



# Memorandum

**Date:** March 22, 2022

**To:** Mark Israelson, City Manager

**From:** Lori F. Schwarz, Director of Neighborhood Services  
Shanette Eaden, Housing and Community Services Manager

**Subject:** Homeless Update

**Purpose:**

Provide an update on the state of homelessness and actions taken by City staff to address challenges. Additionally, staff seeks to provide an update on feedback gathered from homeless services providers regarding eligible housing options for the use of U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) HOME Investment Partnership American Recovery Plan (HOME-ARP) funds.

**Background:**

On September 27, 2021, city staff provided an update on the state of homelessness within the City of Plano, as well as information regarding the existing homeless interaction network structure utilized to serve homeless residents. Due to inclement weather challenges occurring on February 24, 2022, the City of Plano cancelled the use of volunteers to conduct annual "Point in Time"(PIT) census. In its place, City staff trained volunteers at the Plano Overnight Warming Station (POWS) on how to conduct the count and relied on homeless surveys collected at POWS as the City of Plano "outdoor" PIT. Though the PIT data collected for the City of Plano is under analysis and will not be presented until April 2022, it is known that 103 homeless surveys were collected from POWS on the night of February 24<sup>th</sup>. This number does not include homeless surveys and data collected at other homeless shelters in Plano or by other homeless oriented nonprofits that may have provided shelter to homeless individuals on that night.

**Unallocated COVID-19 Program Funds**

The City of Plano was allocated \$1,988,051, in HOME-ARP funds. HOME-ARP funds are designated to assist individuals or households who are experiencing homeless or at-risk of homelessness. These funds may be used for the administration, planning and carrying out of the following four activities:

1. Production or preservation of affordable housing;
2. Tenant-based rental assistance;
3. Support services, homeless prevention services and housing counseling; and
4. Purchase and development of non-congregate shelter

Per the City's assigned HUD Representative, HOME-ARP funds may be used to assist the City in evaluating and determining the activities that will be undertaken through the use of said funds.

**Next Steps:**

Staff is requesting direction on applying for HOME-ARP funds. If approved, a formal resolution will be brought before City Council, at a later date, to authorize the City Manager to apply for the funds.

xc: Jack Carr, Deputy City Manager – Development Services  
Ed Drain, Police Chief  
Charles Heasley, Police Sergeant



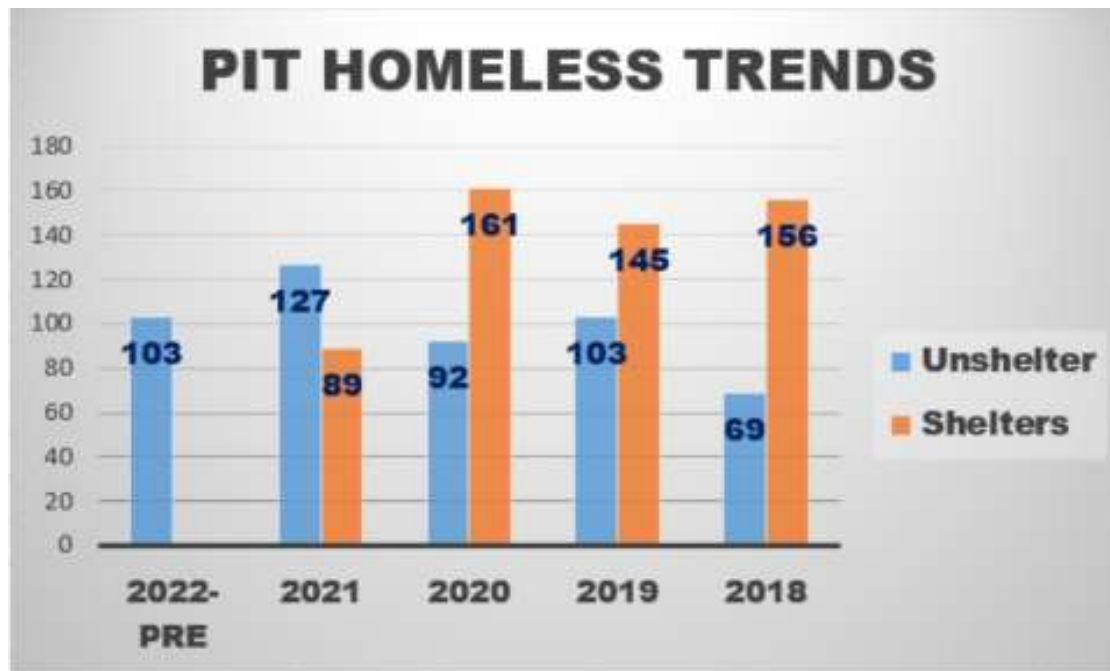
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## **City of Plano Homeless Update**

Shanette Eaden, Housing and Community Services Manager

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# Point In Time “PIT” Five Year Trend



