



CITY OF SIMI VALLEY

TASK FORCE ON HOMELESSNESS

Thursday, November 13, 2014, 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

City Hall Community Room

2929 Tapo Canyon Road, Simi Valley, CA 93063

AGENDA

1. Call To Order/Welcome/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call
2. Agenda Review
3. Approval of Minutes
4. Public Statements/Comments
This is the time allotted for statements or comments on matters within the subject matter and jurisdiction of the Task Force on Homelessness. Statements and comments are limited to no more than five (5) minutes per speaker.
5. Informational Presentations
 - a. Update on the Proactive Homeless Encampment Abatement Program
 - b. Overview of Services Available from Health Care for the Homeless
6. New Business
 - a. Review of a request from Many Mansions to join the Task Force on Homelessness
7. Task Force Member Comments
This is the time allotted for Task Force member statements or comments on matters within the subject matter and jurisdiction of the Task Force on Homelessness, to request a future agenda item, or to give an Ad Hoc Committee Report. This is also the time to make any announcements related to community events and other items of interest.
8. Task Force on Homelessness Coordinator's Report
9. Adjournment: Thursday, February 12, 2015, 3:30 p.m.

/s/

Sommer Barwick

Director of Community Services

If any interested individual has a disability that may require accommodation to participate in this meeting, please contact the Task Force on Homelessness Coordinator at (805) 583-6759. Upon advance notification, reasonable arrangements will be made to provide accessibility to the meeting.



CITY OF SIMI VALLEY

TASK FORCE ON HOMELESSNESS
NOTES

1. Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

Council Member Keith Mashburn noted that a quorum was not present. Those present could make comments on items but no official action would be taken. Attendance detail is available on the last page of the notes.

2. Agenda Review: None

3. Approval of Minutes: None

4. Public Statements/Comments

A resident stated that he appreciated that the Subcommittee on Crime Reduction and Prevention addressed mental health issues and encouraged the community to attend the free Mental Health First Aid trainings hosted by the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District. Information is available at www.rsrpd.org.

A resident expressed concern about Simi Valley's high percentage of chronically homeless and requested that assistance be focused on the chronically homeless and substance abusers.

A representative from Many Mansions encouraged everyone to review Proposition 41, which focused on housing for veterans, in the June election.

5. Informational Presentations

a. Overview of the 2014 Homeless Persons Count Results

Betty Eskey, Executive Director of The Samaritan Center provided an overview of the 2014 Homeless Persons Count. She stated that there was an overall decrease of 36%. The Samaritan Center was able to house 57 clients in the first five months of the year and reunified another 10 with their support systems of family and friends. Additionally, The Samaritan Center is seeing 39 new clients per month and currently has 27 clients with income who are seeking housing.

6. New Business

a. Review of the Task Force on Homelessness Subcommittee on Crime Reduction and Prevention recommendations

Commander Joseph May presented the recommendations from the Subcommittee, which included a Targeted Crime Prevention Outreach Plan.

The Crime Prevention resources may assist businesses in reducing and preventing criminal activity on their properties. The Subcommittee unanimously recommended forwarding a program that incorporates targeted outreach to engage businesses in Business Watch and site inspections, collaborative communication efforts with the Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce and The Samaritan Center, community tips for businesses and patrons on how to handle criminal situations, and community education on Mental Health First Aid to the Task Force on Homelessness for review.

Police Department staff also presented a Proposed Homeless Encampment Abatement Program and Coordinated Social Services Support to Increase Engagement with Available Services. The multi-faceted approach to abating homeless encampments consisted of working with property owners to obtain permission to abate the encampments, coordinating existing case management resources available from service providers, and initiating the efforts when the winter warming shelter is open to allow for enforcement of the urban camping laws and serve as a housing option and case management contact point. The proposed program consists of providing initial abatement notification by the Police Department followed by subsequent visits to the encampment sites with Police Department and/or social service providers to engage inhabitants in services, and concluding with final notice and abatement of the encampments. Following the abatement of the encampment, Police Department staff will monitor the location to maintain compliance. The stages of the abatement program are detailed in the table below.

Stage	Description
1	Initial Notification
2	Engagement in Services
3	Engagement in Services
4	72 hour final notice
5	Abatement
6	Ongoing Case Management
7	Letter of Agency Maintenance
8	Identification of new encampments

The Subcommittee unanimously recommended forwarding the program to the Task Force on Homelessness for review. Due to a lack of a quorum, no formal recommendation was made by the Task Force; however there was no dissention in forwarding the Subcommittee's recommendation to the City Council for consideration.

7. Task Force Member Comments

Peter Carrube shared a care package of information with the Task Force Chairs at the request of Community Coalition United.

June-Marie von Osinski stated she recently went on a ride-a-long with the Police Department, and it was eye opening.

Toni Freeland requested that the community opportunity associated with the Task Force's previously adopted goals to increase access to rental housing be revisited.

