

**Minutes of the Board of Commissioners
Multnomah Building, Board Room 100
501 SE Hawthorne Blvd., Portland, Oregon
Tuesday, December 12, 2017**

BOARD BRIEFING

Chair Deborah Kafoury called the meeting to order at 10:11 a.m. with Vice-Chair Jessica Vega Pederson and Commissioners Loretta Smith, and Lori Stegmann present. Commissioner Sharon Meieran arrived at 10:12 a.m.

Also attending were Jenny M. Madkour, County Attorney, and Lynda Grow, Board Clerk.

B.1 Board Briefing on the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office Homeless Outreach and Programs Engagement (HOPE) Team. Presenters: Sheriff Michael Reese, and Jason Gates, Chief Deputy of Law Enforcement.

Chair Kafoury: WELCOME TO MULTNOMAH COUNTY. WE HAVE A VERY IMPORTANT BOARD BRIEFING THIS MORNING ON THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE HOPE TEAM. HOMELESS OUTREACH AND PROGRAMS ENGAGEMENT TEAM. WELCOME, I SEE YOU BROUGHT A CROWD WITH YOU THIS MORNING.

Sheriff Reese: YES, WE HAVE SOME FRIENDS HERE. THANK YOU VERY MUCH, CHAIR KAFOURY AND COMMISSIONERS. THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE WITH YOU AN UPDATE ON OUR HOPE TEAM AND WORK THAT THEY ARE DOING. JOINING ME TODAY ON THE DIAS IS CHIEF DEPUTY JASON GATES FROM OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION, LT. STEVE BEVENS, WHO WILL PROVIDE US AN OPERATIONAL REPORT ON THE WORK THAT OUR HOPE TEAM IS DOING AND OUR CHIEF OF STAFF STEPHANIE PRYBYL. OUR TIME TOGETHER TODAY SATISFIES A BUDGET NOTE BUT THE TIMING IS APT FOR ANOTHER REASON OUR HOPE TEAM WAS BUSY OVER THE SUMMER AND GIVEN THE FORECAST, STANDS TO BE BUSY THIS WINTER. WE ARE TAKING THIS MOMENT TO REVIEW THE EFFORTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF OUR TEAM ENSURING WE COLLECTIVELY UNDERSTAND HOW THIS INTEGRATED APPROACH BEST COMPLEMENTS MULTNOMAH COUNTY'S OTHER MISSIONS, PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES. NOT A DAY GOES BY WHEN THE MEDIA IS NOT COVERING TENSIONS ARISING OUT OF LIVABILITY CONCERNS. THERE'S GREAT AWARENESS SURROUNDING THIS TOP COMMUNITY PRIORITY.

LIVABILITY IS CHALLENGING ON ALL FRONT. NEEDLESS TO SAY IT'S DIFFICULT TO BE EXPERIENCING CHALLENGING CIRCUMSTANCES AND LIVING IN PUBLIC SPACES; SEE CHALLENGING CIRCUMSTANCES ON DISPLAY IN PUBLIC SPACES; TO ADDRESS LIVABILITY. FROM A POLICY PERSPECTIVE OR ON THE FRONT LINE OF PUBLIC SERVICE MCSO IS USING AN EMPATHETIC AND COMPASSIONATE RESPONSE TO THESE CHALLENGES. EXPERIENCES FROM

THE FRONT LINE OF SERVICES CHANGE PUBLIC SAFETY HOPE IS A PUBLIC SAFETY COLLABORATION TO ADDRESS LIVABILITY CONCERNS WHICH ENCOMPASSES TRAUMA INFORMED PERSPECTIVE. GRESHAM AND PORTLAND POLICE MAINTAIN SPECIALIZED TEAMS THAT COMBINE POLICE AND SPECIAL SERVICES ENGAGEMENT.

Sheriff Reese: THE NEIGHBORHOOD ENFORCEMENT AND RESPONSE TEAMS RESPECTIVELY. THEY ROUNDED IT OUT WITH CREATION OF OUR HOMELESS OUTREACH ENGAGEMENT TEAM. FOR THE PAST 6 MONTHS MCSO HAS BEEN OPERATING THIS PILOT PROGRAM WITH ONE-TIME-ONLY FUNDING. BY POOLING OUR RESOURCES WITH OUR PARTNERS AND COORDINATING EFFORTS PUBLIC SAFETY BECOMES CAPABLE OF MAKING A SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY. IN WORKING WITH SUBSETS OF LIVABILITY AT THE INTERSECTION OF PUBLIC SPACES AND COMPLEX SOCIAL ISSUES, SUCH AS HOMELESSNESS, MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION, PUBLIC SAFETY AGENCIES LIKE MCSO WILL FOCUS ON MORE THAN JUST RESPONDING TO CRIME. WE'RE DEDICATING OUR PROFESSION TO THE PRINCIPLE THAT GENERALLY THE BEST APPROACH TO LOW LEVEL CRIMINAL BEHAVIORS AND DISORDER PROBLEMS IS TO ADDRESS THEM FROM A HUMAN SERVICES AND PUBLIC HEALTH PERSPECTIVE.

