

Government of the District of Columbia Interagency Council on Homelessness

ERSO COMMITTEE

•	Date: 6/23/2021 Time: 1pm-2:30pm Location: Webex
Details	

Agenda

- I. Welcome and Call to Order
- II. Introductions
- III. Updates
 - Encampment Update See Slides

A brief update was provided on Homeward DC 2.0 and the strategic goals that connect directly to reducing unsheltered homelessness. The group then reviewed the goals that fall under the purview of the ERSO Committee. Next, the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services, Wayne Turnage thanked the ERSO Committee for all their work to support the Strategic Planning Committee in developing Homeward DC 2.0, with the goal of making homelessness, rare, brief and non-recurring. He specifically noted and thanked the group for their strategic planning efforts that have an eye toward creating safe and healthy long term solutions to encampments. Time was then given for questions and feedback. Questions included how DMHHS would ensure folks in encampments are being housed, if PEP-V would stay open for hypothermia season, and planning for co-ed couples.

• FY22 Priorities – See Slides

The group briefly reviewed the Committees FY22 Priorities and the upcoming meeting calendar.

801 East Employment Program Update – See Slides
The group shared the exciting work of 801 East Employment Project.

IV. Discussion

o Winter Plan

The Committee then broke out into groups to provide feedback on the Winter Plan, with a specific focus around Transportation, Shelter Capacity, and Plan Awareness/Marketing. In regards to transportation, it was noted that transportation is critical and is especially important to the operation of day centers. The group also shared that transportation can be costly and if we are going to continue 24/7 operations of shelters, a cost analysis should be done, especially as demand has been lower since shelters opened 24/7. It was also noted the importance of safety measures on transportation including masking and maintaining a limited number of individuals on the vehicle depending on the size, which may also result in a need for more routes. In regards to capacity, folks recommended continued 24/7 operations and noted that if we maintain decreased shelter capacity, it may lead to faster connections to housing because of more access to case management and supports in the shelter. It may also encourage more neighbors outside to move to shelter because they are less crowded. Finally, it was recommended that PEP-V be kept open for the Winter to reduce need for additional hypothermia sites, and that for hypothermia sites, individuals prefer uptown locations. In regarding to plan awareness, tv and radio ads were suggested as well as social media and flyers/cards for consumers.

V. Updates & Announcements

CDC Updated Guidance – See Slides

And update on CDC Guidance was given, see slides for details.

VI. Adjournment

Decisions & A	Decisions & Action Items		
Next Meeting	Date: 7/28/2021 Time: 1pm-2:30pm Location: Webex		