8. Task Force Coordinator's Report

Mara Malch, Senior Management Analyst announced the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness was hosting a conference at the University of Southern California on June 18 and 19, 2014.

9. Adjournment: Thursday, August 14, 2014

Organization	Representative	Attendance P = Present; A = Absent
Area Housing Authority	Doug Tapking	A
Chamber of Commerce	Leigh Nixon	A
City Council	Council Member Mike Judge	P
City Council	Council Member Keith Mashburn	P
Council On Aging	June Marie von Osinski	P
County of Ventura Behavioral Health Department	Bob Gross	A
County of Ventura Homeless Services	Karol Schulkin	P
County of Ventura Human Services Agency	Latrell Herbert	A
County of Ventura Public Health Department	Michele Surber	A
County of Ventura Supervisor Peter Foy's Office	Chad Ball	A
Dinner Site	Toni Freeland	P
Faith Community	Kurt Fredrickson	A
Faith Community	Andy Mattick	A
Free Clinic of Simi Valley	Fred Bauermeister	A
Lutheran Social Services	Leslie Orth	A
Neighborhood Council # 1	Shelley McGee	P
Neighborhood Council # 2	Peter Carrube	P
Neighborhood Council # 3	Devin Brady	P
Neighborhood Council #4	Dave Kennedy	P
PADS	Reneé Frumkin	P
Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District	Theresa Pennington	P
Representative who has Experienced Homelessness	Chrissy Bowden	A
Rotary Club of Simi Valley	Joe Lansden	A
Salvation Army	Mary Flandez	A
Samaritan Center	Betty Eskey	P
Simi Valley Hospital	Michael Brisch	A
Simi Valley Police Department	Joseph May	P
Simi Valley Unified School District	Trustee Dan White	A
State Senator or Assembly Member	Marie Lakin	A
Youth Council	Nick Steinwender	A

TASK FORCE ON HOMELESSNESS
DRAFT MINUTES

1. Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call
Council Member Mike Judge called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. Mara Malch confirmed that a quorum was present. Attendance detail is available on the last page of the minutes.
2. Agenda Review
By consensus of the Task Force, the agenda was approved as presented.
3. Approval of Minutes
A motion to approve the November 14, 2013 minutes as presented was made by June-Marie von Osinski and seconded by Toni Freeland. The motion passed unanimously.
4. Public Statements/Comments
Mark Trinidad from Many Mansions provided an update on its Peppertree Apartments, which are one of the newest additions to Many Mansions' housing communities. On behalf of Many Mansions, he thanked the City Council, Samaritan Center, and City staff for the support of the project. Clients are currently being referred from Ventura County Behavioral Health and the property receives Mental Health Services Act funding.
A homeless individual expressed concerns regarding the lack of support to veterans and the unavailability of Veteran Affairs Supportive Housing vouchers within the Area Housing Authority of the County of Ventura.
A homeless individual stated that the Samaritan Center deserves additional community support and that he would not be here without it. He stated that the United States Department of Veteran Affairs is not providing support to veterans and would like to have some intervention on behalf of the homeless veterans.
A homeless individual stated that other communities utilize vacant warehouse space and charge a nominal fee to provide alternative housing options. He inquired why that model could not be attempted in Simi Valley.
5. Informational Presentations
 - a. Overview of the Task Force on Homelessness Milestones
Sommer Barwick, Director of Community Services provided an overview of the Task Force on Homelessness activities from 1999 to present. Accomplishments were achieved in the areas of resource coordination,

affordable housing, health care, case management services, and coordination of services.

b. Overview of the Simi Valley Alliance to House the Homeless and Update on 2013 Case Management Results

Reneé Frumkin, Samaritan Center case manager, provided an update on the Simi Valley Alliance to House the Homeless activities in 2013 and shared some case management successes. The Alliance has successfully housed over 430 individuals since 2008. In 2013, case management services were provided to 436 homeless people including 339 households, 245 men, 128 women, and 63 children. Due to the Alliance's efforts, 118 people were housed at some point during the year with 73 being successfully housed for six months or more. She also informed the Task Force that the Alliance would be utilizing the County's Homeless Management Information System for future data analysis.

c. Update on the County of Ventura's Continuum of Care Funding Allocations
Mara Malch, Senior Management Analyst, updated the Task Force on the recent merger of the Oxnard and County of Ventura's Continuums of Care (CoC). She provided a listing of seated CoC Board Members and the CoC Board's project list submitted to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

6. New Business

a. Update on the Task Force on Homelessness Community Leaders for Adopted Goals related to the County of Ventura's 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness

Mara Malch, Senior Management Analyst reviewed the Task Force's adopted goals along with their current status and identified community leaders. She requested that the Task Force identify any gaps or additional focus areas that needed to be included with the goals. The Task Force also provided consensus on moving forward with assigning community leaders based upon the fit with the various opportunities.

