

## Task Force 7/27/22

Introductions

Environmental Public Health, HUD VASH, NWYS Ex Director

### Shelter Protection Zone

Shelter Protection Zone: DBP suggested, reached out to City and Drop In center to see how it was been a benefit or negative impact. Up to businesses to enforce the 'no shelter' zone. Beneficial part is human interaction with folks.

-Curious if anyone is enforcing no shelter zone, because there are people camping at Chucks lot.

-That is city property so there it is not a business property, but if you have a respectful communication it is received well. (NWYS Ex)

-Since the city, police or business can do anything, does that just go on? And let it be there forever. (Alice)

-Extending 'no shelter' zone would be enforceable by BPD (Adrienne)

-City created concept no shelter zone of Base Camp, it is helpful because they have staff that monitor it, so from the point of the view for the city it has to be the partners of the streets in the zone, OC, NWYS and businesses. Police have not been called to enforce that zone.

-The bridge behind Base Camp is where a group congregates so for the immediate business owners but not the community at large, people will just move down the street but will not "fix" anything.

-Funding of city needs to address more resources and more housing and drop in centers or tent city, just not in the middle of downtown.

-These issues are city wide, state wide, nationwide, we are limited in our power to address is and change it, so as a task force we need to figure out how to make our block accessible for people who live and work there. So maybe that means temp relocation so that people feel safe to walk through their own neighborhood.

-The zone extension would need to be defined by the council/city

-The neighbors are not comfortable talking the group because they are getting threatened violently. For the businesses to do it themselves it might create harmful reactions/altercations.

Downtown Ambassadors role is to give resources to those been trespassed, not their role to ask to move along.

-Table 'shelter protection zone'

### Resources

-At our wit's ends to consider offering water to people who are smoking fet and nodding out.

Different culture at Base Camp due to strict rules and regulations where if your behavior is not conducive for health and safety then they are kicked out and back on the streets for 3 days or perm.

-988 will not help and the police are busy and understaffed and cannot help us, the RSU staff has been incredibly helpful.

22 North has contributed to the group outside and we are doing all we can and we are circling this situation about who is accountable and who is going to address this and we don't have resources to

redirect people to.

Parking partnership with Chucks

NWYS fencing for parking lot, and Chuck's fencing and 22 N fencing with lighting and sound systems, the timeline is by the end of August.

### **NWYS/OC**

-Best population for this housing program, the intention was to serve the most vulnerable but we are seeing we don't have the resources to be able to provide the level or care some folks need.

-What do young adults need in a housing program to define their life and move forward to independent housing. Going to limit the number of young adult units, going to ensure NWYS gets the finances they need to continue supporting homeless youth, especially with the anticipation that youth homelessness will rise.

-Recovery home- building agency, as they turn 25 they are ready to abide by a lease. Still have a safe housing without being tied to a lease along their learning and healing journey. Will not require folks to do anything, but we will engage young people into resources that will enhance their healing journey, direct cash transfers for engagement, incentives instead of requirements.

-At 22 North the youth have leases because of the shared space and corporation between agencies. How do we come together to address a larger community need

### **Environmental Health**

-Good meetings and corporation since they became aware of the potential contamination, they have been onsite to review and have had meetings with the city in how to clean it on a regular basis. A decontamination product, sealing with primer and paint. Requirements for turnover vacancies so no one moving in would have a risk. Cameras in stairwell to prevent smoking. Committed to reducing contamination, OC is proactively cleaning. Entry restrictions have been successful that have reduced the concerns.

-Meth used to be the concern, but not fetal, now that it is fetal what potential health danger would that be to the general public?

-When doing fetal sampling, the risk is low. From the surface contamination risk is low. It is active if there are powders or discovered on the floor, workers wearing gloves and eye protection. If that risk were to present its self a worker could protect themselves easily. The health department is providing educational material to the public.

-The standard cleaning and scrubbing is protective and decontamination.

Second hand smoke, remove yourself from the area of smoke and get to a vented space, the lungs are great are filtering it out.

-Potential for headaches but not over dose or long term health.

-Absorption through skin? It is a risk and a potential harm.

-Getting into water system? Has not been looked at by the department.

*The studies will be provided to the task force by Adrienne.*

-An individual that we had main concerns about is no longer residing there. That was our great concern with common area contamination.

### **Mutual terminations**

- 5 pending terminations
- Working with services to have more discussions about mutual terminations so they have no record and have a hard time finding new housing and to prevent the traumatic event of eviction.
- The ongoing people who have had criminal activity are moving along to either other housing programs, independent housing or entering the streets.

### **City/County**

- Talking to the city and county about what an appropriate fit for the facility will be to fill those vacancies
- Re-reviewing the contracting with the city and the county.
- County is entering into a 6mo agreement
- City is renegotiating, but will be longer than 6mo
- City is happy with the changes that OC have undertaken and hopes the Task Force sees that and wants them to appreciate what OC has done to implement the good changes at 22 North.

- Is the city addressing the bigger issues of State St and the homelessness in that area?
- OC is working really hard to address that, the city and county are getting input, the city has a couple different role, (funding, permitting and law enforcement)
- High priority for the mayor to address
- City is now working daily on affordable housing, food security, resources...ect...the fall out go to local government, but we are not a social services agency, we have to allocate the money and taxes to go to these resources. The LH mission is the only agency and NWYS are the only building that wants to operate a low barrier housing.
- Some people aren't ready for services and resources, and that group has congregated on State St and the Task Force needs to address that issues and the city needs a lot more money to address this issues, but funders are hesitant to give funding to housing that has \*no\* barriers whatsoever.

### **Hiring Security**

- RSU suggest hiring security. Dante will provide resources on security classes and staff.
- Small businesses cannot hire security, cannot afford security.
- Homeowner cannot afford security, already spent money securing her home and it is reactive but not permanent.
- I don't mind people camping out or anti-homelessness, it is the crime that is problematic, and don't mind people doing drugs on and around my home but it is hard to tell if someone is violent or criminally motivated. Sounds like the fencing will help reduce the traffic and risks that come with that, the ones that are carving paths up my home to move quickly are the ones that are scary. Those selling drugs are motivated to protect their assets and are getting scarier and more violent. So I would really like to see something happen so that the area around my home is not a market place for criminal activity, weapons and violence.*
- Worried for safety with the weapons and following the people.