functions.

Should the City Council accept it following this report, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will be executed with the County of Riverside Workforce Development Department (Workforce Development), to provide one-on-one case management, assist in identifying program participants' skill-set and provide job-readiness training and opportunities to enhance their education and vocation skills.

Neither Health to Hope, nor Workforce Development will collect a fee for the services provided under their respective Grant Agreement (Attachment 3) and MOU (Attachment 4). To date, four clients have been identified for participation in the RAW Program. These four clients have received housing, and are actively working with Workforce Development to identify their skill-set and assess their job readiness.

Collaboration with Faith-Based Organizations

The Office of the Mayor continues to work with Path of Life, representatives of faith-based organizations and faculty members from La Sierra University, California Baptist University and Loma Linda University to increase the engagement of faith-based organizations to more

effectively serve our neighbors without homes. The following is a high level overview of our current efforts:

1. Educate faith-based organizations and their members about the City's efforts to end homelessness:

Educational efforts are ongoing. To date we have presented to over 150 faith-based organizations. Local organizations have been invited to participate in La Sierra University's Poverty Simulation and the Helping Without Hurting training. On September 6, 2017, the Office of the Mayor will host a faith-based summit to further educational efforts.

2. Equip faith-based organizations to serve our homeless neighbors using a "responsible compassion" approach:

In addition to the educational efforts referenced above, our strong partnership with the social work faculty at La Sierra, California Baptist, and Loma Linda Universities continue to yield results. Social work students continue to survey faith-based and nonprofit organizations in an effort to document the services available in our city. This information will be fed into the 211 system, to ensure accurate and timely information. In addition, social work students are now embedded (or will soon be embedded) in a variety of local faith-based organizations, government agencies, and nonprofits and are providing outreach and wrap-around services, greatly expanding the support our community is currently offering to our neighbors without homes.

3. Increase the support available to our homeless neighbors:

- a. To date, the Mayor and Path of Life Ministries have met with approximately 150 faith-based leaders to discuss the need for greater partnerships. The responses received have been positive. Offers for assistance have included monetary support, employment for work programs, outreach to church members that own rental units, land for transitional housing and offers to provide trained wrap-around services. The summer months will be focused on moving these generous offers to tangible results.
- b. As a result of the strong synergies in the faith-based community, California Baptist University donated 600 units of gently used furniture for distribution to the homeless, those on the verge of homelessness, foster youth and to those in need. Today's Urban Renewal Network (TURN) provided project management for this task and many community partners supported the efforts. Through outreach from the Office of the Mayor, La Sierra University Seventh Day Adventist Church provided a warehouse to store the furniture. Immanuel Lutheran church secured a donation of Ryder trucks. Councilman Burnard engaged his network to secure a preventive pest control donation, and a variety of faith-based and nonprofit partners provided volunteers to move the furniture. The CarePortal, a new technology tool that allows social workers to identify needs and to readily distribute those needs to trusted partners, was used to solicit donors and volunteers. The Riverside Ending Homelessness Fund (REHF), a nonprofit, approved financial assistance to offset the costs of incidental expenses. Distribution of furniture has already begun and feedback has been positive. La Sierra University Seventh Day Adventist church is further exploring how this warehouse facility can be used to serve the local community, providing an opportunity to increase services on the west end of the city.

This furniture donation supplements the \$5,000 donation that the Office of the Mayor received from Walmart to provide housewares to homeless veterans as they transition into housing.

Further information on this effort can be found in the attached Press-Enterprise article (Attachment 5).

4. Explore the possibility of using church property to provide temporary housing for our neighbors without homes:

Through extensive outreach efforts to faith-based organizations, to date two sites have come forward with offers to pilot housing on their properties (Wards 2 and 7). Site visits with the respective councilman have been scheduled. This is in addition to the partnership in Ward 5 with Mercy House. A local STEM school approached the Office of the Mayor offering to partner to build tiny houses. We are currently exploring what would be required to pilot housing on church properties and if tiny houses are the best option. If we determine that housing on church properties is feasible, we will seek out a construction company to assist with the development of a project plan and oversight of these projects. Of course, all housing on church properties will be optional and carefully planned. It should be noted that we are currently in the exploration phase of this concept.

