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PBIA Advisory Board

Briefing on City Actions to Respond to Homelessness

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Title

Briefing on City Actions to Respond to Homelessness

Report

Issue:

A briefing about several actions the City is taking to respond to growing homelessness in Olympia.

Staff Contact:

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Presenter(s):

Colin DeForrest

Background and Analysis:

Homelessness is the most significant and urgent issue of public concern facing Olympia. In recent years, our community has seen increased homelessness - specifically, a spike in visible street homelessness and homeless encampments throughout the city. Although homelessness is most visible within the urban hub of downtown, this issue affects all of Thurston County.

The City of Olympia has not traditionally played a role in homeless response, but this year hired their first Homeless Response Coordinator to help develop its role.

In May, the City Council passed a resolution directing immediate actions in response to homelessness. On September 18, the City Council approved funding for four immediate actions to respond to that direction, as well as an approach for a Homeless Response Plan that will engage diverse stakeholders and partners to develop further actions.

Staff will discuss the City's efforts and respond to questions.

Options:

Discussion only

Attachments:

N/A