



CITY OF
ROCHESTER
MINNESOTA

City Council Agenda
City Council - Study Session
June 12, 2023
3:30 p.m.

Attending and Viewing the Meeting:

View Meeting: Cable TV on Channels 180 or 188 (Spectrum), or Channel 80 (MetroNet).

Join via Zoom: <https://bit.ly/2OGnZYB>

Listen via Zoom: Call: 1-312-626-6799 Webinar ID: 912 4541 8192 Passcode: 162027

Vision, Principles, and Priorities for the City of Rochester

A. Presentation Items

- A.1. **LINK Rapid Transit Update**
- A.2. **Update - City Enforcement and Persons Experiencing Homelessness (PEH)**
- A.3. **Study Session Schedule**

ROCHESTER VISION, PRINCIPLES, AND PRIORITIES



Strategic Priority:
Affordable Living

Areas of Focus

- Housing variety and affordability
- Transportation options and access
- Equitable regulatory landscape and creative incentives
- Access to opportunities and amenities

Strategic Priority:
Economic Vibrancy and Growth Management

Areas of Focus

- Create clarity, alignment and unity with economic development partners in defining city leadership and community values
- Establish competitive and sustainable approach to effectively allocate DMC resources, Legislative allocations, and city revenue
- Develop implementation tools and strategies for Comprehensive Plan to ensure current decisions reflect future projections
- Adopt design guidelines that better reflect Council and community values

Strategic Priority:
Quality Services for Quality Living

Areas of Focus

- Cultural and Recreational opportunities that provide access and equity
- The organization and Services reflect changing demographics and needs identified by community
- Operations are sustainable, integrated, and easy to navigate
- Service delivery is optimized, cost effective, and reflect our Foundational Principles

In order to achieve these priorities, the Council has committed to a legislative and process structure that emphasizes **Strategic Governance and Inclusive Decision-Making:**

- Service delivery models consider partnerships where City is not always the leader
- Decision-making is informed by citywide communication and engagement strategy with Diversity/Equity/Inclusion (DEI) at the forefront
- Teammates create work plans/annual commitments aligned with Foundational Principles and Strategic Priorities
- Policy and operational actions reflect equitable community investment



REQUEST FOR ACTION

LINK Rapid Transit Update

MEETING DATE:

June 12, 2023

ORIGINATING DEPT:

City Administration

AGENDA SECTION:

Presentation Items

PRESENTER:

Cindy Steinhauser, Ia Xiong
and Josh Johnsen

Report Narrative:

City teammates from City Administration and Public Works will be providing a progress update on the LINK Bus Rapid Transit project. The presentation will focus on three areas: 1) project progress; 2) project support; and 3) upcoming items requiring City Council action.

Priorities & Foundational Principles:

Economic Vibrancy & Growth Management

Prepared By:

Cindy Steinhauser

Attachments:

[Study Session LINK Progress Update](#)



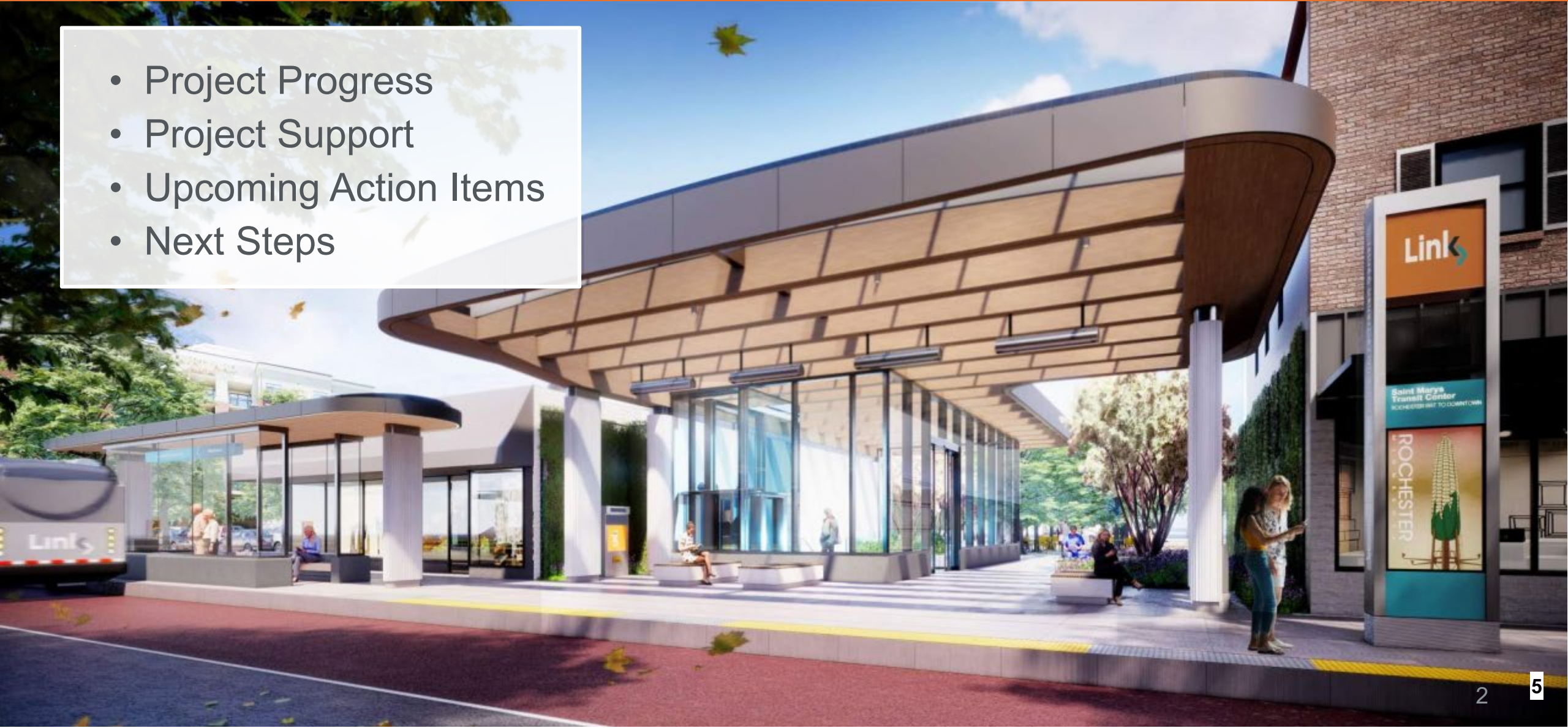
STUDY SESSION: Progress Update

JUNE 12, 2023



Discussion Items

- Project Progress
- Project Support
- Upcoming Action Items
- Next Steps



Goals of LINK BRT

Long-term investment in **sustainable transportation.**

- Anticipated opening day ridership (2026): **11,000.**
- Reduced need for construction of **expensive new parking.**

High-quality stations and buses convey **permanence** and **elevated experience.**

- Provide **more comfort** for residents, employees, and visitors.
- Helps to attract **new development.**


Serves **more people more quickly** while mitigating increasing traffic.

