



Austin Public Health

PROGRAMMATIC OVERVIEW

AUSTIN PUBLIC HEALTH EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM

AUGUST 2, 2023



We are Austin Public Health

Vision: Everyone will have an optimal quality of life, health and well-being free from racism, poverty and oppression.

Mission: To prevent disease, promote health, and protect the well-being of all

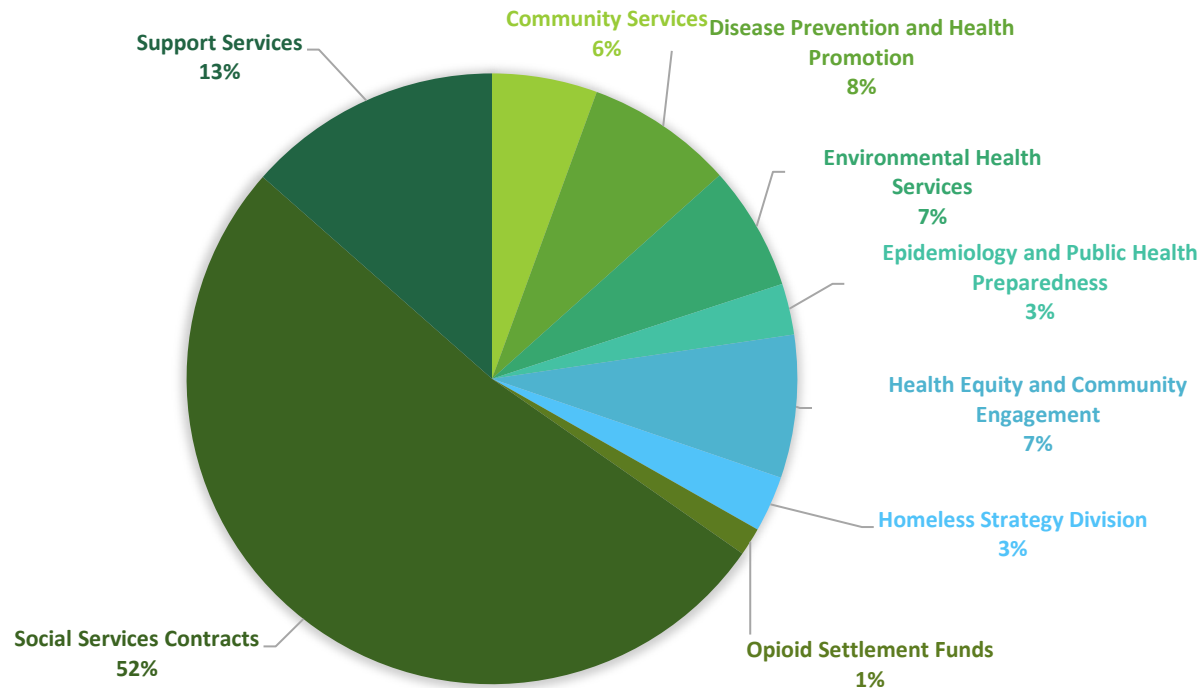
Goals:

- Use science, data, and a prevention-focused approach to guide and support health and racial equity
- Minimize public's exposure to environmental hazards, infectious diseases and foodborne illnesses
- Promote healthy development and healthy behaviors across all life stages
- Prevent and control chronic disease and risk factors
- Provide emergency response actions to prevent, respond to, and rapidly recover from public health threats, both natural and manmade
- Prevent and control the spread of HIV, STIs, TB, and vaccine preventable diseases within the general population
- Promote health equity, eliminate disparities, and assist people in achieving wellness, stability, and self-sufficiency

Budget Overview

FY 2023 Approved Public Health Budget

\$103.4 Million



Does not include Transfers, Debt and Other City Requirements

Administrative Services

Administrative Services

➤ **Accounting**

- Purchasing
- Accounts Payable
- Grants Accounting

➤ **Budget**

- Budget Development and Monitoring
- Special Revenue
- Performance Management
- Travis County Interlocal

