Homelessness in Lake Elsinore

Community Update
December 14, 2017
Addressing Homelessness in LE

• April 2014 – City creates Homeless Ad-Hoc Subcommittee for Feeding in Parks, Starts Pathway Project
• 2015 – Proactive Enforcement of Illegal Encampments
• 2016 – Weekly Enforcement of Illegal Encampments
• October 2016 – Adopted Regional Homeless Alliance Resolution
• January 2017 – Point in Time Count Shows 62 Homeless in LE
• May 2017 – Created a New Council Subcommittee
• June 2017 – Launched Homeless Task Force
• November 2017 – Launched Homeless Outreach Coalition
Lake Elsinore Homeless Task Force

City’s Role

- Enforcement
- Policies & Programs
- Engagement & Education
State of Homelessness in LE

Transient Camp Enforcement

Private Property Commercial: 4 Corners Albertson's
State of Homelessness in LE

Transient Camp Enforcement

Private Property Commercial: Home Depot and Target Center
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Transient Camp Enforcement

Private Property Abandoned Buildings: Former Coco’s and Lone Star
State of Homelessness in LE

Transient Camp Enforcement

Public and City Property: La Laguna Resort
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Transient Camp Enforcement

Private Property Vacant Lots: Lake Bottom Lots
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Private Property Vacant Lots: Cambern Avenue and Rosetta Canyon Areas
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Public Property: Elm Grove Beach
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Public Property: Serenity Park
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City Right of Way: Collier & Spring St. Next to I-15
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Transient Camp Enforcement

County and State Property: E. Lakeshore Bridge and San Jacinto Bridge
State of Homelessness in LE

Transient Camp Enforcement

County Property: Flood Channels
Homeless Task Force – Enforcement

Existing Municipal Codes

1. Regulation of Solicitation (Chapter 8.13)
2. Vehicle Solicitation (Chapter 10.72)
3. Camping on Private Property (Chapter 8.70) – Updated 2015
4. Shopping Carts (Chapter 8.38) – Updated 2016
5. Parks and Beaches (Chapter 8.40) – Updated 2016
6. Unattended Donation Boxes (Chapter 5.34) – Update 2015
7. Nuisance Abatement (Chapter 8.18) – Updated 2015
Homeless Task Force – Enforcement

Private vs. Public Property

• Average cost of abatement
  • $1,000 to $4,000 per location, larger camp cleanups can be between $6,000 to $10,000

• Partner with property and business owners to help them maintain, manage and secure their lots and businesses
  • Letter of Trespass (602 letter, tool for law enforcement)
  • No Trespassing signs
  • Frequent visits
  • Remove overgrown brush

• Hold property owners who fail to properly manage their lots accountable
  • Nuisance Abatement procedures (LEMC 8.18.020)
  • Cost Recovery through special assessments (staff time/cleanup cost)
State of Homelessness in LE

Numbers to Date

• Since July 1, 2016:
  • More than **90 transient camp locations** in City.
    • Four Corners/Riverside Drive, Mission Trail, E. Lakeshore Drive, and Rosetta Canyon.
    • Abandoned Buildings – Commercial and Residential
    • Public Parks, Beaches and Public Right of Ways.
  • **127 Transient Camp Clean Ups** (includes multiple locations per clean up)
  • **Total Cost: Approximately $250,000.**
  • **225 tons** of junk and debris removed from these camps.
Lake Elsinore Homeless Task Force

Strategic Objectives

1. Assess Homeless Population
2. Communication & Outreach to Community
3. Form Community Collaborative
4. Create List of Available Resources & Services, Identify Gaps
5. Review, Assess and Create Best Practices for Homelessness
6. Update Municipal Codes Based on Homelessness
7. Develop New Programs to Reduce Homelessness
8. Coordinate with Regional Efforts
9. Clarify City’s Role and Partnership with Non-Profits and Faith Based Orgs
10. Begin to Create Local Housing Crisis & Response Team

Members
- Mayor Pro Tem Natasha Johnson
- Councilmember Brian Tisdale
- City Staff
- Police Department
- County of Riverside, District 1 & Flood Control
- Chamber of Commerce
- Key Community Stakeholders
- PSAC Member
Lake Elsinore Homeless Task Force

Actions To Date

• Alert LE Issue for Public – Report Homeless Concerns
• Public Outreach & Social Media Posts
• Media Outreach – The Press-Enterprise
• Website Resources at www.lake-elsinore.org/homelesstaskforce
• Homeless Population Assessment Tool
• New Park Ranger (City’s First)
• Quality of Life Patrols & New Deputy – Coming Soon
• Resources to Offer and Provide Help
• Business Crime Prevention Information on Website
• Developed Educational Materials for Distribution to Community
Homeless Task Force – Engagement & Education

Resources to Help Those in Need

City’s New Helpline
(951) 291-0050

Webpage to Request Help
www.lake-elsinore.org/help

Resource Card
To be distributed in and around community.

Join Community Collaborative
What Can Our Community Do?

1. **Secure and Protect Your Property** – Join Neighborhood Watch. Reduce opportunities for crime. Lock it up.

2. **Property Appearance & Maintenance** – The appearance you have is the attention you attract.

3. **Practice Responsible Compassion** - Give a Hand Up, Not a Hand Out.

4. **Give to Established Organizations** - Time, Talent and/or Treasures


www.lake-elsinore.org/help
Alert LE - Report Issues to the City

Available Online at www.lake-elsinore.org/alertle, on Facebook @LakeElsinoreCityHall or in your app store – search Alert LE

Offered for iOS and Android Devices. Images shown are from iPhone.
Alert LE - Data Driven Decisions
Homeless Taskforce

What’s Next

• New Community Services Deputy – Expanded Outreach & Enforcement
• Next Coalition Meeting – February 8, 2018 at 9 a.m.
• Point-In-Time Count - January 23, 2018
• Homeless Outreach Event – Tentative January
• Identify Housing Opportunities – Identify Transitional Housing Opportunities
• Business Outreach & Toolkit – Education & Resources to Assist with Crime Prevention
• Municipal Code Review & Revisions – Solicitation, Loitering, and Crime Free Programs
• Develop Effective Resource Page & Guide – Ways to Give a Hand Up
• Regional Collaboration & Resources – Homeless Outreach and Housing Locator
• Evaluate New Policies & Programs as Identified – What Should and Can City Fund
• Additional Public Outreach and Meetings – Spreading the Message