- Service **every 5 minutes** during rush hours and 10 minutes other times.
- High capacity electric vehicles will **reduce congestion** and **increase air quality.**


Project by the Numbers




2.8-mile route with 7 stations.




Weekday service every 5 minutes from 6-9 a.m. and 3-6 p.m.



Service every 10 minutes other times, including weekends.



Travel time of less than 20 minutes from West Transit Village to Downtown Waterfront Southeast station.



Anticipated opening day ridership (2026): 11,000.




Weekday service 5 a.m. – 12 a.m.



Weekend service 8 a.m. – 12 a.m.

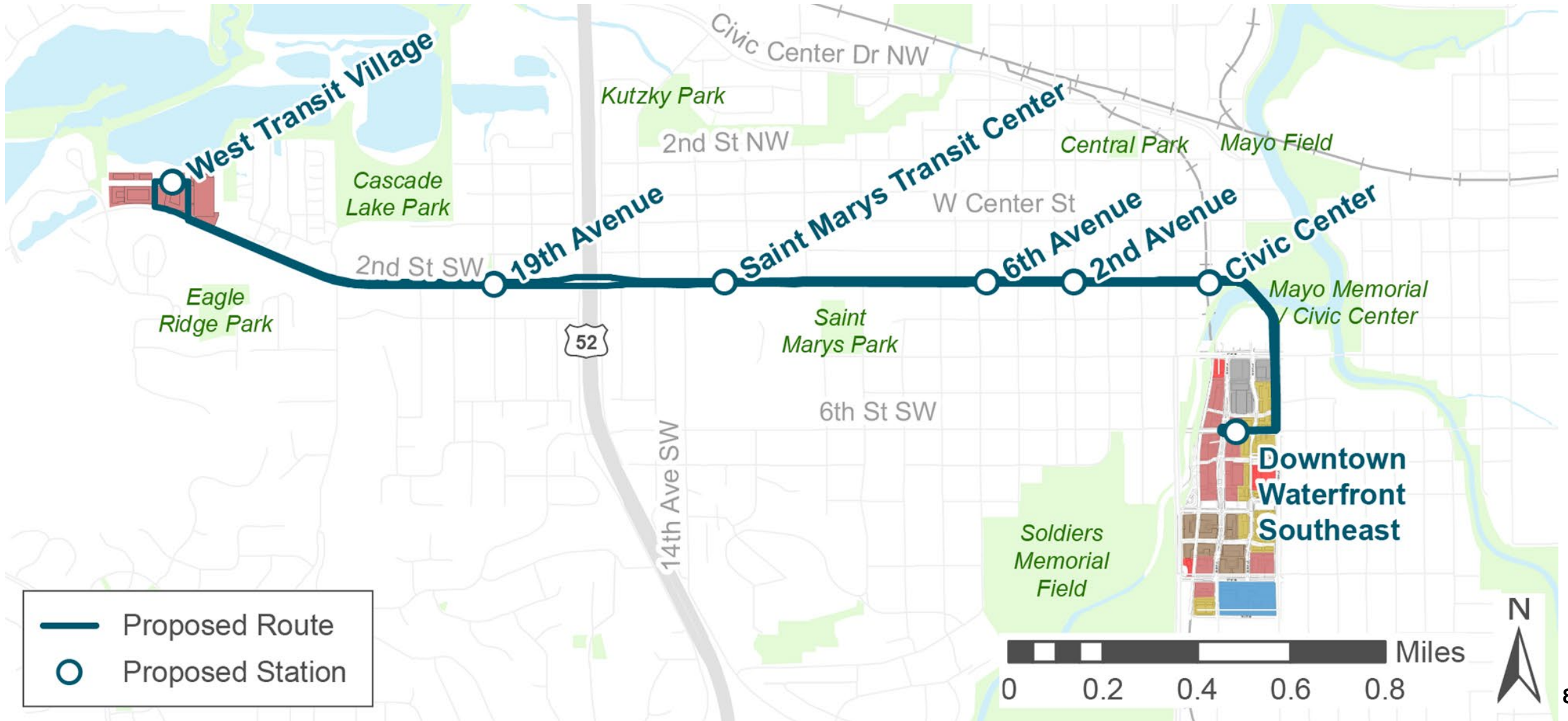


Capital cost: \$150 million.



Operations and maintenance: \$5.42 million annually.

The Route



Partner Meetings



The 3 key partners of the LINK BRT project meet weekly to plan, discuss progress, and anticipate challenges.



One Cohesive Team



CONSULTANTS



Project Schedule

Adopted by City Council:

- Downtown Master Plan – 2010
- DMC Development Plan – 2014
- Project Development – 2016-2020
- Integrated Transit Studies – 2018
- Locally Preferred Alternative – 2019
- Contract award to SRF – 2020
- Small Starts Program Entry – 2020
- Mayo Operating Agreement – 2022

