

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE **September 14, 2017**

Honorable Members of the Human and Social Needs Committee:
Councilmember Casey Thomas, II (Chair), Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Adam Medrano (Vice Chair),

TO Mayor Pro Tem Dwaine R. Caraway, Councilmember Omar Narvaez,
Councilmember Mark Clayton, Councilmember B. Adam McGough

SUBJECT **Resilience Responses**

On Tuesday, September 5, 2017, the Human and Social Needs Committee was briefed on the Resilience Update by Chief of Resilience, Theresa O'Donnell. Attached are the responses to questions asked by Councilmember Casey Thomas, II, Chair.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nadia' followed by a stylized surname.

Nadia Chandler-Hardy
Chief of Community Services

[Attachment]

c: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Larry Casto, City Attorney
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
Billerae Johnson, City Secretary (Interim)
Daniel F. Solis, Administrative Judge
Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager

Jo M. (Jody) Puckett, Assistant City Manager (Interim)
Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer
Raquel Favela, Chief of Economic Development & Neighborhood Services
Theresa O'Donnell, Chief of Resilience
Directors and Assistant Directors

Questions and responses on Resilient Dallas briefing presented at the Human and Social Needs Committee on September 5, 2017.

What factors contributed to the poverty rate increasing 42 percent between 2000-2014?

- The change in poverty rate was determined using US Census data and while the Census information reveals “what” is happening with this demographic shift, it does not explain “why” Dallas is experiencing this trend. The Mayor’s Taskforce on Poverty (MTFP) has examined a number of factors that contribute to the trend. Specifically, the MTFP has identified the following drivers of poverty:
 - low educational attainment rates/low adult literacy
 - undocumented status
 - low home ownership rates
 - quality of affordable rental units available
 - transportation costs
 - single female heads of household
 - teen pregnancy rates
 - crime and violence rates in neighborhoods of concentrated poverty
 - inadequate physical environmental conditions found in neighborhoods of concentrated poverty
 - food deserts and lack of retail and commercial services

How do you define “asset poverty?”

- Asset poverty is defined as a person or family who does not have sufficient assets to live for three months at the federal poverty level should they lose their source of income.
- According to a 2012 report by the Communities Foundation of Texas, Assets & Opportunity Profile:
 - 39% of households in the City of Dallas live in asset poverty
 - 19% of families in the City of Dallas live in income poverty
 - 45% of households in the City of Dallas with children live in asset poverty

What factors have contributed to residents being left outside of the robust North Central Texas economy?

- A number of workforce development studies indicate a strong correlation between low educational attainment rates with persons outside of the labor force, particularly for people who hold a high school diploma or less. These individuals do not have the workforce skills necessary to obtain higher paying available jobs in the metroplex. Other significant factors include the challenges presented by being a single parent, the cost and availability of quality, affordable day care, and commute times that exceed thirty-five minutes or more to employment.

What is “service provision?”

- The City has not historically provided general workforce development services to residents. However, the Office of Economic Development has recently deployed a pilot program that utilizes partnerships with independent service providers to offer workforce readiness training. Other programs include GED and ESL classes available through the Dallas Public Library in addition to the numerous non-profit and private sector service providers and organizations that also offer these services to residents as well.

How do we get these resources to the most vulnerable in our community?

- Our research indicates a significant gap between the number of residents who need services and those who are currently receiving services. The City's workforce readiness pilot program is an effort to bridge this gap by providing access to services closer to where residents live. Staff believes we can strengthen our partnerships with non-profits, educational providers, and employers and improve outcomes by meeting residents in their neighborhoods rather than requiring them to commute long distances to services.

Why are we in the health care business?

- Dallas Fire and Rescue currently provides EMS service to more than 200,000 residents a year, via ambulance runs. Staff is researching this growing trend. However, it is worth noting that the majority of Dallas taxpayers also pay for Parkland Health and Hospital systems. If DFR can reduce the demand on emergency services, we may also impact costs incurred at Parkland thereby benefiting Dallas taxpayers.

How many of these runs are for seniors?

- Staff does not currently have data necessary to respond to this inquiry; however, we are currently working with DFR to develop an answer to this question.

Can't the senior transportation service provide these rides?

- Staff does not currently have data necessary to respond to this inquiry; however, we are currently working with DFR to develop an answer to this question.

How much money and time would we save from our fire and rescue budget if we did this?

- We hope to be able to calculate this once we have completed our Phase II work.

Do you have a policy recommendation for this?

- We intend to have policy recommendations developed and vetted through the Fire Department at the conclusion of our Phase II work.

Can you provide an example of what the resilience “heatmap” would look like?

- These maps would be a data visualization similar to the poverty map that was contained on page 18 of the Resilience Update briefing wherein the degree to which poverty exists in a particular location is indicated by color. The poverty map shifts from red to yellow to green depending on the concentration of poverty in a neighborhood. A resilience heatmap would function in the same way, but would combine a number of different data sets in addition to poverty to illustrate how resilient a neighborhood is to the social, economic, and physical challenges present in that neighborhood.

