



Poverty and Homelessness Board

Thursday, September 17, 2015

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Lane County Youth Services Serbu Campus, Carmichael Conference Room
2727 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Eugene

amended

AGENDA

Time	Topic
11:45 a.m.	Arrival and Lunch
12:00 p.m.	Welcome and Introductions <input type="checkbox"/> Self-introduce with your name and organizational affiliation
12:05	Public Comment Individuals who plan to offer comment must sign in with name and contact information prior to beginning of the meeting.
12:15	Follow-Up from Previous Meeting Approve Minutes of July 16, 2015 (<i>date of the last meeting</i>)
12:20	<u>Committee Reports</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <i>Steering Committee/ Pat Walsh</i>▪ <i>Legislative/ Steve Manela</i>▪ <i>Facilities / Jacob Fox</i>▪ <i>Veterans Committee/ Pat Farr</i>
12:40	Focus Topic 1: Proposed Strategic Plan/ Ken Van Osdol <i>Information/ Discussion</i>
1:25	Wrap up Summarize board decisions, assignments, and next steps
1:30	Planning the October 15 Agenda What new business should the PHB consider at its October 15 meeting? <u>Suggestions:</u>
1:35 p.m.	Adjourn

The Poverty and Homeless Board (PHB) is an action oriented group of elected officials, community stakeholders, and individuals who represent low-income and homeless people's concerns. The purpose of the PHB is to create innovative partnerships and programs that use best practices to reduce poverty and homelessness in Lane County. The PHB will work to generate resources, community and legislative support for housing and services to achieve its goals.

*Lane County Poverty and Homelessness Board
151 W. 7th Ave. Room 560
Eugene, OR 97401*

February 18, 2015

Dear Commissioner Bozievich, Mayor Lundberg and Mayor Piercy:

During January's Poverty and Homelessness Board meeting, Ken Neubeck, City of Eugene's Human Right's Commission member, presented on the issue of "Criminalization of Homelessness." After discussion and consideration by the Lane County Poverty and Homelessness Board, I respectfully request that your jurisdiction's elected officials body review local ordinances and policies that may criminalize our fellow citizens who are unhoused or unsheltered.

People who are unsheltered often must conduct much of their lives out in the open, such as eating, sleeping, resting, and relieving themselves. Citations, fines, arrests and jail for the unhoused for these life-sustaining activities can oftentimes serve as additional impediments to finding a job, medical care, qualifying for government assistance programs, and finding more permanent living quarters.

We ask that as you consider the range of potential repercussions from well-intentioned ordinances and policies that specifically relate to camping, business trespass letters, business sidewalk use permits, and public urination and defecation.

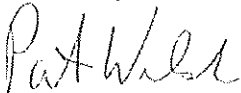
Many of these issues can be resolved more easily and less expensively than to simply make many of the necessary activities in the day-to-day lives of our homeless community illegal.

The unsheltered or unhoused members of our community deserve the opportunity to improve their lives: to escape homelessness and all that can come with it.

By adding the unnecessary burden and expense of a police record into the mix, ordinances that criminalize the life-sustaining activities of the homeless, only prolongs a person's journey from the street to a safe place to live.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Pat Walsh

Chair

Lane County Poverty & Homelessness Board

Lane County Sheriff's Office

Byron M. Trapp, Sheriff



August 10, 2015

Mr. Jay Bozievich
Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners
Lane County Board of County Commissioners
125 E 8th Avenue
Eugene, OR 97401

Dear Commissioner Bozievich:

This letter is in response to a request from the Lane County Poverty and Homelessness Board for a review of local ordinances and policies that may criminalize our fellow citizens who are unhoused or unsheltered.

Following review of the Lane Code, I find there are no county ordinances or policies that prohibit any person from engaging in "life sustaining activities." More specifically, there are no Lane Code prohibitions against activities such as; eating, sleeping, resting or urination and defecation. There is no requirement for a business sidewalk use permit. Lane County does have a camping ordinance but it is limited to regulating camping activity within county parks.

The Sheriff's Office does coordinate with area businesses through the use of business trespass letters and will continue to do so. I believe we have a duty to assist private property owners, including business owners, with complaints of private property trespass and damage.

The Sheriff's Office does not have a policy or practice of targeting homeless persons for enforcement. Our enforcement contacts with homeless persons are consistent with that of the general population; they are in response to complaints of criminal behavior. Furthermore, because the Sheriff's Office is chronically under-resourced, enforcement generally only occurs when no other resolution is available.