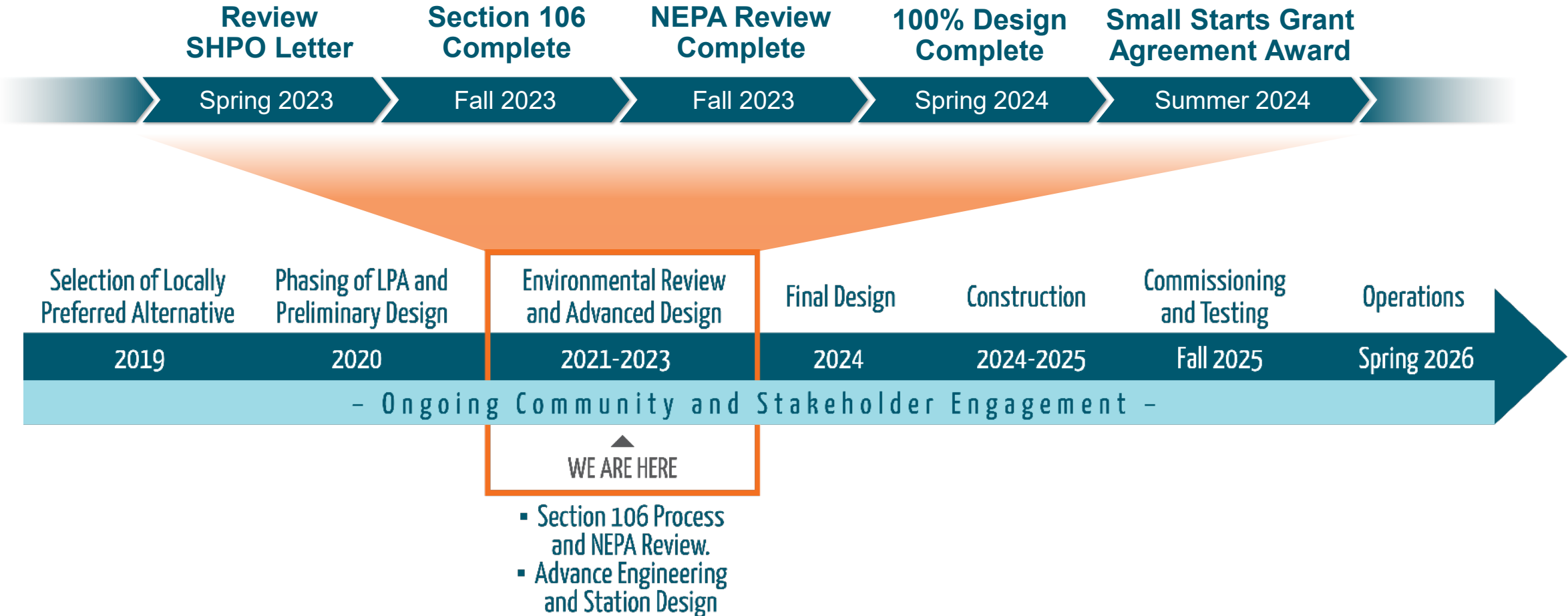




Upcoming Milestones:

- NEPA clearance – Oct 2023
- 90% Design – Oct 2023
- FTA Completes Readiness Report – Nov 2023
- 100% Design – Feb 2024
- Advertise for Construction Bids – Feb 2024
- FTA Awards Small Starts Grant – April 2024
- Award Bid – Aug 2024
- Construction – Aug 2024 - Oct 2025
- Testing & Commissioning – Nov. 2025 to March 2026

Project Schedule





Project Progress

Agreements

City Mayo Operating Agreement approved in August 2022

Agreements Nearing Completion:

- Construction Agreement
- Shared Use Agreement
- Real Estate



Project Schedule



Project Management Oversight (PMO)

- PMO is an FTA process to monitor the project.
- Begins after NEPA process is complete (Fall 2023).
- FTA's Project Management Oversight Consultant will review Project Management Plan (PMP)

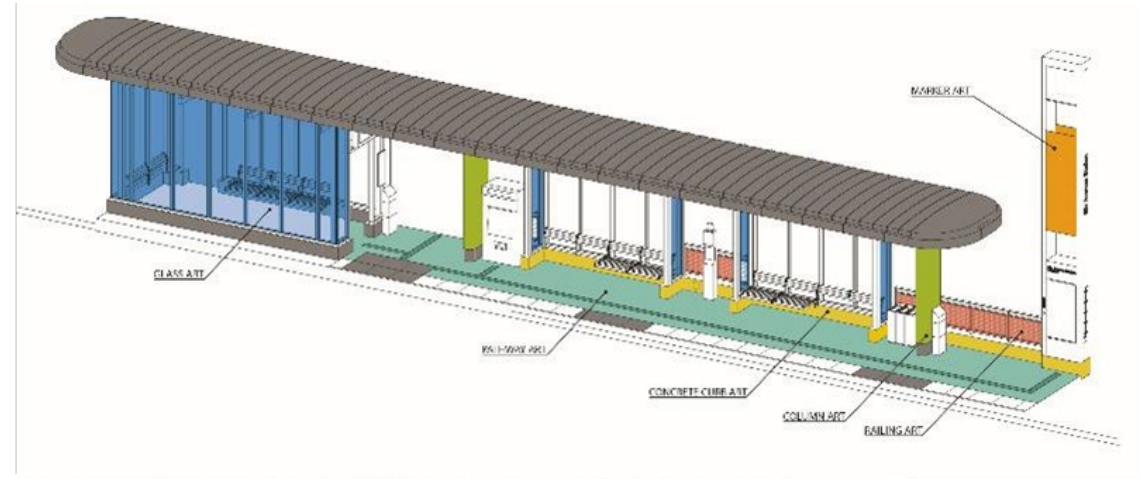
Small Starts Grant

- Must complete the following before negotiations with FTA on the Construction Grant Agreement:
 - Sufficient engineering and design
 - Obtain all non –CIG funding commitments
 - Complete all critical third-party agreements
 - Other FTA readiness requirements
- Grant execution anticipated Summer 2024.

Project Design

Public Art & Artist Selection Process

- Public Art at 12 Stations Locations
- Artist Selection Review Team
- Open RFQ with over 100 respondents
- Community Collaborator Group
- Neighborhood Engagements adjacent to transit route



Station Location

- 6th Avenue Westbound Station





Project Support

Communications & Business Forward

Business Forward Planning

- Indexing all businesses impacted by the LINK route.
- Business Forward activity will start with those businesses.
- Research of best practices with similar systems.

Communications & Engagement Planning

- RAPP Strategies provided initial consultation on communications strategy.
- Communications & Engagement Plan is being developed by teammates from the City, DMC, and Mayo Clinic.



