Homelessness in Riverside

City Manager's Office

City Council
October 11, 2016

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FRAMEWORK

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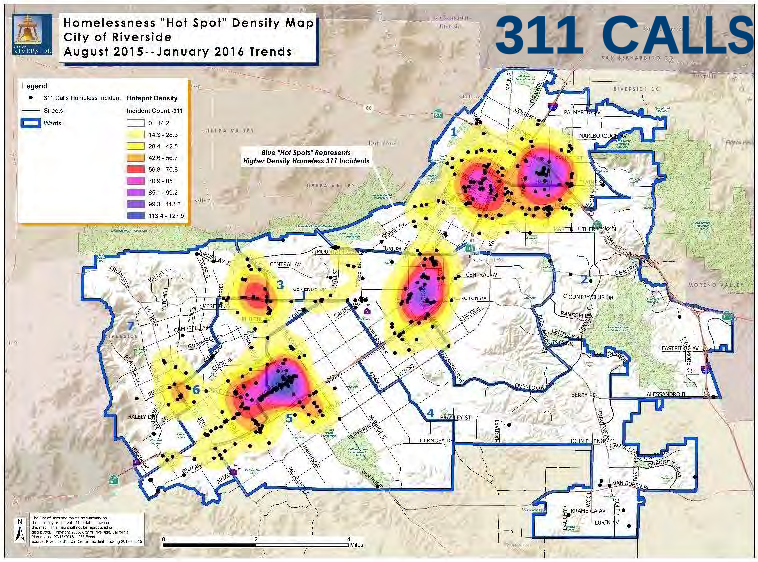

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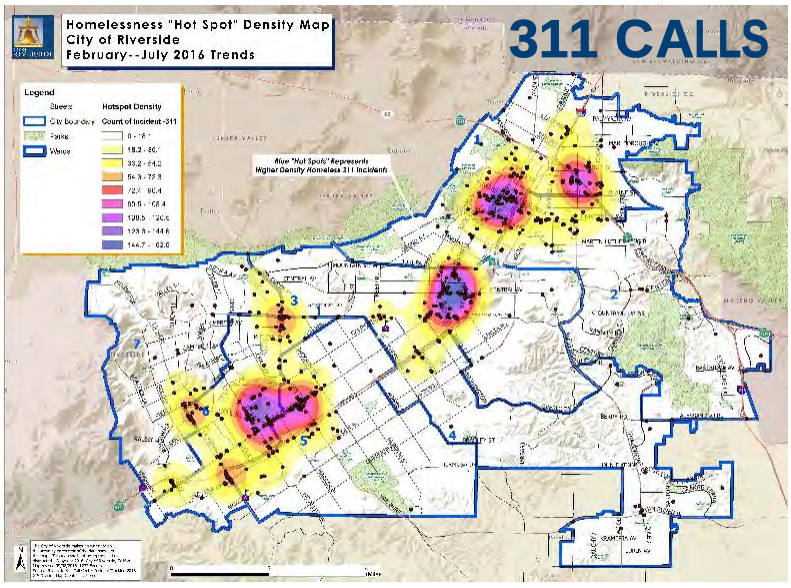

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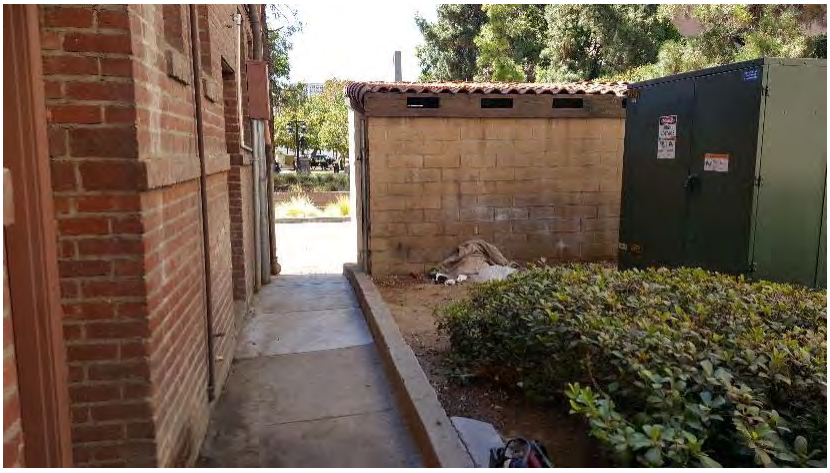
BUSINESS IMPACTS

