



Update



Homeless Strategy Division

City Council Work Session

June 1, 2021

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Briefing Topics



➤ **Resolution No. 20210506-070**

Update regarding the possible creation of sanctioned encampments for people experiencing homelessness.

➤ **Update on American Rescue Plan Framework**

Summary cost projections related to homelessness

Overview



- Background
- Initial and Secondary Criteria for Encampment Locations
- Council Consensus on Criteria
- Implementation Schedule
- Proposed Funding Source
- American Rescue Plan
- Budget projections
- Homeless Response System Overview

Background



- On May 6, 2021, Austin City Council adopted Resolution No. 20210506-070, directing the City Manager to provide information and analysis regarding possible sanctioned encampments for people experiencing homelessness in the City of Austin.
- On May 14, 2021, staff provided the initial memo, and subsequently briefed City Council during the May 18, 2021 work session.

Initial and Secondary Criteria for Encampment

On May 18, 2021, City staff presented preliminary site selection criteria for designated city owned land encampments for consideration.

The criteria that staff applied in examining options for use of city-owned land are comprised of two categories.

- Base Criteria
- Secondary Criteria

City of Austin Property for Sanctioned Encampments

- **Results of Initial Analysis:** Applying the Secondary Criteria severely limits using City-owned property as an option.
- **Council Input:** Staff seeks Council's direction to identify the highest- priority Secondary Criteria
- **Continued Analysis:** Utilizing refined criteria, staff will continue to analyze the remaining list of prospective properties, with adequate time to fully understand the legal, infrastructure, and environmental aspects of each parcel.
- **Community Engagement:** Should feasible City-owned parcels be identified, staff will engage in community engagement around subject properties.
- **Recommendation to Council:** Based on results of previous steps, make final site and recommendations to City Council.

Implementation Schedule Phase I: June 2021

Designated Encampments

- Continue to assess viable options for City-owned land and other potential properties
- Compile information on known private sources of land, operational supports, social services, and/or equipment, including individual shelter structures

Restoration of Shelter Capacity

- Request Stage 2 occupancy guidelines for congregate shelter from the Health Authority
- Establish timeline and protocols for restoring capacity, where feasible

Conversion of Leased Motel(s) to Bridge Shelter

- Demobilize remaining ProLodges under the emergency public health response
- If feasible, execute or extend leases on one or more motel properties for one year
- Assess options for contracting with existing site managers and service providers for ongoing operations

Implementation Schedule Phase II: July 2021

Designated Encampments

- Work with the Office of Real Estate as needed on any non-City of Austin property
- Plan initial project or projects assuming an operational period of two-years
- Issue a Request for Information (RFI). The RFI process will allow the City to identify:
 - Partners that might provide property, equipment, operational capacity, and/or services
 - Projected costs of any contracted services, and opportunities to leverage resources

Congregate Shelters

- Expand capacity, depending on COVID Risk Stage guidance

Conversion of Leased Motel(s) to Bridge Shelter

- Finalize any agreements needed for operations and services.
- Target occupancy of first hotel by July 15th

Implementation Schedule Phase III: August 2021

Designated Encampments

- Negotiate agreements/contracts for up to a two-year period
- Operationalize at least one designated encampment site

Congregate Shelters

- Continue to adjust capacity as per COVID Risk Stage guidance

Conversion of Leased Motel(s) to Bridge Shelter

- Open any additional bridge shelter, if applicable

Proposed Funding Source

- American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) total \$4.7 million
 - \$4.2 million will cover the initial costs for hotel rental, food service, behavioral health services and social services
 - Future Requests for Council Action for ongoing funding
 - \$500K for non-profit capacity building related to scaling up of homeless service capacity
- Proposed budget amendment for Council consideration on June 10

Community Investment Breakdown

\$4.2 million in funding would serve an estimated number of 400 individuals *

\$1,404,000 for lease

\$1,319,840 for 24/7 operational staff and security (not APD)

\$421,575 for meals for 55 guests (1 per room) OR

\$766,500 for meals for 100 guests (2 per room for most rooms)

\$505,286 for laundry, fencing, pest services, decontaminate/cleaning, supplies, misc.

\$148,080 for behavioral health services (2 FTEs and minimal client assistance)

\$3,798,781 for 55 guests* (1 per room) **OR \$4,143,706 for 100 guests*** (2 per room for 45 rooms, 1 per room for 10 rooms)

**These figures are estimates only and subject to change. Staff anticipates housing up to 100 guest every 90 days.*



Discussion



American Rescue Plan: Funding for Homelessness



- Economic Recovery May 18th recommendation : \$84M
- Council Request: Detail on overall budget and uses of funds
- Today:
 - High-Level Investment Categories for projected \$515M total
 - Projected committed/anticipated funding to date
 - Total projected gap to be secured
- Placeholder - City \$84M funding as proportion of gap
- Balance from other sources: \$209M



Budget Projections: Services and Activities

Category	Total Projected Cost	Committed or Anticipated (Projected)	Projected Gap	Proposed City of Austin ARP (Proportional Across Gap)
Crisis Services <i>Diversion & Outreach</i>	\$7.3M	\$0.5M	\$6.8M	\$1.95M
Core Housing Programs <i>Rapid Exit, Rapid Rehousing, Permanent Supportive Housing, Targeted Prevention</i>	\$203.3M	\$70.5M	\$132.8M	\$38.11M
Other Services <i>Substance Use Disorder Services, Employment, Benefits Enrollment, etc.</i>	\$16.8M	--	\$16.8M	\$4.82M
System Capacity Building <i>Organizational Development, Training, Workforce Recruitment & Retention, Communications, System Management</i>	\$12.7M	--	\$12.7M	\$3.64M
Capital Investment <i>Development of PSH and other dedicated housing units</i>	\$275.0M	\$151.1M*	\$123.9M	\$35.56M
TOTALS	\$515.1M	\$222.1M	\$293.0M	\$84.0M

*includes separate \$11M ARP capital funds to Housing & Planning Department

Homeless Response System: Terms



Crisis Resources

- Diversion (problem-solving at point of entry)
- Outreach (engaging and connecting)
- Temporary Shelter
 - Congregate Shelter (e.g. ARCH, Salvation Army)
 - Non-Congregate Shelter (e.g. Southbridge Shelter)
 - Designated Encampments

Homeless Response System Re-Housing

- Short, Medium, and Long-Term
 - Rapid Exit (one to three months of rent)
 - Rapid Rehousing (up to two years of case management & rental supports)
 - Permanent Supportive Housing (intensive services & rent supports, not time limited)
- Targeted Prevention (as needed for those *previously* homeless)

Discussion