County of Riverside Homeless Plan

The County of Riverside Executive Office created the Executive Oversight Committee on Homelessness (EOCH) which created a Homeless Response Work Group to develop interventions that are successful and sustainable in addressing the “visible, service resistant, homeless” population. The City of Riverside is an active participant in this Work Group.

The EOCH and the Riverside County Continuum of Care endorsed the concept of the ending homelessness plan. The County’s ending homeless plan aims to end homelessness among all single individuals and families who are living on the streets, in shelters, and in transitional housing, to prevent homelessness among single individuals and families who are at risk of becoming homeless, and help ensure funding for a coordinated system to end and prevent homelessness among individuals and families. When this plan is complete, City staff will request County staff to provide the City Council with an update.

DISCUSSION ON NEW EFFORTS:

Regional Statement of Principles

In partnership with the Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG), City of Riverside staff worked alongside the Cities of Hemet, Jurupa Valley, Lake Elsinore, Menifee, Murrieta, and Temecula, and the County of Riverside, to develop a Regional Homelessness Statement of Principles to underscore the importance of undertaking a collaborative approach to address homelessness regionally. The Statement of Principles reflects the challenges associated with serving the homeless population and provides common, best-practice strategies that can be implemented to address these challenges collaboratively. The WRCOG Executive Committee adopted the Statement of Principles on March 6, 2017. As of the writing of this report, the Cities of Lake Elsinore and Temecula have also adopted them; Riverside would become the third City to adopt them.

The intent of the Statement of Principles is to provide each jurisdiction with the flexibility needed to address homelessness challenges locally, complementing and supporting each jurisdiction's existing programs and initiatives, while providing a platform for regional cooperation. From standardizing ordinances on aggressive panhandling to encouraging participation in a broad community-focused, educational marketing campaign, the Statement of Principles facilitates much needed regional dialogue and collaboration to address homelessness in Western Riverside County.

Staff is requesting the City Council to support the aforementioned Statement of Principles by approving the attached Resolution (Attachment 6). City staff will continue working alongside WRCOG and all of its member agencies to implement the Statement of Principles and promote further regional collaboration.

What Works Cities Program

On December 14, 2016, the City began work on the What Works Cities initiative, a non-monetary grant funded by Bloomberg Philanthropies. This grant provided free consulting services to the City of Riverside aimed at expanding the City's existing open data portal and enhancing data and evidence-driven decision-making. The effort proceeded on two simultaneous tracks: open data and performance measurements – both focused on the City's homeless efforts. What Works Cities assigned staff from Johns Hopkins University and The Sunlight Foundation to work with City staff on these initiatives, with oversight being provided by Results for America.

Since the program's inception, City staff have completed many activities to support the two tracks. The six-month program will end in June, 2017.

Open Data Foundational Work

The Mayor and City Council declared "Open Data Week" on March 7, 2017 along with a proclamation presented to raise awareness around the importance of opening up data. Such data allows other agencies and outside developers to solve problems using various outside data combined with the City's open data. With the help of the Sunlight Foundation, staff created an open data policy to provide governance relating to the release of City data. Subsequently, staff created an open data disclaimer and added it to the City's existing Open Data Portal on EngageRiverside.com. City staff also formed an Open Data Governance Committee and a corresponding governance oversight policy to document the scope and purpose of this committee. Based on best practices from several cities nationwide, staff created a "Data Governance Standards Document" to provide oversight for the process of opening up City data. Staff made improvements to the City's existing open data portal based on feedback from the Sunlight Foundation, including the addition of "metadata" (i.e., information about data) for existing and new data sets. Lastly, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) staff released a new GIS online data portal that will serve as a platform to host homeless-related data and other GIS data. Staff will make some of this GIS data available for public consumption.