➤ **Communications**

- Internal Communications
- Media Relations
- Social Media Management

➤ **Records Management**

- Information Governance

➤ **Facilities**

- Maintenance
- Bond Project Management
- Occupational Safety
- Mail Couriers

➤ **Human Resources**

- Workforce Development
- Employment
- Employee Relations
- Leave Administration

➤ **Information Technology**

- Open Data Program
- Security Risk Management
- Master Data Management

Community Services

Family Health Unit

Funded by – American Rescue Plan Act, General funds, Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, Texas Health and Human Services, Office of the Governor Criminal Justice Division, Office of Population Affairs, United Way, National League of Cities, , and 1115 Waiver

Budget – 4.2 million

Services Provided -

- Austin Healthy Adolescent
- Austin Youth Development
- Community Youth Development (78744 zip code)
- First Worker's Day Labor
- Early Childhood
- Family Connects

Target Population

- Youth (10-22 ages vary by program), children up to 6 and all families who had a baby at St. David's South Austin Medical Center and Ascension Seton Main

Staffing

- 40 FTEs

Boards and Commissions: Early Childhood Council



Neighborhood Services Unit

- **Funded by** – General funds, Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) through Texas Department of Community Housing Affairs (TDHCA), 1115 Waiver and Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS)
- **Budget** - ~ \$2.2 million
- **Services Provided**
- Basic needs, employment, social work case management, crisis intervention and public health nursing
- **Target Population**
 - Low and moderate income individuals and families
- **Number of Participants Served/Outcomes**
 - Basic Needs - 57,129
 - Public Health Nursing- 7,073
 - Self-Sufficiency- 86.6% report a reduction or elimination of income barriers- 86.6%
- **Locations**
 - 6 full service Neighborhood Centers and 3 outreach sites
- **Staffing**
 - 35 FTEs
- **Boards and Commissions:** Community Development Commission



Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Unit

Funded by – USDA through Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) and Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS)

Budget - 6.2 million

Services Provided

WIC: Nutrition and breastfeeding education, nutritious foods and improved access to health care and social services

- Mom's Place: Lactation consultation, training center for health providers to receive clinical experience working with breastfeeding mothers, telephone helpline

Target Population

- Low and moderate income women (< 185% federal poverty level)
- Pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum women, infants and children up to age 5
- Travis and Bastrop Counties

Average Number of Participants Served Each Month – 23,063

- 276,759 food benefits issued
- 1,808 lactation consultations
- 14 Clinic Sites (includes Mom's Place Lactation Support Center)

Staffing - 81 FTEs



Youth and Family Services Unit

Funded by – General funds, Corporation for National and Community Service AmeriCorps VISTA, Bank of America Quality of Life Foundation

Budget – 550,000

City-wide Programs

- Austin Youth Council - 80 high school students
- Youth Career Fest - 2,500 students
- Austin Corps Program - 35 students
- AmeriCorps VISTA Program - 19 projects

Over 260 Internships and Apprenticeships

- Emerging Leaders
- Get Ready!
- Aviation Department
- Austin Convention Center
- Austin Public Health
- Fleet Department

Staffing

- 4 FTEs, VISTA Supervisor

Boards and Commissions: College Student Commission



Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention Program

Program Purpose: Prevent chronic disease and injury by making the healthy choice the easy choice through policy, systems, and environmental change interventions, evidence-based health education, and media/awareness efforts.

Focus: Healthy eating, food access, physical activity, tobacco free living, diabetes prevention self-management education and case management, unintentional injury prevention.

- The Chronic Disease inspires people to take steps to adopt healthy lifestyles through promoting and modeling healthy behaviors, preventing and managing chronic disease, and promoting policy, systems and environmental change.
- The Injury Prevention Programs (IPP) mission is to reduce the frequency and severity of injuries by adopting evidence-based programs and by assisting community partners with incorporating injury prevention strategies into their on-going efforts



Communicable Diseases Unit

“Break the Cycle of Transmission”

Purpose: Provide clinical, outreach, investigation, follow-up and social services through Sexual Health, TB, and Refugee Clinics to individuals exposed to or seeking services for communicable diseases in order to “Break the Cycle of Transmission.”

