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| <p>Will you be sending the slides to us? Will you post the Homeless Taskforce meeting videos/audios, meeting agenda and minutes as well on the city site?</p> | <p>Presentation materials will be available on the City website, Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force webpage: http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/4011/Reimagining-Public-Safety</p> |
| <p>What is the response time for CORE once a person that's unhoused contacts them?</p> | <p>Once a call is dispatched, usually within the same day to 3 days. If the team's schedule is full they may be asked to call back. NOTE: Richmond/San Pablo team is in Richmond M/W/F and San Pablo Tues/Thurs.</p> |
| <p>What is the age limit for housing vouchers?</p> | <p>Age limit begins with adults entering the system.</p> |
| <p>What is the current number of unhoused in Richmond and the date of the collection of this number?</p> | <p>It is generally accepted that at least one thousand people are homeless in Richmond. There is an annual count which is about half of that most likely because CORE contacts people everyday. The HUD one count is once a year over a week. CORE made contact with 504 unduplicated individuals in the past 12 months.</p> |
| <p>While the city is working on getting sanctioned sites established, will code enforcement move RVs off of city streets so we do not have additional unsanctioned RV sites?</p> | <p>There is a process. The City's ordinance says that for tent dwellers we need to offer housing services before moving them. RVs can be moved, but we try to make contact with them first.</p> |
| <p>Will Brookside Shelter be a drug-free shelter? Why does Brookside Shelter not accept children?</p> | <p>It's standard practice to separate family shelters from single adult shelters. All of the county shelters are designated for 18+, but our community does have a number of family shelters, including GRIP and BARM in Richmond.</p> <p>The Brookside Shelter, as all County shelters, does not allow the consumption of drugs and alcohol on site, but, in line with best practices, is a low barrier shelter, so it does allow people who are under the influence to stay there, as long as they are not causing a disturbance.</p> |

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| <p>Are RFP's available for the public to review? If so, where?</p> | <p>RFPs can be found on the City's Online Bidding System: https://pbsystem.planetbids.com/portal/14590/portal-home</p> |
| <p>https://pbsystem.planetbids.com/portal/14590/bo/bo-detail/87935 does not allow public access. It requires a log-in.</p> | <p>The public can see old RFPs issued via BidsOnline without creating a log in. As long as the bid has not been archived they can go to the vendor portal and click on any bid to see the information the city is releasing. No need to login. The only thing that does require a login is any private document.</p> |
| <p>Since the majority of people who are unhoused in Richmond are Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC), is the City funding nonprofit agencies led by BIPOC individuals? How does it apply a race equity lens to funding service providers?</p> | <p>That is a question that needs to be examined. Other cities use a race equity framework in funding. These are the first programs funded by the City since the dissolution of Redevelopment Agencies. We are going to be looking for additional opportunities and resources to fund more providers to serve the unhoused or those at risk, including nonprofits led by BIPOC individuals. The equity lens will also be a key component of the strategic plan development.</p> |
| <p>What about buying buildings or houses around the city and making them SROs where people share communal spaces and rent rooms?</p> | <p>There is a new round of HomeKey funding from the state available for this. The city or county could be the lead applicant to apply for the money for housing conversions.</p> |
| <p>How do you respond to those that say Gayle and Daniel are hustling the poor and elderly taxpayers? There are a lot of people living in poverty in Richmond that are not homeless, yet you take their money for the homeless. Can you address that?</p> | <p>SOS provides interventions specifically for people who are homeless to improve living conditions in encampments and establish alternatives to unsupported encampments. SOS works with people in those encampments and hires residents from them in a workforce development model.</p> |
| <p>How is the County addressing the need for supportive housing and Board and Care housing for the seriously mentally ill? Board and Care are effective at providing care for serious mental illness — they should be supported and expanded.</p> | <p>There is a lot of overlap between populations housed under homeless funding and populations housed under MHSA (Mental Health Services Act) funding. The Chief of Housing for Contra Costa Behavioral Health can speak to Board and Care housing. There is a significant shortage of housing programs for this population. Our State of the System report here https://cchealth.org/h3/coc/pdf/State-of-the-System-July-2021.pdf, shows that 77% of the people on the “housing queue” in the homeless system of care likely need permanent supportive housing.</p> |