Performance Measures, Open Data Collaboration, and Process Improvement Work

With the help of the Johns Hopkins University, staff worked to refine and expand performance measures relating to homeless initiatives, better track data relating to these measures, improve workflow, and expand the sharing of data through inter-agency and department collaboration. For example, the City conducted data discovery workshops resulting in several data exchange and data flow improvements. In one case, such discussions led to City staff gaining access to County homeless data broken down by Council Ward and sub-population concentrations. Using this data,

City staff will create GIS maps for internal use. The City will then share these maps with the County, helping them to serve our community. Another operational change resulting from the collaboration around data is to improve 311 reporting relating to issues of homelessness. The following performance measures have been identified for reducing homelessness. The first measure will be included in the City's annual performance report. Measures two through five will be collected internally and released to the public when trend history data becomes available.

1. Number of people placed in housing programs (i.e. Reunification, Rapid Re-Housing, permanent supportive housing, and affordable housing).
2. Number of homeless contacts made per year (month/quarter/year)
3. Number of new affordable housing opportunities created
4. Cost to engage (time/resources) with the homeless population on the streets
5. Percent of homeless people who have sustained employment or obtained supplemental income after receiving assistance from the City

Resulting from collaborations around homeless-related data, staff is changing the 311 Riverside mobile application's service request type from the "homeless encampment" to "homeless" which will allow the 311 Call Center to capture all homeless issues, not just encampments. This simple change will result in improved data collection, classification, and reporting. Similar data discussions also resulted in plans to modify to City's existing Work Order Management System for Public Works to better track costs related to homeless encampment cleanup. Through the open data workshops, staff also concluded that the creation of a GIS mobile app for homeless "point-in-time" field data collection would facilitate geospatial mapping of contacts made with the homeless. Subsequent mapping will show data trends over time.

Such open channels of communication and collaboration around data has the potential to reduce some burden on Public Safety. For example, through inter-agency data discussions, it was discovered that the Fire Department identified a frequent callers data set which could be correlated with homeless outreach data collected by the homeless outreach team. This collaboration resulted in a new focus-driven approach to connecting high contact homeless individuals to services with the intention of reducing the number of public safety requests originating from that focus group.

Future activities include data discovery workshops, additional data inventory, and the release of more data onto the City's open data portal, EngageRiverside.com. This includes posting data resulting from the inventory of homeless-related data sets that is currently underway. Staff will redact all confidential and private information to maintain privacy for the City's residents.

Post Engagement Work

Staff will continue work in the two focus areas long after the What Works Cities engagement ends. To date, this program has resulted in improved departmental communication, increased data awareness, improved data-driven decision making, expanded inter-agency data sharing and collaboration, and improved processes and procedures.

When Helping Hurts

On May 18, 2017 the renowned co-author of the best-selling book, *When Helping Hurts*, Dr. Brian Fikkert, and Dr. Joe Colletti, a nationally recognized expert on issues relating to homelessness,

presented a one-day regional workshop on how community members, city officials, faith-based and nonprofit organizations can most-effectively partner to help those in need; 275 people from faith-based organizations, social service agencies, and government agencies attended the event. The focus of the presentation was on homelessness, and many of the principles and tools discussed have the same common goal of helping in ways that foster empowerment instead of unintended dependency.

Beyond Team Grant – Regional Collaboration

The Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG) released a Notice of Funding Availability for the BEYOND Team grant, which is a new funding stream designed to promote collaboration within the WRCOG subregion. WRCOG allocated \$175,000 towards the BEYOND Team grant. Two or more member agencies must jointly submit a project application to be considered for this competitive fund. The grant does not have a match requirement.

The Community and Economic Development Department and the Office of the Mayor submitted a joint application with Riverside County and the Cities of Jurupa Valley, Corona, and Lake Elsinore to request \$175,000 to address homelessness through a collaborative approach.

Our application aimed to: (1) increase collaboration between the agencies that submitted together, (2) Inventory available services and housing in the partner areas, (3) Expand resources available through the region through an intentional partnership and training with faith-based organizations, (4) Increase advocacy for diverse housing options, (5) Develop public outreach materials, (6), document regional investments, (7) Increase housing navigation, (8) Conduct coordinated placement and case management, (9) Develop tools kits and policy templates.

