



City of Arts & Innovation

Board of Library Trustees

TO: BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

DATE: JANUARY 27, 2020

FROM: RIVERSIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY

**SUBJECT: UPDATE ON OFFICE OF HOMELESS SOLUTIONS AND PUBLIC SAFETY
ENGAGEMENT TEAM**

ISSUE:

Receive an update from Moises Lopez, Deputy City Manager, on the Office of Homeless Solutions and Public Safety Engagement Team.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Library Trustees receive an update on Office of Homeless Solutions and Public Safety Engagement Team (PSET).

BACKGROUND:

The Office of Homeless Solutions (OHS) was established in 2017 to respond to the ongoing challenge of homelessness and its impact on the community. To achieve this goal, the City committed to Housing First as a best practice approach to address homelessness, pairing housing with wrap-around supportive services; the City Council adopted a Housing First Plan in March 2018. OHS is responsible for overseeing implementation of the City's Housing First Plan, working with various City departments, community partners, and other public agencies on its implementation. Current OHS initiatives and programs include homeless outreach, housing development, workforce development, and a reconfiguration and update of the Hulen Homeless Service campus, among others.

On April 2, 2019, the City Council voted unanimously to allocate \$3.45 million in Measure Z funds to create a Public Safety and Engagement Team (PSET) Program. This multi-department approach is designed to maintain order in public places while also providing individuals experiencing homelessness with a pathway to exit the condition. Team members will specialize in providing resources and assistance while also addressing issues of unlawful panhandling, camping, abandoned personal belongings and vagrancy. The team officially began its activities in May 2019.

DISCUSSION:

On December 3, 2019, Deputy City Manager, Moises Lopez, provided an update to the City Council on the activities of the Office of Homeless Solutions and Public Safety Engagement Team (Attachment).

The update will now be presented to the Board of Library Trustees.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

Prepared by: Erin Christmas, Library Director
Certified as to
availability of funds: Edward Enriquez, Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer
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Attachments:

1. City Council Report and Presentation – December 3, 2019
2. Presentation