

Housing and Homelessness Committee Memorandum

TO: HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS DATE: OCTOBER 25, 2021

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

FROM: OFFICE OF HOMELESS SOLUTIONS WARD: ALL

SUBJECT: 2022 RIVERSIDE COUNTY HOMELESS POINT-IN-TIME COUNT - DIRECT

SUBMITTAL

ISSUE:

Receive a presentation on the 2022 Riverside County Homeless Point-in-Time Count.

BACKGROUND:

The Homeless Point-in-Time (PIT) count is a count of sheltered and unsheltered individuals experiencing homelessness on a single night in January. The U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) requires Continuums of Care to conduct an annual count of people experiencing homelessness that are sheltered in emergency shelters, transitional housing, and safe havens on a single night. Continuums of Care also must conduct a count of unsheltered people experiencing homelessness every other year (odd-numbered years). Each count is planned, coordinated, and carried out locally. The Housing Inventory Count (HIC) is a point-in-time inventory of provider programs within a Continuum of Care (CoC) that provide beds and units dedicated to serve people experiencing homelessness, such as Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, Rapid Re-housing, Safe Haven, and Permanent Supportive Housing.

Each year, the Riverside County CoC partners with cities to facilitate the federally mandated count of people experiencing homelessness throughout Riverside County. The data is used to demonstrate the need for federal and state funding, services and resource planning, and to inform the community about homelessness.

In 2021, the General and Youth PIT Count were canceled due to the COVID pandemic.

DISCUSSION:

On September 23, 2021, the County of Riverside CoC held its first 2022 Homeless PIT Count community planning session where they hosted key leaders, stakeholders, service providers, law enforcement, and non-profit agencies to begin planning the count being held in 2022. Discussions included outreach and strategic engagement strategies, location mapping, mobile survey development, and identification of deployment sites.

The CoC has established the following planning subcommittees (Attachment 1) to assist in the preparation of the upcoming PIT Count.

PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE	TASKS
Before Count Activities	Publicity and awareness campaign; Volunteer
	recruitment and training
Tools and Methods	Survey tool and technology, methodology,
	data analysis and reporting
Management	Location mapping/deployment sites
Planning Specialty Counts	Service-based count, Unincorporated Area
	count
Post Count Activities	Veteran, youth, and senior service referrals
	and linkages
Homeless Youth Count	Planning for the Homeless Youth Count

The 2022 Riverside County PIT Counts will take place on the following dates:

- General PIT Count: Wednesday, January 26, 2022, 5:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
- Youth PIT Count: Wednesday, January 26, 2022 Friday, January 28, 2022, 2 p.m. 8 p.m.
- Service-based PIT Count Wednesday, January 26, 2022 Friday, January 28, 2022, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The City will assist the County in recruiting volunteers to participate in the upcoming PIT Count.

In 2020, the City held the PIT Count deployment sites at the Riverside Access Center and at the La Sierra University Church. Staff is recommending using these same deployment sites in 2022.

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:

- Community Trust The City, in partnership with the County and volunteers, will conduct the annual PIT Count to identify the needs of homeless programs and services and use the PIT Count data produced to seek grants to meet the identified needs.
- 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 and adaptive processes. A GIS mapping system will be utilized in conducting the PIT Count.

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 staff report.

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Approved by: Lea Deesing, Assistant City Manager Approved as to form: Phaedra A. Norton, City Attorney

Attachments:

- 1. Planning Subcommittees
- 2. PPT presentation