Program Description:

- Three Clinics: Sexual Health, TB, Refugee (20,000+ visits/year)
- Two Public Health Follow-Up and Investigation Teams: HIV/STIs, TB
- Two Outreach Teams: HIV/STIs Targeted Testing, TB Outreach (Directly Observed Therapy)
- One Social Work Team: linkage to care, social services support
- Budget: \$10.7 million: 3 General Funds (41%), 8 Grants (59%)
- Staff: 83 FTEs
 - Licensed: MDs, NPs/RNs/LVNs, Lab Med Techs, X-Ray Tech, LMSWs
- Electronic Health Records (eCW) in all operations

Immunization Program

Purpose: To eliminate vaccine preventable diseases by providing access to affordable, convenient, and quality immunization services

Program Description and Outcomes

Provide vaccinations to infants, children, and adults with a specific focus on under and uninsured residents

Provide education and training to diverse clients, community groups, and healthcare professionals

- Staff: 45 FTEs
- Budget: over \$3 million dollars. Approximately 25% is funded through DSHS.
- Over last five years Shots for Tots clinics provided over **47,000 child encounter visits** and an additional over **21,000 adult encounter visits** for under and uninsured clients in Travis County.
- Supports approximately 80 Vaccines for Children (VFC) program clinics in Travis County. VFC **vaccinates over 100,000 low income and uninsured children annually.**
- Ensures childcare centers and schools comply with state vaccination requirements.

Environmental Health Services

Environmental Health Services



WHO WE ARE:

Environmental Health Services is the division of public health concerned with all aspects of the natural and built environment affecting human health. We are a staff of 70 including 42 licensed professional sanitarians and 13 administrative staff.

OUR MISSION:

Our purpose is to protect public health and the environment through facility inspections, educational consultations, surveillance, investigations and enforcement of federal code, state laws and local regulations.

WHO WE SERVE:

CITY OF AUSTIN
UNINCORPORATED TRAVIS COUNTY
MUNICIPALITIES VIA INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT (ILA):
CITY OF BEE CAVE
CITY OF SUNSET VALLEY
VILLAGE OF SAN LEANNA
CITY OF ROLLINGWOOD
CITY OF LAKEWAY
CITY OF PFLUGERVILLE
CITY OF MANOR
VILLAGE OF VOLENTE
CITY OF WESTLAKE HILLS

Environmental Health Services

What Do We Do?

EHSD promotes health and public safety to ensure compliance with federal, state, and local health codes.

- Ensure food safety through inspections, investigations, education, and regulatory actions:

- Food establishments
- Mobile food vendors
- Farmers markets
- Temporary food events
- Vending machines



- Special event reviews for sanitation
- Custodial Care/Daycare Inspections
- Mosquito Surveillance and Control
- Rodent Control Site Assessments
- Animal Enclosure Enforcement
- Support prosecution of violators in Municipal Court

- Ensure the health and safety of all public and semi-public aquatic facilities through inspections, education, and regulatory actions:

- Pools
- Spas
- Interactive water features and fountains

- Complaint Investigations:

- Sanitation and Food Borne Illnesses
- Smoking in Public Places
- Environmental Complaints: Unincorporated Travis County
 - Tall Grass and Weeds
 - Junk Vehicles
 - Substandard structures

Epidemiology and Public Health Preparedness

Epidemiology and Disease Surveillance

Preparing for, responding to, and recovering from threats and emergencies that affect the public's health

- Analyzing health data to examine the burden of disease within the county for a variety of diseases, conditions and risk factors.
- Conduct disease surveillance, case and outbreak investigations for over 70 notifiable disease
- Identifying, monitoring, and preventing the spread of disease in our community through the implementation of preventative measures and interventions.

Successes:

- ❑ 2022/23: MPOX outbreak and response including testing and vaccination
- ❑ 2022/23: Ongoing COVID-19 case and outbreak investigations for
- ❑ 2022/23: Monitored inbound travelers for symptoms of Ebola Virus and Marburg Disease

Public Health Emergency Preparedness

Preparing for, responding to, and recovering from threats and emergencies that affect the public's health

- Conduct preparedness planning and response activities related to diseases and conditions, and public health disasters (both natural and man-made) such as hurricane response, response to weapons of mass destruction, extreme weather events, and disease pandemics.
- Develop, revise, maintain, train and exercise public health emergency response plans.