WRCOG received the following three Beyond Team applications:

Lead Agency	Partner Agencies	Project Name	Funding Requested/ Award Amount
City of Perris	EMWD, UC Extension – Master Gardener, 3 Elementary Schools	Healthy Community 50/Perris	\$175,000 / \$17,000
City of Riverside	City of Corona, Jurupa Valley, Lake Elsinore, County of Riverside, Path of Life	Regional Homeless Alliance (Southwest Cities)	\$175,000 / \$79,000
City of Temecula	City of Lake Elsinore, Menifee, Murrieta, Wildomar, Temecula, Community Mission of Hope	Western Riverside Homeless Collaborative	\$125,000 / \$79,000

On May 10, 2017, the collaboration was awarded \$79,000 in BEYOND Team grant funds, so the scope within the proposal will need to be modified accordingly. The City will also collaborate with partner agencies to ensure efforts are not duplicated. Since the grant agreement has not yet been prepared, staff will return to the City Council at a later date for authorization to receive the grant funds and execute the grant agreement.

2017 Riverside County Point-in-Time Homeless Count

The Point-in-Time (PIT) Homeless Count is a count and survey of Riverside County's sheltered and unsheltered homeless population. Riverside County's Department of Public Social Services

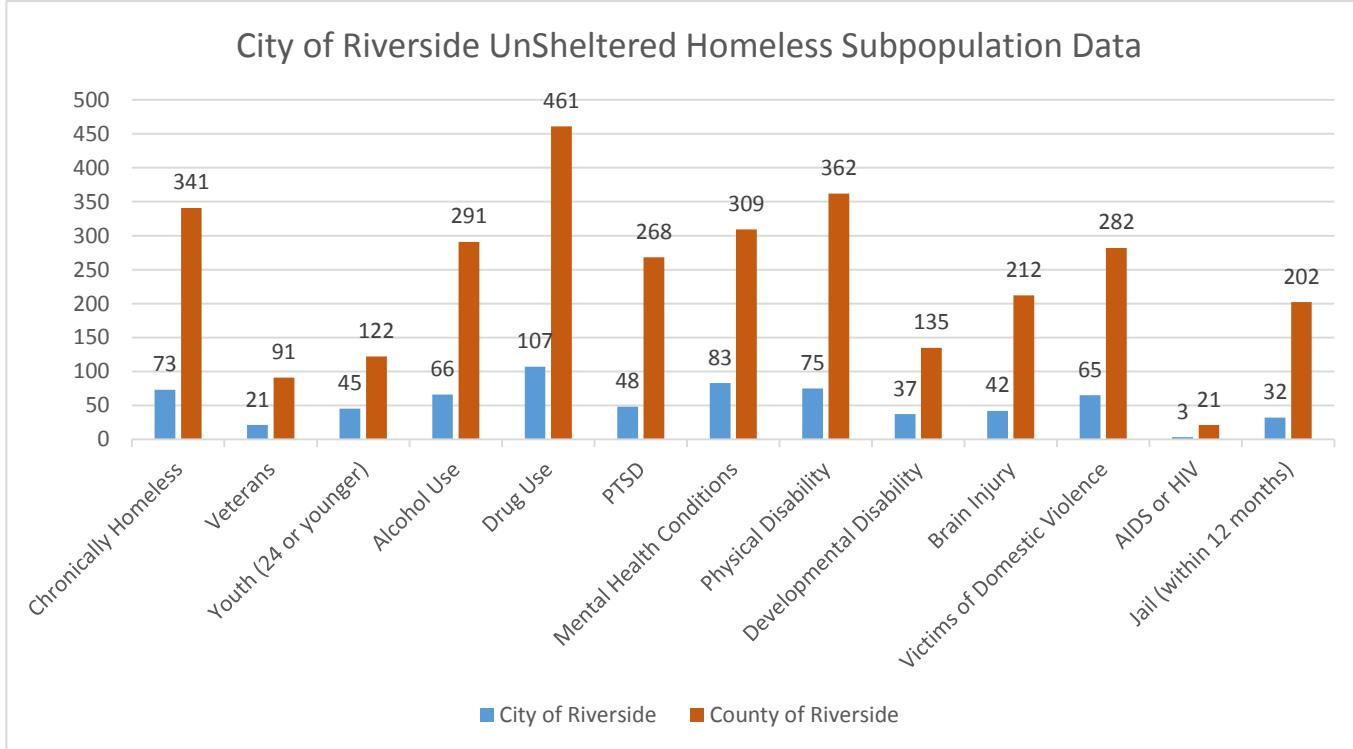
in partnership with the County of Riverside Continuum of Care is required to conduct this biennial count during the last 10 days in January.

