

HOMeward BOUND
COMMITTEE

2021

HOMELESSNESS STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN

AND MASTER PLAN



CATEGORIES	PROPOSED ACTIONS GOALS & OBJECTIVES
1. Homeward Bound Homeless Ad Hoc Committee (done)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish an ad hoc advisory committee consisting of two City Council members and 3 members of the public to be known as the Homeward Bound Ad Hoc Committee to advise the City Council with regard to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ issues within the City of Barstow related to homelessness and food insecurity ○ policy issues related to the City of Barstow homeless population and response functions as referred by the City Council or the City Manager
2. Healthy Cities Coordinator/OR contract with deliverables promoting public safety possibly using Measure Q funds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Optimize collaboration between community partners and help to centralize services • Provide guidance on homeless related issues and act as the City's single point of contact for the community and service providers • Identify, research, write and administer grants that support homeless outreach and services. • Identify and forward grant opportunities best served through non-profit partnerships. • Develop, coordinate and evaluate city contracted programs to address homelessness.
3. Establish Warming/Cooling Center Operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify all available properties in the Human Services Zone that can be utilized for a Barstow Shelter (warming/cooling or navigation center) including existing buildings and vacant lots. • Collaborate with SB County DBH & the InnRoads program to have expanded services to include homeless & walk-in crisis services for their Clubhouse expansion. • Apply for grants directed to build a low barrier Navigation Center to increase shelter capacity and operate as a Day Center that provides onsite supportive services, case management & housing navigation. Target ability to serve 30-40 homeless single men, women, couples & families (and pets). Must be in the Human Services Zone.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify best plan of entry and referral method (i.e. Accommodate walk-in's/referrals generated from 211 and direct access from local hospitals, homeless outreach teams, shelter staff) • Consider a Recuperative Care Center as a separate wing for hospitals to discharge homeless patients in need of medical respite (reduces readmission by 50%; basic needs met, homeless person able to receive help with housing stability and other support services) or support the Victorville Recuperative Care Center where there would be reserved beds for Barstow patients. • Explore financial partnerships with foundations/investors for long-term sustainability of Navigation Center
<p>4. Housing First Model</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify an inventory of housing currently available including abandoned homes in Barstow where the owners have filed a vacancy exemption. • Understand the placement priority for local residents • Explore opportunities to increase affordable housing supply with support service components (i.e. alternative/transitional/permanent housing) • Explore municipal code changes that would eliminate impediments and accelerate housing production and utilize planning grants to help accelerate and streamline the approval process • Explore partnerships and affordable housing developers to expand inventory of affordable housing and permanent supportive housing units especially through the use of time saving and innovative methods • Explore partnerships with agencies that provide housing subsidies and “master lease” programs to low income and special groups (i.e. chronically homeless, disabled adults, veterans, seniors, youth and full-time students) • Seek opportunities for gap funding with non-profit agencies
<p>5. Homeless Prevention</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a list of current resources available • Explore the “room and board” model • Start with targeting senior citizens • Explore partnerships with service providers who touch those on the verge of homelessness (i.e. CAPS, 211, Catholic Charities) • Tie prevention assistance education to life skills

<p>6. Outreach/Visibility</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicate through a public awareness campaign of the Homeward Bound Ad Hoc Committee activity and progress and maintain communication regularly • Barstow Police Department HOPE (Homeless Outreach and Proactive Enforcement) Teams to continue linking the homeless population to resources and service providers throughout the county • Support efforts of SB County InnRoads program and collaborate where possible • Continued coordination between the Barstow PD, Code Enforcement, HOPE Team • Continued coordination with faith-based outreach teams • Continue to use proactive approach to address “hot spots” and chronic issues related to the homeless population (mobile clinics for disease treatment vaccinations, etc.) • Explore ways homeless outreach teams can engage and remain in communication with homeless population who frequently relocate and consider communication devices as incentives (i.e. phones, phone cards, pagers) • Explore funding opportunities (CESH, HHAP, AHSC, etc.) that can be used for homeless outreach services and operations and support efforts and collaborate wherever needed • Outreach to the public and businesses with best practices for dealing with homeless population • Ask property owners to complete “access property” forms and renew regularly • Promote “Positive Change Not Spare Change” campaign • Promote collaboration and eliminate duplication of services
<p>7. Trespassing/Private Property</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage use of Penal Code 602pc to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Allow Code Enforcement and PD to access private property to address concerns at a much faster pace (trespassers given 3 days to vacate) ○ Allow immediate enforcement in commercial areas as long as “No Trespassing” sign is posted ○ Authorize Code Enforcement to help clear panhandling & loitering from commercial areas

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revise City ordinances to develop/increase penalties for property owners who do not secure vacant properties and ensure cost recovery mechanisms in Municipal Code • Encourage property owners to effectively utilize private security • Explore the revision of municipal codes to address public sleeping and anti-camping when enough long-term accommodations exist
8. Vandalism, Theft and Misuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate City operating and maintenance plans and code of conduct policies to make necessary modification that will help reduce misuse of public infrastructure, equipment and facilities • Work with commercial property owners and apartment complex managers on protocols to minimize disruption of regular garbage and recycling pick up, i.e. dumpster diving, property vandalism. • Consider related municipal code updates to address issues related to unlawful acts in public areas
9. Homeless Encampments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore temporary hygiene stations to provide humane services and reduce the risk of communicable diseases (i.e. mobile showers, toilet stalls and hand washing stations) • Explore personal storage options available for the homeless • Explore safe parking lots and charging stations • Explore campground options (i.e. available county, BLM land availability)
10. Strategic Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish regional focus through collaboration with neighboring government agencies • Identify and develop strategic partnerships with new service providers • Establish agreements with partner agencies to outline the purpose and scope of partnership, rules of engagement and desired outcomes to help ensure a smooth working relationship • Establish a volunteer engagement process and program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Promote partnerships to achieve goals in Homeward Bound Master Plan
11. Reunification Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a reunification resources and/or transition plan.
12. Food Providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use current food providers survey information to guide resource gaps.

Homeward Bound Master Plan

SHORT TERM	ACTION	STRATEGY
First response to combatting homelessness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vouchers for hotels – similar to HEAP • Tents / RV / Outdoor – Will need bathrooms, trash, shower (possible starting goal of 20) • Short term units / pods / tiny homes – family and singles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with local providers to facilitate showers • Work with service organizations to develop tent proposal/plan • Research HEAP (Problems/Symptoms/Solutions)
MEDIUM TERM		
Fluid stage of transition – receiving support, not just shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide drug and alcohol addiction counseling • Education / training / workforce development • Recuperative care center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with hospital, IEHP, and other healthcare providers to support services • Create services list
LONG TERM		
Longer term solutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low Income housing options – Section 8 and market rate housing • Purchase home – MAP model 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish NOFA possibilities • Align with developers and orgs that can build/manage housing • Research voucher system per the Housing Authority