

City Manager's Office

Budget Engagement Commission March 27, 2019





BACKGROUND

- 1. Community Livability Action Plan/Task Force 2014
 - A. Focus addressing "quality of life" type issues
 - B. Task Force composed of multiple City departments
- 2. Office of Homeless Solutions 2017
 - A. Housing First Plan adopted by City Council in 2018
 - B. Initiatives/Programs: housing development, workforce development, services, outreach

RIVERSIDE

4

HOMELESSNESS

- 1. Individuals experiencing homelessness are not defined by a single characteristic
 - A. Economic, medical, substance abuse, mental health, criminal
- 2. Impact of homelessness is varied
- 3. No one department, division or team 'owns' the challenges brought forth by the issue of homelessness
 - A. Requires a multi-departmental approach



5

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PUBLIC SAFETY AND ENGAGEMENT TEAM PROGRAM

- 1. Program developed in response to the ongoing challenge of homelessness and its impact on quality of life in the City
- 2. Similar to the CLTF
- 3. Public Safety and Engagement Team
 - A. Need a more proactive and holistic approach
 - B. Balance between maintaining order in the public realm and providing individuals experiencing homelessness a path to exit the condition



6

- 1. The Public Safety and Engagement Team will ensure:
 - A. Quality of life is maintained
 - B. City facilities are being used in a safe and enjoyable manner
 - C. Problems in the parks and public areas are addressed quickly and efficiently
 - D. Behavior in accordance with applicable City codes and ordinances
- 2. Connect individuals with services

7

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PUBLIC SAFETY AND ENGAGEMENT TEAM PROGRAM

- 1. Multi-departmental team
 - A. Riverside Police Department
 - B. Code Enforcement (CEDD)
 - C. Office of Homeless Solutions (CMO)
 - D. Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Department
 - E. Contract out clean-up services
- 2. Operate on a full-time basis, throughout the City, including during the weekends when possible



8

- 1. Request funding from unallocated Measure Z balance
 - A. New personnel is needed; cannot create further impact on existing City operations
 - B. Includes equipment, training, vehicles
 - C. Where possible, will absorb work related to the Public Safety and Engagement Team



9

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PUBLIC SAFETY AND ENGAGEMENT TEAM PROGRAM

- 1. Office of Homeless Solutions
 - A. Critical to expand/scale up operations to provide needed balance
 - B. Two Request for Proposals (RFPs): homeless outreach and case management services
 - C. Funding for these two RFPs will come from the previously approved and currently unallocated OHS Measure Z balance
 - Staff will return to the City Council to award contracts for both of these RFPs; no funding is requested as part of this report



10

- 1. Hulen Place Campus
 - A. Behavioral Health Interim Housing component 28 beds
 - B. Address behavioral health needs coupled with supportive services
 - C. Partnership with Helping Hearts
 - i. Operation of this component covered by Helping Hearts



11

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PUBLIC SAFETY AND ENGAGEMENT TEAM PROGRAM

- 1. Park Ranger Program
 - A. Development of the Public Safety and Engagement Team Program evolved from an initial discussion on potentially reinstituting the City's previous Park Ranger Program
 - B. Staff is recommending the City Council evaluate the effectiveness of the Public Safety and Engagement Team Program, if approved, before directing staff to further evaluate the feasibility and need for a Park Ranger Program



12

OPTIONS FOR CITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

- 1. Option A Status Quo
 - A. Continue existing operations (programming and staffing).
 - B. Fiscal Impact: None



13

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OPTIONS FOR CITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

- 1. Option B One Team
 - A. Fund one full-time team; coverage anticipated five days per week
 - B. New personnel (including equipment and training) would be added to Code and PRCSD
 - C. RPD would absorb the costs associated with participating on the team within its approved budget (no new personnel)
 - D. Homeless encampment cleanup services would be contracted out
 - E. Fiscal Impact (on-going / one-time): \$962,210/\$168,600

14



OPTIONS FOR CITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

- 1. Option C Two Teams
 - A. This option would fund two full-time Public Safety and Engagement Teams; coverage anticipated to be seven days per week
 - B. New personnel (including equipment and training) would be added to Code, PRCSD, and RPD
 - C. Homeless encampment cleanup services would be contracted out
 - D. Fiscal Impact (on-going / one-time): \$2,337,768/\$441,200



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OPTIONS FOR CITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

- 1. Option D Mental Health Beds
 - A. This option would facilitate improvements to the Hulen Place Campus to accommodate 28 beds
 - B. Operational costs would be borne by the non-profit provider
 - C. Fiscal Impact: \$672,158



16

OPTIONS FOR CITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

- 1. Option E Park Ranger Program
 - A. Staff will evaluate the concept to evaluate its feasibility and need in the context of the City's current efforts, including the Public Safety and Engagement Team, if approved
 - B. Fiscal Impact: N/A



17

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RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Budget Engagement Commission:

- 1. Approve a supplemental appropriation of up to \$3,451,126 from the unallocated Measure Z fund balance to fund the Public Safety and Engagement Team Program dependent on the options selected by the City Council; and
- 2. Direct staff to provide a six (6) month progress report to determine the effectiveness of the Public Safety and Engagement Team.



18