

**City of Bend and Deschutes County
Emergency Homelessness Task Force Meeting
September 28, 2021**

The meeting of the Emergency Homelessness Task Force was called to order at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, September 28, 2021, online and by phone.

Convene Meeting: Brittani Manzo, Housing & Homelessness Policy Strategist & Facilitator, Carolyn Eagan, City of Bend Strategy and Impact Officer, Colleen Sinsky, Central Oregon Fuse Program Manager, Colleen Thomas, Deschutes County, Deschutes County Health Services Homeless Coordinator, Elaine Knobbs-Seasholtz, Mosaic Medical Director of Strategy & Development, Eric King, City of Bend City Manager, Erik Kropp, Deschutes County Deputy County Administrator, Kathy Skidmore, Central Oregon Veterans Outreach Executive Director, Kay Vincent, City of Bend Human Rights and Equity Commissioner, Ian Leitheiser, City of Bend Assistant City Attorney, Janice Garceau, Deschutes County Behavioral Health Director, John Lodise, Shepard's House Ministries Director of Emergency Services, Keith Witcosky, City of Redmond City Manager, Mary Winters, City of Bend City Attorney, Megan Perkins, City of Bend Councilor, Molly Wells Darling, Deschutes County Health Services Program Manager, Patty Wilson, Neighbor Impact Deputy Executive Director, Phil Chang, Deschutes County Commissioner, Shelly Smith, City of Bend, Senior Management Analyst, Stacey Witte, REACH Founder & Executive Director, Tom Anderson, Deschutes County Chief Administrator, David Brant, Housing Works Executive Director, Mickie Derting, City of Bend Strategic Initiatives Manager, Tammy Baney, Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council Executive Director (COIC), Anna Bohac, Faith-Based Jericho House Board Member, Carlos Salcedo, St. Charles Health System Manager, Elizabeth Wilson, J Bar J Youth Services Central Oregon Program Manager, Mike Krantz, Chief of Bend Police, Shane Nelson, Deschutes County Sheriff, Tricia Wilder, PacificSource Central Oregon Coordinated Care Organization Director, Jon Riggs, Nick Lelack, Deschutes County Administrator, Sargent Janes, Deschutes County Sheriff's Office

1. Welcome & Introductions

2. Governance/Joint Office

Carolyn Eagan, City of Bend Strategy and Impact Officer, presented the following on the authorized encampments:

- City is still pursuing the 9th Street encampment site – looked into what the trail alignment should be and what the conflicts could be
- There will be a meeting between the City Council and the First Presbyterian Church of Bend within the next 10 days
- A small group at the City will be drafting a Request for Proposal (RFP)
 - The hope is to share with the community partners, church leaders and make it public at the October 6, 2021 Council meeting
 - Have the RFP set up to first ask for operators specifically at the 9th Street location – other locations as they become ready to use

- South Third Street to be the next location to look into – the City has a letter drafted to send to Gary Farnsworth at the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
 - ODOT has indicated that they want to do a purchase of the property – still working out the streamline surplus then the acquisition process will follow
- Looking into a County owned parcel that is surrounded by irrigation on three sides
- Looking at another City owned parcel that have utility operations – will happen before the October 6, 2021 Council meeting
- Looking at a five-acre site off of Boyd Acres – property owners are willing to entertain a proposal
- Meeting with Michelle Healy with Bend Parks and Recreation, to see if they have any potential sites
- City staff sent a letter to the Central Oregon Community College (COCC) Board to see if they have any land holdings that could be used for surplus, housing, land holdings that could be used in the interim as a shelter or if they would consider hosting a safe parking program

David Brandt, Housing Works Executive Director, presented the following updates on sustainability and financing for public permanent supportive housing:

- Received a \$2 million pledge from Deschutes County and will be requesting some funds from the City's Affordable Housing Fund in the next few weeks – would make the project competitive for the remaining of the State funding

3. Strategic Planning Scope

Brittani Manzo, Housing & Homelessness Policy Strategist & Facilitator, presented the following slides:

- Emergency Homelessness Task Force Purpose
- Timeline
- Collaborating Agencies
- Strategic Plan

Members discussed the following on the Strategic Planning Scope:

- A five-year strategic plan would be more tangible and a ten-year plan would be a living document
- Important for the City of Bend and Redmond be involved in a partnership to make sure this is a collaborative process – help lean forward from the government to collaborate together around the strategic plan
- Formal memorialization of an agreement or participation
- Partners being held accountable – action and strategies
 - Name specific entities and what each would do
- Missing those who have or had lived experience

4. Gaps Analysis

Manzo presented the following slides:

- Gap Analysis
- Demographic Data
- Services
- Governance

Members discussed the following on the Gap Analysis:

- Homeless Leadership Coalition (HLC) is working on the demographic data – looking for people to fill some roles that are not being filled
- Create an organization for HLC and have an informal network of people who do not have to run an actual non-profit or corporation
- Jericho House’s count is dependent on the weather
- There is a gap of people experiencing homelessness and those who are homeless every day on an ongoing basis – needs to be emphasized in any solution
- Task force should look at the school’s accounts – it is significantly higher because, a lot of the homeless youth are in schools
- Send out the HUD definitions of all types of homelessness
- Include women, elderly and people from Central Oregon in the demographics
- Task force to look more into Central Oregon’s growth, the economic growth, and visual growth (size of) the region
- Inpatient treatment centers are apt to put someone through their program if the individual does not have a home to go to afterwards

Members discussed the following on the “System Governance” letter that was sent to the County Commissioners:

- Important to make HLC a strong partner and does not become government run – make sure HLC’s work is not being duplicated
- This needs to be addressed regionally – include Jefferson County and Confederate Tribes of Warm Springs
- New programs or ventures should align with HLC
- There are conflicts of interest with the HLC’s Independent Review Team that reviews the Notice of Funding Opportunities applications - opportunities and gaps that the EHTF could help with
- Identify whose job this is –
 - Need more capacity to work on homeless initiatives in the region and would need that capacity to be dedicated and focused as opposed to borrowed from places where other priorities are pulling for their attention
 - Coordination on efforts - joint efforts between County and the other cities in the region, law enforcement and health agencies
 - Homelessness is a public health issue and a housing issue
- Representative Jason Kropf is looking for pilot programs to fund so that the State can step up and incentivize cities and counties that are demonstrating they are working with each other
- Start with Deschutes County before going regional
- Deschutes County to partner with the City of Bend
- What can entities do to help groups become service providers?

- City of Eugene bought into a plan called Messy Camps
- Task force to look into the Poverty and Homelessness Board in Lane County

5. Next Steps and Closing

Manzo presented the following next steps

- Next meeting is October 26, 2021 – building out the gap analysis.

Adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kayla M. Duddy,
Deputy City Recorder