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**Midtown Strategic Planning Session  
Report  
October 2023**

In October 2023, the Anchorage Midtown Community Council invited a small group of business and community leaders to discuss:

**Purpose/Target:** How to improve the safety in Midtown, Anchorage

**Dates:** October 23, 2023 (9:00a-12:00p / 2:00p–5:00p) and October 25, 2023 (2:00p–5:00p)

**Participants:**

- Kris Stoechner (Midtown Community Council)
- Greg McDonald (Midtown Community Council)
- Mike Mason (Midtown Community Council)
- Felix Rivera (Anchorage Assembly)
- Kyle Mirka (Allen & Peterson)
- Brian McCutcheon (South Central Foundation)
- Mike Bridges (First National Bank)
- Jared Solberg (Natural Pantry) (*Note: Attended 10/25/23 only*)

**Facilitator:** Karen Kirk / Synergistic Solutions

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**Process:**

*Please note: This was a small (not all inclusive) group of leaders' broad stroke, first step attempt to address the target.*

The focus topic was identified as: **Reduce Crime and Vandalism in Midtown.**

The group used the following structured discussion process to address the focus topic:

- Step 1: Identify potential causes-of and contributors-to crime and vandalism in Midtown
  - Discuss and identify high priorities
- Step 2: Identify suggestions-to-address high priority causes-of and contributors-to (from Step 1)
  - Discuss and identify high priorities
- Step 3: Identify (broad stroke measures for) how to implement high priority suggestions (from Step 2)



## ACTION-ITEMS / DELIVERABLES:

- **Results of Step 3: Broad stroke implementation steps** for high prioritized suggestions-to-address causes-of and contributors-to crime and vandalism in Midtown:
  - **To address Mental Health and Substance 'Miss-use' Issues:**
    - Advocate: to Assembly and State to increase funding for services and detox beds
      - **Action:**
        - **Point person/lead: Mike Mason, Brian McCutcheon**
          - (Connect with: Michelle Baker and Katie Baldwin-J)
        - **Contact: Develop inventory/list of providers (tribal, nontribal, MHTA) Build coalition of individuals and entities who will identify champions and advocates to coordinate effort**
        - **Prep work needed: collect coalitions and municipal data on: crime, damage reports, number of homeless, etc.; collect health dept. data on: number of individuals not being served, waitlists, number of detox beds vs. demand, etc.; identify costs being incurred by inaction**
        - **Approach: Organize public testimony in support of proposal (relationship based / strength and outcome focused)**
          - Q4 23 – Coalition
          - Q1 24 - State
    - Provide a small navigation center (to route people to mental health & substance miss-use services)
      - Note: *This offers 1-1 meetings with people to share general information to help individuals 'get started' with programs/assistance/etc. It does not have services available on-site. It is not a treatment facility or bed-site.*
      - **Action:**
        - **Point person/lead: Mike Mason, Brian McCutcheon**
        - **Contact: Community and mental health center operators (Note: Same partners as deliverable above)**
        - **Prep work needed: Costs being incurred by inaction (Note: Same data as deliverable above)**
          - **Potentially a: Mobile roving vehicle**
        - **Approach: Midtown Community Council**
          - Q1 24