HSC Community Outreach Meeting Minutes – November 15, 2022

Human Services Campus, Inc. hosted a Quarterly Community Outreach Meeting on Tuesday, November 15, 2022 at 6:00 pm via ZOOM. This report is submitted per Ordinance G-6799. Invitations were emailed to 522 people, and hard copy, postcard mailed to 569 people. More than 38 individuals participated.

The following is a report of the meeting:

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

HUMAN SERVICES CAMPUS UPDATE

Lisa Glow provided a few updates from CASS:

- Since June, the number of beds has increased from 470 to 600. The low barrier shelter is at capacity every day.
- The two primary purposes are safe emergency shelter and case management/housing resources.
- There are still plans to renovate the restrooms in the shelter at a reduced bid amount.

Amy Schwabenlender provided updates from the HSC, Inc.:

- Specific heat relief services were ended on September 30. Shade structures, tables, and chairs were purchased with the help of the City as a permanent amenity at the campus.
- On October 25, Home Depot brought over 300 volunteers to the campus to work on various improvement projects such as building gazebos, planting trees, and installing benches.
- The week of October 25, the number of unsheltered people was 937. The week of November 2, it was 906. The week of November 10, 764. This morning, it was back up to 876.
- Circle the City has started to take its mobile medical unit out into the neighborhood to assist with outreach and providing services.
- More fires have been reported in the area, so HSC is working with Police and Fire to figure out solutions.
- The Respiro sprung structure is averaging 90 people a night. The Lodestar Day Resource Center is averaging 70 women a night and St. Vincent de Paul is averaging 200 men a night.
- HSC has relaunched Project Connect events. The August event connected 200
 people to services. In September there was an event in Avondale and in October
 there was an event in North Phoenix. In November there will be an event in
 Apache Junction.

PHOENIX CITY COUNCIL DISTRICTS 7 & 8 UPDATE

None

CITY OF PHOENIX UPDATE

Commander Brian Freudenthal provided an update on behalf of the Phoenix Police Department

 Commander Freudenthal explained the most recent situations surrounding the campus involving a blanket fire and a miscarried fetus, a warming fire that spread, and the campus lockdown.

Scott Hall provided an update on behalf of the City of Phoenix

- Clean ups are taking place on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. The intention is to get back to a more thorough cleaning and the City is partnering with the HSC to figure out the most efficient and effective way to implement this.

Rachel Milne provided a few updates as well

- The City of Phoenix has created a new office of Homeless Solutions.
- Funding has increased across the Board including in and around the campus.
 This funding supports outreach staff, EMTs, case conferencing, and shelters such as Respiro and the Washington Relief Center. Two additional shelters are in the works.

MADISON PIONEERS COALITION UPDATE

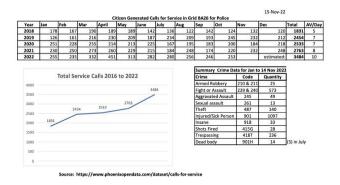
Bill Morlan gave an update on behalf of Madison Pioneers Coalition

- Some new neighbors have moved into the community and some buildings are being developed.
- The neighborhood is still seeing the issues that come from having 900 unsheltered people on the street, including fires.
- Bill stated that more has to be done, quickly.

COMMUNITY QUESTIONS AND RECAP

Question - Laurel Langmade: Please see the attached crime data. Will the HSC ever share their Crime Plan that is required per the stipulations? When asked in a previous meeting, they said they would not.

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Answer – Commander Freudenthal: Each week, these numbers are reviewed and analyzed. The increase in crime can be explained by an increase in population as well as a policy change that occurred in March 2022. 901 calls are now corresponded with the Fire Department. 901 is a radio code that was always on the books, however it was not in use until March 2022. The numbers are inflated over past years for that reason. Monthly the number of calls with the 901 code has been about 153 per month. Crime is anticipated to decrease from 2021 levels.

Amy Schwabenlender: The stipulations do not require HSC to have a plan for crime mitigation, only a security masterplan that is reviewed by the Police Department and is not intended to be a public facing document as it has sensitive information about security staffing and the location of security cameras.

Question – Brandi Ryan-Cabot: Hi Melissa, can we get the name of the new Homelessness Office again, and can we ask them if they have started working particularly with the different Phoenix Districts on additional shelters as designated in the Phoenix Homelessness Strategies?

Answer – Rachel Milne: The name of the office is the <u>Office of Homeless Solutions</u>. There is a comprehensive plan that encapsulates what has been done over the past six months. 769 new shelter beds are coming on board that will be part of shelters around the region.

Question – Chelsea Friday: Is the Office of Homeless Solutions working adjacent to the Homelessness Task Force?

Answer – Rachel Milne: The Office of Homeless Solutions used to be a function of the Human Services department and it now functions independently, reporting directly to the City Manager's Office. The Homelessness Task Force sunset when it completed its work in February 2022.

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Question – Angela Ojile: Is there any type of immediate emergency plan for what is happening in the neighborhood?

Answer – Scott Hall: Every day is an urgent issue and the City is working as fast as it possibly can to get people the services they need.

Question – Laurel Langmade: Whomever is helping with individual that need help with being injured or sick (1097) so far this year. So what are you all doing to help these people? If someone has a mis-carriage and leaves the fetus in the street, maybe that is a message you are not doing your job.

Answer – Commander Freudenthal: These calls are fire calls from people who are feeling sick. Unfortunately, many unsheltered people do not have the resources to access medical care so they will call the fire department for issues such as stomach pain.

David Schwartz: Circle the City plans to have a mobile unit out on the street to provide medical services to those who are unsheltered.

Question – Laurel Langmade: Why aren't streets being patrolled by HSC to prevent fires? The stipulations don't allow for meals to be served off campus, so why are people allowed to cook meals off campus?

Answer – Amy Schwabenlender: The HSC is not providing meals off campus, only in dining rooms. The HSC does not have the resources or authority to prevent people from cooking meals or having fires outside of the campus.

Scott Hall: The City is continually messaging out to the community that meals are available on the campus. There is a plan for increased messaging around the holidays. Commander Freudenthal: Many of these fires are not for cooking, but for warming. When it is cold at night, the police and fire departments are hesitant to put warming fires out if they are under control, as people may freeze without them.

Amy Schwabenlender announced that the next community meeting will be the first Tuesday of February, February 7, 2023. She reiterated that the HSC's security plan is only for the campus and the HSC has no authority over crime or security issues that happen within spaces outside of the campus. Circle the City is a federal qualified healthcare center that is open 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. 7 days a week and are intended for walk-ins and appointments.