

Updates and Discussions

Working Group Reports Due May 26

Food Security & Shelter Working Group to provide a summary report with concrete steps to achieve recommendations by May 26. Committee will finalize report via email.

Shelter Subcommittee

LISC Affordable Housing Playbook

- Recommendations will be to enhance the work that LISC was already doing in San Antonio.
- Need to match incoming resources with the needs of the community.
- The most flexible funds should be dedicated to housing production and rehabilitation.
- The House-approved HEROES Act would include additional emergency assistance, but housing supports like tax credits are not included.
- Recommend using part of the \$270 million from City's Coronavirus Relieve Fund to support fund short term rental assistance, acquisition of hotels for immediate needs, and rehabilitation of existing stock into affordable housing.

Youth in Foster Care System

- Continue encouraging State to develop solution for youth in foster system exposed to COVID-19.

Homelessness

- Potentially open additional emergency shelters and/or safe parking areas.
- 300 room hotel allows Haven for Hope to provide social distancing on the Haven campus and protects most vulnerable from congregate setting.
- Haven for Hope indicated they should not return to pre-Covid numbers on the Haven Courtyard (700 per night).
- The hotel has also served as a kind of transitional housing, adjusting clients to permanent housing.
- Recommend adding more permanent supportive housing (PSH) in the community.
- Look at acquisition of existing hotel or multi-family properties for additional shelter and/or PSH, potentially through LISC.
- Concern with fare-free VIA rides ending on June 1; has been important for people experiencing homelessness.
- Still no known case of COVID-19 among City's homeless population.

Eviction Moratorium

- Multiple deadlines expiring soon with conflicting dates: Texas Supreme Court; City and County orders; Office of Court Administration; Federal properties.
- County expected to extend until June 1, but remains work in progress in coordination with other jurisdictions.

Food Security Subcommittee

Food Bank

- Concerns with hurricane season beginning
- Food Bank working a variety of funding sources to continue supporting community, including:
 - Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer (PEBT) - \$57 million allocated to Bexar County to provide each child in the national School Lunch Program an additional \$285/month benefit loaded directly onto Lone Star card (or districts help enroll in Lone Star).
 - Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) - \$1.2 billion national allocation to link excess food from producers to food banks. Hoping locally selected firm will be able to execute.

COVID-19 Community Action Working Group
Food Security & Shelter – May 15, 2020

Urban Gardens

- Working with City’s Development Services on eliminating code restrictions on urban farming in order to increase produce availability.

Action Items

Item	Status	Lead
STAR Disaster Request	Completed: \$9.1 M received	Eric Cooper/Com. Rodriguez
Identify Youth Shelter Options	Erin Berry reported on issue to Shelter Subcommittee.	Com. Rodriguez/CW Andrews-Sullivan
Extend Eviction Protections	Bexar County Proposing extension to June 1	Com. Rodriguez/CW Andrews-Sullivan
Ease SNAP Eligibility Restrictions (Asset Test)	Pending State approval	Eric Cooper/State & Federal Legislation Working Group
Ease City Restrictions on Urban Gardening	Proposed by Food Security Subcommittee	CW Cabello Havrda

Referrals to Other Working Groups