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| <p>Tiny home villages like the ones adopted by other cities all over the nation seems to make sense.</p> | <p>Yes, the City seeks to establish emergency housing in the form of transitional villages, which would provide sleeping cabins and permit RVs to park. These households would have access to shared amenities such as provided in the tiny home village concept.</p> |
| <p>Neighborhoods want to know how and if you vet the applicants? Is there a process for vetting? Is there drug testing?</p> | <p>Interim shelter applicants for the Safe Parking Host Program (1-4 households who are invited as guests in parking lots of permitted faith organizations) will have been assessed to be vulnerable, for example families with children, older adults, and people with chronic health issues. Applicants will be able to independently sustain their personal health and daily needs. They maintain operational vehicles. They have demonstrated the capacity to contribute to the host site's security with their supervision of the grounds and may support the host and adjacent street with general cleanup. Applicants have a near-term plan for either obtaining permanent housing or becoming able to live in a more stable and long-term off-street location. There will be no drug testing.</p> |
| <p>Can ARPA funds be used for unhoused interventions?</p> | <p>ARPA refers to recovery funds that the City has received. We can use ARPA funds to help the unhoused community. Measure X funding will also be targeted to support mental health and crisis response.</p> |
| <p>Can we make this conversation end at 7:15 or 7:30? One hour is really tough, this is a big topic</p> | <p>This is feedback we will consider for the next community conversation. The meeting was extended to 7:15.</p> |
| <p>How much do unhoused employees of the Streets Team get paid? Are the streets team covered by workers comp? Or disability if they get injured?</p> | <p>SOS staff were receiving a base hourly pay of \$15.50 per hour. In November 2021, employees began to receive a base pay of \$18 per hour. Team leaders and managers earn enough to be comfortable and pay rent.</p> <p>SOS employees are covered by workers comp. And this is an opportunity to earn other benefits and pay taxes.</p> |
| <p>What is Daniel Barth's salary?</p> | <p>For more than one year, Daniel was a volunteer. From July 2020 to October 2021, he was paid \$18/hour at a part-time level. In November 2021 he began to receive a</p> |

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| | semi-competitive full time salary. |
| Should task forces working on homelessness make contact with and have conversations with actual homeless community members? For 3 years I have been out here advocating for Castro and Rydin, and residents have only seen city officials actually visit these sites very few times and they were not there long. | Streets Team members seek to help to make this dialogue happen. It is the role of SOS to provide community liaison services that bridge the divide between housed and unsheltered neighbors. SOS members live in these encampments and make daily contact as peers. City resources are scarce, so this has been the way to improve communication. It is challenging to create a sense of community in large unsupported encampments. Encampments at Rydin and Castro and have held community meetings regularly when these are welcomed. |
| What is happening with the supportive housing project proposed for the Former Jenkins center on Nevin? This seems like the direction the city should move towards for RVs. | City staff is not aware of a project for supportive housing being submitted for this site; however, other affordable, supportive, and transitional housing projects are under review by the City. |
| You mentioned that the goal is to end the encampment at Rydin Rd by the end of the year. What are the options for people if they don't want to stay in the shelter? | <p>The Safe Parking Host Program will soon be available for 1-4 households who are invited as guests to move from the streets into the parking lots of permitted faith organizations. There are currently 8 sites interested in hosting RVs through a City permitting process.</p> <p>The City is working with the County on accessing funding for possible purchase of a motel or hotel. We are also looking at the possible purchase of a residential building for emergency housing. The City is working with Caltrans for possible sites for RV and/or cabin villages. In addition, Brookside Shelter is now open. Lots of parallel efforts are underway.</p> |
| With regard to resource allocation, I'm curious about what percentage of unhoused individuals currently in Richmond are from the Richmond community-- rather than coming to Richmond to seek these services. I want them all served, I'm just wondering what long-term strategy is to handle taking on more folks who realize Richmond is a great place to receive this help? | <p>Stats about where residents lived before they became unhoused: 66% from Richmond, 18% from outside the county.</p> <p>It is true that people need to go where services are in order to receive those services. For example, West Contra Costa residents commonly go to Alameda County to receive services. So it is best that each neighborhood, community, and city in West County support unhoused neighbors in their neighborhoods.</p> |

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| <p>Both RV encampments have trash issues and need help with cleanup of these sites, yet there is no trash can provided at either site. What is the problem with providing trash receptacles of some sort to these sites? Lock them to trees or fences.</p> | <p>Trash bins are a good idea. As residents organize and deepen their organization, such amenities as toilets, drinking water, trash gathering systems can be improved. We can plan for these when peer-to-peer investment builds and implements these systems.</p> |
| <p>What do those with mental health issues do if there are no current programs?</p> | <p>The City is seeking funding for mental health and alcohol and other drug-related services.</p> |
| <p>Why not ask FEMA for trailers or use old school buses to help the homeless?</p> | <p>FEMA trailers are intended to provide temporary housing for homeowners after a disaster, until they can repair or rebuild their homes. Last year the state purchased 100 of these trailers and distributed them to some cities around the state for the homeless. Antioch received 5 trailers. It's not clear if they were ever used but last July they invited Contra Costa County organizations to apply to receive them. SOS applied but the request was not granted.</p> |
| <p>SOS is a great way to start with a solution. However there are so many homeless people in these encampments and there are not enough positions available for all of them at SOS. So how do we attain other jobs for these people in these encampments?</p> | <p>Many homeless people face barriers to obtaining employment. The City is planning to hire a case manager and a clinical social worker to work with encampment residents to help them address barriers that make it difficult to find work and housing, as well as other issues. SOS is working with the City to develop options for interim shelter and supportive services that will provide safety and stability while meeting basic needs, to give people the opportunity to stabilize their lives and to take steps toward self-sufficiency that wouldn't otherwise be possible.</p> <p>Bay Area Rescue Mission's Culinary Arts program provides on-the-job training and career opportunities in the food service industry.</p> |
| <p>Have you reached out to Neighborhood Councils about the Church Parking?</p> | <p>Yes, SOS has been in regular communication with several Neighborhood Councils. As faith organizations receive permits, the team will discuss the specific safe parking plan with the neighborhood council. A goal of these conversations is to build</p> |

