

# CITY OF TIGARD

Respect and Care | Do the Right Thing | Get it Done



## DEFINING THE CITY'S ROLE IN HOMELESSNESS



## FRAMEWORK AROUND TONIGHT'S DISCUSSION

- ▶ Council Goal
  - ▶ “Define and establish the city’s role in addressing homelessness.”
  - ▶ Follow up to a previous conversation in June 2015
  
- ▶ Tonight’s Discussion
  - ▶ Homelessness Data for Washington County
  - ▶ City Resources Devoted to Homeless
  - ▶ Action for Council Consideration



## CURRENT DATA FOR HOMELESSNESS

*Data gathered from annual homeless point-in-time (PIT) census*

- ▶ **595:** Total homeless households
  - ▶ **378:** Literally Homeless (Street, place not meant for habitation)
  - ▶ **193:** Sheltered (Transitional, Emergency, Safe Haven)
  - ▶ **24:** Other Homeless Situations (i.e doubled up)



## CURRENT DATA FOR HOMELESSNESS

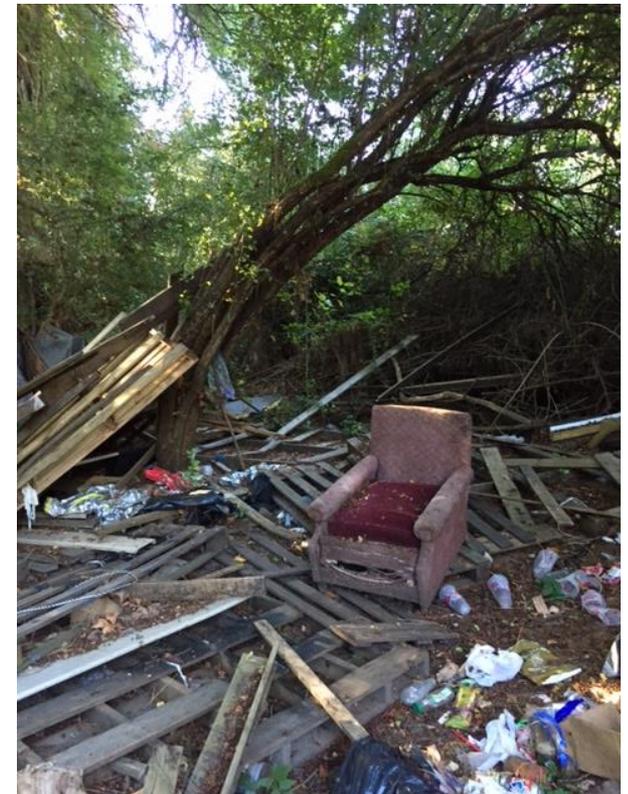
*Data from Washington County Community Connect*

- ▶ 37% increase in homelessness with adult only households
  - ▶ Representing 61% of the homeless population.
- ▶ New face of homelessness includes seniors over age 62 years and people with disabilities living on fixed income.
- ▶ Chronic homeless populations are increasing. The chronic homeless population has barriers to housing given the low vacancy rate in housing.
- ▶ Veteran homelessness is decreasing.

## CURRENT DATA FOR HOMELESSNESS

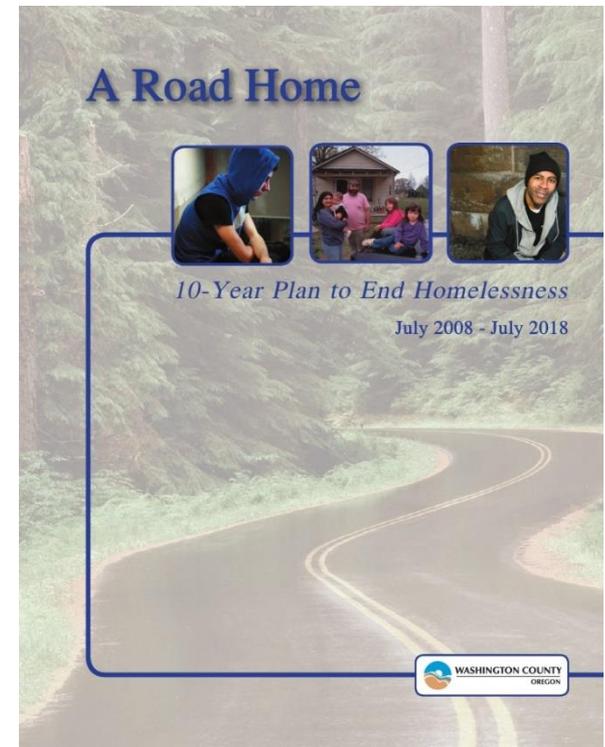
### *Usage of Just Compassion Day Center*

- ▶ From January to August, 223 guests (56 unique individuals) visited the Just Compassion day center.
- ▶ The day center will expand to two days a week, Wednesday and Thursday.



## CITY RESOURCES DEVOTED TO HOMELESSNESS

- ▶ Participating in the Washington County 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness.
- ▶ Maintaining a variety of housing choices & removing barriers to development of affordable housing.
  - ▶ Addressing potential displacement of affordable housing residents in Tigard's Town Center by the Southwest Corridor.
  - ▶ Applied for a Metro grant to assist



## CITY RESOURCES DEVOTED TO HOMELESS

- ▶ Prioritizing support for federal homeless assistance grants on the City's legislative agenda.
- ▶ Building connections with the homeless community through the Tigard Police Department.
  - ▶ Two police officers spend up to five hours a week proactively connecting with the homeless community.
  - ▶ Police department estimates that one quarter of the chronically homeless that they work with have secured housing.



## CITY RESOURCES DEVOTED TO HOMELESSNESS

*“Being homeless is not a crime and that’s why we do offer and direct resources to people who are in need. But this lifestyle is a matter of choice for some. And we’ve found that, ultimately, there are those who will resist transitioning into a more formal living situation.”*



- ▶ Responding to complaints involving the homeless
  - ▶ Most common complaints: homeless camping on a trail and homeless sleeping in a car parked in a residential neighborhood.
  - ▶ From July 2015 to July 2016, in Tigard, there were 535 calls (up from 443 last year) involving a transient or homeless person who was either directly or indirectly involved in a 911 emergency required a response from TVFR and/or Tigard Police.

## CITY RESOURCES DEVOTED TO HOMELESSNESS

- ▶ Continuing informal outreach at the Library.
- ▶ Inviting Just Compassion & Good Neighbor Center to participate in city's non-profit roundtable.
- ▶ Allocating funds from annual budget for social services grants.
- ▶ Contributing in-kind staff support to non-profits.



## ACTIONS FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

*The purpose of tonight's discussion is to further "define and establish the city's role in addressing homelessness.*

- ▶ Increase or reallocate funds dedicate to social service grants.
  - ▶ In FY 16-17 budget, social service grants totaled over \$200K.
  
- ▶ Begin assessing the feasibility of inclusionary zoning in Tigard.
  - ▶ State legislature promulgated legislation allowing cities to require developers to devote a certain number of units to affordable housing.



## ACTIONS FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

- ▶ Enact an ordinance providing tenants 90 days' notice for no-cause evictions.
  - ▶ Cities of Milwaukie, Portland and Vancouver, WA have passed such a measure.
  
- ▶ Devote an FTE to work with the homeless population.
  - ▶ The position would serve as a liaison with the homeless population, non-profits serving the homeless population, and county resources.

## ACTIONS FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

- ▶ Allocate funding to Just Compassion for the operation of a day center in Tigard.
- ▶ Host a Summit on Homelessness in Tigard.