I am very supportive of efforts to address and resolve poverty and homelessness in our community and I recognize the significant benefits to the criminal justice system in doing so. As a member of the Lane County Poverty and Homelessness Board, I know Lane County is committed to this issue as well. I am confident Lane County's ordinances and policies do not criminalize our homeless population.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Byron Trapp".

Byron Trapp,
Sheriff

M E M O R A N D U M C I T Y O F S P R I N G F I E L D

COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE

DATE: 061115
TO: City Manager – Gino Grimaldi
FROM: Chief T. Doney
SUBJECT: Memo - criminalization of homelessness

This memorandum is in response to recent correspondence with the Lane County Poverty and Homelessness Board regarding criminalization of homelessness.

In looking at last year's statistics (2014), there were 6 separate incidents that resulted in a total of 11 individuals being cited/arrested for prohibited camping. One case resulting in enforcement actions against 5 individuals involved in an extensive camp with repeated problems. There was drug activity and additional issues that necessitated the services of DHS – Child Welfare. Two cases involved prohibited camping on property belonging to private businesses. One case involved illegal camping of at least 10 days and another incident involving illegal camping of at least 16 days.

In reviewing documents provided to the city, there was concern regarding laws that prohibited the following activities: camping in public, sleeping in public, begging in public, loitering/loafing/vagrancy, sitting/lying in public, sleeping in vehicles and food sharing.

The City of Springfield has municipal code that prohibits camping in public but none of the other listed laws of concern. It should be noted that many municipalities in the state/region and nation have similar laws.

Private businesses have the ability to trespass individuals from their property and request police assistance.

Springfield Police Officers have much more contact with the homeless population than is reflected in the numbers listed above. Often times this population suffers from substance abuse and mental health issues that inevitably result in police contact for behavioral issues/crimes and welfare checks. Sometimes these contacts result in referrals to appropriate social service providers, transports to sobering services or mental health evaluations and sometimes municipal or county jail for crimes.

It has been my experience that most often, officers attempt to take the path of least resistance when dealing with this population and arrest/incarceration is the last resort. We also have entered a partnership with CAHOOTS which also assists with dealing with this population.

cc: Deputy Chief Lewis
Lt. Rappe'



Mayor's Office
Kitty Piercy

March 16, 2015

Poverty and Homelessness Board
125 E. 8th Avenue
Eugene, OR 97401

Dear Mr. Walsh and members of the Lane County Poverty and Homelessness Board:

I received your letter dated February 18, 2015, requesting that the City of Eugene review local ordinances and policies that may criminalize unhoused and unsheltered citizens. At our March 9 City Council meeting, I briefly discussed your letter and the request. I did not receive a response from any councilor nor was any motion made.

In the City of Eugene, we have no law that makes being homeless a criminal activity. In fact, we spend considerable time and public resources on efforts and initiatives to provide affordable and transitional housing so that people may have homes. We also support a broad range of services for those who are unhoused. We are fully aware that these services are inadequate to meet all the needs for shelter and housing, and we continue to look for new and innovative ways to fill the gaps.

You are correct that those who cannot find shelter are challenged to find safe places to sleep and to have their basic needs met. That is why Eugene continues to work hard to find workable, sustainable solutions. At this time, we have chosen to partner with others in a concerted effort to reduce the numbers of unhoused. I have signed on to the Mayors Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness in 2015. Locally, we call this initiative Operation 365. When completed, we expect hundreds of unhoused veterans to be housed and to have access to social services that will support their success.

The challenge to provide veterans with housing is no small task and will require all of us to work together to coordinate and focus our efforts, one veteran at a time. The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is willing and eager to support us in this work. I believe it will benefit everyone to expend our collective efforts on providing housing for those who have served our country. It will reduce our unhoused population considerably and give us the opportunity to improve our entire system. It is time for such an important and much-needed leap forward.

The economic recovery will help reduce the numbers of unhoused folks, as will all of the work we are doing to provide more job opportunities. We will continue to push for improved mental health services, since this is one of the most significant issues faced by many of the unhoused. And we will continue to urge Congress and the State legislature to help us meet these needs. At its heart, this is a national issue.

