



ECHO convened at the Clark County Public Service Center, 6th Floor, Hearing Conference Room, also via WebEx Online.

Clark County ECHO

(Ending Community Homelessness Organization)

Meeting Minutes – August 9, 2022

ECHO Chair, Clark County Councilor, Gary Medvigy, opened-up the ECHO meeting with a warm welcome, introductions

ACTION: Moved by Richard Rylander to **APPROVE** meeting minutes from July 12, 2022. Unknown Member seconded the motion. All aye/motion carried.

1. Continuation of presentation from Council for the Homeless on the recent Point in Time Count

- Presented by Dale Whitley
 - Provided an overview of what was discussed previous.
 - As of Feb. 24, 2022, 1197 people were experiencing homelessness, that a 31% increase from January 30, 2022.
 - 625 of people are Unsheltered, a 21% increase.
 - 389 of people were in an Emergency Shelter, a 45% increase.
 - 183 of people were in Transitional Housing. A 39% increase.
 - Of the 1197 People: 42% are women and 57% are men.
 - Unsheltered increase in singles or couples without children and unaccompanied youth population.
 - Affordable housing crisis in Clark County.
- Q & A

2. Homeless Crisis Response System; ARPA

- Presented by Vanessa Gaston and or Michael Torres
 - Clark County Council approved allocating \$15.5M in ARPA funds, in June 2021
 - \$4.4M in Outreach Service
 - \$5M in Shelters
 - \$800,00 in Motel Vouchers
 - \$300,00 in Data Collections and Coordination
 - \$2.5M in Rapid Rehousing
 - \$2.5M in Permanent Supportive Housing
 - Between 2006-2021 there have been an additional 72 beds added for shelters
 - Share Shelters will serve 149 more persons in 2022 due to ARPA Funds
 - The Clark County Shelter System will serve 364 more people in 2022, due to ARPA Funds.
 - Motel Vouchers will increase by 611 due to ARPA Funding
 - Due to ARPA Funding 15 more outreach staff has been added.
- Q & A



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3. Continuation of discussion regarding an additional safe parking location

- Lindsey Hueer provided an update, and she will provide a summary and a more in-depth update by the next meeting.
 - The Safe Stay criteria is as follows, per Kathleen Otto, County Manager:
 - Avoid areas with heightened economic vulnerability
 - Ensure ADA accessibility to and within the Safe Stay Community
 - Preferred site should be within a half mile of Public Transportation.

Q & A

5. Update from each entity and any suggested action items

- Council for the Homeless: Kiersten Ware
- Vancouver Housing Authority: Andy Silver
- Community Foundation for Southwest Washington: Shona Carter
- Clark County :
 - Gary Medvigy would like to release the Affordable Housing Slides out to show what the County is presently embarking on.
- City of Vancouver:
 - Diana Perez stated they did a code amendment related to outside habitation and camping; a committee has been created to look, into the Affordable Housing Fund before it expires.
- City of Battle Ground:
- City of Camas:
- City of La center :
- City of Ridgefield:
- City of Washougal:

4. Next Meeting

- September 13, 2022, at 9:30 a.m.