

CITY OF PALM DESERT STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: March 14, 2024

PREPARED BY: Jason Austin, Homeless and Supportive Services Manager

REQUEST: APPROVE THE 2024 HOMELESSNESS TASKFORCE ANNUAL WORK PLAN

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the 2024 Homelessness Taskforce Annual Work Plan.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

At the July 11, 2022, Homelessness Taskforce Meeting, priorities for fiscal year 2022/23 were adopted as identified in the June 3, 2022, Strategic Planning Session. Prior to the Strategic Planning Session, Homelessness Taskforce Members and Community Partners were asked to complete a survey on the city's homeless program strengths, weaknesses and opportunities for growth. Strategic priorities identified focused on identifying supportive services in the following areas:

- Mental Health, Substance Use and Medical Services
- Affordable Housing
- Housing Programs and Supportive Services

The Homelessness Taskforce has discussed potential work plan and committee goals including:

- Increased Street Outreach and Engagement Efforts
- Supportive Services Coordination between the City and Provider Agencies
- Increased homeless shelter access

In addition, the Taskforce has reviewed and approved categories to build an effective System of Care for those experiencing homelessness in the City as part of the work plan. These five categories include: Outreach and Engagement, Shelter, Housing, Supportive Services, and Community Programs.

	Category	Services	Update
1.	Outreach & Engagement	Increase street outreach services through request for proposal (RFP) with focus on street substance use and service linkage	Successful completion of RFP with selection of City Net Outreach Provider
2.	Shelter	Facilitate Partnership Agreement with Coachella Valley Rescue Mission (CVRM) for five dedicated city shelter beds	Successful completion of partnership agreement

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3.	Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased street outreach to develop housing access plans for those experiencing homelessness in the city • Continue coordination with Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) to house individuals through the CV200 Program 	Successful coordination with Outreach Providers and CVAG
4.	Supportive Services	Coordinate with County Behavioral Health System and Health Plans to increase linkage to mental health, substance use, physical health and supportive housing programs	Coordination with County and Community Health Programs
5.	Community Programs	Increase access to information and services for vulnerable populations in the city including development of city website and resource directories	Development of city website with printable and online resource guides

Appointed Body Recommendation:

At the March 4, 2024, Homelessness Taskforce Meeting, the Committee reviewed and approved the work plan.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Costs for Homeless Services Programs are covered by Opioid Settlement and Permanent Local Housing Allocation (PLHA) Funding, therefore there is no additional impact to the General Fund.