Sincerely,

Kitty Piercy
Mayor

Poverty and Homelessness Board Committees

Steering

<i>Members</i>	<i>Staff</i>
Pat Walsh, <i>Chair</i>	Steve Manela
Dan Bryant, <i>Vice Chair</i>	Pearl Wolfe

Facilities & Housing Portfolio

<i>Members</i>	<i>Staff</i>
Jacob Fox <i>Chair</i>	Steve Manela
Anne Williams	Stephanie Jennings
Dan Bryant	Amanda McCluskey
Kitty Piercy	
Pat Walsh	
Paul Solomon	

End Veterans Homelessness (*Ad Hoc*)

<i>Members</i>	<i>Staff</i>
Pat Farr <i>Chair</i>	Steve Manela
Anne Williams	Pearl Wolfe
Cindy Leming	Amanda McCluskey
Jacob Fox	
Kitty Piercy	
Paul Solomon	

Legislative

<i>Members</i>	<i>Staff</i>
Kitty Piercy	Steve Manela
Pat Farr	Stephanie Jennings
Anne Williams	
Byron Trapp	
Dan Bryant	
Paul Solomon	

Strategic Planning

<i>Members</i>	<i>Staff</i>
Noreen Dunnells <i>Chair</i>	Steve Manela
John Radich	Pearl Wolfe
Kristina Payne	Amanda McCluskey
Pat Farr	Stephanie Jennings
Sean VanGordon	Erin Fifield

Evaluation & Information

<i>Members</i>	<i>Staff</i>
Cindy Leming	Steve Manela
Hugh Massengill	Pearl Wolfe
Pat Walsh	Amanda McCluskey
Shawn Murphy	Stephanie Jennings
	Erin Fifield

Homeless Management Information System

<i>Members</i>	<i>Staff</i>
Sean VanGordon	Lisè Stuart
	Steve Manela
	Pearl Wolfe
	Amanda McCluskey

Service Delivery

<i>Members</i>	<i>Staff</i>
Jacob Fox	Steve Manela
Janet Beckman	Pearl Wolfe
Shawn Murphy	Amanda McCluskey

last updated September 16, 2015



Proposed Strategic Plan

Poverty & Homelessness Board, September 17, 2015

The PHB's Strategic Planning Committee recognizes that the Board's ability to implement these goals and their supporting strategies depends heavily on: 1) the specific nature of each goal and strategy; 2) which member(s) of the PHB are already engaged in them or are best positioned to do so; and 3) how the board can most effectively apply its collective influence and resources to implement them.

Depending on the situation, the PHB may:

- *Participate* directly as an organization to implement a strategy;
- *Promote* a strategy by recommending implementation by one or more organizations (within or outside the Board);
- Be a *catalyst* to spark new and innovative action by organizations with the necessary resources, experience and expertise;
- *Advocate* and speak with a collective voice of support for a strategy;
- *Network* and create new partnerships as the best way to achieve success.

Time and the experience of working together on our common goals will show which paths work best and in which situations.

1. Strategic Focus: Availability and access to supportive housing and services

GOAL 1.1: Create additional housing opportunities for chronically homeless individuals and populations with particular needs (veterans, youth, domestic violence, mental illness, drug and alcohol abuse, and those exiting criminal justice, foster care and child welfare systems.)

	Strategy	Potential Partners	PHB Committee
a	Develop a 50-Unit Housing First apartment building with on-site behavioral health services.	HACSA	Facilities
b	Dedicate HUD housing vouchers and units for Housing First and special populations.	HACSA	Facilities
c	Develop assertive engagement "wrap around" services and supports to promote successful housing outcomes and move more individuals to independent living		Services
d	Develop tactics to help reduce the risk to private landlords and help incentivize them to rent to people with special needs (e.g., private market opportunities, navigators, etc.)		Services
e	Create a supportive housing production and operations plan for Lane County based on Lane Continuum of Care and Eugene-Springfield Consolidated data and plans that identifies a <i>long-term</i> funding plan, outlines targeted needs, funding sources, and timelines, and "maps" the coordination of applications by various agencies.		Facilities
f	Develop and dedicate additional units and rental assistance for Veterans to meet the goal of ending veteran homelessness.		Veterans
g	Align funding sources strategically to leverage and match up new funds for additional units, operations, rental assistance and services		Executive

GOAL 1.2: Promote and explore the possibilities of creating medical respite to include people who are actively using alcohol and drugs.

	Strategy	Potential Partners	PHB Committee
a	Create a 16-35-bed emergency shelter for medical assessment and care (infirmar beds) to provide immediate medical care and triage medical problems.	Trillium, local hospitals	Facilities
b	Leverage resources by expanding the “medical respite model” currently in use.	Trillium	Facilities
c	Encourage Safety Net Medical Providers (i.e., Volunteers in Medicine (VIM), Occupy Medical Community Health Centers and White Bird Clinic) to collaboratively develop a model to provide emergency medical care for homeless individuals.	United Way 100% Health Coalition	Services

2. Strategic Focus: Prevention of homelessness and poverty

GOAL 2.1: Increase stability of low-income families with children in the seven Lane County neighborhoods with the highest concentrated poverty (urban and rural). Ensure they are stably housed and have adequate employment income and/or benefits to meet their basic needs.

