





CITY OF
PORTLAND, OREGON
PORTLAND HOUSING BUREAU

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April 14, 2011

To: Mayor Sam Adams
Commissioner Amanda Fritz
Commissioner Randy Leonard
Commissioner Dan Saltzman

From: Commissioner Nick Fish and 
Margaret Van Vliet, Director, Portland Housing Bureau 

RE: Accept the report and Update on Addressing Homelessness in the Central City

The following report is an overview of the results from the first quarter of the \$1 Million Special Appropriation for Addressing Homelessness in the Central City.

Background:

According to the 2009 Homeless Street and Shelter count, Multnomah County has approximately 2,500 homeless people, 1,600 of which are unsheltered. The Central City has the highest concentration of unsheltered people. The economic recession exacerbated the need. In developing his Proposed Budget, Mayor Adams expressed interest in increasing funding to provide targeted services in the Central City.

As part of the FY 2010-11 Budget Process, City Council approved a one-time allocation of \$1 million to help unsheltered Portlanders in the central city. Commissioner Fish convened a diverse group of nonprofit leaders, law enforcement professionals, business leaders, and community partners to set priorities for the funds.

The group emphasized the following priorities:

- Provide funding to programs that decrease the number of people experiencing homelessness in the Central City;
- Free up "bottlenecks" in the service system, so that people can quickly exit emergency shelters and transitional housing for their own home, as well as exit from subsidized permanent housing to private market units when their incomes increase;
- Seek opportunities for maximum leverage and high value solutions;
- Utilize existing capacity in the current system to assure that services provided by these one time funds are efficiently administered and costs are minimized; and
- Emphasize collaboration between homeless service providers, law enforcement officials, business owners and housed residents of the Portland city center.

Two nonprofit organizations – JOIN and New Avenues for Youth – were selected as lead recipients of the award funds.

JOIN received \$820,000 to leverage its existing street outreach team with rent assistance dollars to move people into housing through the ***Permanent Housing Placement Initiative***. The initiative draws upon partnerships with service agencies, police, the business community and private landlords to ensure that

people have the support they need to maintain stability. Short term rent assistance is a cost-effective way to get people into housing and help them stay there.

Key partnerships include the Black Parent Initiative, Catholic Charities' El Programa Hispano, Central City Concern and the Salvation Army Female Emergency Shelter (SAFES).

New Avenues for Youth (NAFY) received \$180,000 for the **Roadmap Home** collaborative to reach young people living on the street in Portland's city center. The funding is helping young people move into stable housing, as well as prevent others from falling into homelessness. An important part of the program is to train youth for jobs, help them find work, and stay employed and housed.

The collaboration is led by NAFY and includes partners Janus Youth Programs, Outside In and the Native American Youth and Family Center.

First Quarter Accomplishments:

The funds have had a powerful and positive impact on reducing homelessness in the downtown city center in the first quarter of operation (DATES).

- 57 households moved from the streets into homes, including 5 young adults
- 386 youth contacted in the downtown core, to connect them to housing and services
- 19 people moved from emergency shelter beds into housing, freeing up bottlenecks
- 42 individuals connected to employment and/or benefit support services
- 9 young adults placed in subsidized employment
- New partnerships formed with the Black Parent Initiative and El Programa Hispano, resulting in increased housing placements and culturally-specific staffing and access for African American and Latino households
- Partnerships strengthened among service providers, law enforcement and downtown businesses, to help identify and assist individuals in need of services

Households served through the Permanent Housing Placement Initiative are:

- 54% female head of household, 46% male head of household.
- 54% Caucasian, 42% African American, 10% Latino, 2% American Indian/Alaskan Native, 2% Asian
- 73% have disabilities, 35% are survivors of domestic violence and 10% are Veterans

Individuals served through Roadmap Home are:

- 36% female, 64% male
- 61% Caucasian, 22% African American, 11% Multi-racial, 6% Latino, and 6% American Indian/Alaskan Native
- 39% have disabilities and 8% are survivors of domestic violence

Both initiatives have been effective in achieving the desired outcomes of freeing up bottlenecks in existing shelter, housing and service programs. As a result, more adults and youth have transitioned to stable and permanent homes, increased their income and benefits, and are poised to achieve long-term housing success.

The Portland Housing Bureau is grateful for the support of City Council in providing this unique and timely opportunity to direct these funds in a very strategic way to address and end homelessness in our city's downtown center.

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We are available to provide detailed briefings to you and your staff. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Margaret Van Vliet, Director

TO THE COUNCIL:

The Commissioner of Public Works concurs with the recommendation of the Director of Office of Sustainable Development and

RECOMMENDS:

That the Council accept the report.

Respectfully submitted

Nick Fish, Commissioner of Public Works

911-108 FOR 0-2-571

Agenda No.
REPORT NO.
Title

Accept the report and update on the \$1 Million Special Appropriation for Addressing Downtown Homelessness (Report)

<p align="center">INTRODUCED BY Commissioner/Auditor: Nick Fish</p> <hr/> <p align="center">COMMISSIONER APPROVAL</p> <p>Mayor /Finance and Administration - Adams</p> <p>Position 1/Utilities - Fritz</p> <p>Position 2/Works - Fish <i>Niuf</i></p> <p>Position 3/Affairs - Saltzman</p> <p>Position 4/Safety - Leonard</p> <hr/> <p align="center">BUREAU APPROVAL</p> <p>Bureau: Portland Housing Bureau Bureau Head: Margaret Van Vliet <i>M Van Vliet</i></p> <p>Prepared by: Sally Erickson Date Prepared: April 14, 2011</p> <p>Financial Impact Statement Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amends Budget <input type="checkbox"/> Not Required <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Portland Policy Document If "Yes" requires City Policy paragraph stated in document. Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Council Meeting Date April 20, 2011</p> <p>City Attorney Approval</p>	<p align="right">APR 15 2011</p> <p>CLERK USE: DATE FILED _____</p> <p align="center">LaVonne Griffin-Valade Auditor of the City of Portland</p> <p>By: <i>Paul</i> _____ Deputy</p> <p>ACTION TAKEN:</p> <p>APR 20 2011 ACCEPTED</p>
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AGENDA
<p>TIME CERTAIN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Start time: <u>10:30</u> ^{2:00}</p> <p>Total amount of time needed: <u>30</u> ²⁰ minutes (for presentation, testimony and discussion)</p> <p>CONSENT <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>REGULAR <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Total amount of time needed: _____ (for presentation, testimony and discussion)</p>

FOUR-FIFTHS AGENDA	COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:	
	YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz	1. Fritz	
2. Fish	2. Fish	
3. Saltzman	3. Saltzman	
4. Leonard	4. Leonard	
Adams	Adams	

NO VOTE TAKEN