Construction Bids and Management

Bid Packages

- 3-4 Separate Packages including:
 - Civil
 - Architectural
 - West Transit Village
 - Bus Maintenance Bay

Request for Proposals

- Construction Management Services

Project Management Plans

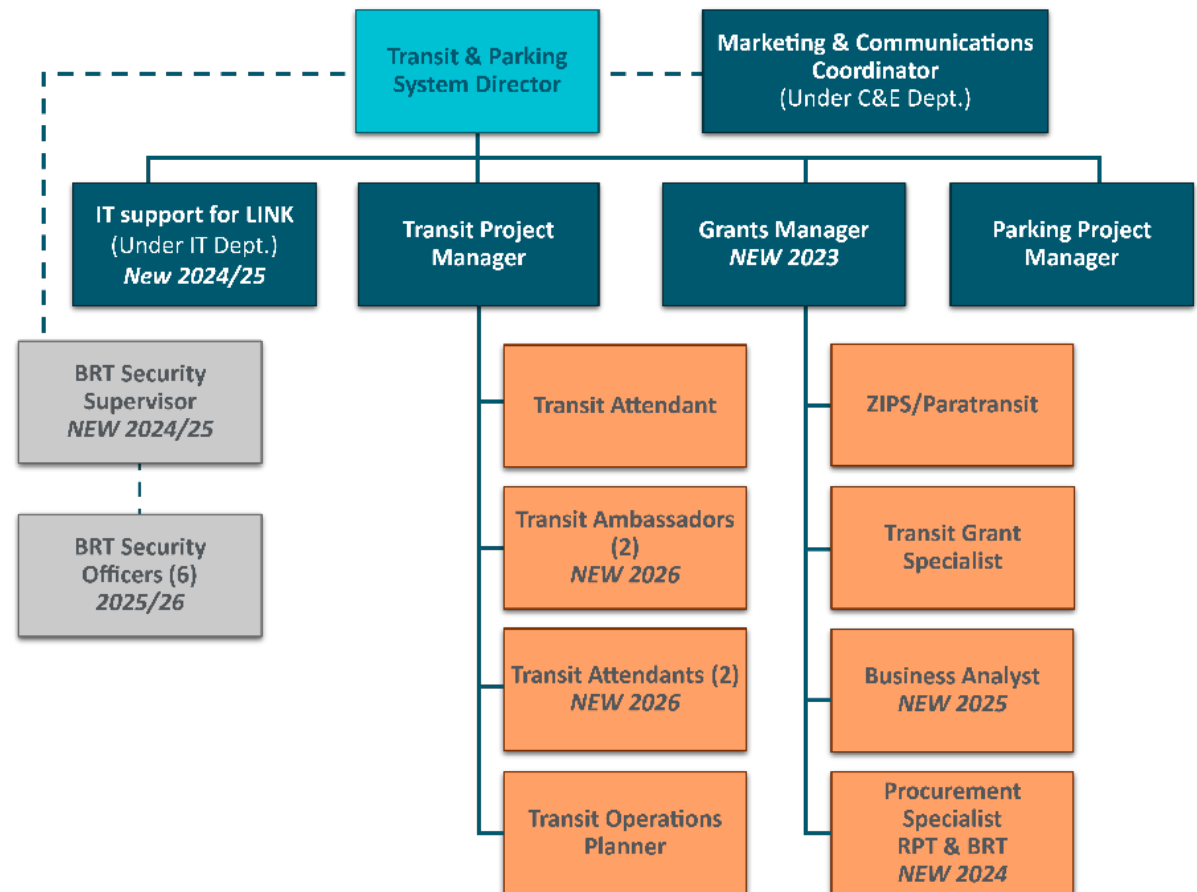
- **Safety and Security:** Construction, Traffic, Etc.
- **Risk and Contingency:** Including adjacent development projects
- **Real Estate Acquisition:** Permanent and Temporary Easements
- **Fleet Management:** Bus Maintenance and Storage
- **Quality Assurance / Quality Control**



Development and Construction

- Existing support
 - Design
 - Construction
 - Communications
- Construction Management RFP
- Materials, Vertical and Civil Inspection Services

Ongoing Operations





Upcoming Actions

Procurement

11 Electric Buses & On Route Chargers

- Summer 2023 – RFP
- 18-24 months for delivery.
- 6 months for testing and commissioning.

Technology

- Automated Passenger Counters
- Automated Vehicle Locator
- Automated Vehicle Annunciators
- Real Time Information



Upcoming Items/Next Steps

- Planning – June/July 2023
 - Construction phasing
 - Traffic control
 - Coordination with other projects
- Construction Management RFP: January 2024
- Bus Procurement RFP: September 2023
- Right of Way Appraisals: June – September 2023
- Right of Way Acquisitions: October – April 2024
- Final selection of Station Art
- West Transit Village Development



The image shows a city street scene with a blue overlay. In the foreground, the word "Link" is written in white, followed by two stylized arrows: an orange arrow pointing left and a blue arrow pointing right. The background features a street sign for "2 Ave SW", a traffic light, and a large, curved, metallic sculpture. A banner on the right side of the image reads "There's still a lot to LEARN ABOUT MENTAL ILLNESS".

Link

Thank you!



REQUEST FOR ACTION

Update - City Enforcement and Persons Experiencing Homelessness (PEH)

MEETING DATE:

June 12, 2023

ORIGINATING DEPT:

Rochester Police
Department

AGENDA SECTION:

Presentation Items

PRESENTER:

Chief Franklin, Taryn Edens,
Paul Widman

Report Narrative:

City department leaders will present to the Council an update on the City's ongoing efforts to support unsheltered individuals and the current issues, challenges, resources, and emergent needs surrounding the increase in persons experiencing homelessness in the City.

