

Memorandum



DATE September 29, 2016
TO Dallas Commission on Homelessness
SUBJECT Preparation for October 18th Meeting

Friends and Colleagues:

The purpose of this note is simply to give you an update in advance of our October 18 meeting.

Facilities. Bernadette Mitchell convened a group earlier in the week to discuss facilities and a process to determine the viability of potential facilities to support a capacity expansion for more beds. They expect to meet at least one time before we our full group gets back together and we will expect a report at that time.

Shelters and Shelter Services. Karen Hughes hosted a group yesterday at Vogel Alcove to review issues relevant to shelters as well as a more comprehensive review of the overall situation. The group spent considerable time discussing the need for increased local government engagement, the lack of adequate resources, and the need for a sustainable funding plan. The group also discussed the need for a formal and permanent quasi public group to establish a higher level of accountability for all efforts to reduce homelessness.

Housing Next Steps. The Housing Subgroup will meet at City Square on Tuesday, October 4th from 5-6:30pm to begin to finalize there work. They are being supported by Kelly Opot, a consultant with the Corporation for Supportive Housing.

As we agreed, all of these meetings are open to all members of the commission interested in attending. The hope is that the ideas, as refined and detailed, can be discussed across the full group.

We anticipate the October 18 meeting to be the last full meeting of the group and we expect to finalize our work and report it out shortly thereafter. The following is the timeline we shared with the subcommittee chairs earlier this week:

October -- deadline for finalizing recommended strategies of subgroups
October -- draft of the report to full commission, including recommended strategies
October -- materials for October 18 distributed
October 18 - review of recommendations, discussion of report
October 25 - report finalized

Thank you for continued service and your ongoing efforts to being our work to a positive conclusion.

Britton Banowsky, Chair

c: Mayor Rawlings
Bob Wright
Vana Hammond
Scott Goldstein
Brenda Allen
Bernadette Mitchell

Cindy Crain
Alan Sims
Doug Martin
Jason Shipp
Matthew Villanueva
Nissy New

Rebecca Cox
Charletta Sharp
Alexandra Espinosa
David Gruber