BUSINESS IMPACTS



SANTA ANA

SAN DIEGO

HAWAII

RIVERSIDE - RIVERBOTTOM

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RIVERSIDE - RIVERBOTTOM

RIVERSIDE - RIVERBOTTOM

SPARE CHANGE

COMMUNITY LIVABILITY CONCERNS

Scheduled speaker:

1. James Hawthorne, Business Owner
2. Janice Penner, Riverside Downtown Partnership
3. Tom Mangione, Business Owner

IMPACT TO PARKS

1. Parks impacted on a regular basis: 22
   A. 58 staff and contractor incident reports

2. Homeless activities impacting parks
   A. Camping on playground structures, benches, and doorways
   B. Trash and debris
   C. Indecent exposure, public urinating and defecating
   D. Illegal substances (needles and paraphernalia)
   E. Fights/altercations
   F. Harassment of park visitors
   G. Unsafe feeling by park users
   H. Vandalism

IMPACT TO PARKS

3. $20,000 annually for routine maintenance due to previously mentioned issues at 4 of the most heavily impacted parks

PRCSD ACTIONS

1. Restricted access (fencing Fairmount, North, and White Parks)
2. Added security lighting
3. Signage
4. Community Livability Task Force, Hole Lake clean-up project

STRATEGIES – OTHER CITIES

1. Designated Children's Play Areas (Hollywood FL. Miami Beach, FL; New York City)
2. Security cameras, voice capabilities
3. Homeless Outreach Teams, Services
4. Ordinance changes
5. Park rangers
6. Live in park custodians, homeless veterans
7. Removal of park amenities
8. Deploying park sprinklers
9. Clearing brush

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IMPACT TO PARKS

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IMPACT TO PARKS

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IMPACT TO PARKS

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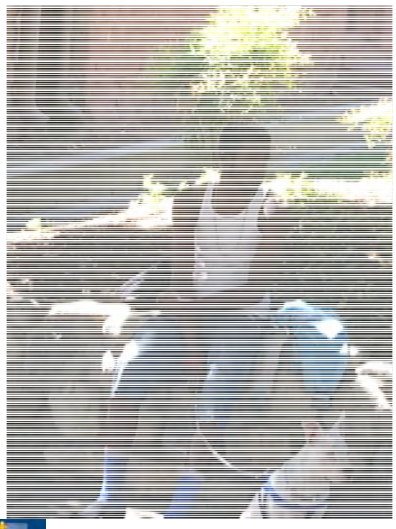
IMPACT TO LIBRARIES

1. Current climate
   A. Conduct violations
   B. Customer impact
   C. Staff impact
2. Best practices
   A. Mental health services
   B. Security

IMPACT TO LIBRARIES

IMPACT TO LIBRARIES



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IMPACT TO LIBRARIES

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IMPACT TO LIBRARIES

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COMMUNITY LIVABILITY CONCERNS

Scheduled speaker:

Councilmember Chris MacArthur

Public Feedings

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Impact to Fire Department

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Impact to Fire Department

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Impact to Fire Department

COMMUNITY LIVABILITY CONCERNS

Scheduled Speaker

Lt. Bruce Blomdahl, Police Department

- Loitering
- Public intoxication
- Panhandling
- Encampments

COMMUNITY LIVABILITY CONCERNS

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COMMUNITY LIVABILITY CONCERNS

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DEFINING HOMELESSNESS AND CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

Scheduled Speaker:

Benjamin Henwood, PhD, Assistant Professor, School of Social Work at USC

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COMMUNITY CHALLENGES

Scheduled speaker:

Steve Falk, Executive Director of Community Mission of Hope, Temecula Pantry and HOPE in Lake Elsinore

WHAT THE STATE IS DOING

- Approved Legislation
  - AB 1618: No Place Like Home
- Pending Legislation
  - AB 2031: Gives cities authority to approve issuance of bonds for affordable housing development paid for with "boomerang funds" without voter approval
  - AB 2501and AB 2442: Affordable housing density bonuses

