

Date: September 7, 2022

To: Mark Israelson, City Manager

From: Lori F. Schwarz, AICP
Director of Neighborhood Services

Subject: HOME-ARP funding: Discussion and Direction

Background:

On March 28, 2022, Neighborhood Services staff provided a homeless update to City Council. Additionally, there was also a presentation on the results of outreach to the local homelessness non-profit providers on the local needs for the community in relation to the use of HOME-ARP funds. The POM presentation is attached for reference.

At that time, City Council directed staff to apply for the HOME-ARP funds and to hire a consultant to determine the best use of the funds, which must be used for:

- 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

In May 2022, City Council determined one of their 2022-2023 Council Strategic Goals to be Homelessness with an initiative focusing on investing in homelessness prevention programs and developing public-private partnerships. Homelessness Prevention is an allowable use of funds for HOME ARP funds, which includes utility assistance. The City of Plano currently has such a program that is administered by the Assistance Center of Collin County, so utilizing the funds in this manner is consistent with activities already being undertaken through the use of U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funds.

During a presentation at the July 25, 2022 meeting, City Council requested the use of the HOME-ARP funding be brought back for further discussion and direction.

Next Steps:

Staff is seeking direction on the manner in which City of Plano HOME-ARP funds will be used.

Attachments:

March 28, 2022 City Council Presentation

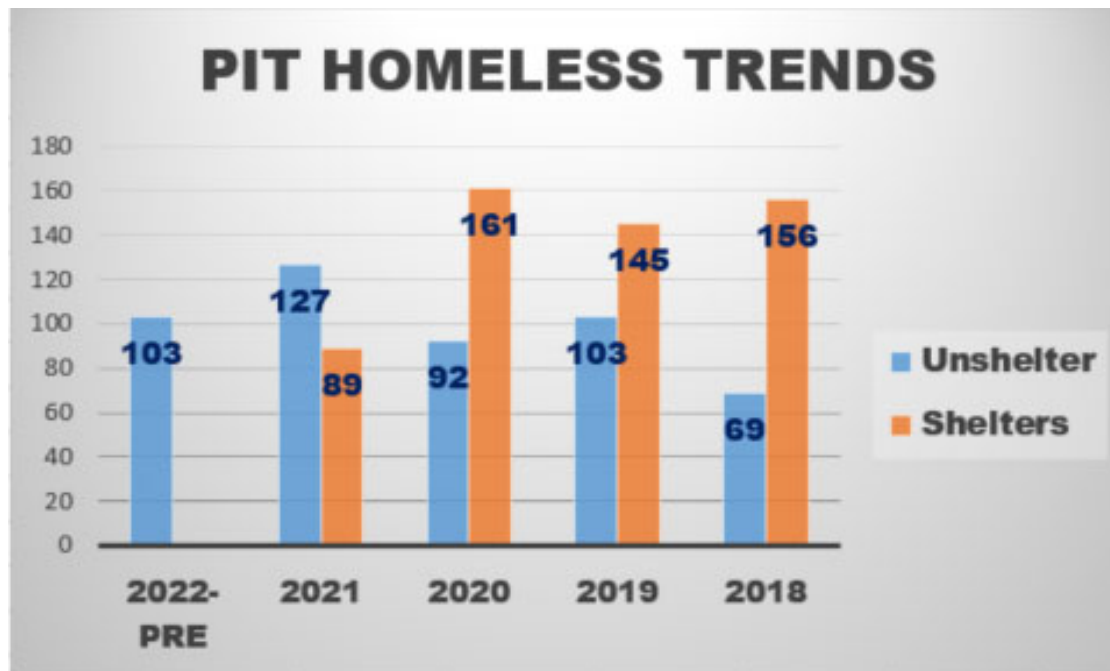
xc: Jack Carr, Deputy City Manager
Shanette Eaden, Housing and Community Services Manager