Priorities & Foundational Principles:

Quality Services for Quality Living

Prepared By:

Sarah Clayton


Attachments:

[Study Session Update - Homelessness in Rochester](#)

[Additional Information - RCA Overnight Use and Temporary Shelters October 2014](#)

[Additional Information - Council Resolution No. 464-14 Overnight Use Temp Shelters October 2014](#)

[Additional Information - COR Code Park Hours](#)



**Update – City Enforcement
and Persons Experiencing
Homelessness (PEH)
June 12, 2023**



Current Status

- Emergency Assistance funding exhausted
- Warming Center at capacity nightly
- Increased demand for Housing Stability Team
 - Housing Stability Line receiving 8-10 calls per day
 - Empowering Connections and Housing Outreach (ECHO) Center visits increasing – avg 166 visits/month
- 15-20 evictions occurring weekly
- Rochester Public Schools 2021-2022
 - Approximately 400 students
 - 640 as of April 2023
- Single Adults – Point In Time Count - Approximately 200
- Families – Point In Time Count - Approximately 50





What we are doing – PEH housing solutions

Shelter Workgroup next steps:

1. Create multi-sector community leadership team
2. Ongoing monthly collaborative meetings of the shelter workgroup

Ideal state:

1. Prevention is prioritized
2. Adequate emergency resources exist
3. Connect people to services





What we are doing – PEH housing solutions

Final Workgroup Recommendations:

- Shared community leadership
- Robust shelter system
- Medical respite care
- Enhance the ECHO center
- Encampment solutions
- Emergency assistance
- Public transportation
- Peer support
- Case management and outreach
- Storage options
- Pets
- More rental assistance
- Housing with services
- Prevention funding
- Risk mitigation programs – landlord engagement/incentives

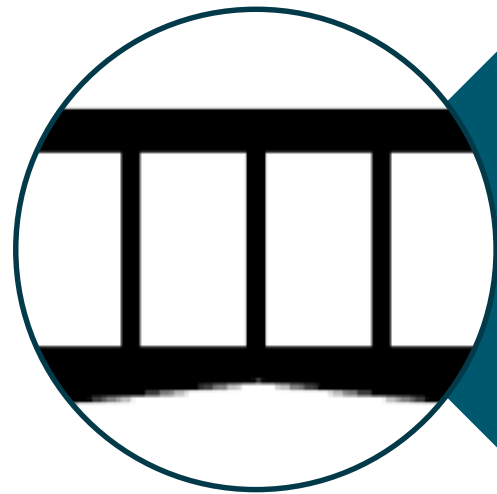


Police Response

What RPD is Doing



Working collaboratively with City and community partners to adopt problem-solving approaches



Patrolling public spaces frequented by people experiencing homelessness, engaging in outreach, and connecting people with services



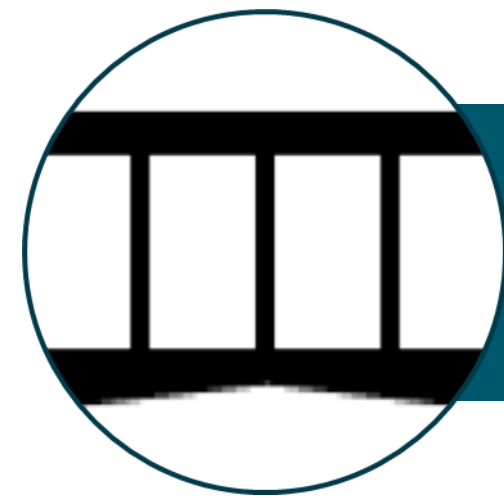
Collecting, analyzing, and sharing data to better understand the homeless population and to track progress