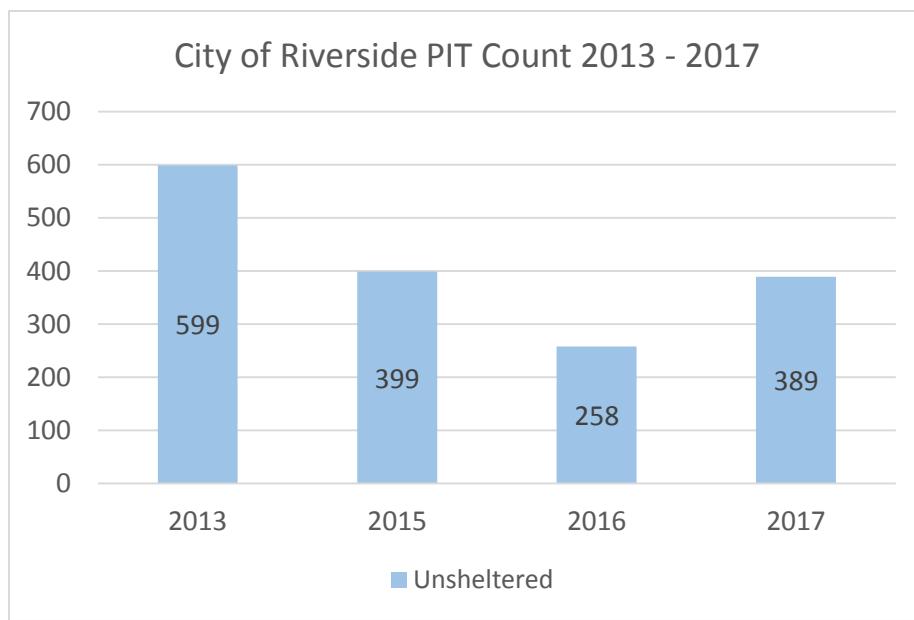
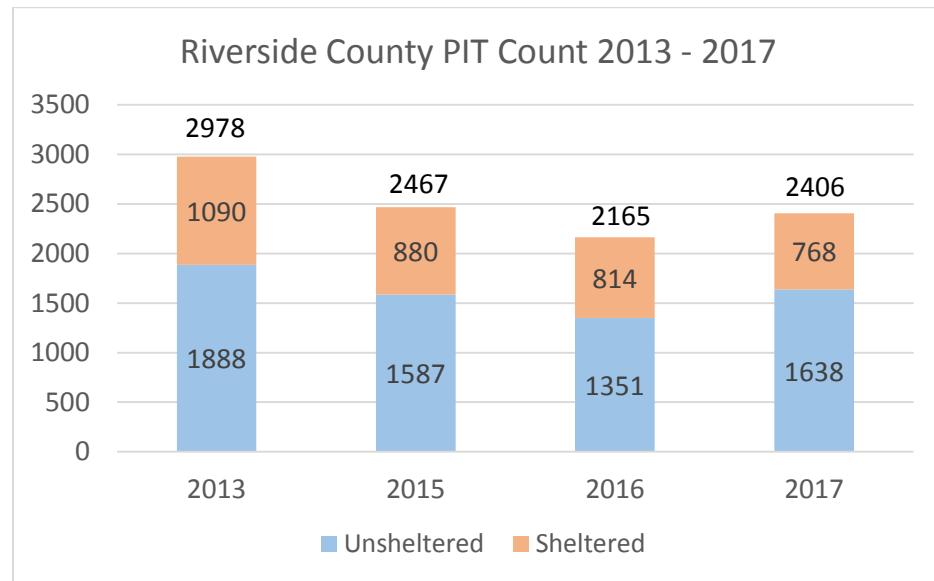
The PIT Homeless Count is federally-mandated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to count and survey the homeless population in cities and counties throughout the nation, including the City of Riverside. Each count is planned, coordinated, and carried out locally. Data collected during the count reflects a snapshot of Riverside County's homeless population at one particular point-in-time and is required in order to continue receiving federal funding for homeless assistance programs, develop strategies to end homelessness, help homeless individuals and families who are in need, and produce a full report to HUD regarding the homeless individuals in Riverside County.