City of Plano Homeless Update

Shanette Eaden, Housing and Community Services Manager

Point In Time “PIT” Five Year Trend

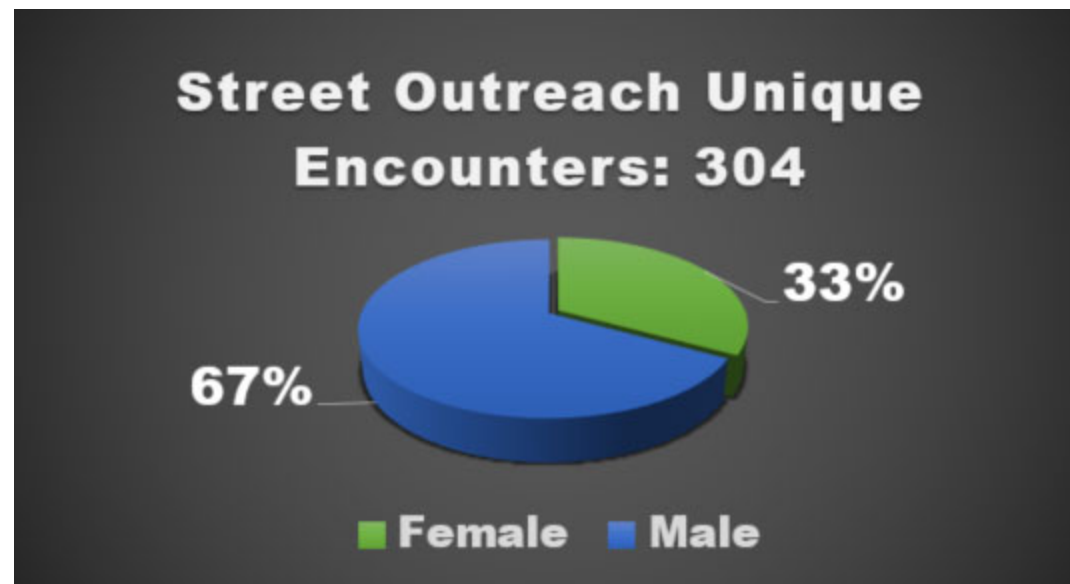


PIT Totals by Year

- 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

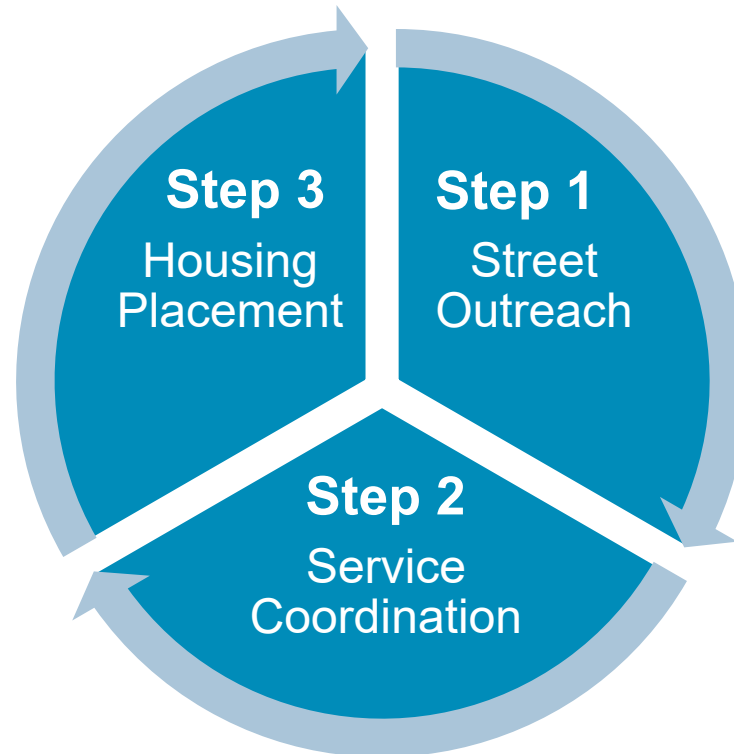
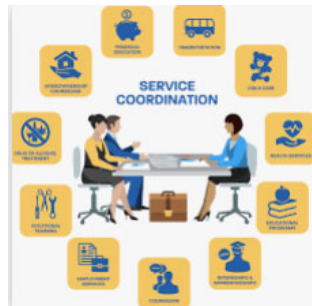
1. Prohibits “camping” in public places
2. Requires that the City provide resources for homeless, included but not limited to camping sites

