



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL | DISTRICT 2

COUNCILMEMBER TAMMY J. MORALES

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Homelessness Outreach & Provider Ecosystem

Summary:

Redirect the proposed positions and funding for the Unsheltered Outreach and Response Team, set by the Executive in the 2021 budget, to a new five person team that would provide administrative oversight and support to community-based agencies contracted to provide outreach, engagement, and related services to people experiencing unsheltered homelessness and inter-departmental coordination for litter picks, trash removal, provision of sanitation and hygiene services, storage or retrieval of personal property, and, when circumstances require, relocation or removal of property. This team would be responsible for administering city services and operating within a framework agreed upon by city contracted outreach providers and the City designed to do the following: increase access to sustainable lodging and supportive services; afford to those people who remain unsheltered improved access to hygiene and sanitation, and coordinated, site-specific problem-solving and mitigation.

HOPE Team structure

Team Manager:

The team manager is responsible for overall team operations.

Department Liaison:

A department Liaison will coordinate with SPU on litter picks, Purple Bag Program, or other encampment-related waste. They would also coordinate with other city Departments (Parks, Neighborhoods) as needed, and with SPU contractors in circumstances when a relocation is required, or to carry out activities under certain conditions, terrain, or waste that is deemed hazardous.

Data Analyst:

The data analyst will track city staff activities and contract deliverables for contracted outreach providers. They would also compile and present quarterly reports on city services and contracted services to the Council, Executive, and make this data available to the public.

2 Provider and Neighborhood Liaisons (former System Navigators):

This position will bring in-the-field institutional knowledge by restructuring the System Navigator position to handle coordination between City personnel and contracted providers, and to gather and make timely information about city-funded shelter options, criteria, and current openings available to facilitate prompt, in-the-field referrals that match individuals, couples, or groups with available services. Liaisons will also engage with neighborhood stakeholders to identify priorities for problem solving or mitigation and provide support and coordination related to relocation when necessary. In such instances, Liaisons will work with contracted outreach providers, public health staff, others to provide reasonable notice and allow time to plan and implement a relocation.

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Encampment relocation considerations:

When the specific location or conditions of a camp or other place where people are living pose immediate, serious, or imminent hazards or dangers to people living at that site or to people or structures in close proximity, plans to remedy the situation, up to and including relocation, may be necessary. HOPE Team staff will work within agreed upon principles and framework developed by City and outreach providers, and will work with contracted providers, Public Health staff, and residents at the site to develop and implement relocation plans.

Considerations on programs not supported by this budget proposal:

This proposal would not affect the currently proposed SPU funding to provide litter clean up or encampment clean up services.