



## **DISCUSSION:**

The attached document, Draft Housing & Homelessness Committee Goals and Activities: Year 2, (published on August 11, 2021) attempts to summarize the Committee's conversation in June 2021. The attachment, "Five-Year Plan to Reduce Homelessness," (published on August 18, 2021) takes the work a step further by proposing that the Housing & Homelessness Committee:

- a) Discuss at the August 23, 2021 Housing & Homeless Committee Meeting the proposed objectives, workplan, and possible deliverables of a Five-Year Plan to Reduce Homelessness;
- b) Present the proposal for a Five-Year Plan to Reduce Homelessness to the City Council at the September 30, 2021 Special City Council Meeting to seek input from colleagues and the public on a conceptual plan;
- c) With direction from the full City Council, support staff (alongside other committees) in the coming months to draft a Five-Year Plan to Reduce Homelessness, which will be presented to City Council by June 2022.

The following six objectives are proposed for a potential Five-Year Plan to Reduce Homelessness. These objectives are based upon the Housing & Homelessness Committee's previous discussions and conversations with staff:

- 1) Prevent homelessness
- 2) Increase availability and effectiveness of shelter beds
- 3) Increase housing production with a focus on affordability
- 4) Build a coordinated regional infrastructure
- 5) Increase the availability of services, with a focus on physical and mental health
- 6) Expand public awareness and education about Homelessness and Housing

The attached document envisions a workplan and possible deliverables that could correspond to each objective. Once revised with input from the Housing & Homelessness Committee, and if approved in concept by the full City Council on September 30, 2021, the Housing & Homelessness Committee's meetings from September 2021-June 2022 would become an extended workshop to support staff's development of a Five-Year Plan to Reduce Homelessness. Committee meetings would delve into each objective, providing the public an opportunity to engage at every step along the way.

Input from the public and from current Committee members during the August Housing & Homelessness Committee meeting is critical to a productive second year and a thorough Five-Year Plan to Reduce Homelessness.

To consider:

- Does the Housing and Homelessness Committee wish to pursue a Five-Year Plan to Reduce Homelessness and present the concept to City Council on September 30<sup>th</sup> for input and direction?

If so:

- Do the proposed five proposed objectives provide a helpful framework to reduce homelessness in five years?
- Does the workplan corresponding to each objective...

- Help staff build-out relevant goals, indicators, and action steps for a five-year plan?
- Reflect the intent of the objectives? (If not, what is missing?)
- Are the possible deliverables an accurate reflection of past Committee conversations and future potential?
- Do Committee members agree with the alignment to Envision Riverside 2025?
- How would the Committee like the proposal to be presented at the September 30, 2021 Special City Council meeting?
- In addition to monthly public Committee meetings, how will the proposed Five-Year Plan to Reduce Homelessness engage stakeholders and residents in relevant and ongoing conversations about housing & homelessness?
- What resources would be needed from staff to complete a Five-Year Plan to Reduce Homelessness?

### **ALIGNMENT WITH 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN:**

The proposed objectives for a Five-Year Plan to Reduce Homelessness correspond to the following priorities and goals of Riverside's Envision 2025:

#### Community Well Being

- 2.1: Facilitate the development of a quality and diverse housing supply that is available and affordable to a wide range of income levels.
- 2.2: Collaborate with partner agencies to improve household resiliency and reduce the incidence and duration of homelessness.
- 2.5: Foster relationships between community members, partner organizations, and public safety professionals to define, prioritize, and address community safety and social service needs.

#### Economic Opportunity

- 3.1: Facilitate partnerships and programs to develop, attract, and retain innovative business sectors.
- 3.2: Work with key partners in implementing workforce development programs and initiatives that connect local workers with high quality employment opportunities and provide access to education and training in Riverside.

#### High Performing Government

- 5.4: Achieve and maintain financial health by addressing gaps between revenues and expenditures and aligning resources with strategic priorities to yield the greatest impact.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

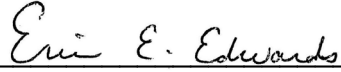
There is no fiscal impact to this report or discussion.

Should the full City Council approve of the development of a Five-Year Plan to Reduce Homelessness, the plan itself would require staff time and resources. This will be discussed both at the Housing & Homelessness Committee meeting on August 23, 2021 and at the September 30, 2021 Special City Council meeting.

Further, should a five-year plan be developed and approved by June 2022, the work to reduce homelessness will also require staff time and resources. Because of this, throughout the

upcoming ten months, the Housing & Homelessness Committee will examine current legislation and funding at all levels of government to determine opportunities for resources that will support the Five-Year Plan to Reduce Homelessness.

Submitted by:



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Ward 1

Attachments:

1. Draft Housing & Homelessness Committee Goals and Activities: Year 2
2. Five-Year Plan to Reduce Homelessness