

I-45 Encampment Closure Plan

April 11, 2016



Plan Overview

This action plan was developed by the City of Dallas in collaboration with the Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance. The overriding principle and first priority is the health and safety of the persons residing in the area through a systematic closure plan that will be conducted in a way to minimize trauma and maximize available resources to identify housing and shelter alternatives. This plan details the final steps in the closure of the approximate four-block encampment of homeless persons located underneath Interstate 45 between Corinth and Canyon Streets to occur on or about May 4, 2016.

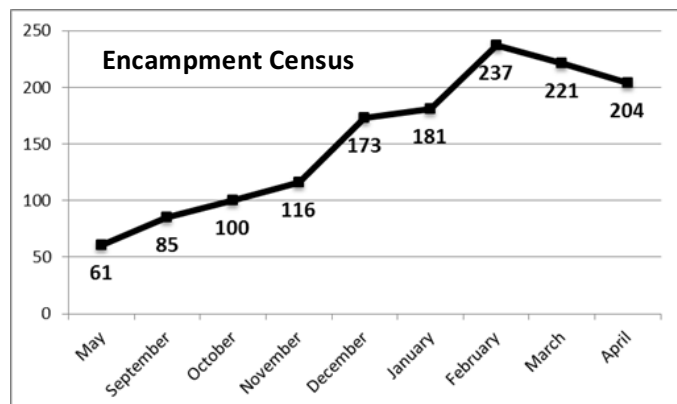
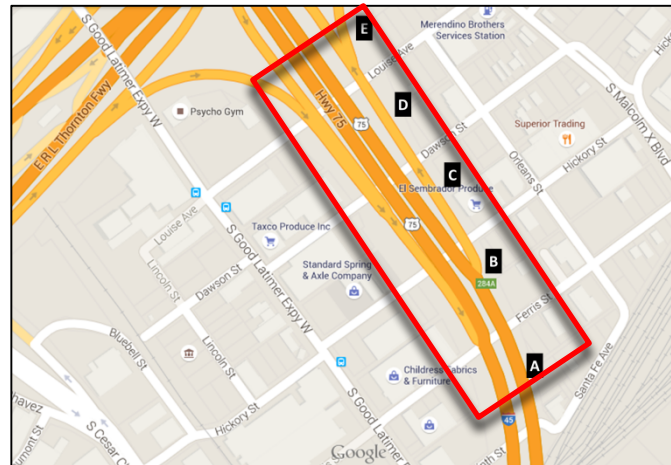
The plan proposes the incremental closure of the five-sector encampment in four stages with two tracks of work:

1. Provision of direct services to the residents of the encampment, and
2. Securing the physical space of the encampment.

Direct services will be the responsibility of homeless service providers coordinated by the Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance. The City of Dallas will take responsibility for the physical space of the encampment.

The plan estimates the current number of persons within the encampment to be 204 persons based on an April 7, 2016 census. Each stage involves incremental closure of parts of the encampment area and projects population reduction goals at the end of each stage.

The I-45 encampment closure process will end when there are no persons residing in the area and the site has been cleared and secure from re-habitation.



Resources

Resources are being drawn from many parts of the community. Primary resources made available specifically identified in the plan include, but are not limited to:

Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance

- Coordination of case management and homeless service provider services (MetroCare Services, CitySquare, Parkland HOMES, The Stewpot, etc.)
- Client record, documentation and prioritization in the Homeless Management Information System
- Regular encampment census reporting
- Provision of flexible assistance funds for bus passes, transportation, temporary bridge housing, critical document costs, housing applications, deposits and related fees
- Provision of SSI/SSDI and Social Security application and navigation services
- Coordination and provision of housing search, navigation and placement services

City of Dallas

- Site port-o-lets and trash services
- Transportation shuttles for critical documents
- Case Management
- Community Court
- Housing search, navigation and placement
- Securing commitment of expanded emergency shelter space
- Site control, security and clean up

Dallas County

- Assistance with housing search, navigation and placement
- TB screening and response
- Case Management
- Client record review for housing prioritization

Communications

Status updates on the progress of the encampment closure will be made at the end of each stage. Britton Banowsky, Chair of MDHA, will direct the overall closure process and provide the update reports to City officials and the community. MDHA contact is CEO Cindy J. Crain. City of Dallas contact is Ms. Bernadette Mitchell, Director of Housing and Community Services. Communication with residents of the encampment area will be divided by MDHA and the City. MDHA will communicate updates on closure, services and responding to client needs. The City

will provide all official and legal communications to residents related to closure, vacating the area and rules of trespass.

STAGE ONE: CENSUS GOAL 190

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Daily intensive on-site Case Management by MDHA, City of Dallas, MetroCare Services, CitySquare and other human services providers- Complete identification of residents for The Cottages.- Begin screening for eligible Healthy Community Collaborative clients.- Identify 30 units of affordable private apartments, boarding homes for private move-in with assistance for application fees, deposits through MDHA Flexible Assistance Fund- Complete critical document processes for IDs- Increase SSI/SSDI Social Security Application & Navigation services- Identify SSI/SSDI applicants requiring Parkland assistance for disability diagnosis and set appointment dates at The Stewpot- Inform Sector A residents of eminent closure- Provide Sector A residents with small storage bins, backpacks to move possessions- Finalize housing plans for eligible veterans through VASH and SSVF- Finalize procedure for re-referring residents with expired Dallas Housing Authority vouchers- Conduct weekly resident meeting to inform of closure plans and available services- Complete HMIS records of 145 residents including photos- Finalize planning: participants and process for weekly (Thursday's 8-Noon) housing information fairs of housing options including emergency shelter, subsidized and private pay.- Inform Sector E residents of eminent closure | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Complete site inspection and plan for physically securing site- Complete Dallas Police Department encampment closure protocol- Post no trespassing signs- Finalize language and legal review of Notice To Vacate- Remove trash bins and porto-potties from Sector A and move to Sector B- Distribute written Notice to Vacate to Sector A residents- Close Sector A- Post security at Sector A to prevent re-habitation of area- Finalize plan for closure of Sector E- Secure Letter of Commitment with shelters to expand emergency shelter bed capacity |