How do we identify “transportation costs?”

- Most residents move around the metroplex by private automobile today. In this case, transportation costs typically include the cost to own, operate, and maintain a vehicle. This would include things like car payment, registration, insurance, fuel, and maintenance (*please see footnote 1 below*).
- Alternatively, the Resilience effort has been focused on people who rely on public transportation. In the case of transit, transportation costs are defined by the cost of fare for transit service on an annual basis (*please see footnote 2*).
- Travel time should also be considered as a transportation cost, especially as we explore the challenge for low-income individuals and families who do not have the choice to live within close proximity to job opportunities, health care facilities, grocery stores, or other retail and commercial services that provide needed amenities and increase quality of life.

Footnotes:

(1) The American Automobile Association (AAA) publishes a [Your Driving Costs](#) report on an annual basis. This publication provides information about the varying costs of car ownership for different types of cars such as small, medium, and large sedans, utility vehicles, etc. For 2016, AAA estimated that the average annual cost of ownership for a sedan was \$8,558.

(2) As proposed, DART will be implementing a \$96 monthly pass (\$1,152 annually) in 2018.

Citizens' Advisory Committee Members

| NAME | ORGANIZATION |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Regina Montoya | Mayor's Task Force on Poverty |
| Dr. Baranda Fermin | Faith in Texas |
| Michelle Kinder | Momentous Institute |
| Duane Dankesreiter | Greater Dallas Regional Chamber |
| Timothy M. Bray, PhD | University of Texas at Dallas, Institute for Urban Policy Research |
| Reverend Richie Butler | St. Paul United Methodist Church |
| Teresa Jackson | Sharing Life |
| Mirjam Kirk | Family Gateway |
| Cyndy Lutz | Dallas Area Habitat for Humanity |
| Leonor Marquez | Los Barrios Unidos Community Clinic |
| Miguel Solis | Dallas Independent School District |
| Susan Hoff | United Way of Metropolitan Dallas |
| Elizabeth Sobel Blum | Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas |
| Eva Szalkai Csaky, PhD MSF | Southern Methodist University, Hunt Institute for Engineering & Humanity |
| Michael Gagne | Healthcare Solutions, North America Sales for Information Builders |

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SUBJECT **Teen Pregnancy Initiative Responses**

On Tuesday, September 5, 2017, the Human and Social Needs Committee was briefed on the Teen Pregnancy Initiative by Terry Greenberg, North Texas Alliance to Reduce Unintended Pregnancy in Teens CEO. Attached are the responses to the questions asked by committee.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nadia'.

Nadia Chandler-Hardy
Chief of Community Services

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Theresa O'Donnell, Chief of Resilience
Directors and Assistant Directors

Recommendations/Questions and responses on the Teen Pregnancy Initiative briefing presented at the Human and Social Needs Committee on September 5, 2017.

Please provide a pdf copy of the collateral material work with Milwaukee.

- I am requesting permission to share this copyrighted material, but much of it can be viewed at:
<https://youtu.be/pE7j4JD7a8E>
<https://www.unitedwaygmwc.org/Teen-Pregnancy-Prevention-Campaigns>

What financial input comes from other municipalities?

- There is none, but I think we should first look to the County. I am not sure who at the City would assist or attend this meeting, can you find out?

Get with Superintendent Hinojosa to intensify the conversation within DISD.

I have reached out to him several times, and keep getting passed down the chain. Perhaps Councilman Caraway and I can request this meeting together. I feel I can access more private funding if we get DISD on board with us.

Create a stronger initiative on boys; Former Dallas Cowboy Larry Brown and Councilmember Casey Thomas, II would like to be involved.

- We are in full agreement and would love to meet and plan this initiative.

Reach out to broadcasting stations that the youth listen to and make sure general managers communicate.

- Again, I will reach out to some, but having a Councilman with me or requesting the meetings would be a huge help. Should I work with Councilman Caraway on that?

Redefine programs that will work to keep the youth busy.

- I think we can help by offering a list of resources from the Ntarrupt partner agencies

Get with state to help enforce child support.

- Great thought. We are not working on this part, but the DISD parenting coordinators may be interested in joining the effort

Mayor Pro Tem Caraway invites you to the Youth Commission to present and get feedback from the youth on how to communicate with the youth.

- We are so excited to be presenting to them next week and look forward to working with them in depth!

What does the partnership with RISD looks like and any additional asks you would like from them other than the changing of the curriculum?

- The partnership really was just support in changing the curriculum and picking an appropriate one. Additionally, we invite all the local ISD's to participate in our student film contest. We can provide an out of school education to any of them, but that would not be free, or we can provide technical assistance to any ISD in training teachers on curriculum and related issues. We have a formal partnership with DISD to deliver curricula after- school in certain high schools, but it depends on the support of individual principals – has been slow in coming.