Successes:

- ❑ 2022/23: MPOX response including vaccination efforts
- ❑ 2022/23: Extreme cold weather shelter planning and response (December 2022 and Winter Storm Mara)
- ❑ 2022/23 Conduct monitoring and provide situational assessment for extreme heat
- ❑ 2023: Activated 3 Multi-Agency Resource Centers following Winter Storm Mara
- ❑ Conducted a Community Assessment for Public Health Emergencies and Response (CASPER) following Winter Storm Mara
- ❑ Annually conducted special events air monitoring for biologic pathogens for ACL, F1 and SXSW

Office of Vital Records

Serving you for over 100 years during each of life's important steps

The Office of Vital Records (OVR) provides local registration and issuance services for birth and death events occurring within the City of Austin full-purpose jurisdiction.

- Birth, Death, and Fetal Death certificate registration for City of Austin
- Issuance of certified copies of vital records for all events occurring in Austin
- Issuance of certified copies of birth certificates occurring in Texas
- Issuance of Burial-Transit Permits to Texas funeral homes for Austin deaths
- Administrative establishment of legal paternity for unmarried parents
- Surveillance reporting to APH programs, including Preparedness, HIV/STD, Epidemiology, Chronic Disease
- Birth and death data analysis for APH programs
- Death notifications to Secretary of State and to Texas voter registrars
- Participation on Travis County Child Fatality Review Team

Number of certified copies of birth & death certificates issued in FY22	46,756
Number of birth & death records registered or amended in FY22	31,526

Health Equity and Community Engagement

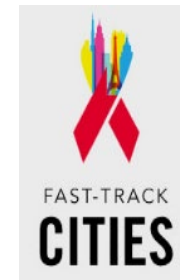
Community Health Planning



Purpose: To provide a structured and comprehensive approach for community assessment and planning.

Initiatives:

- Age-friendly Action Plan (AFAP)
- Community Health Assessment (CHA)/
Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)
- Fast Track Cities/Getting to Zero
- HIV Planning Council.
- Strategic Planning for APH



Together We Thrive
Austin/Travis County Community Health Plan



Health Equity

§ Services Offered:

- § Mobile Van Unit
- § Free Health Screenings (Blood Pressure, Blood Sugar, Cholesterol, A1c and Pregnancy)
- § Free HIV Screenings
- § Health Fairs
- § Health Education Classes and Presentations
- § Community Health Worker Trainings and Case Management
- § My API Live broadcast on APH Facebook site
- § Language Access
- § Equity Line

HIV Resources Administration Unit

Manages all Grant Agreements for HIV Core Medical and Support Services

4 Federal Grants plus Local funds:

- Ryan White Part C, and Part A/Minority AIDS Initiative
- Housing Opportunity for Persons with AIDS
- City General Fund HIV services
- Ending the HIV Epidemic

Office of Violence Prevention

Creating the safety every Austinite needs to thrive.



Lead
Collaboration

Structure relationships with City, County, community, state and national orgs to develop and implement collaborative research and projects.



Expand
Programs

Build on FY22 programming (safe storage, youth, CVI, Community-Rooted) and implement Trauma Recovery Centers, Firearm Surrender Protocol, and others as funded.



Influence
Community

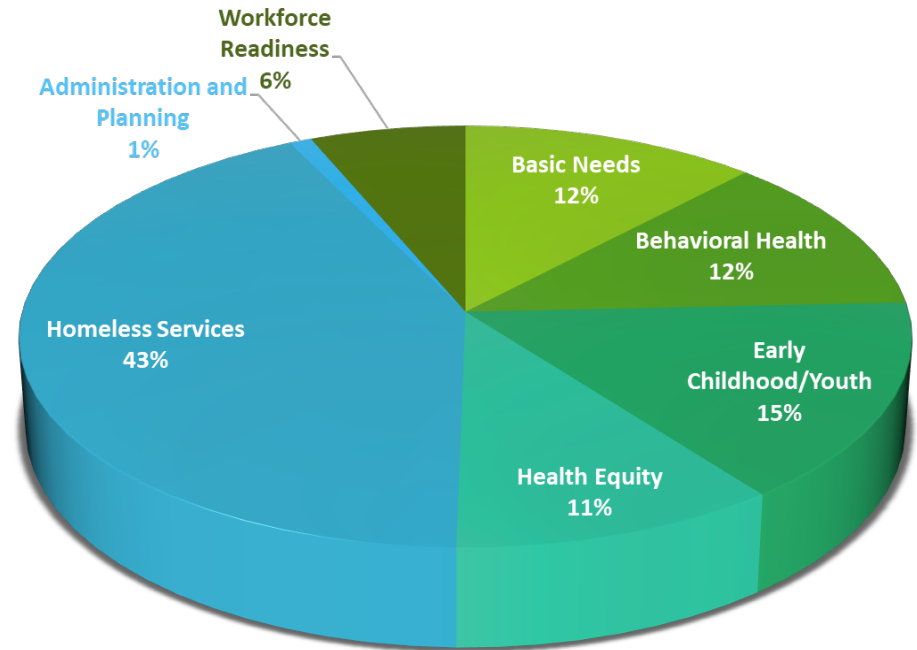
Increase engagement in community and expand messaging to influence behaviors that create safety.

