



Homelessness Update

South Bend Common Council

February 22, 2021



Mayor's Homelessness Implementation Group

- **Timeline**

- August to December 2020
- Reconvening in March 2021

- **Group**

- Included the following: Elected officials, City/County staff, service providers, business owners, community members, SBPD, neighborhood advocates, and academic institutions

- **Subcommittees**

- Health & Sanitation / Weather Amnesty / Permanent Supportive Housing



Implementation Group Recommendations



Subcommittee Working groups

- Group A – represents *Health & Sanitation* (chaired by County Health Office Dr. Robert Einterz)
- Group B – represents *Housing & Weather Amnesty* (led by Deputy Chief of Staff Jordan Gathers)
- Group C – represents *Long-term permanent support housing* (led by NDA President Anne Mannix)



Key Recommendations: Health & Sanitation [A]

- Create, monitor, and maintain a database of all persons experiencing homelessness in St. Joseph County
- Quantify the need for more affordable and permanent supportive housing
- Study the population of people who prey on homeless individuals and develop/implement best practices to reduce the predators' impact
- Monitor, assess, and maintain as needed the chemical toilet behind DTSB as well as laundry services on Wednesdays in partnership with Burton's laundry
- Develop a partnership with Transpo to provide free/affordable transportation
- Augment shower/bathing facilities at willing service provider locations
- Track health insurance status of all homeless individuals
- Continue to make short-term hotel rooms and/or rental units available and accessible to isolate individuals infected with COVID until the pandemic is over



Key Recommendations: Weather Amnesty & Housing [B]

- Continue operations at Weather Amnesty (need COVID-19 rapid testing and vaccine distribution)
- Make available cold weather shelter locations
- Extend current Motel4Now Program
- Work to utilize vacant buildings to house individuals (i.e., schools and churches)
- Develop a low barrier resource center with partners
- Locate parcels for bridge housing units or affordable housing community with wraparound services
- Create mentoring programs and various workshops (i.e., job readiness curriculum, financial, healthy relationships, and career/housing)
- Partner with security companies to protect our most vulnerable population



Key Recommendations: Permanent Supportive Housing [C]

- Expand PSH units, developers, and funding sources in the City
- Develop a Housing Trust Fund
- Create Homelessness Coordinator position
- Support an Education/Advocacy campaign
- Emphasize landlord and developer participation



City of South Bend Funding Allocation

Financial Breakdown (2020)

CDBG

- Off-site Meals **\$148,059**

ESG

- Motels4Now Services **\$477,997**
- Emergency Shelters **\$450,000**
- Weather Amnesty **\$271,734**



CDBG/ESG CV Funding

- Motels4Now **\$477,997**
- Emergency Shelters **\$450,000**
- Weather Amnesty **\$271,734**
- Off-site Meals **\$148,059**

Total **\$1,347,790***

*Does not include \$596,298 of reimbursed costs for COVID-19 quarantine motel, ~\$130,000 of 2020 city dollars for PSH leasing and bus passes, or \$1.7 million of federal funds for Hope Avenue PSH unit construction.



2021 Current and Upcoming Items



Tentative 2021 Homeless Implementation Budget

• 2021-2022 Weather Amnesty	\$272,000
• New Center Scoping/Planning/Preliminary Design	\$133,000
• City Implementation Contractor	\$75,000
• Countywide Coordinator Match	\$25,000
• Education Campaign	\$15,000
• Bus Passes	\$30,000
• PSH Leasing	\$100,000
Total	\$650,000*

*From “Homeless Strategy” in adopted 2021 budget for Fund 408 EDIT. Does not include federal, state, or redevelopment funds.



Summary of Next Steps

- Continue Weather Amnesty
- Explore Motels4Now Extension with County
- Establish and Hire City Implementation Contractor
- Explore Countywide Homeless Coordinator with Partners
- Complete CSH/IHCDA Indiana Supportive Housing Institute
- Launch IUSB Education Campaign
- Reconvene Implementation Group
- Explore New Center/Campus
- Collaborate with County on Affordable Housing Recommendations



THANK YOU!