HOPE IS MORE THAN A PUBLIC SAFETY COLLABORATION. IT'S A COUNTYWIDE EFFORT TO CONSOLIDATE AND COLLABORATE TO BE SUCCESSFUL. OUR PUBLIC SE AGENCIES ARE ASKING HUMAN SERVICES AND PUBLIC HEALTH PROVIDERS TO RECOGNIZE PUBLIC SAFETY AGENCIES TO BRING ESSENTIAL CAPABILITIES TO THIS COORDINATED EFFORT. WE'RE THE ONES THAT CAN DO ENGAGEMENT, PEACEKEEPING AND WHEN NECESSARY ENFORCEMENT. WE'RE IN A UNIQUE POSITION. WE CAN HELP BECAUSE OUR MEMBERS ARE THERE 24/7. WE HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO MAKE CONTACT IN THE FIELD. OUR TEAM CAN HELP KEEP EVERYONE SAFE DESPITE UNPREDICTABLE AND OPEN ENVIRONMENTS. WE CAN COORDINATE RESPONSE PLANS AND DISTINGUISH BETWEEN CRIMINAL ACTIVITY AND ADDRESS BASED ON BEHAVIOR AND LOCATION.

TOGETHER WE HAVE NEW FOUND CAPACITY TO ADD LIVABILITY MATTERS AND BY TREATING EVERYBODY WITH DIGNITY AND RESPECT WE COLLECTIVELY FURTHER COMMUNITY TRUST. SO THIS IS OUR TEAM AND OUR SUPERVISORS. OTO FUNDING HAS BEEN ALLOCATED THROUGH NEXT JUNE, WHICH PROVIDES FOR 2 DEPUTY SHERIFFS TO SERVE AS A DEDICATED SAFETY NET TO HUMAN SERVICES MEANING THEY PROVIDE CONSISTENT AND POSITIVE INTERACTION WITH VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS MATCHING NEED TO SERVICES. OUR HOPE CHAIN OF COMMAND ENCOMPASSES CHIEF GATES, LT. BEVENS AND IN ADDITION, SERGEANT MATT JORDAN DEPUTY SCHNEIDER AND DEPUTY MCQUEEN, IN THE AUDIENCE THIS MORNING TO SHARE THEIR STORIES AS WELL. I'LL DEFER NOW TO CHIEF DEPUTY GATES TO TELL US

MORE ABOUT OUR TEAM OBJECTIVES AND THEN TO LT. BEVENS TO DISCUSS TEAM PROCEDURE ACCORDINGLY.

Chief Deputy Gates: THANK YOU, SHERIFF. GOOD MORNING, CHAIR KAFOURY, COMMISSIONERS. WE RECEIVE THE MISSION OF HOPE FOR HOPE AND THE BIG PICTURE OF LIVABILITY FROM THE SHERIFF. TO TURN THE BROAD MINDED MISSION INTO AN ACHIEVING ONE. FIRST I MADE CERTAIN LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION SELECTED THE RIGHT PEOPLE FOR THIS MISSION AND THAT THEY WERE SUPPORTED IN PRACTICE. THEN I HAD TO IMPART THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVES OR THE IDEAL GOAL OF HOPE TO THE TEAM, WHICH IS TWO. BUILD NETWORKS SERVICE PROVIDERS AND CREATE TRUSTWORTHY RELATIONSHIPS WITH VULNERABLE POPULATIONS IN THE FIELD, THEN WORK TOGETHER TO IDENTIFY THE UNDERLYING CAUSE OF HOMELESSNESS AND CONNECT INDIVIDUALS IN NEED WITH SERVICES.

IN DOING SO, WE STAND TO IMPROVE INDIVIDUAL OUTCOMES AND REDUCE TENSION IN THE COMMUNITY. GIVEN THIS IS A PILOT PROGRAM THE NETWORKS AND RELATIONSHIPS HAD TO BE ESTABLISHED AND FOSTERED FROM THE GROUND UP. ROBUST RELATIONSHIPS ARE KEY TO MAXIMIZING OUR ABILITY TO MEANINGFULLY ASSIST ANYONE WE ENCOUNTER ON PATROL. I AM PROUD OF THE WORK THE TEAM HAS BEEN ABLE TO ACCOMPLISHED IN A SHORT AMOUNT OF TIME. MCSO HAS CAPTURED THIS MISSION IN A NEW AGENCY POLICY WHICH THE SHERIFF WILL ENACT THIS WEEK. WITH MANAGEMENT'S DIRECTION COVERED I'LL DEFER TO LT. BEVENS TO DISCUSS TEAM PROCEDURES.