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



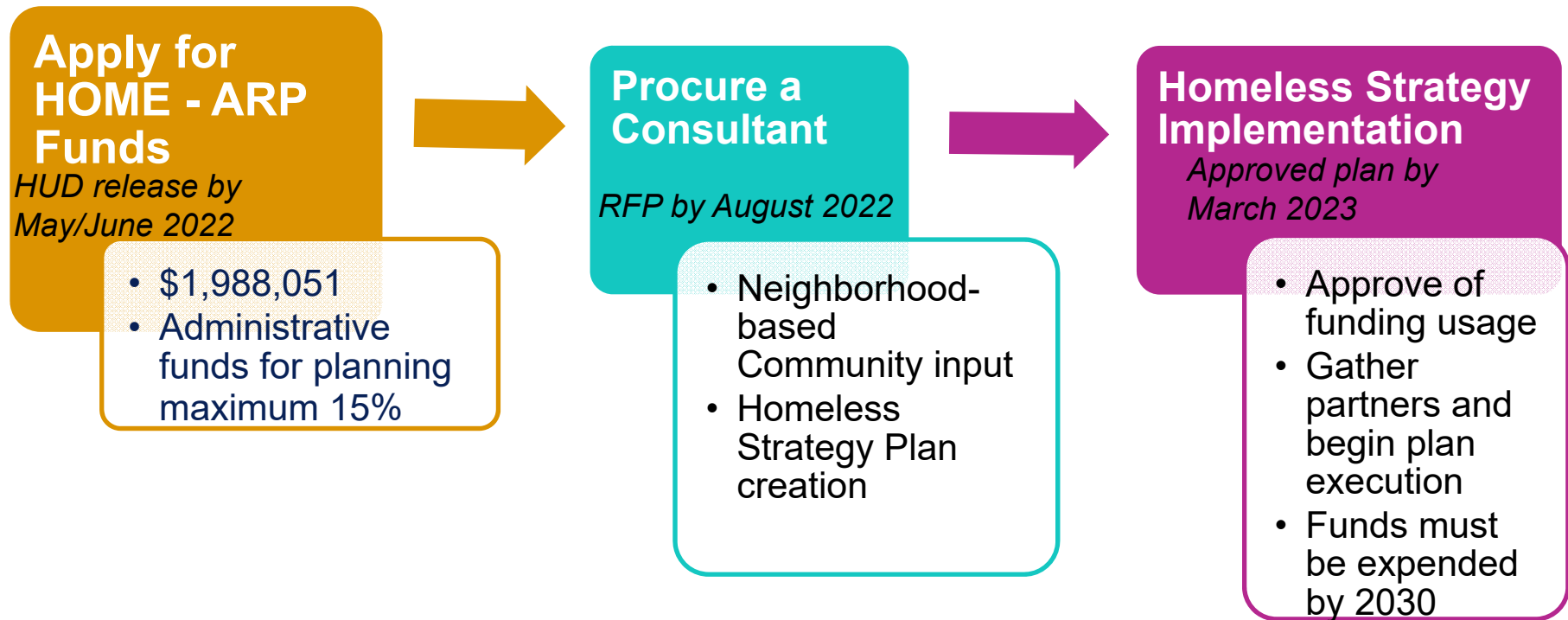
Nonprofit Homeless Provider Meeting Results

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





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Questions and Discussion