Social Services Agreement Administration

Provide social services funding to support a variety of Public Health needs and issues in the Austin Travis County community, through contracted service agreements with Non-Profit vendors

Total FY23 Funding
\$58,383,521

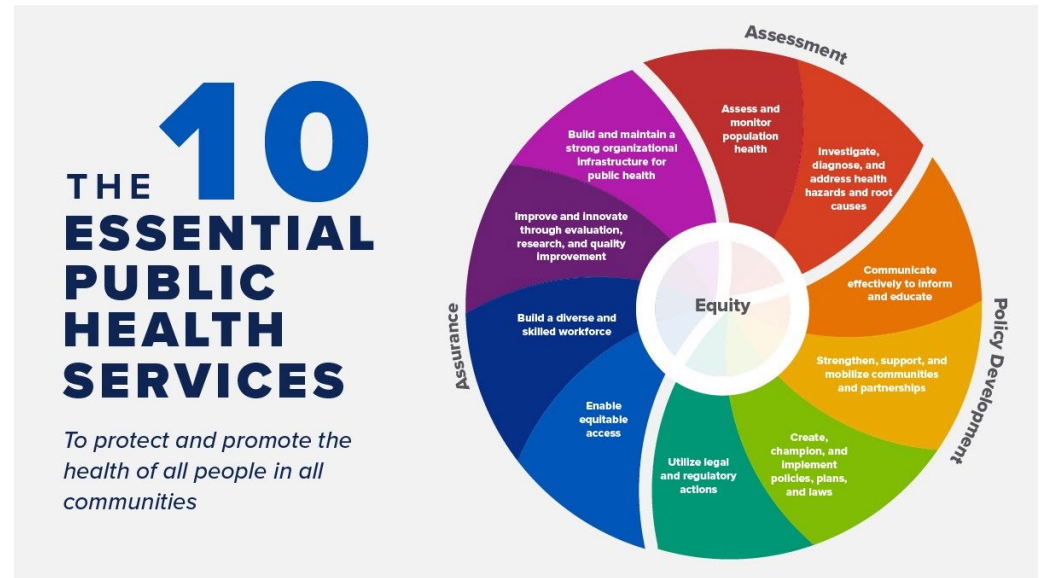
Issue Area	Number of Contracts	FY23 Amount
Admin and Planning	6	\$530,696
Basic Needs	14	\$7,029,875
Behavioral Health	21	\$7,146,062
Early Childhood & Youth	30	\$8,960,567
Health Equity	23	\$6,226,008
Homeless Services	38	\$24,794,234
Workforce Readiness	4	\$3,695,079



