

City of Arts & Innovation

Housing and Homelessness Committee Memorandum

**TO: HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS
COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

DATE: NOVEMBER 15, 2021

FROM: OFFICE OF HOMELESS SOLUTIONS

WARD: ALL

SUBJECT: ANALYSIS OF EXISTING SHELTER BEDS

ISSUE:

Receive a presentation on an analysis of existing shelter beds.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Housing & Homelessness Committee receive a presentation on the analysis of existing shelter beds.

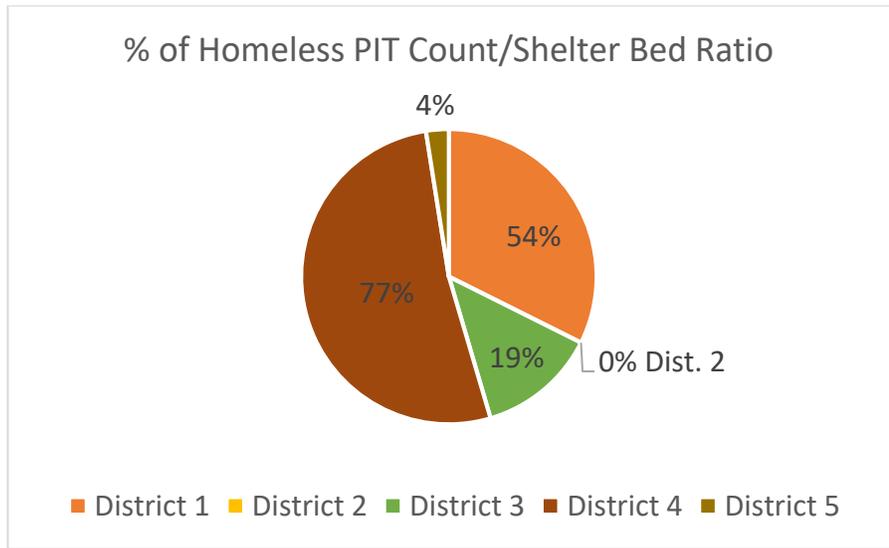
BACKGROUND:

Emergency shelters play a critical role in the City’s homeless response system. They provide a safe place for individuals and families experiencing a housing crisis for a duration of 30 to 90 days. Shelter staff help guests address their root cause of homelessness and locate housing resources.

DISCUSSION:

In the City of Riverside, there are 240 emergency shelter beds, representing 31% of the shelter beds countywide. In the County of Riverside, there are a total of 781 beds. The following table provides a breakdown of these shelter beds by Riverside County Board of Supervisor’s District.

District	Shelter Beds	PIT Count	% of Shelter Beds	% of Shelter Beds/PIT Ratio
District 1*	240	441	28%	54%
District 2*	0	505	0%	0%
District 3	49	255	7%	19%
District 4	480	627	64%	77%
District 5	12	327	1%	4%
TOTAL	781	2,155	100%	35%



*The City of Riverside is located within Districts 1 and 2.

When cities do not have shelter beds or sufficient beds to meet the current need within their community, outreach workers will try to connect homeless individuals to the shelters identified in this staff report.

The City of Riverside allocates grant funds annually to Path of Life Ministries (POLM) for the operation of the Emergency Shelter. In fiscal year 2020/2021, the City provided POLM \$325,500 in funding from the following funding sources:

- \$150,000 of federal Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds
- \$95,500 of federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds
- \$80,000 of federal ESG-CV

Below are the shelter performance outcomes for the last two fiscal years:

ACTIVITY	FY 2019/2020	%	FY 2020/2021	%
No. of Persons Served	661		753	
Veterans	54	8%	40	5%
Chronically Homeless Persons	76	11%	114	15%
Gender: Male	406	61.4%	454	60.3%
Female	252	38.1%	297	39.4%
No Single Gender	1	0.2%	0	0
Transgender	2	0.3%	2	0.3%
Age: 18 to 24	79	12%	84	11%
25-54	409	62%	490	65%
55 – 61 (State senior eligibility)	95	14%	98	13%
62+ (State and Federal senior eligibility)	78	12%	81	11%
Race: White	388	58.7%	476	63.2%
Black	229	34.64%	230	30.5%
Asian	12	1.82%	8	1.1%
American Indian, Alaska Native or Indigenous	13	1.97%	14	1.9%

Native Hawaiian	4	0.61%	6	0.8%
Multiple Races	15	2%	16	2.1%
Data not collected	0	0%	3	0.4%
Ethnicity: Non-Hispanic	454	69%	479	63.6%
Hispanic	207	31%	273	36.3%
Data not collected	0	0%	1	0.1%
Mental Health Disorder	278	42%	297	39%
Alcohol Use disorder	33	5%	18	2%
Drug Use Disorder	52	8%	32	4%
Both Alcohol and Drug Use Disorder	36	5%	24	3%
Exit Destination:	426	73%	553	81%
Place not meant for human habitation				
Permanent Destinations	73	12%	49	7%
Temporary Destinations	64	11%	63	9%
Institutional Settings	20	3%	13	2%
Other Destinations	3	1%	5	1%

The number of people assisted in FY 2020/2021 were higher than the previous year due to the shelter increasing the bed space to 90 beds.

In FY 2019/2020, 67% of the POLM Emergency Shelter guests (474 individuals) were from the County of Riverside, and 37% of the guests (259 individuals) were from the City of Riverside. In FY 2020/2021, 78% of the POLM Emergency Shelter guests (645 individuals) were from Riverside County, and 56% of the guests (460 individuals) were from the City of Riverside. The increased number of shelter guests from the City of Riverside in FY 2020/2021 was due to the change in how POLM asked the question of “What is your last known zip code?” to “Where did you last reside in the last 90 days?”

POLM also operates a Cold Weather Shelter (CWS) Program in the City of Riverside. Due to the COVID pandemic, POLM had to operate the CWS at the Salvation Army’s facility at 3695 First Street, where they had to reduce the number of shelter beds from 50 to 40. POLM is in the process of submitting a Temporary Use Permit to the City’s Planning Division to operate the CWS beginning January 3, 2022, at 3695 First Street.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

This item contributes to **Strategic Priority 2 – Community Well-Being** and **Goal No. 2.2**, collaborate with partner agencies to reduce the incidence and duration of homelessness.

The item aligns with each of the five Cross-Cutting Threads as follows:

1. **Community Trust** – The City is transparent and makes decisions based on sound policy and data. The City will continue to use data when identifying gaps in homeless programs and services.
2. **Equity** – Riverside is supportive of the City’s racial, ethnic, religious, sexual orientation, identity, geographic, and other attributes of diversity and is committed to advancing the fairness of treatment, recognition of rights, and equitable distribution of services to ensure every member of the community has equal access to share the benefits of community progress.

3. **Fiscal Responsibility** – Riverside is a prudent steward of public funds and ensures responsible management of the City’s financial resources while providing quality public services to all.
4. **Innovation** – Riverside is inventive and timely in meeting the community’s changing needs and prepares for the future through collaborative partnerships. Data will be used to identify and create innovative ways to address the root cause of homelessness.
5. **Sustainability & Resiliency** – Riverside is committed to meeting the needs of the present without compromising the needs of the future and ensuring the City’s capacity to persevere, adapt and grow during good and difficult times alike.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact related to this report.

Prepared by: Michelle Davis, Housing Authority Manager
Approved by: Lea Deesing, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form: Phaedra A. Norton, City Attorney

Attachment: Presentation