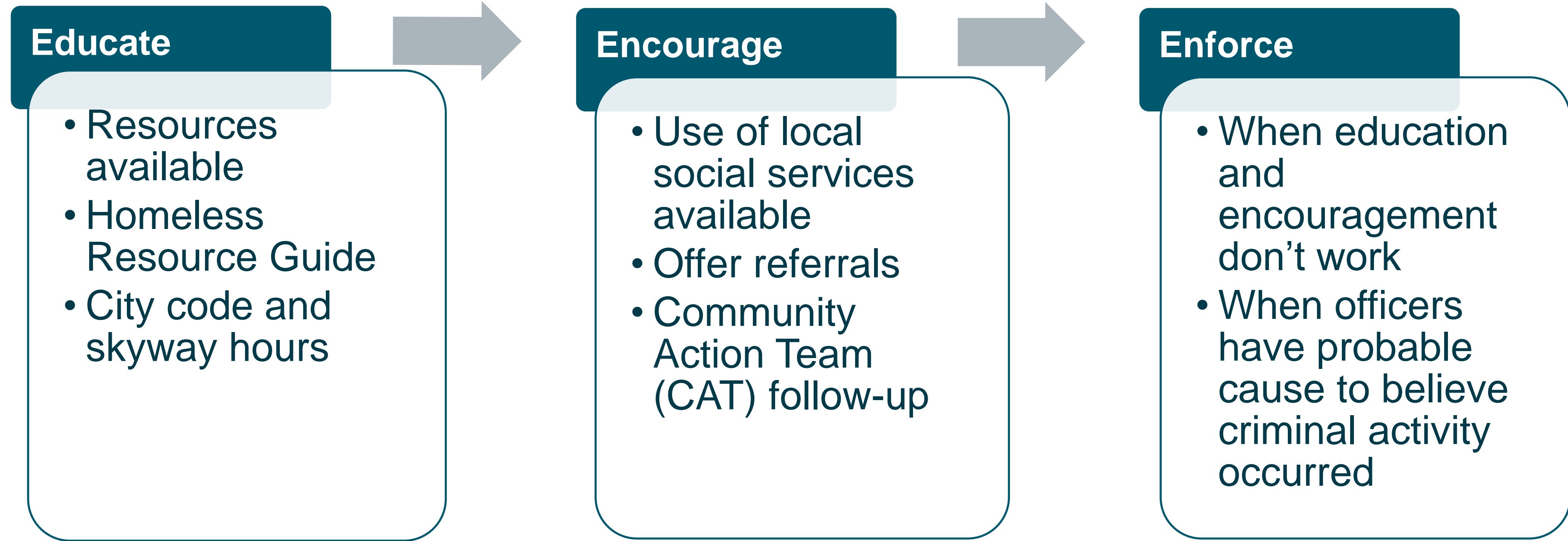
City and Service Partners





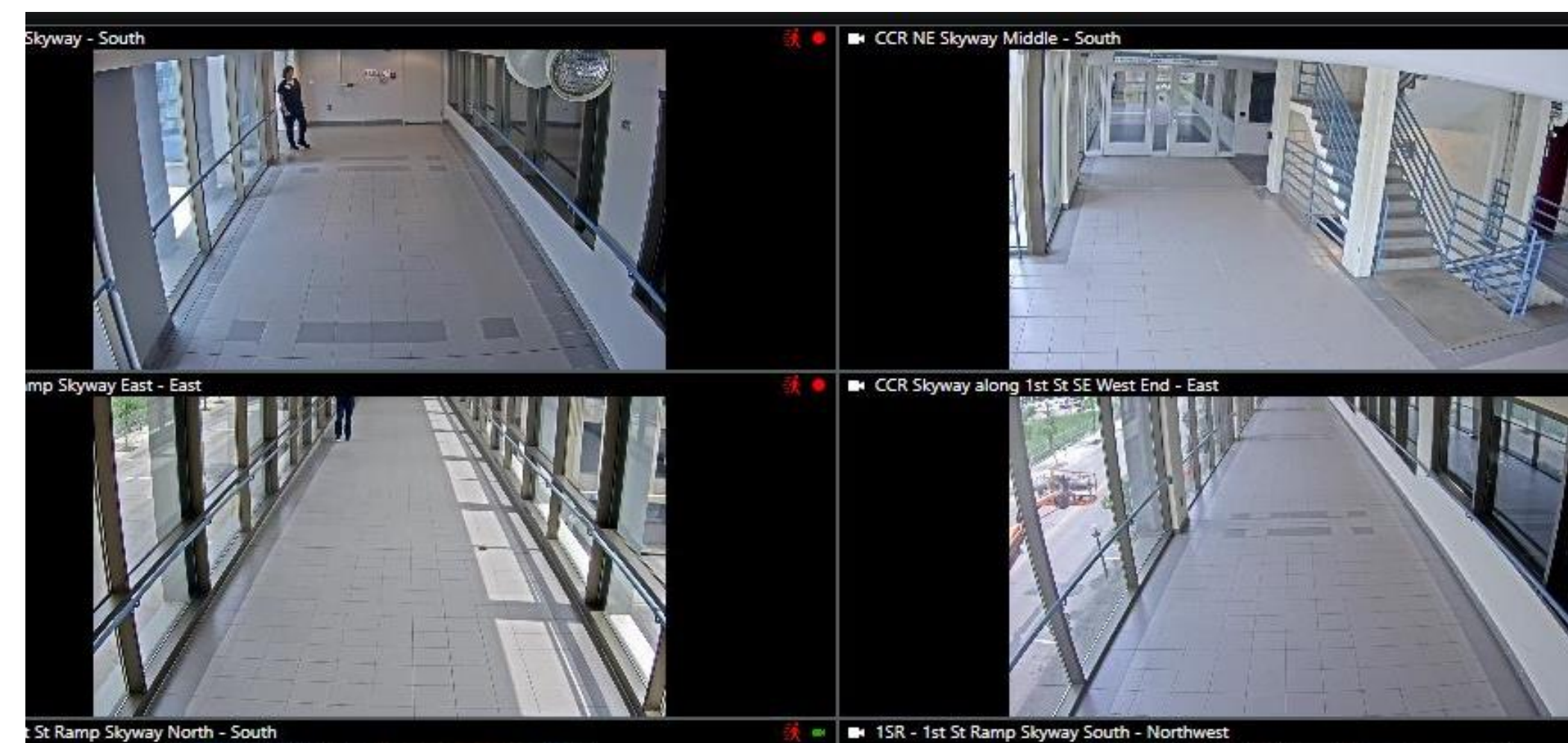
Patrolling, Engaging, Connecting

The 3E Approach



Downtown

Skyways: Before & After



Downtown

2023 Summer Safe Zone Initiative

A plan to create a safety corridor in the business district addressing concerns about:

- drug use
- unsanitary conduct
- aggressive panhandling



Downtown

Summer Safe Zone Initiative

Downtown Beat Patrols

- Seven days a week
- 10AM–4PM and 4PM–10PM
- One RPD officer per shift
- 1,100 total hours, 500 OT hours
- Approximately \$37,000 in PD OT costs



Ramp Security

- Seven days a week
- 11pm-7am
- Two security officers per shift
- Contracted by City parking facilities



By the Numbers...

5

of camps
Park Ops have
been asked to
clean up

4

of camps that
RPD is aware
of that haven't
received
complaints

16

of camps that
have been
cleaned up or
abandoned

* Data from April-present



Parks And Recreation

Complaints Related to Encampments:

- Park participants have reported feeling unsafe
- Reports of drug use and alcohol consumption near playgrounds
- Numerous resident complaints to teammates, elected officials, board members

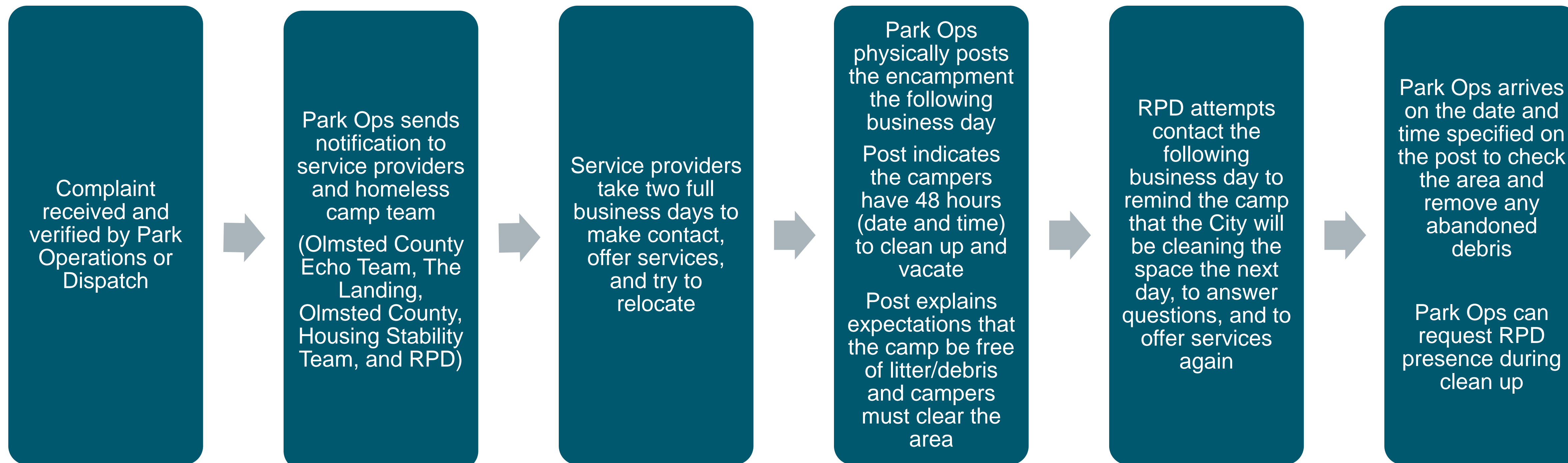
Park Board Meeting Jun 6, 2023

- Support for a more certain timeline for mitigation: 48-hour notice to vacate, additional 24 hours for clean-up.
- Support for continued collaboration with RPD, City, County, and non-profit organizations.
- Acknowledgement that resources are needed to address this as a social issue not just a Parks issue.
- General support for ordinance changes that will help the City and RPD enforce no overnight camping in parks.