WHAT THE STATE IS DOING

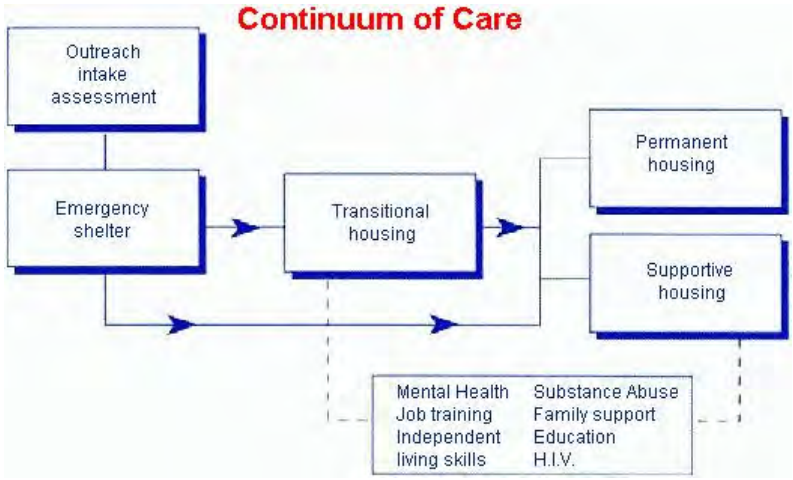
- Pending Legislation
  - AB 2821: Housing for a Health California Program, leverages Medi-cal to create supportive housing through rental subsidies with Medi-cal beneficiaries experiencing homelessness.
  - SB 1380 – Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council to oversee the implementation of the Housing First regulations
- Affordable housing funding resources

WHAT THE COUNTY IS DOING

Department of Public Social Services

- Adult and Children's Services
- Self-Sufficiency
- In-Home Supportive Services
- Homeless Programs
- Family Resource Center
- First 5 Riverside

WHAT THE COUNTY DOES



WHAT THE COUNTY DOES

- Executive Oversight Committee on Homelessness
- Goals
  1. Education and awareness
  2. Housing: Affordable and permanent supportive housing
  3. Countywide Homeless Crisis Response

WHAT THE COUNTY DOES

Statement of Principles

WHAT THE COUNTY DOES

- Behavioral Health Outreach Services
- Mental Health Clinics
- Regional Medical Center Emergency Treatment Services (ETS)
- Permanent Supportive Housing
- Other services

Riverside University HEALTH SYSTEM Behavioral Health

WHAT THE COUNTY DOES

- Riverside County jail system
  - Robert Presley Detention Center
- Discharge process

HOMELESS PLANS

- Riverside Community Broad-based Homeless Action Plan – adopted on June 3, 2003
- Homeless Prevention and Reduction Strategy 5-Year Plan – adopted on September 18, 2012
- County of Riverside's 10-Year Strategy to End Homelessness

HOMELESS INITIATIVES

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WHAT THE CITY DOES

- Outreach responds to 311 calls to provide services
  - Illegal activities are reported to PD to address
- Street weekly engagements with Outreach, PD, Code Enforcement and Public Works

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WHAT THE CITY DOES

- Rapid Re-Housing
- Permanent Supportive Housing
  - 16 units
  - Average housing cost per client: $15,450

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PROGRAMS IN THE CITY

HEALTH to HOPE CLINICS

Arlington Temporary Assistance

THE SALVATION ARMY DOING THE MOST GOOD

211 Community Connect
Let us help. Call 211

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OPERATION SAFEHOUSE

PATH OF LIFE

Emergency Shelter Program 64 beds for single men and women	Rapid Re-Housing for Families 36 units with temporary subsidies and support	Behavioral Health Program Counseling and enrichment
Family Shelter 50 beds for families with children	Permanent Supportive Housing 80 Permanent Housing Units	Childcare Program Free 0 – 5 childcare with transportation
Cold Weather Shelter 65 beds from December to April	Street Outreach Riverside County	Employment Pipeline job readiness, referral and placement

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Catholic Charities

Providing Help • Creating Hope

WHAT THE CITY DOES

Hole Lake Clean-up efforts

- Collaboration between City Departments
- Cost of clean-up efforts

Area of Hole Lake

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Hole Lake Issues

1. Between 30 and 50 homeless individuals living in multiple encampments

2. Excessive amount of trash and debris inside the Hole Lake stream and the surrounding area, which created a significant environmental impact and public nuisance