Council Members Judge and Mashburn requested a subcommittee be formed to address crime prevention and reduction among the homeless. By consensus of the Task Force, the subcommittee was formed to include Council Members Judge and Mashburn, Betty Eskey, Peter Carrube, Toni Freeland, Theresa Pennington, June-Marie von Osinski, Randy Nemecek, Nick Steinweinder, Lisa Murphy, Leigh Nixon, Jim Visage, Rick Kimes, Ellen Cresswell, and Kurt Fredrickson.

7. Task Force Member Comments

Reneé Frumkin announced that the winter sleep site program had a lower overall attendance than in prior years, which she attributed to zero tolerance policies implemented this season. The season's highest night to date was 28 individuals.

Karol Schulkin informed the Task Force that Human Services Agency staff was able to assist 14 households with receiving rental assistance. She provided updated income thresholds and other parameters for the rapid re-housing program.

Theresa Pennington reminded everyone of the upcoming free Mental Health First Aid classes. She also informed the Task Force that Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District offers free or reduced after school care based upon need.

Mary Flandez announced that the Salvation Army recently helped four families through its homeless prevention efforts and is currently working with two veterans.

June-Marie von Osinski stated she sees the need for the City to advocate for affordable senior housing.

Peter Carrube stated that he highly recommends attending the Mental Health First Aid class.

Bob Gross announced that the Behavioral Health Department provides a case manager at the Samaritan Center twice a week.

Council Member Mashburn stated that the goal is to help those who want to help themselves. He stated that he recognizes ending homelessness is a monumental task but we can strive to make things better.

Council Member Judge stated that affordable housing remains a difficult task. He noted that the City can only incentivize affordable units by increasing the density of a project and that is often met with resistance throughout the community.

8. Task Force Coordinator's Report

Mara Malch, Senior Management Analyst announced that the remaining 2014 Task Force meetings were scheduled for May 29, August 14, and November 13, 2014. She also reminded the Task Force that agenda packets would be distributed using the City's e-notification system.

9. Adjournment to Thursday, May 29, 2014

By consensus of the Task Force, the meeting was adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

Organization	Representative	Attendance P = Present; A = Absent
Area Housing Authority	Doug Tapking	P
Chamber of Commerce	Leigh Nixon	A
City Council	Council Member Mike Judge	P
City Council	Council Member Keith Mashburn	P
Council On Aging	June Marie von Osinski	P
County of Ventura Behavioral Health Department	Bob Gross	P
County of Ventura Homeless Services	Karol Schulkin	P
County of Ventura Human Services Agency	Latrell Herbert	A
County of Ventura Public Health Department	Michele Surber	A
County of Ventura Supervisor Peter Foy's Office	Chad Ball	A
Dinner Site	Toni Freeland	P
Faith Community	Kurt Fredrickson	P
Faith Community	Andy Mattick	A
Free Clinic of Simi Valley	Fred Bauermeister	P
Lutheran Social Services	Leslie Orth	A
Neighborhood Council # 1	Shelley McGee	P
Neighborhood Council # 2	Peter Carrube	P
Neighborhood Council # 3	Leroy Leyba	A
Neighborhood Council #4	Mark May	P
PADS	Reneé Frumkin	P
Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District	Theresa Pennington	P
Representative who has Experienced Homelessness	Chrissy Bowden	P*
Rotary Club of Simi Valley	Joe Lansden	P*
Salvation Army	Mary Flandez	P*
Samaritan Center	Betty Eskey	A
Simi Valley Hospital	Michael Brisch	P
Simi Valley Police Department	Joseph May	P
Simi Valley Unified School District	Trustee Dan White	A
State Senator or Assembly Member	Marie Lakin	P
Youth Council	Nick Steinwender	P

**arrived after approval of the minutes*



July 31, 2014

Mara Malch
City of Simi Valley
2929 Tapo Canyon Road
Simi Valley, CA 93063

Distributed Via E-mail

Re: Request to Join the Simi Valley Task Force on Homelessness

Dear Mrs. Malch:

Since 2003, Many Mansions has been the leading provider of permanent supportive housing for homeless families in Simi Valley. Over the last several years we have been an active participant in the Task Force on Homelessness meetings and even partnered with the City of Simi Valley's Alliance to House the Homeless, the Samaritan Center, & the Salvation Army, to create the Simi Valley Emergency Assistance Fund. We are also one of the fortunate nonprofits selected to have office space in the Under One Roof facility once it is completed.

Based on the above, and our continued commitment to help eliminate homeless in Simi Valley, Many Mansions is requesting that we be added to the official membership of the Simi Valley Task Force on Homelessness.

We are excited to be an official member of the Task Force on Homelessness and look forward to our continued work together to end homelessness in our community.

Please contact me at (805) 496-4948 ext. 220 or alex@manymansions.org if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Alexander Russell
Executive Vice President
Many Mansions