



NAVIGATION CENTER FACT SHEET

5770 Research Drive, Huntington Beach



Specifics

- ◆ 50 Bed Emergency Shelter
- ◆ No "walk ins" or "walk outs." Clients must be screened and go through an approval process prior to being accepted to the Center
- ◆ Clients will only be driven to the site and/or away from the site. No loitering on or near the site
- ◆ Site will be enclosed with an eight-foot fence
- ◆ City to hire security for 24/7 coverage on-site
- ◆ Enhanced Huntington Beach Police Department service
- ◆ Length of stay — 90 days
- ◆ No clients with open felony warrants or registered offenders

Potential Partnerships

- ◆ City will issue a Request For Proposals for a highly qualified Shelter Operator
- ◆ Operator will need to provide shuttle services and case management

Community Outreach

- ◆ Community Open Houses will be scheduled for residents and businesses
- ◆ For further information regarding the proposed Navigation Center and other City information regarding homelessness visit: www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/homelessness

For further information please contact (714) 536-5582

4-1-2019
SUPPLEMENTAL COMMUNICATION
#13 (19-394)



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March 29, 2019

Media Alert

Huntington Beach to Create 50-Bed Navigation Center
Item goes before City Council on Monday, April 1

- Why:** A Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals decision in *Martin et al v City of Boise*, held that enforcing a City ordinance that prohibits sleeping in public places is illegal if there are no housing alternatives available (other than sleeping in public) within that same jurisdiction. Federal lawsuits were filed last year against the County of Orange and nine other cities for the lack of emergency shelter beds for homeless individuals. A majority of those lawsuits were consolidated and assigned to the Federal District Court in Santa Ana.
- Who:** While our City has not been sued at this time, the City has been requested to appear in court on **Tuesday, April 2, 2019** to report how it plans to comply with the basic tenets of *Martin v. Boise*. This April 2nd hearing is what caused the urgency in identifying a proposed shelter site and requesting an expedited City Council action. Opening a 50-bed Navigation Center will allow the City to focus on enforcement of the City's trespassing and anti-encampment ordinances and avoid a costly lawsuit. These laws will be an important tool in reducing homeless encampments and ensuring the safety and well-being of residents, business owners and visitors. It will also help keep our parks, beaches and open spaces safe and clean.
- What:** The proposed Center will provide beds for up to 50 men, women and couples. There will be an approval process for potential clients including: no "walk ins" or "walking out," no registered sex offenders (290's) or open felony warrants, and length of stay up to 90 days, which could be extended if the homeless client is in process for housing. Clients living at the Navigation Center can stay on-site during the day and obtain needed services such as health care, counseling, job training and more. The clients will be driven to and from the site. There will be no homeless clients walking around the area.
- Where:** While over 26 locations were vetted, the City is in the process of securing a lease agreement in the industrial zone of the City at **5770 Research Drive**.
- When:** The City plans to open the Navigation Center by Fall 2019. Steps that need to be taken include: City Council approval of the lease (April 1 meeting), tenant improvements, selecting a qualified homeless shelter operator, finalizing operating costs and funding, and developing a time frame for opening. The City plans to host a series of community Open Houses to address community concerns.

For further information regarding the City's response to homelessness visit our website at:
www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/homelessness



Navigation Center Proposal

BACKGROUND

- The homeless population has significantly increased nationwide. To deal with this growing epidemic, the U.S. Federal Court has communicated to every Orange County City that it must do its fair share. Ten other Orange County jurisdictions have been sued for lack of shelter beds. A lawsuit against Huntington Beach is imminent.
- The proposed Navigation Center will provide emergency shelter beds allowing Officers to enforce the City's anti-camping ordinances while providing services to those in need such as veterans, the elderly and disabled.
- The City may enter into a three-year lease in an industrial area to minimize the impact on nearby residents, businesses, and/or schools. Security is of the utmost concern. The City will pay for 24/7 on-site security services.

SAFETY IS OUR NUMBER ONE PRIORITY

- Since January 2016, the Huntington Beach Police Department has assigned two full-time Homeless Liaison Police Officers to assist with homelessness issues within the City. The entire Department deals with the challenges related to homelessness every day and is poised to respond.
- In addition, the City has a Homeless Liaison Coordinator and four Homeless Case Managers that currently coordinate County, City, and non-profit services and housing resources for the homeless. The Office of Business Development is committed to serving property and business owners by assisting the police officers and coordinating with business owners.
- With the availability of these beds, our police officers will be able to quickly enforce laws and move homeless people they encounter to this emergency shelter. This will also result in cleaner and safer parks, beaches and open spaces.
- Our efforts are already producing results. The City's Homeless Task Force has helped more than 240 people in getting off the street. 69 of those have reconnected with family. Case managers and police officers helped on over 1,200 occasions with housing referrals, mental health referrals, bus passes, DMV forms, gas cards, food, mail boxes, and family reunifications.

HISTORICAL HOMELESS RESPONSE

- The City of Huntington Beach has been a long-standing advocate for finding creative solutions to those experiencing homelessness, while at the same time appropriately conducting enforcement efforts to ensure the safety and well-being of residents, business owners and visitors. For example, the City of Huntington Beach has helped the homeless starting with the City's Youth Shelter in Central Park. Since 1994, nearly 1,300 kids have graduated from the program.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH EFFORTS

- Community Open Houses will be held to provide more information and respond to citizens' concerns. For more information on the City's efforts regarding homelessness, please visit our Homeless Services website at www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/homelessness.