

# **Homelessness Emergency Situation Report**

**Incident Name**: Homelessness Emergency

Incident Commander: Aaron Lande

**Operational Period:** June 2025

**Situation Report** # 20

## **New Emergency Orders**

None. The list of existing emergency orders can be found on the City's <u>Homelessness Emergency</u> <u>Declaration</u> page.

### **Emergency Response**

- We have lost 17 people since December 2024 Homeless Memorial
  - o 2 in the month of June
- Vancouver Fire data: Reporting quarterly next update in July for second quarter.
- Vancouver Police data:

#### Police Events and Time on Events with Unsheltered Homelessness Involvement

	June 2025	Year to Date
# of Events* (percentage of all events)	965 (9.8%)	5,845 (10.2%)
Hours spent on events**  (percentage of all police event hours)	1,914.5 (17.8%)	11,743.2 (17.9%)

<sup>\*</sup>Total number of events officers indicated were related to unsheltered homelessness in the month of June and year to date (YTD), as well as the percentage of all events relative to all police events in June and YTD.

\*\*Total number of officer hours spent on events officers indicated were related to unsheltered homelessness in the month of June and year to date (YTD), as well as the percentage of time spent on these events relative to all events in June and YTD.

#### **HART Activities**

- HART conducted clean-ups at the following locations:
  - o Leverich Park, Ellen Davis, and Discovery Trail areas
  - o Area around W 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, and Jefferson, King, Lincoln streets
  - o Burnt Bridge Creek Trail system near Andresen Rd.
  - o 3rd and Washington area
  - Regular coordination with WSDOT for outreach and cleanup on their properties along the freeway system in the City of Vancouver

#### **HART Encampment Cleanups and Solid Waste Removal**

Type of Operation	Tons Removed
Coordinated health & sanitation encampment cleanups	19.91
HART Encampment Response Coordinator – rapid response crew	8.75
Year-to-date	154.41

- Responded to 90 My Vancouver app submissions in June; YTD: 605
- Handed out 69 naloxone kits and provided awareness on overdose response to 24 individuals through our partnership with WA State Dept. of Health's Opioid Education and Naloxone Distribution (OEND) Program.
  - 1 overdose was reversed by HART using these naloxone kits in June
     OEND supports access to naloxone for people who are likely to experience or witness an opioid overdose by providing free naloxone to organizations and community groups for distribution to clients and community members.
- Continued Burnt Bridge Creek Trail encampment decommissioning process.

## **Community Engagement**

- Presented on the City's homelessness response and HART's role to the Fourth Plain Village Neighborhood Association.
- Shared the City of Vancouver's approach to coordinating services with the City of Bloomington, Indiana, as they develop their response to homelessness in their community.
- Shared all the great things the City is doing in response to homelessness in our community with about 60 students and staff from Eisenhower Elementary School.

## Safe Stays/Safe Park

- The Outpost:
  - o 2 residents obtained IDs.
  - o 2 residents obtained employment (1 with Talkin' Trash), a step towards increased independence.
  - o 1 resident has a detox date in early July working towards sobriety.
  - 2 new residents were welcomed, and staff continue to foster a community-building environment among all residents.
  - o Community garden is in full bloom and the residents enjoy working in it

#### Hope Village:

- o 3 residents have housing referrals (for Lincoln Place 1 & 2) and are anticipated to transition to housing soon.
- o 1 resident able to have minor surgery with a safe place to recover.
- 2 residents obtained employment.
- o 1 resident obtained their Social Security and insurance cards.
- 1 resident enrolled at Clark College working on their goal to become an addiction counselor.
- Ongoing support groups are helping residents achieve their goals, as well as a new goal-setting group to help those new in the process begin their path to achievement.
- Residents are remaining engaged in regular art activities, bingo, and game nights in support of community connection and well-being.
- This site maintains a unique relationship with Community Court, being right next door. HV staff/leadership regularly attends Community Court, provides tours and information about HV to interested court participants, and works with HART to transition folks engaging with Community Court services into HV as a way to encourage and support their progress.

