

Downtown Homeless Task Force Recommendations (August 2018)

November 2019 Status Report

<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>Progress</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide public toilet facilities that are available 24/7.• Provide a hygiene center with showers and laundry facilities to serve homeless individuals in the downtown.• Support the development of additional storage for homeless individuals in need of a safe place to store their possessions during the day.	<p>UNDERWAY</p> <p>Expanded day room space, showers, 24/7 restroom facilities, laundry, and storage is under construction at ARCHES and is expected to be complete in Winter 2019.</p> <p>United Way has produced a Mobile Hygiene Unit to be operated by ARCHES that will frequent areas with a high density of unsheltered populations to provide basic need services.</p> <p>The City and ARCHES will continue to partner on further expansion of service hours throughout the fall. As expanded service hours are added, ARCHES may take on the role of being the primary non-emergency contact for questions or issues relating to homelessness.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Endorse a simplified point of contact system individuals may call for support in dealing with issues related to homelessness and provide the community with easy to understand guidance on when to call 9-1-1 verses the non-emergency number, or the point of contact number.	<p>UNDERWAY</p> <p>ARCHES staff, HomeBase Shelters of Salem, and volunteers from the homeless community, have developed a Pocket Guide for Homeless in Salem that is by the homeless for the homeless. This compact, foldable handout identifies resources, service providers, and meal locations, and is a new, excellent tool for the homeless community as well as downtown businesses.</p> <p>Further progress on using the Northwest Human Services iCarol system as the go-to resource for issues related to homelessness is contingent on establishing an ongoing partnership and meeting structure with service providers and the private sector.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support alternative ways of giving.	<p>WITHIN ONE YEAR</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Reinvigorating the Giving Hope Not Help Campaign to educate the public on alternate ways to give, with a timeframe of one year; and

	2. Establishing a text to donate program modeling the Salem, MA program to encourage alternate ways of giving, with proceeds used to fund downtown cleaning work programs, with a timeframe of one year for implementation.
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<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>Progress</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage property owners to make building and site modifications that implement Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design and provide Riverfront-Downtown Urban Renewal Area grants for improvements that meet grant criteria. 	<p>WITHIN SIX TO NINE MONTHS</p> <p>This Task Force recommendation included a timeframe of six to nine months.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pursue options for expanding downtown cleaning services. 	<p>WITHIN ONE TO TWO YEARS</p> <p>The Task Force recommending replacing the Downtown Clean Team with a dignity of work model used in other parts of the country where the City partners with service providers to employ homeless individuals to assist in clean-up efforts. The implementation timeline is one to two years.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a Downtown Good Neighbor Partnership for those who live, work, shop, and visit downtown Salem that supports appropriate behavior and ongoing dialogue with stakeholders. In conjunction with the establishment of a Downtown Good Neighbor Partnership, City staff will assess Salem codes and ordinances to ensure that the City is appropriately balancing the rights of those who live, work, and shop in our downtown, and providing the City of Salem with the tools needed to address behaviors that negatively impact others. 	<p>UNDERWAY</p> <p>To-date, the Good Neighbor Partnership group has met each month since August, with another conversation scheduled for November 13. Partners include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> City: City Council, Salem Police, Salem Housing Authority Service Providers: UGM, Northwest Human Services, United Way, Be Bold Ministries, Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency Downtown Business Community: Vagabond, Ike Box, Main Street, Salem Center Mall, Salem Chamber, Ike Box <p>ARCHES staff and volunteers are performing daily morning walk-throughs of the downtown corridor to route overnight campers (on sidewalks, in alleyways, in doorways) to help from service providers (ARCHES/HOAP/UGM). The Task Force, while not unanimous, also suggested revisions to Salem’s ordinances to provide restrictions to camping or storing personal items on downtown sidewalks during business hours.</p>

