

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE September 10, 2021

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Encampment Approach Process Update for the Dallas R.E.A.L. Time Rapid Rehousing (DRTRR) Initiative**

The purpose of this memo is to provide an update on the progress of the Encampment outreach plan as an integral component of the DRTRR Initiative, how it will impact each Council District, and upcoming meetings to be requested.

Encampment Approach Update

Per the August 4th briefing to the City Council on the DRTRR, the main thrust of the Initiative's outreach will be to those who are unsheltered, in encampments. The goal is to enroll all area unsheltered persons into the Coordinated Access System (CAS), provide on-site identification of needs through case managers hired by providers working with MDHA through the Continuum of Care (CoC), secure units through housing navigation provided by selected homeless service agencies, and rehouse program participants from the designated site(s) before closing the encampment(s) permanently.

As previously communicated, OHS Staff are utilizing 311 data in order to develop the encampment sites to be in our initial phase approach of the program. The sites will be prioritized based on size and complexity, starting with smaller groupings of unsheltered residents and progressing to larger ones. These sites will be targeted by provider case workers, tailored to the individuals needs of our unsheltered neighbors and co-led by OHS and MDHA.

During this time, a secondary list of "Hotspots," or areas where large numbers of unsheltered people gather during the day, but do not necessarily congregate at night will be targeted for outreach by the CoC Coordinated Outreach Leadership Workgroup. This group includes staff from OHS, MDHA, and partnering providers, who will be in the field, doing the day-to-day heavy lifting to support the implementation of the DRTRR. This will consist of OHS street outreach and DRTRR providers, who will plan consistent outreach to the identified sites with the goal of enrolling area unsheltered residents into the CAS. This will address the larger groups of individuals who might otherwise not fall under the scope of the encampment outreach but who also need access to housing.

Starting next week, OHS will request meetings with each Council Member to review the area(s) identified in your district and seek input on these. Official outreach to identified

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sites will begin October 1, 2021 as stated in the August 4th briefing and Interlocal Agreement with the Dallas Housing Authority (DHA) and Sole Source with MDHA, approved by City Council on August 25, 2021. Planning updates will continue prior to this date, switching over to progress updates via the DRTRR dashboard, hosted by MDHA when the first set of data for October is received in early November. As part of our ongoing monitoring and reporting, staff and MDHA will share a mockup of the dashboard with the Citizen Homeless Commission to garner their input, followed by a briefing to the Housing and Homelessness Solutions Committee for review in October.

For additional information about the DRTRR Initiative and/or to direct interested provider partners to additional information concerning the application process administered by MDHA, please [click here](#).

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact me or Christine Crossley, Director of Office of Homeless Solutions.



Kimberly Bizor Tolbert
Chief of Staff

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