#### 415 West:

o 4 residents transitioned into housing, 2 of whom were original 415 West residents.

- 1 additional resident has been referred to housing, and 1 other resident was approved for Long-Term Care through DSHS.
- 7 residents are engaged with treatment services 1 in IOP (intensive Outpatient), 1 in MAT (medication-assisted treatment), and 5 in both.
- Staff have been working with Council for the Homeless to identify potential candidates for Lincoln Place 2 (LP2) referrals, as well as work on obtaining verification of disability for any residents who score into Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) in advance of any potential referral to help reduce the time between program opening, referral and housing.
  - There are currently 4 residents identified and document-ready for LP2.
  - Disability documentation has been obtained for 8 additional residents scoring into PSH for future referrals.
- Onsite gardens have begun producing a harvest celery, lettuce, radishes, and some strawberries. Many residents find caring for the flowers, plants, and vegetables to be therapeutic.

#### Kiggins Village:

- 4 residents transitioned into housing, with one of those being through the Everybody In pilot partnership between the City, Vancouver Housing Authority, and Council for the Homeless.
- o 1 resident and their pet (the last of the original KV residents) signed a lease with movein soon to come!
- o 10 residents obtained IDs and Social Security cards, and 1 resident obtained their birth certificate as part of the process of becoming "document-ready" for housing.
- o 3 residents participated in detox services.
- At the end of their first full fiscal year open, they have helped house 26 individuals, and all 26 are still housed and in good standing with their property managers!

#### • Homeward Bound – Safe Park:

- o 77 total individuals served including 7 children and 39 pets currently on-site.
- 1 resident has obtained employment (with Talkin' Trash) and celebrated 4 months of sobriety.
- o 3 residents completed the Rent Well tenant education course.
- 5 residents are approved for housing and hope to move in over the next two months 3 through the Everybody In pilot partnership, and 2 veterans with VASH vouchers.
- 1 resident who has experienced unsheltered homelessness for more than a decade accepted a safe parking spot and is actively engaging with the program (along with their pets).
- Misters and small pools have been set up to help residents, especially those with kids and pets, to stay cool during the summer.

## **Bridge Shelter**

- Building demolition began on the property
- Clark County grant awards and fiscal sponsorship agreement with PeaceHealth approved by Council

## **Community Court**

Outcomes:

Community Court outcomes	Total individuals
Newly cited/referred to Community Court	75
Opted into Community Court	17
Graduations (successful completion)	6
Community Service hours completed	38
Obtained Temporary Housing	0
Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder evaluations completed	11
Accessing/participating in treatment services	1

- A local company, DaBella, provided lunch for Community Court in May and wrote the following in their June employee newsletter, "This was not just another charity partnership—it was a local civic collaboration that allowed us to be part of something bigger than ourselves."
- Clark County District Court received funding from the WA State Administrative Office of the Courts for fiscal year 2026. This renews support for the Clark County Volunteer Lawyers program position at Community Court and adds a probation services case manager for full Fridays at Community Court, increasing our weekly CCAT assessments capacity. Funding runs from 07/01/2025 to 06/30/2026.

## **Property Closures**

None. The list of properties closed by emergency orders can be found on the City's Homelessness Emergency Declaration page.

## **Appreciation**

This month, we recognize Geographic Information System (GIS) for their expertise and support of the City's response to unsheltered homelessness in our community. Their work and extra efforts have made our work more effective and efficient by building out our annual HART survey to collect critical information and data. They have also been a great help in determining the acreage of irregularly shaped properties for the emergency orders closing public property to camping.

In recognition that the City's Homelessness Response team could not accomplish what it does alone, especially during this emergency, HART would like to express its appreciation for the many departments and individuals who partner in the work:

- Economic Prosperity and Housing Department
- Public Works grounds, streets, environmental services, transportation, and more
- Vancouver Police Department
- Vancouver Fire Department
- Vancouver Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services
- Code Compliance
- Parking Services
- General Services
- Information Technology
- Planning
- Budget
- Legal
- Procurement
- Administrative Assistants
- And countless others who are critical to our mission