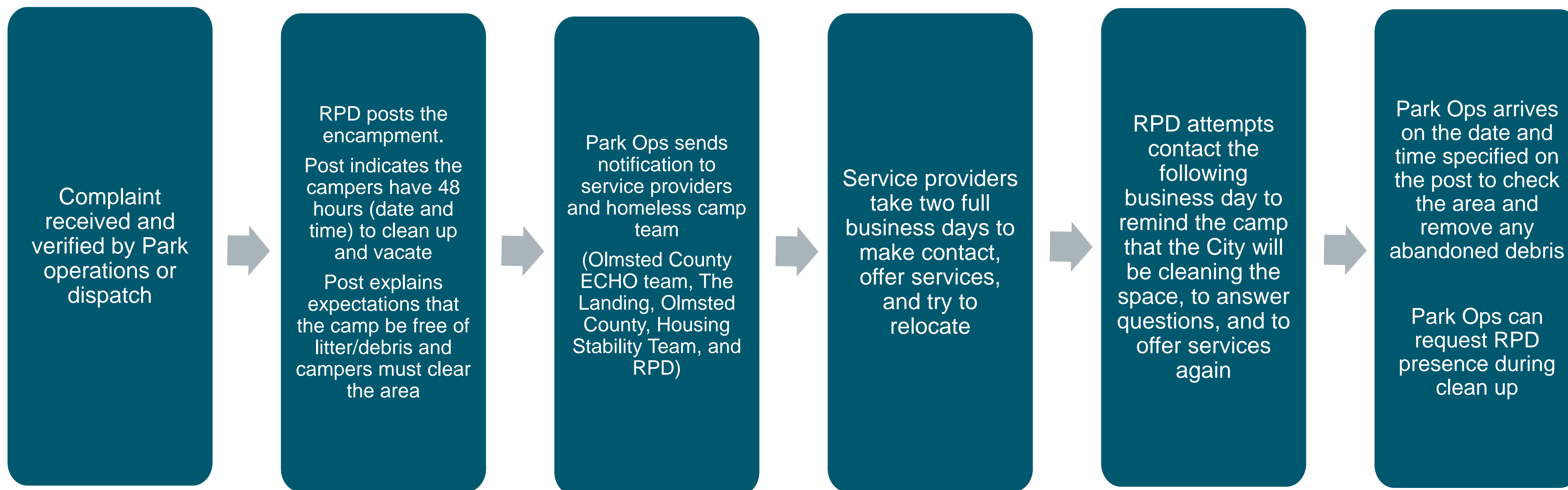
Parks and Recreation

Current Encampment Response Process



Parks and Recreation

Proposed Revisions to Response Process



Council Action 2014



<u>REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION</u>		MEETING DATE: 10/20/2014
AGENDA SECTION: Consent Agenda/Organizational Business	ORIGINATING DEPT: Parks and Recreation	
ITEM DESCRIPTION: Overnight Use and Temporary Shelters within City Property		PREPARED BY: Mike Nigbur
<p>It seems every year we have more people using our more natural/wooded areas of City property and Parks after normal hours. As part of this recent increased activity, which often occurs in the fall, several questions were raised related to the authority to require removal of individuals from City properties.</p> <p>While overnight use in the parks are controlled by RCO. 45, there is no ordinance regulating the use of other City properties which are publicly owned, but not necessarily intended to be open to the public. Some of those city owned parcels may include: Flood Control lands, Storm Water Facilities, wetlands, RPU properties, etc.</p> <p>The City Attorney's Office has suggested the adoption of a Resolution which would prohibit overnight use of these city properties (non-park) unless authorization or a permit has been received. This resolution clarifies the ability to trespass individuals from the property. The trespass would then further allows the assistance of the police department if that proved to be needed.</p> <p>Additionally, the resolution should state that persons may not place or erect tents, temporary shelters, or camps within city properties without consent of the City.</p> <p>The intent of this resolution is not make it illegal to camp within City Properties, which would require an ordinance and potentially criminal prosecution for violation, but rather this instrument is to provide the City Staff the necessary authorization from the City Council properly manage our properties. Only in the event the person refuses to leave would this be processed under the State Trespass regulations.</p> <p><u>COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED:</u></p> <p>Adopt a resolution prohibiting the overnight use of city owned/leased properties and the prohibition of the placement of temporary shelters, tents, or camps on said properties without consent of the City.</p> <p>RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS] MOVER: Mark Bilderback SECONDER: Mark Hickey AYES: Staver, Snyder, Bilderback, Wojcik, Hickey, Means ABSENT: Ed Hruska</p>		



RPD Data

Involving Subjects Identifying as PEH via Present Home Address				
	2023 YTD	2023 PRJ	2022	2021
Incidents	1790	4161	2714	1916
Demand Incidents	1286	2990	2099	1571
Ofc Initiated Incidents	504	1172	615	345
Trespass	651	1513	587	318
Arrests	622	1446	1015	700
Ofc Hours	3229	7507	5201	4147
YTD as of 6/6/2023; Previous Years Reliability decreases due to address changes				
664 total persons contacted since 1/1/2021 with an address indicating PEH circumstances				

Active Trespass Orders 06JUN2023	# of Distinct Total Persons	Trespasses per Person - Overall Average
1618	676	2.4
Active Orders on Suspected PEH	# of Distinct PEH	Trespasses per Person - PEH Only
407	102	4.0



Lessons Learned

- By building relationships, people listen with little conflict
- Consistent follow-through needed
- There have been few arrests because people comply
- Legal consequences for violations aren't changing behavior
- Connecting people with resources isn't always possible



Guided by Our Core Values



We are committed to dealing with all members of the community with **compassion** and **respect**.

