

# NOVEMBER 8, 2023 HOMELESS TASK FORCE SYNOPSIS

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Attached is an overview of my experience with the Homeless Shelter Task Force (Clean Slate Strategy). Let me give you an explanation of my experience. It continues to be an honor to serve you and the other community councils of our area. I continue to do so with any and all upcoming meetings, like the one that occurred on 11/2/23 and today 11/8/2023.

## **11/2/23 Meeting**

1. It was reported that 2500 beds are needed to supply for the homeless for a period of 2 years
  - It was asked if the 2500 represented a duplication of count, which it was answered that there is a small duplication but not disclosed to what percent
  - There was a methodology change as to the count to capture the homeless, but the methodology was not disclosed
2. A GAP Analysis was presented which represents:
  - Single Adults
  - Youth
  - Veterans (Double calculation with single adults)
3. Shelter for 150 people and whether congregate or non-congregate
  - One location facility or multiple locations
  - Felix Rivera emphasized his desire for multiple locations
4. What is the Return to Homelessness Analysis?
  - The question is now being explored
5. DATA Analysis
  - There was discussion of data collection to comply with HUD requirements only.
  - Ken McCarty asked questions of why can't we include data analysis which pertains to Alaska, such as:
    - How many are coming from villages who wish to return?
    - How many are banned from their village?
    - What is the average cost of housing which is impacting homelessness?
6. Intentional qualification for housing when individual already have their own residence.
  - It was shared that some people are in a self paid hotel room, which they are trying to get evicted so they qualify for homelessness funding to pay for their room (e.g. \$800 a month).

7. 5 Keys to Effective Homelessness
  - Housing First Approach
  - Safety: Appropriate Diversion
  - Welcoming Environment
  - Focus on Rapid Exit (get people permanent housing)
  - Data Collection

### **11/8/23 Meeting**

There was a small attendance potentially due to the expected storm warning.

The Topic was on LOCATION PROCESS

#### **Criteria Regarding Collection toward Location**

- 1) Must have Criteria
  - a. Zoning – which can be altered to qualify if able
  - b. Health Certification
- 2) Good to have Criteria
  - a. Public transportation that is ¼ mile from location
  - b. 500 feet from school, day care
  - c. 50 sq foot area per participant

#### **Selection Process Steps**

- 1) RFI (Request for Information) of potential locations to be submitted
  - Only 19 days until all potential locations must be submitted
  - Felix Rivera will be the point person to receive the RFI until the administrative office is ready to receive them
- 2) Complete Analysis on GIF map and old location list
  - a. Remove locations that don't meet criteria
  - b. Visibility buffers for potential locations
  - c. Property is unoccupied and available for sale or lease
- 3) Three (3) Individuals to do a more intensive research and verification of locations to recommend at next meeting (11/27/23).
- 4) Rank Options (11/27/23)
  - Reduce location options to 10
- 5) Feedback from Community
- 6) Jan 3, 2024 Recommendation
  - Alternative recommendations can be submitted
- 7) Jan 3, 2024 – Final vote for location (s)

#### **Questions Asked**

- 1) Are existing Muni buildings under consideration? - Wardo
- 2) Is there a budget? - Wardo

- - Unknown budget, but maybe it can be placed as a bond or some other funding source – Felix Rivera
- 3) SWS will allow their building to be used for a shelter for 2 additional years, what about longer if needed?
- 4) Love Canal at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Ingra resulted in damages by the homeless. Is the Muni going to reimburse business owners for damages?- Avila
- 5) 77% of businesses are effected by the homeless will the Muni reduce or eliminate property tax penalties on businesses who are directly effected? - Avila
- 6) My daughter just reported from Singapore how clean the city is and that she could not see any homeless. What has been done in getting data collection of cities internationally? - Ken McCarty
- 7) Since the RFI has a short window to get submitted potential locations, what is the plan to get the request out to the public and realitors? - Wardo
- 8) What is the status of the Northway Mall? - Ken McCarty
  - The building has many repairable needs and the expected cost to fix the building is too great - Felix Rivera

## **SYNOPSIS**

The process until now has been slow and delayed. Now the expectation is to create an RFI, which has not been created, and disseminate it to the community with feedback for a sub-group of 3 to review and get a refined answer within 19 days, which Thanksgiving week is part of the 19 days.

Felix Rivera stated that he would like to see multiple shelters created for 150 rather than one shelter. Research has verified that limited shelters are better than multiple shelters as there is not redundancy of operational necessities. The slow process of the task for to this point may find it more appropriate to get one center going first then consider duplicating efficacious effects. The emphasis of this Task Force is to not duplicate failures of previous attempts for the homeless.

If you have any ideas or suggests please give me a call.

Ken McCarty