

Task Force for the Homeless



What the Task Force Needs to be Successful?

I want to know what city staff is looking for at each meeting and where we want to end.

Our goal for the first meeting:

- Provide an overview of the city's current role with homelessness,
- Clearly define the purpose of the task force, and
- Ensure that upcoming meetings advance the effort to develop short-term and long-term recommendations to the City Council.

I'd like a meeting schedule and enough time to review documents for upcoming meetings.

- Wednesday, August 16 - 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, September 20 – 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, October 18 – 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, November 15 – 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Agenda, minutes, and other documents will be posted at least a week before the meeting.

I'd like weekly contact with other Task Force members and city staff.

We will provide you with a task force roster. Staff will strive to touch base at least once a week with the task force.

The Task Force should be transparent to the community.

We have created a webpage where we will post all documents received by the task force. Staff will update the community through articles in Cityscape.

I need to see clear evidence of "buy-in" from the City Council.

Councilor Anderson will be the council liaison to the Task Force. He will keep the Mayor and Council informed of the Task Force's work.

I would like all city officials to be more involved with the groups working on the homelessness issues.

Each city department has appointed a liaison to the task force. You can request to hear from any department to learn more about what they are doing to address homelessness.

I think a general overview of the services provided already is needed.

We will provide a general overview of services in the first meeting. The task force will be largely responsible for identifying areas of need in the community.

Here's what I need - reminders to folks that seem to be monopolizing the conversation to take a step back and listen to others. Be respectful of people's time (starting on time and ending on time).

The task force will elect a chair at the beginning of the second meeting. The chair will ensure meetings are inclusive and on task. We will start on time and end of time. Staff will also help create a dialogue where all members have an opportunity to talk and ask questions.

City staff should recognize task force members are coming from a position of passion, compassion and energy to make change. Staff needs to help the group understand the barriers for council and how change works within the city.

City staff will make sure that the task force stays within the scope of work. The end goal is 5 to 10 short-term and long-term recommendations for City Council consideration.

The task force will focus on actions that the city can achieve with minimal assistance from other government agencies.