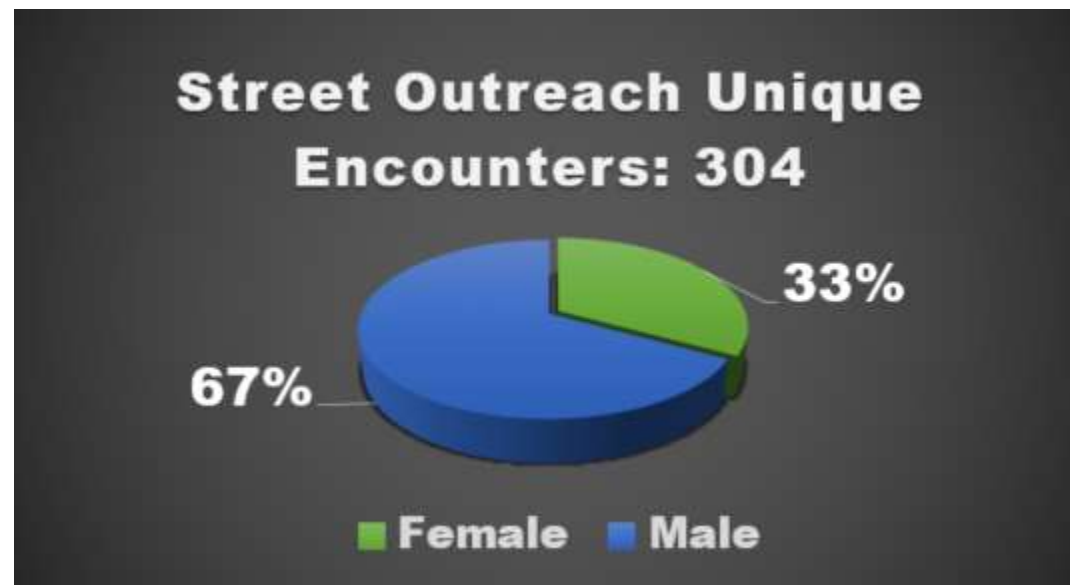
## PIT Totals by Year

- 2018: 225
- 2019: 248
- 2020: 253
- 2021: 216
- 2022: Unavailable



# Street Outreach Data

## January 2021 – December 31, 2021



# State Law Impacting Homeless Options: HB 1925

## Law Basics

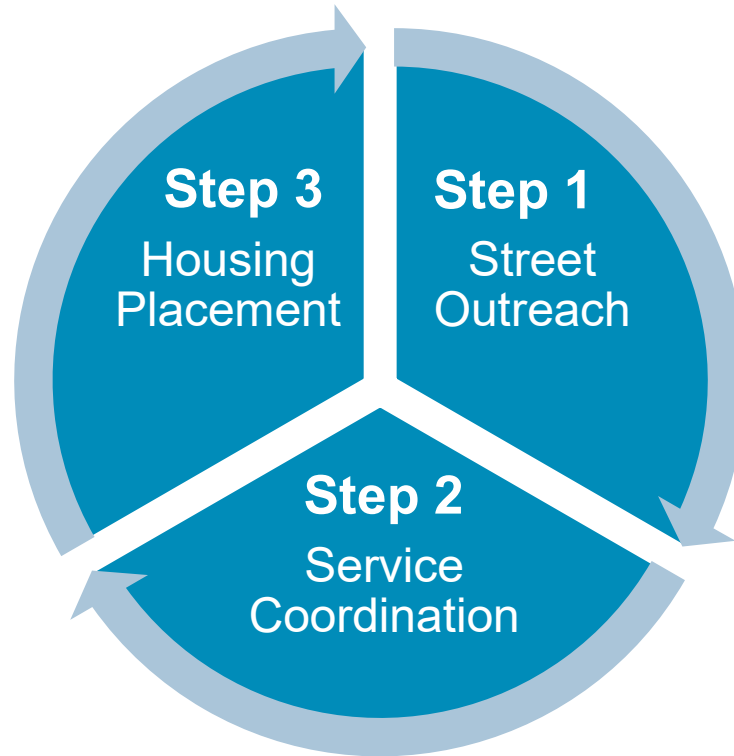
1. Prohibits “camping” in public places
2. Requires that the City provide resources for homeless, included but not limited to camping sites

## City Actions During Encounters

1. Education on the law and potential consequences
2. Homeless resources provided



# Current Unsheltered Homeless Approach



# HOME-ARP Funds

## Allowable Activities:

- Production or preservation of affordable housing;
- Purchase or development of non-congregate shelter;
- Tenant-based rental assistance; and
- Support services, including homelessness prevention services and housing counseling



# Hotel Conversion to Affordable Housing Units

Use of HOME-ARP Funds – Action 1

## **Pros:**

- Creates housing for homeless individuals and families
- Allows for the creation of rental history
- Provides a long-term solution for homeless residents to become self-sufficient
- Operated by a non-profit agency
- Onsite services
- Provides a triage for those in need of emergency housing

## **Cons:**

- On-going operational costs





# Tenant Based Rental Assistance

Use of HOME-ARP Funds – Action 2

## Pros:

- Provides financial housing support for homeless individuals and families
- Operated by a non-profit agency
- Provides location choice

