Homelessness in Lake Elsinore

Coalition Meeting
November 2, 2017
Welcome & Purpose of the Meeting

• Collaborative Effort to Strengthen our Power to Help
• Provide Update on the City’s Approach to Homelessness
• Seek Support for Practicing Responsible Compassion
• Allow for Connections Amongst Those Who Serve
• Assess Existing Services and Identify Any Gaps
• Conduct Our Community Asset Assessment Survey
  • Open Browser on Mobile Device
  • Go to Sif.ly
  • Enter Participant Code: Homeless
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
State of Homelessness in LE

Transient Camp Enforcement

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

Transient Camp Enforcement

Private Property Vacant Lots: Riverside Drive
State of Homelessness in LE

Transient Camp Enforcement

Public and City Property: La Laguna Resort
State of Homelessness in LE

Transient Camp Enforcement

Private Property Vacant Lots: Cambern Avenue and Rosetta Canyon Areas
State of Homelessness in LE

Transient Camp Enforcement

Private Property Vacant Lots: Lake Bottom Lots
State of Homelessness in LE

Transient Camp Enforcement

Public Property: Elm Grove Beach
State of Homelessness in LE

Transient Camp Enforcement

Public Property: Serenity Park
State of Homelessness in LE

Transient Camp Enforcement

City Right of Way: Collier & Spring St. Next to I-15
State of Homelessness in LE

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)
Since July 1, 2016:

• More than 85 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.

• 120 Transient Camp Clean Ups (includes multiple locations per clean up)

• Total Cost: Approximately $225,000.

• 175 tons of junk and debris removed from these camps.
Lake Elsinore Homeless Task Force

Introductions & 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
• Responsible Compassion 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
Lake Elsinore Homeless Task Force

Upcoming Action Items

• Business Toolkit & Signage Package – Sign Up Today!
• Municipal Code Review & Revisions
• Regional Collaboration & Resources – Homeless Outreach & Housing Locator
• Evaluate New Policies & Programs as Identified
• Additional Public Outreach Materials and Meetings
• Point-In-Time Count
The Purpose of the Coalition

Strengthening Our Power to Help

• Open meeting for those eager to serve.
• Focused on engagement, education and relationships.
• Assess available resources, services and help.
• Identify and fill gaps in services.
• Create effective and efficient network of resources to help.
• Educate each other about best practices in serving those in need.
• Tackle local challenges related to homelessness.
• Develop programs to address the barriers of homelessness.
• To make positive, heartfelt changes in the lives of those in need.
Lake Elsinore Homeless Task Force

Strategic Objectives

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Engaging the Community

What Can Our Community Do?

2. Practice Responsible Compassion - Give a Hand Up, Not a Hand Out.
3. 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 - Viewing Issues in the City
Since June = 254 Homeless Concerns Reported
Alert LE – Data Driven Decisions
Provide A Hand Up... Not A Hand Out

Responsible Compassion

Let Your Generosity Be a Part of the Solution

**DO** respond to solicitation requests with a firm NO.

**DO** report all illegal activity by calling 911 or non-emergency law enforcement number (951) 776-1099.

**DO** treat homeless with respect and dignity.

**DO** offer homeless information to get help, such as dialing 211.

**DO** volunteer with or donate to organizations that help the homeless.

**DO** be a part of the solution by practicing Responsible Compassion.

**DON'T** encourage panhandling by giving money, food, supplies, etc.

**DON'T** give them your address or take them to your home.

**DON'T** allow camping or loitering on your property.

**DON'T** assume you're making a difference when you are giving; you may actually be hurting, not helping.

Assess Our Available Resources and Identify the Gaps

Survey Time
Homeless Outreach Coalition

What’s Next

• Next Coalition Meeting – March or May 2018
  • Quarterly or Twice a Year (with special meetings)

• Community Update Meeting – Tentative December
  • Opportunity to Engage and Educate Residents and Others
  • Connect with You to Offer Time, Talent or Treasurers

• Homeless Outreach Event – Tentative December/January
  • Gather to walk into camps to triage and offer help to those in need

• Develop Effective Resource Page & Guide –
  Email PIO@Lake-Elsinore.org Program Materials/Weblinks