

Homelessness Emergency Situation Report

Incident Name: Homelessness Emergency

Incident Commander: Aaron Lande

Operational Period: September 2025

Situation Report # 23

New Emergency Orders

None. The list of existing emergency orders can be found on the City's [Homelessness Emergency Declaration](#) page.

Emergency Response

- We have lost 26 people since December 2024 Homeless Memorial
 - 3 in the month of September
- **Vancouver Fire data:** Reporting quarterly – next update in October for 2nd quarter.
- **Vancouver Police data:**

Police Events and Time on Events with Unsheltered Homelessness Involvement

	September 2025	Year to Date
# of Events* (percentage of all events)	905 (9.6%)	8,688 (10.0%)
Hours spent on events** (percentage of all police event hours)	1,793.1 (17.2%)	17,593.6 (17.7%)

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

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

HART Activities

- HART conducted clean-ups at the following locations:
 - Area around W 11th, 12th, 13th, and Jefferson, King, Lincoln streets
 - Marine Park and nearby wetlands area
 - Fire Impact Zone in Burnt Bridge Creek area
 - Several scattered sites addressed by Sheila's rapid response crew
 - 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	11.11
HART Encampment Response Coordinator – rapid response crew	9.75
Year-to-date	235.23

- The MyVancouver App was retired on September 30th and the monthly data for September could not be retrieved as the interface was shut down. Similar online style reporting of encampments was moved to the City of Vancouver "Report a Concern" webpage on Oct 1st. The volume of reports via all methods – webform, email, phone messages, other departments, etc. is about the same as prior months.
- Handed out 22 naloxone kits and provided awareness on overdose response to 8 individuals through our partnership with WA State Dept. of Health's Opioid Education and Naloxone Distribution (OEND) Program.
 - 1 overdose was reported to HART as reversed by a community member using these naloxone kits in September
 - 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.

- Vancouver Fire/EMS rode along with HART in the field exploring ways to partner in service to our unsheltered community

Community Engagement

- A local Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints generously donated funds to cover the cost of paint and supplies, AND organized many volunteers who cleaned, prepped, and painted the exterior of the Safe Stay units at 415 West. They are just beautiful, and we are so grateful for this donation and partnership in support of creating warm and inviting communities.
- For the 2nd year, the Washington Traffic Safety Commission Target Zero program has provided safety supplies to HART for distribution to our unsheltered community. Items such as reflective rain jackets, hats, gloves, and flashlights help keep those who often walk or ride bikes safer during the darker and inclement weather months. Thank you, WTSC-Target Zero!
- HART members attended the September 29th City Council Forum at ESD 112 to answer community member questions about the City's response to homelessness, as well as concerns about specific areas in the City and issues related to unsheltered homelessness.

Safe Stays/Safe Park

- **The Outpost:**
 - 2 residents transitioned into housing.
 - 1 resident successfully completed detox and is waiting for an inpatient treatment bed.
 - 1 resident obtained their Social Security card.
 - 1 resident gained employment.
 - 1 resident celebrated 30 days clean and sober!
 - "September proved this work is messy and hard, but when you combine solid boundaries with genuine care, good things can happen even in the chaos..... recovery meetings are growing, craft days are bringing people together, and staff are doing deep peer support work that's making a difference."
- **Hope Village:**
 - 1 resident transitioned into housing.
 - 4 residents have been approved for housing, identified and been accepted into housing units, and are only awaiting move-in dates.
 - 3 additional residents are nearly done with their referral process for housing – only waiting on disability verification and ID/Social Security cards to be received
 - 2 residents seeking employment had job interviews.
 - Weekly goal-setting group sees good attendance and is complementing on-site case management well, particularly now that the case management team is fully staffed.

- Staff report that hoarding behaviors and pet care are starting to stand out as challenges. Columbia River's Mobile Health team is working to identify some training related to supporting individuals with hoarding behaviors for all Safe Stay staff.
- The Safe Stay continues to provide stability and community for residents who struggle with deep trauma, mental health, medical health, substance use disorders, and difficulties transitioning to a new space and routines.
- **Kiggins Village:**
 - 90% of current residents came in the last 3 months. "We are building relationships, strong referrals, and document readiness."
 - 5 residents obtained IDs and 2 obtained Social Security Cards.
 - 5 residents participated in detox services.
 - 2 residents obtained employment.
 - Kiggins Village has assisted 37 individuals in transitioning to housing between January 2024 and September 2025. Of those, 35 have maintained their permanent housing. One of the 2 who lost housing is currently seeking to engage with housing services again.
- **415 West:**
 - 1 resident transitioned to housing.
 - 2 residents have been referred to Lincoln Place 2, and 5 additional residents are approved for housing and awaiting move-in dates at various locations!
 - 2 residents enrolled in Intensive Outpatient; 3 residents have continued participation in Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT); 5 residents were referred to detox services, and 3 of them completed the program.
 - 2 residents obtained IDs, and 2 residents obtained Social Security Cards.
 - 1 resident obtained dentures.
 - Volunteer support of our Safe Stay has been amazing this month!
 - Our Lady of Lourdes Mother Teresa mini bus began serving lunches at this site.
 - One of 415 West's primary and favorite Meal Train volunteers, Joe Pauletto, was featured in the Columbian, which was a treat for everyone on-site.
 - The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints painted all of the shelter units! Around 25 volunteers transformed this community into a more welcoming space over two separate weekends. While volunteers painted, staff BBQ'd for residents and volunteers, which brought everyone together. "Our community felt really special when Mayor Anne and Councilor Stober came and showed support along with Jamie. We are beyond Thankful!!!"
- **Homeward Bound – Safe Park:**
 - 48 total individuals served – including 7 children and 31 pets.
 - 2 residents transitioned to housing; one had been a resident since October 2023 and the other, a veteran and our longest-staying resident to date, since July 2020.
 - 1 resident obtained employment, and 7 residents had job interviews.

- A newer resident, who has been looking for employment and hasn't been to a doctor or dentist in many years, has been connected to a dentist and established a primary care physician. This resident is hopeful this will help with obtaining employment, because they feel the condition of their teeth has been a barrier to getting hired anywhere.
- 1 resident fighting long-term addiction celebrated 9 months clean and sober!
- A resident, who is employed and dreamed of going back to college, was accepted into college this month.
- 1 resident obtained their birth certificate; another obtained their Social Security card.
- Staff are working with residents to create more unity and fun on-site by hosting movie nights, bingo and karaoke.
- Bonneville Power Administration tightened up easement boundary lines, which resulted in the loss of 13 RV/vehicle spaces. Staff were able to shuffle some folks around, so no one had to exit due to the loss of space.

Bridge Shelter

- General Contractor for construction selected and awarded the contract

Community Court

Community Court outcomes	Total individuals
Newly cited/referred to Community Court	64
Opted into Community Court	14
Graduations (successful completion)	6
Community Service hours completed	40.5
Obtained Temporary Housing	4
Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder evaluations completed	12
Accessing/participating in treatment services	0

- The new Probation Services case manager position began this month to assist with court assessments. This has allowed the court to complete the assessments, required for newly cited individuals to opt into court, in one day instead of having to spread them out over several weeks.
- "Buried in Treasures" hoarding training for court partners began and will meet monthly through June 2026.
- A new partner to Community Court, New Life Recovery, is providing lunches 3 times per month!

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 the Permitting Department for their support of the City's response to unsheltered homelessness in our community. The individuals in the Permitting Department went above and beyond to expedite their touches on the Bridge Shelter project, getting the City that much closer to realizing the opening of the shelter in record time!

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

