

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE June 3, 2022

TO Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

SUBJECT **Update – Office of Homeless Solutions, Office of Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization, and Code Compliance on the Meyers Jeffries Site**

The purpose of this memorandum is to present a high-level overview of the holistic strategy implemented at the Meyers Jeffries site to address homelessness equitably. The Office of Homeless Solutions worked in close collaboration with MDHA, City Square, Catholic Charities, Dallas Housing Authority, Dallas Marshals, Dallas Police Department, The Bridge, Austin Street Shelter, Metro Relief, Dallas Downtown Inc, Stewpot, and Dallas Animal Services through the Dallas R.E.A.L. Time Rapid Rehousing (DRTRR) Initiative. The following is a summary of the progress made to date:

Summary (as of June 3, 2022)

The Dallas R.E.A.L. Time Rapid Rehousing (DRTRR) Initiative officially decommissioned the encampment site at the Meyers Jeffries location through housing on Friday, May 20, 2022.

- At the time of closure, a total of 42 people had been housed with 10 additional program participants in the process of completing their housing inspections to move in
- Utilizing the DRTRR's strategy, this site represents our first large-scale decommissioning
- OHS has contracted with a fencing vendor to secure areas owned by the city this month to ensure the sustained closure of the site
- DPD and the Marshals Office have worked with OHS to provide security for this decommissioning since it began and will continue to monitor the site for anyone attempting to re-establish an encampment. Signage denoting the closure is also posted at the site
- Throughout this process, Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization and Code have worked in concert with OHS and the larger DRTRR, and private landowners to inform them of their responsibilities and to ensure that fencing on their sites is established and maintained

Through the DRTRR, we have honed the process, and identified and streamlined issues we encountered, making it possible to sustainably resolve the largest site in the history of

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the DRTRR through housing. The timeline for encampment decommissioning at smaller sites is 4-6 weeks from initial engagement to closure through housing. This is the first site of this magnitude closed through the DRTRR, utilizing over two months of engagement, resulting in closure via housing. Future sites of this size will take less time now that this scaled up model is established. To quote our OHS Project Coordinator for the DRTRR, Alonzo Grape: “Working with the homeless population can be challenging, however in all my time working with the population that is experiencing homelessness, I have never physically seen this magnitude of benefits. The collaboration and teamwork were incredible, and words really cannot describe the impact of this humanistic solution.”

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me or Christine Crossley, Director of the Office of Homeless Solutions.



Kimberly Bizer Tolbert
Deputy City Manager

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Chris Caso, City Attorney
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Jon Fortune, Deputy City Manager

Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Assistant City Manager
Robert Perez, Assistant City Manager
Carl Simpson, Assistant City Manager
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer
Genesis D. Gavino, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
Directors and Assistant Directors