



ECHO convened at the Clark County Public Service Center, 6th Floor, Hearing Conference Room, also via WebEx Online.

Clark County ECHO

(Ending Community Homelessness Organization)

Meeting Minutes –November 8, 2022

ECHO Co-Chair, Clark County Councilor, Richard Rylander, opened-up the ECHO meeting with a warm welcome, introductions.

ACTION: Moved by Ty Stober to **APPROVE** meeting minutes from October 11, 2022. Unidentified ECHO Member seconded the motion. Diana Perez presented amendments to the minutes. All aye/motion carried as amended.

1. HOUSING-RELATED 2023 STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

- ECHO Open Discussion
 - The efforts the County is making is the continuation of The Homeless Shelter Program grant effort in the amount of 2.6 million.
 - Association Washington Cities has put together a workgroup, with the purpose that housing will continue to be a topic.
 - Diana Perez stated how important it is for the cities and all jurisdictions send letters and advocate our residents regarding managing the rate of rent increases.
 - Q & A

2. HMIS COORDINATION WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT

- Presented by
 - Sheriff Atkins is unfamiliar with HMIS and has been unable to located someone on his leadership team that is familiar with HMIS.
 - Suggestion made that setting up a workgroup with the Sheriff's Office and the City Police Chiefs collaborate regarding HMIS.
 - Sunny from Council for the Homeless is willing to speak to the information and coordination of what they are doing with local jurisdictions with different departments.
 - The bulk of the coordination is through the outreach team.
 - There is a HMIS working group that is overseen by Council for the Homeless.
 - The intent of HMIS is to facilitate the provision of services to individuals and for broad community planning and providing aggregate (not client specific) is available online.
 - This will be on hold until the first of the year so that the new members will be able to listen and participate.
 - Q & A



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3. COUNTY-WIDE HOUSING TAX PROPOSITION

- Presented by
 - The current affordable tax levy expires at the end of 2023.
 - Due to the expiration the City of Vancouver Council has authorized a new ballot measure to the voters in February.
 - The City will be presenting \$10 million dollars a year for ten years will be presented on the ballot, indication that an individuals property tax will decrease each year.
 - This is seed money, locally matched seed money that allows, that allows the city to pull from outside funding revenue sources.
 - The City is asking the County to also contribute funds as well, that could bring in a significant amount of money used to invest in projects throughout the entire County.
 - Bring forth this topic again after the new year.
 - Q & A

4. Update from each entity and any suggested action items

- **Council for the Homeless:**
 - Sunny stated that they have anticipated severe weather for the upcoming week for the homeless; Tuesday, Nov. 8th – Thursday, Nov. 10th and encourages anyone to call the hotline for shelter resources.
- **Vancouver Housing Authority:**
 - Andy stated they have applied to HUD for stability vouchers. Aimed at people experiencing or at risk of homelessness.
- **Community Foundation for Southwest Washington: NONE**
- **Clark County :**
 - Legislative priorities for the County where continuation of the homeless shelter program. A grant effort was on the books.
 - Amber provided a short progress report regarding Safe Parks, they currently have four (4) locations they are looking at.
- **City of Vancouver:**
 - Ty Stober is inquiring if HMIS has a dashboard regarding the aggregate data and real time data.
 - Portland has put forward proposals about mass moving people into congregate locations and this will have external effects, and push people to the suburbs. Ty Stober is asking if ECHO would be willing to put together a letter to the Portland City Council, expressing concerns, and consideration on executing their plan.
 - City of Vancouver has agreed to move forward with the Downtown location in the New Heights Block. Anticipating a mid-January opening.
- **City of Battle Ground: NONE**
- **City of Camas: NONE**



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- City of La center : *NONE*
- City of Ridgefield:
 - The City of Ridgefield's Manager has joined forces in the Affordable Housing Task Force.
- City of Washougal: *NONE*

5. Next Meeting

- December 13, 2022, at 9:30 a.m.
 - Will include update of Safe Park locations from Lindsey Hueer.