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| | acceptance for neighborhood-based solutions for the impacts of homeless in their neighborhood. |
| Is anyone working on prevention of homelessness, and if so, who and how? | <p>Information about rental assistance may be found at:</p> <p>https://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/4024/Rent-Assistance-Resources</p> <p>https://forms.shelterinc.org/renthelp/renthelp.html</p> <p>https://ehsd.org/elderly-disabled/volunteer-and-emergency-services/</p> |
| I don't see enough RV residents who will be good fits for those scattered sites and be successful at it. So what will happen to the RV residents who will not work well at scattered sites. | <p>SOS is working with the City to develop options for interim shelter that will provide safety and stability while meeting basic needs, to give people the opportunity to stabilize their lives. Case managers or resource navigators will work with the residents to address barriers to obtaining work and housing. Unfortunately this is a time-consuming process, and community opposition has been a significant barrier. We are seeking a site in a non-residential area that meets a number of criteria. All leads are welcome.</p> |
| Many people refuse shelter due to restrictions. How is widespread fentanyl and meth addiction addressed? As these shelters open back up are they clean, drug free shelters? | <p>Brookside has apparently been remodeled and all the rooms are private rooms I believe (rather than dorm style beds). I (GAYLE MCLAUGHLIN) will be talking with John Gioia to learn more about how Brookside will be managed to assure health and safety for those who stay here.</p> <p>I agree that some unhoused folks need detox and substance use treatment, however studies have shown that housing stability comes first, it's a process of health and wellness. We also need funding for treatment programs on the County level. The drug and mental health issues are progressively addressed as we meet people where they are. We need to have environments that are flexible to people, and manage behaviors that present as they come up.</p> |
| What about Richmond Neighborhood Councils? | SOS and City leaders attend many of the city's neighborhood councils and create a direct link for residents to influence local activities to |

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| | address neighborhood quality-of-life. |
| How can strategic planning help to set direction? | The Strategic Plan will ensure we have broad community support for the various strategies that get prioritized for the City to develop and implement. |
| Can Richmond develop a task force made up of encampment residents to assist officials or give insight at ground level? | That is a great idea. We can start a team of unhoused leaders who can assist in planning and implementation to improve the establishment of a coordinated care system. |
| How can we get involved, both as individuals and as organizations? How can we refer people to SOS? Where is the SOS office? Where can donations/supplies be donated? | Email Daniel at danielrichardbarth@gmail.com or call 510-990-2686. The office is located upstairs at Leftside Printing. Address is SOS Richmond, 1418 Macdonald Avenue, Richmond 94801 |
| What is the Richmond citywide system for the unhoused? | <p>Before 2017 when the City declared a shelter bed crisis, most services to the unhoused were provided through the county, and non profits, which still are stewards of the largest bulk of funding for this work.</p> <p>The City has several processes put in place to support the unhoused, including offering services before encampment abatements, providing input through several unhoused standing groups, and collaborations with the county and local non profits, however, a strategic plan with clear roles and pathways for this work has yet to be developed.</p> <p>The City Council authorized a strategic planning process in late 2021 funded through the RPS dollars which will begin work in 2022. This process would work with the city staff, council, the county, unhoused service providers, the neighborhood community and those with lived experience to create a strategic plan.</p> |
| What are the costs, revenue sources, goals & benchmarks for success of such a program? | The current budget for the SOS Streets Team can be found on the City's website at http://sireweb.ci.richmond.ca.us/sirepub/pubmtgframe.aspx?meetid=886&doctype=agenda . Current revenue sources include Reimagine Public Safety funding, an ECIA grant, grants from local businesses and private foundations, and |

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| | <p>community donations. The goals are to provide employment for unhoused residents, to improve conditions in encampments and neighborhoods, and to develop interim shelter and emergency housing options to provide safety and stability for people on a pathway to permanent housing. A list of key performance indicators for the Streets Team is available on request.</p> |
| <p>City Councilor Gayle McLaughlin has said at City Council that the Rydin Road encampment will be closed by Dec, 2021. Is this true?</p> | <p>The City Council has voted to extend the timeline for closing the Rydin Road encampment. A date has not been determined..</p> |