On January 24, 2017, volunteers hit the streets of Riverside County for the annual Point-in-Time Homeless Count, surveying and interviewing the local homeless population. The City of Riverside had two deployment centers at the Riverside Access Center and St. Michaels Church. The City also had a team conduct the PIT Homeless Count in the Santa Ana River-bottom.

The 2017 Point-in-Time Homeless Count identified the following:

- 389 unsheltered homeless people were identified in the City of Riverside, an increase of 23.7% from the previous year; and
- 1,638 unsheltered homeless people in the County, an increase of 21.2% from the previous year.





The PIT Homeless Count serves to identify how many people in the City and throughout the County are homeless on any given day, determine the need for homeless services, and guide decisions on how to use available resources. This data can also be used to gauge the effectiveness and progress of the work underway.

Walk to End Homelessness Event

Annually the City of Riverside in partnership with the Riverside Ending Homelessness Fund holds the Walk to End Homelessness Event to raise awareness of homeless programs and services and to raise funds to help homeless individuals and families move into housing. The fourth annual Walk to End Homelessness event was held on April 8, 2017. The event had 373 walkers and raised \$38,746.00, while incurring \$7,395.25 in expenditures, for a net total of \$31,350.25 that will fund programs or activities that engage service providers and the community to reduce homelessness and promote community-wide interest and concern for the homeless.

Riverside Ending Homelessness Fund

The City of Riverside created the Riverside Ending Homelessness Fund (REHF) Committee in 2009 to oversee a community-driven fund to support the efforts of homeless programs and services in the City of Riverside. In order to seek grant funds, the committee became a nonprofit in 2014.

In 2016, the REHF Board voted to separate from the City and operate independently. REHF is now requesting the City to grant the \$10,000 that it originally provided in 2009 to begin the REHF community fund with The Community Foundation; the funds would be used to support ending homelessness efforts in the City. The funds came from the Access Center account.

Measure Z Funds for Homeless Services

On May 16, 2017, the City Council approved allocating \$500,000 annually from Measure Z towards a Housing First plan. Staff is currently conducting Housing First community presentations throughout the City for all of 2017. Staff is requesting authorization to return to the City Council in January 2018 to present the Housing First Plan that includes two to three potential Housing First sites in each Ward for City Council consideration.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The funding request identified in this report is to provide up to \$20,000 to Health to Hope Medical Clinic for the Riverside at Work program from the Altura Credit Union Grant, which is available in the 9159500-440440.

The Lease Agreements with Arlington Temporary Assistance and Health to Hope will generate an annual revenue of \$1 annually for each property located at 2880 and 2881 Hulen Place.

Prepared by:	Rafael Guzman, Community & Economic Development Director
Certified as to	
availability of funds:	Scott G. Miller, PhD, Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer
Approved by:	Alexander T. Nguyen, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form:	Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Attachments:

1. Lease Agreement with Health to Hope
2. Contract for Clinical and Instructional Programs with Loma Linda University
3. Grant Agreement with Health to Hope Medical Clinic
4. Memorandum of Understanding with the County of Riverside Workforce Development Department
5. Furniture Donation Press-Enterprise Article
6. Statement of Principles
7. Presentation