	Strategy	Potential Partners	PHB Committee
a	Develop affordable childcare, food pantries, and employment services for residents at affordable housing developments.		Services

GOAL 2.2: Reduce first-time homelessness among low-income families with children and school age youth.

	Strategy	Potential Partners	PHB Committee
a	Explore working with the school districts to promote homeless diversion services.		Services
b	Engage the University of Oregon (student research) to analyze data to determine the most effective and efficient interventions to prevent homelessness in at-risk low-income families.		Services

GOAL 2.3: Increase employment opportunities, education, and employment and training activities for participants who are chronically in poverty, and/or homeless with special needs.

	Strategy	Potential Partners	PHB Committee
a	Start employment and training activities targeting people who are on the Coordinated Entry Wait List utilizing housing and employment navigators (i.e. develop an employment and training program for people who are homeless and individuals with significant employment barriers; create more collaboration opportunities among job training partners.)	Lane Workforce Partnership	Services/ Ad-Hoc Work Group

3. Strategic Focus: Coordinated information systems and public awareness

GOAL 3.1: Increase public awareness of poverty and homelessness.

	Strategy	Potential Partners	PHB Committee
a	Develop a brand and communication plan for PHB. Tactics: messaging toward community understanding of poverty and homelessness, dispel myths; create common language among community leaders; develop opportunities for people to make <i>concrete</i> contributions; engage the business community in social action efforts; share data on cost savings to community re: over utilization of jails, emergency rooms, and mental health systems overuse.	PR firm	Executive/Ad-Hoc Work Group
b	Promote the capabilities of the Coordinated Entry System, in conjunction with HMIS, to identify the characteristics or trends of high need individuals in the homeless system.		HMIS

GOAL 3.2: Advocate for changes to state and federal policies and procedures that will remove barriers to service delivery and will support collaborative efforts to reduce poverty and homelessness.

	Strategy	Potential Partners	PHB Committee
a	Align and coordinate legislative agendas (early) with other groups that are working on similar efforts or have common interests. Develop a one-page "leave behind" sheet with key talking points. Coordinate with federal and state agencies.		Legislative

4. Strategic Focus: Coordinated systems of housing and service delivery

GOAL 4.1: Increase opportunities to enhance services through service integration and coordination, and the development of new partnerships with affordable housing, healthcare, employment and training, education, and corrections.

	Strategy	Potential Partners	PHB Committee
a	PHB acts as a catalyst to create a Frequent Users Systems Engagement (FUSE) Workgroup as part of an initiative to break the cycle of incarceration and homelessness among individuals with complex behavioral health challenges who are the highest users of jails, hospitals, emergency medical, homeless shelters and encampments and other crisis service systems.	Inter-governmental	Services/Ad Hoc Work Group
b	PHB acts as a catalyst to create an Employment and Housing Workgroup to engage employment and training and housing providers to focus their resources to implement new targeted efforts.	Lane Workforce Partnership	Services/Ad Hoc Work Group

Providing Our Veterans
A Hand Up Not A Hand Out



**SEPTEMBER 25
LANE COUNTY
FAIRGROUNDS**

796 West 13th Ave, Eugene

2015 SERVICES

Medical Services
Limited Dental Assistance
Vision Care
Two Hot Meals
Haircuts
Toiletries
Civilian Clothing
Women's Services
Bike Repair
Animal Care
Pet Food
Legal Advice/Aid
Family Services
Employment Services
Housing Programs
... and more!

**DOD Gear
for
Homeless
Vets
(only)**

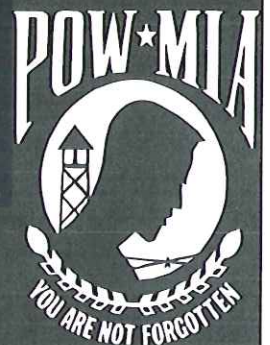


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LANE COUNTY STAND DOWN

**ALL Veterans, Guardsman,
Active Duty Personnel, and
their families are welcome**

7AM BREAKFAST & CHECK IN
11:30AM LUNCH
1:30PM DOD GEAR



**Citizens of our Community can help support the
Stand Down with a tax deductible donation.
Please visit www.lanecountystanddown.org**