## Cons:

- Availability of affordable units for rent
- Off-site support services
- More intensive administration due to scattered locations



# Hotel Conversion to Non-congregate Emergency Shelter

## Use of HOME-ARP Funds – Action 3

### **Pros:**

- Provides emergency shelter homeless individuals and families
- Operated by a non-profit agency
- On-site services
- Provides location choice

### **Cons:**

- Temporary housing solution
- State approval required
- On-going operational costs



# Individualized “Community Circle”

Does not require the use of HOME-ARP Funds – Action 4

## **Pros:**

- Focuses on one homeless individual or family at a time
- Utilizes nonprofit and/or faith-based service providers
- Creates a sense of community support for homeless persons

## **Cons:**

- Relies on other housing programs to obtain housing
- No dedicated case manager
- Incremental approach



# Homeless Housing Options: Nonprofit Shelter Provider Meeting

## Participants

2 Domestic Violence Shelters  
1 Youth Shelter  
2 General Population Shelters  
1 Street Outreach  
1 Emergency Financial Assistance  
1 Collin County Homeless Coalition

## Homeless Options Discussed

1. Conversion for Affordable Housing
2. Conversion for non-congregate
3. Tenant Based Rental Assistance
4. Community Circle



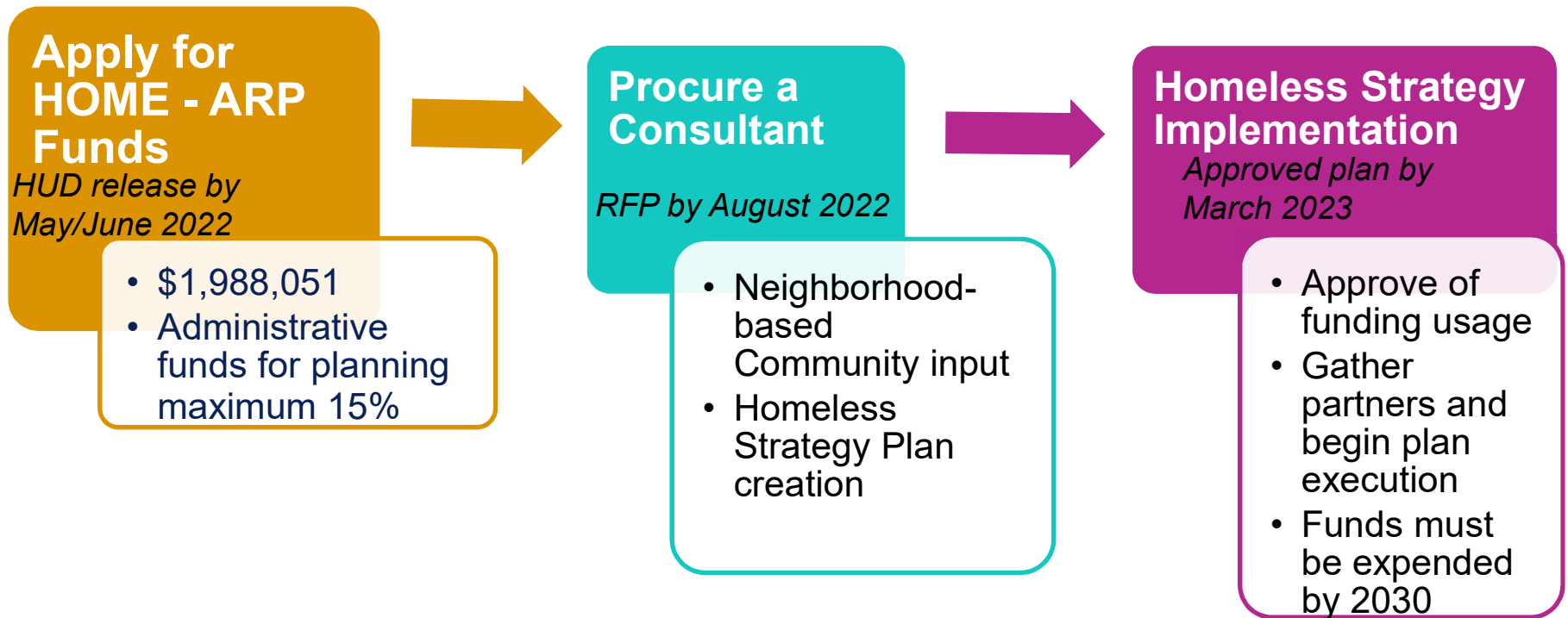
# Nonprofit Homeless Provider Meeting Results

## Homeless Housing Options by Group Preference

- 1. Conversion for Affordable Housing – Best Option**
  - a. Needs to include wrap around services
  - b. Solves the lack of available housing concern
- 2. Conversion for Non-Congregate – Second Best Option**
  - a. Needs to be a County-led initiative
- 3. Tenant Based Rental Assistance – Third Best Option**
  - a. The concern is the lack of affordable rental properties if housing assistance is provided
- 4. Community Circle – Not a Good Option**
  - a. Lack of funding



# Next Steps: ARP Funding





# Plano

*City of Excellence*

## Questions and Discussion