STAGE TWO: CENSUS GOAL 150

| PEOPLE | SITE |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Daily intensive on-site Case Management by MDHA, City of Dallas, MetroCare Services, CitySquare and other human services providers- Identify, as necessary, interim housing for I45 residents that will move to The Cottages- Continue screening for eligible Healthy Community Collaborative clients and begin services to accepted clients- Facilitate viewing, applications and leasing of private move-in with assistance for application fees, deposits through MDHA Flexible Assistance Fund- Continue any un-resolved critical document processes for IDs- Continue SSI/SSDI Social Security Application & Navigation services- Conduct Parkland patient assessments at The Stewpot- Finalize housing plans for eligible veterans through VASH and SSVF if still in residence under I-45- Process all re-referred residents with expired Dallas Housing Authority vouchers- Conduct bi-weekly resident meeting to inform of closure plans and available services- Conduct bi-weekly (Thursday and Day X, 8-Noon) housing information fairs of housing options including emergency shelter, subsidized and private pay- Conduct Case Manager/Emergency Shelter coordinating meeting- Provide Sector E residents with small storage bins, backpacks to move possessions- Inform Sector D residents of eminent closure | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Complete fence/wrap of Sector A- Begin fence repair of Sector E- Conduct Dallas Police Department patrol briefings on encampment closure protocol- Inspect / maintain no trespassing signs- Remove trash bins and porto-potties from Sector E and move to Sector D- Distribute written Notice to Vacate to Sector E residents- Close Sector E- Post security at Sector A and E to prevent re-habitation of area- Finalize plan for closure of Sector D- Review City of Dallas FY2014 and FY2015 Emergency Solutions Grant unused funds for re-allocation to permanent Street Outreach Services |

STAGE THREE: CENSUS GOAL 100

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Daily intensive on-site Case Management by MDHA, City of Dallas, MetroCare Services, CitySquare and other human services providers- Identify, as necessary, interim housing for HCC residents that will move to HCC RRH- Provide services to Healthy Community Collaborative clients and, as necessary, provide interim housing prior to moving into HCC RRHH- Facilitate viewing, applications and leasing of private move-in with assistance for application fees, deposits through MDHA Flexible Assistance Fund- Complete SSI/SSDI Social Security Application & Navigation services- Complete housing process of all reissued Dallas Housing Authority vouchers- Conduct bi-weekly resident meeting to inform of closure plans and available services- Conduct bi-weekly (Thursday and Day 2, 8-Noon) housing information fairs of housing options including emergency shelter, subsidized and private pay- Set up new emergency shelter beds in the CoC HMIS and train shelter intake staff- Begin move out of residents to designated Emergency Shelters- Provide Sector D residents with small storage bins, backpacks to move possessions- Inform Sector B and C residents of eminent closure Inform | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Complete fence/wrap of Sector E- Begin fence repair of Sector D- Conduct Dallas Police Department patrol briefings on encampment closure protocol- Inspect / maintain no trespassing signs- Remove trash bins and porto-potties from Sector E and move to Sector D- Distribute written Notice to Vacate to Sector D residents- Close Sector D- Post security at Sector A, E and D to prevent re-habitation of area- Finalize plan for closure of Sector B and C on or about May 4- Joint MDHA/City of Dallas Press Conference on the Final Stage of I-45 Encampment Closure Process |

STAGE FOUR: CENSUS GOAL 0

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Daily intensive on-site Case Management by MDHA, City of Dallas, MetroCare Services, CitySquare and other human services providers- Facilitate viewing, applications and leasing of private move-in with assistance for application fees, deposits through MDHA Flexible Assistance Fund- Complete SSI/SSDI Social Security Application & Navigation services- Complete housing process of all reissued Dallas Housing Authority vouchers- Conduct bi-weekly resident meeting to inform of closure plans and available services- Conduct daily housing information of housing options including emergency shelter, subsidized and private pay- Continue move out of residents to designated Emergency Shelters- Provide remaining residents with small storage bins, backpacks to move possessions | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Develop draft policy on encampment protocols- Complete fence/wrap of Sector D- Begin fence repair of Sector B and C- Update Dallas Police Department patrol briefings on encampment closure protocol- Inspect / maintain no trespassing signs- Remove completely trash bins and porto-potties from Sector D- Distribute written Notice to Vacate to Sector B and C residents- Post security at Sector A, E and D to prevent re-habitation of area- Finalize plan for closure of Sector B and C on or about May 4- Joint MDHA/City of Dallas Press Conference on the Final Stage of I-45 Encampment Closure Process- Permanently Close Sectors B and C- Finalize City of Dallas Encampment Policy |