We are also operationalizing national best practices on homelessness



Questions

<u>REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION</u>		MEETING DATE: 10/20/2014
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RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City of Rochester has seen an increase in the number of transient individuals using City lands for camping or overnight stays even though such lands are not designed or designated for such use; and,

WHEREAS, the Rochester Code of Ordinances Section 45B.13 provides for park closing hours that allows for the efficient regulation of City park lands related to individuals setting up camps or staying overnight; and,

WHEREAS, there are no similar regulations restricting the overnight use of non-park City lands such as flood control lands, storm water facilities, wetlands, RPU properties, etc., and the City staff are seeking direction and authorization from the Council of the City of Rochester to regulate these lands in a manner similar to park lands.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Rochester, Minnesota, that no person shall be allowed to place or erect tents, shelters, or camps on City lands, or stay overnight on such lands without the prior consent of the City Council. City employees, including but not limited to members of the Rochester Police Department, are directed and authorized to enforce this resolution and the provisions of Minn. Stat. Section 609.605 relating to trespassing, to prevent the establishment of such camps and shelters and the overnight staying on City lands by unauthorized persons.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA, THIS 20th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2014.

Randy Staver
PRESIDENT OF SAID COMMON COUNCIL

ATTEST: *Aaron S. Reem*
CITY CLERK

APPROVED THIS 21st DAY OF OCTOBER, 2014.

William F. Bieda
MAYOR OF SAID CITY



Sec. 9-16-13. Hours.

No person, except police officers and the employees and servants of the board, shall be present in any park or parkway between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. each day, except that the board may designate different hours for individual parks or parkways as deemed appropriate. Enforcement of park closing hours, when different from the general park closing hours indicated above, shall not be made until such time as signs clearly indicating the closing and opening times are erected at all entrances to the park or parkway. This section is not intended to prohibit pedestrian travel along improved trails within a park unless the signs at the entrances to the park or parkway indicate that such travel is prohibited.

(Code 1965, § 45B.13)



REQUEST FOR ACTION

Study Session Schedule

MEETING DATE:
June 12, 2023

ORIGINATING DEPT:
City Administration

AGENDA SECTION:
Presentation Items

PRESENTER:
Alison Zelms

Report Narrative:
The Study Session Schedule as of June 12, 2023.

Priorities & Foundational Principles:
Quality Services for Quality Living

Prepared By:
Ryan Kling-Punt

Attachments:
[Schedule - Study Session Schedule as of June 12, 2023](#)

2023 Study Session Calendar for Council Packet

Topic	Review Date	Responsible Department	Estimated Time	Meeting Location
Juneteenth - No Meeting	06/19/23			
<i>Tentative - Public Safety Impact Team Update</i>	06/26/23	City Attorney Fire Police	30 Minutes	Council Chambers
2022 Audit Report	06/26/23	Finance	60 Minutes	Council Chambers
Council Meeting	06/26/23			Council Chambers
No Meetings	07/03/23			
City Data Alliance update	07/10/23	Administration	30 Minutes	Council Chambers
<i>Tentative - Threshold Arts Update</i>	07/10/23	Administration	30 Minutes	Council Chambers
30 Minutes Available	07/10/23			Council Chambers
Council Meeting	07/10/23			Council Chambers
Baseline Budget & CIP Budget Preview	07/17/23	Administration	60 Minutes	Council Chambers
City Council Bus tour	07/17/23	Administration	Other	TBD
Comprehensive Surface Water Management Plan update	07/24/23	Public Works	45 Minutes	Council Chambers
Housing Update	07/24/23	Community Development	45 Minutes	Council Chambers
Council Meeting	07/24/23			Council Chambers
No Meetings	07/31/23			
Sustainability Update	08/07/23	Administration	45 Minutes	Council Chambers
45 Minutes Available	08/07/23			Council Chambers
Council Meeting	08/07/23			Council Chambers
Council Learning Session	08/14/23	Administration	Other	TBD
Review of Two-Year Recommended Budget, Decision Packages, & Six-Year CIP	08/21/23	Administration Finance	Other	Council Chambers
Council Meeting	08/21/23			Council Chambers
Review of Two-Year Recommended Budget, Decision Packages, & Six-Year CIP	08/28/23	Administration Finance	Other	Council Chambers
Labor Day - Meeting Moved to Wednesday	09/04/23			
90 Minutes Available	09/06/23			Council Chambers
Council Meeting	09/06/23			Council Chambers
Review of Two-Year Recommended Budget, Decision Packages, & Six-Year CIP	09/11/23	Administration Finance	Other	Council Chambers
90 Minutes Available	09/18/23			Council Chambers
Council Meeting	09/18/23			Council Chambers
Yom Kippur - No Meetings	09/25/23			
90 Minutes Available	10/02/23			Council Chambers
Council Meeting	10/02/23			Council Chambers
Council Learning Session	10/09/23	Administration	Other	TBD
90 Minutes Available	10/16/23			Council Chambers
Council Meeting	10/16/23			Council Chambers
150 Minutes Available	10/23/23			Council Chambers
No Meetings	10/30/23			
<i>Tentative - Review of Final Budget, CIP & Decision Packages</i>	11/06/23	Administration Finance	Other	Council Chambers
Council Meeting	11/06/23			Council Chambers
150 Minutes Available	11/13/23			Council Chambers
90 Minutes Available	11/20/23			Council Chambers
Council Meeting	11/20/23			Council Chambers
Council Learning Session	11/27/23	Administration	Other	TBD
90 Minutes Available	12/04/23			Council Chambers
Council Meeting	12/04/23			Council Chambers
90 Minutes Available	12/11/23			Council Chambers
Council Meeting	12/11/23			Council Chambers
No Meetings	12/18/23			
No Meetings	12/25/23			
Unscheduled Topics	TBD			
Bike Lane Report/Update	TBD	Administration Public Works	60 Minutes	
Proposed Stormwater Ordinance Revisions	TBD	Public Works		

Topic	Review Date	Responsible Department	Estimated Time	Meeting Location
RPS Superintendent and Olmsted County Administrator updates	TBD	Administration	60 Minutes	
Community for Health Update	TBD	DMC		
West Transit Village	TBD	DMC		
Conflict of Interest	TBD	Administration City Attorney		
Roadway and Intersection Improvement Prioritization	TBD	Public Works		