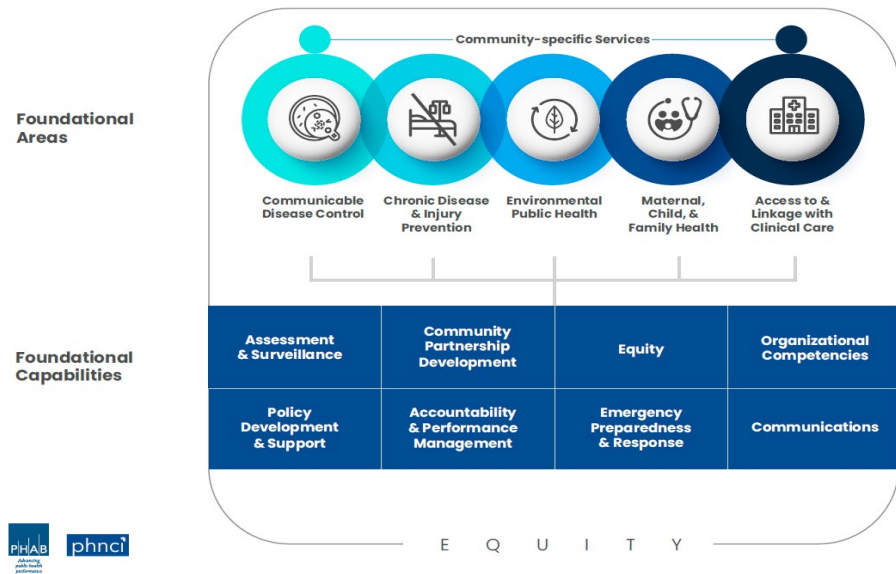
Accreditation

Advance and transform public health by championing performance improvement, strong infrastructure, and innovation

Ten Essential Services and Foundational Public Health Services Frameworks



Foundational Public Health Services



Office of the Medical Director/Health Authority

Office of the Medical Director/Health Authority

- ❑ Work with the Assistant Directors of each Unit to make sure all policies and procedures and standing delegation orders are medically sound
- ❑ Participate in Public Health Emergency Preparedness exercises as Health Authority
- ❑ Provides professional and scientific consultation to the Assistant Directors to:
 - Establish, maintain, and enforce quarantine measures in the Health Authority's jurisdiction;
 - Aid the Department in relation to local quarantine, inspection, disease prevention, and disease suppression, birth and death statistics, and general sanitation in the Health Authority's jurisdiction;
 - Report the presence of contagious, infectious, and dangerous epidemic diseases in the Health Authority's jurisdiction to the Department in the manner and at the times prescribed by the Department;
 - Report to the Department on any subject on which it is proper for the Department to direct that a report be made; and
 - Aid the Department in the enforcement of the following in the Health Authority's jurisdiction:
 - Proper rules, requirements, and ordinances;
 - Sanitation laws;
 - Quarantine rules;
 - Public Health Emergency Response and
 - Vital statistics collections.

Works with community stakeholders to inform data driven public health actions to improve population health.

Provides leadership in initiating, planning, developing executing, and evaluating department initiatives and publications.

Homeless Strategy Division

Homeless Strategy Division

Progressing the City's goal to ensure all experiences of homelessness are rare, brief, and non-recurring

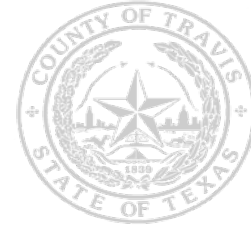
- **Strategy:** Research, develop, and clarify strategies and recommendations for action to ensure progress on the City's goal of an effective Homelessness Response System to support citizens experiencing homelessness. Examples include:
 - Programming of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) investments in homelessness
 - Tracking and collaborating on the Finding ATX Initiative
 - Assessing, reporting, and determining recommendations for the local Emergency Shelter System
 - Planning and responding to City Council Resolutions and Inquiries
 - Conducting and assessing impacts or benefits of Texas Legislative actions or regulations
- **Implementation:** HSD coordinated services and the management of public spaces directly with 15+ city departments, ensuring alignment and efficient response, such as:
 - Homelessness Encampment Management Leadership Team
 - Collaboration with City Housing Department on development of Permanent Supportive Housing
 - Collaboration with APH's HECE Division on the programming, procurement, execution, and performance of homelessness social services
 - Developing and advising on cross-departmental communications regarding and informing persons experiencing homelessness
 - Managing the operations and service delivery of the HEAL Northbridge non-congregate emergency shelter

Homeless Strategy Division (cont.)

- **Community Engagement:** HSD engages key stakeholders, community advocates and members, persons experiencing or with lived experience of homelessness, elected officials, and media, to inform, communicate, and execute the city's homelessness response strategy. Actions include:
 - Working with the Continuum of Care's Lead Agency, the Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (ECHO), to ensure an aligned response
 - Maintaining voting membership on the Continuum of Care's Board, the Leadership Council
 - HSD staff responding to community concerns or requests for assistance from community members
 - Providing Quarterly Community Updates on developments, progress, and changes to the City's homelessness strategy
 - Facilitating and analyzing tailored engagement initiatives to inform city policies, strategies, and operations

- **Budget:**
 - \$1.59 million in General Fund annual budget for 12 staff and operations, administrative support for Northbridge shelter, HEAL, HEM, and other initiatives





Questions and Comments