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RIVERSIDE - HOLE LAKE

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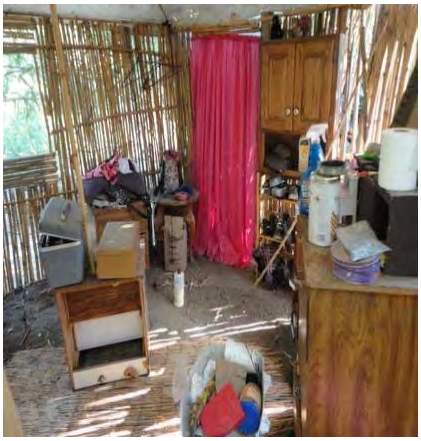

RIVERSIDE - HOLE LAKE

RIVERSIDE - HOLE LAKE

Outreach & Clean-Up

- Several outreach efforts made prior to
- Actual project occurred on July 29 and 30
  - Public Works
  - Parks
  - Code Enforcement
  - Homeless Outreach
  - and Police personnel

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Costs

1. A total of 72.84 tons of debris was removed

2. The total cost of the Hole Lake Operation was approximately $40,376.89

END OF AFTERNOON SESSION

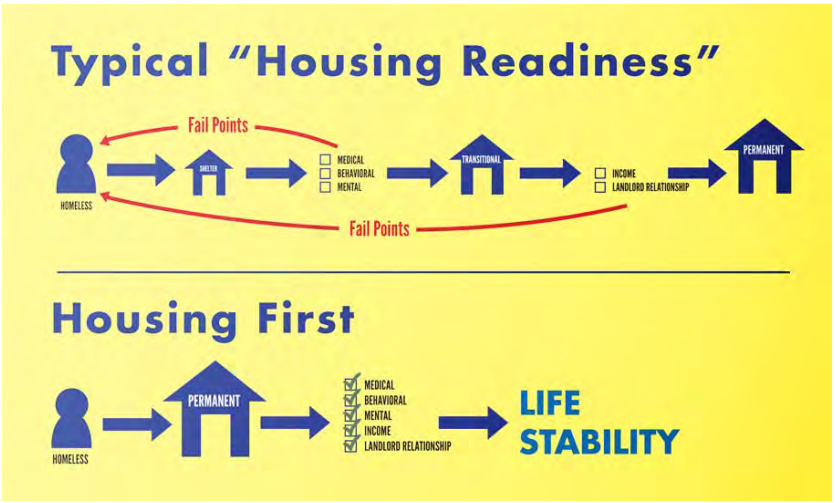
FRAMEWORK FOR EVENING SESSION

5. What do we explore further to determine how best to address homelessness?

OCTOBER 11
Evening Workshop

COLLABORATION WITH FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

HOUSING FIRST



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HOUSING

- Cost of housing vs. health care and/ or law enforcement
- Housing crisis nationally and locally

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HOUSING FIRST PROVIDER

AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPER

WAKELAND
HOUSING & DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
Building foundations for opportunity

CONTINUING EFFORTS

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HOUSING FIRST RECOMMENDATION

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COMMUNITY RESPONSE TEAM

1. Housing First
2. Services to be provided
3. Benefits
4. Property needed
5. Staffing needs

RIVERSIDE AT WORK PROGRAM

1. Employ 5 homeless clients every 6 months
2. Develop self-confidence and job skills
3. Provide program participants with up to 12 months of rental assistance
4. Program funded by Altura Credit Union
5. Services provided by Access Center staff, Goodwill and Riverside County Workforce

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

1. When Helping hurts
2. How to donate and volunteer towards long-term solutions
3. New campaign geared towards residents and business owners

EXPLORE PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Enforcement models to address loitering, public intoxication, panhandling and encampments

EXPLORE PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Homeless Court Program

1. Alternative to traditional criminal justice court system
2. Partnership between court, prosecutor, public defender and local social service agencies
3. Plea bargain system with alternative sentencing structure
4. Existing Program: Indio Homeless Court

EXPLORE PARK ACTIVITIES

1. Create boundaries for the children's play zones
2. Reinstitute park rangers "ambassadors"
3. Fencing identified picnic shelters
4. Evaluate park amenities, benches, tables
5. Increase lighting to LED
6. Relocate food distribution programs

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RECOMMENDATIONS

That the City Council participate in the workshop and provide policy direction to staff return to City Council at a later date with a full analysis for City Council consideration.

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