Lt. Bevans: THANK YOU, CHIEF. GOOD MORNING, CHAIR, COMMISSIONERS. WORK OF THE HOPE TEAM IS COMPLAINT DRIVEN. THESE COMPLAINTS COME THROUGH DISPATCH FROM COUNTY RESIDENTS OR DIRECT CONTACT FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF IN OUR CONTRACT CITIES, TROUTDALE, FAIRVIEW, WOOD VILLAGE AND MAYWOOD PARK. WE ALSO WORK CLOSELY WITH MULTIPLE PARTNER AGENCIES SUCH AS METRO, PORT OF PORTLAND, ODOT, FOREST SERVICE AND MORE. THIS IS POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF CONNECTIONS AND RELATIONSHIPS THAT WE WORKED HARD TO DEVELOP. A REAL EXAMPLE OF HOW WE PARTNER WITH OTHER AGENCIES AND TO ACCOMPLISH OUR JOB WITH COMPASSION AND RESPECT FOR THE COMMUNITY IS AS FOLLOWS. THE PORT OF PORTLAND AND PBOT OTHER MULTIPLE AGENCIES HAD AN ISSUE WITH R.V. PARKING ON MARINE DRIVE UNDER THE 205 BRIDGE EARLIER THIS YEAR. BECAUSE OF THE MULTIPLE PROPERTY OWNERS AND JURISDICTIONAL ISSUES THERE WAS LITTLE COOPERATION TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE.

I RECEIVED A CALL FROM THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY DRAINAGE DISTRICT ASKING IF THE HOPE TEAM COULD HELP AND WE DID. OUR APPROACH IS VERY SIMPLE. WE CONTACTED ABOUT 20 RVs WITH ABOUT 30 PEOPLE LIVING IN THEM. WE DIDN'T TELL THEM THEY NEEDED TO LEAVE. WE ACTUALLY ASKED

IF WE COULD HELP THEM AND TRY TO GET RESOURCES THAT COULD BE AVAILABLE. WHILE DEVELOPING A RAPPORT WE ASKED WHY THEY DECIDED TO PARK THERE, AND THEY SAID THAT THEY THOUGHT IT WAS OKAY BECAUSE THERE WAS NO PARKING SIGNS AND THEY WERE RIGHT. WE WORKED WITH THEM FOR OVER A WEEK AND FOLLOWED THEM DAILY GIVING THEM TIME TO GET THEIR RVS REPAIRED, MONEY FOR GAS AND FIND A NEW PLACE TO PARK AND LIVE. ALL THE RVS LEFT ON THEIR OWN AND SEVERAL PEOPLE WERE ASSISTED BY JOIN BECAUSE OF THE COMPASSION TO HELP THEM WHILE ALSO GETTING THE AREA CLEANED UP FOR ACCESS BY THE PROPERTY OWNERS.

Lt. Bevens: PARTNERSHIPS. THIS HAS BEEN THE MOST IMPORTANT PIECE FOR THE HOPE TEAM TO BE SUCCESSFUL. WE DEVELOPED A RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR PARTNER AGENCIES AND SERVICE PROVIDERS BY EARNING THEIR TRUST AND MAKING DIRECT CONNECTIONS. WE WORKED CLOSELY WITH MARC JOLIN IN THE JOINT OFFICE OF HOME LESS SERVICES WITH A WEEKLY TELECONFERENCE CALL WITH ALL THE METRO AGENCIES AND SERVICE PROVIDERS. WE SHARE INFORMATION AND FOLLOW UP ON CASES FOR OUR HOMELESS COMMUNITY ENSURING THAT THEY RECEIVES ASSISTANCE. THE HOPE TEAM WAS MET WITH A SERVICE PROVIDER SEVERAL TIMES AND HAVE DEVELOPED DIRECT CONTACT INFORMATION SO WE KNOW WHO TO CALL FOR WHAT TYPE OF RESOURCE NEEDED. LAW ENFORCEMENT DID NOT HAVE THIS RELATIONSHIP BEFORE THE HOPE TEAM WAS DEDICATED TO THIS MISSION.

ON JUNE THROUGH AUGUST THE HOPE TEAM BEGAN USING A PILOT APP ON OUR CELLPHONES TO TRACK OUR CONTACTS WITH THE HOMELESS COMMUNITY. DURING 3 MONTHS WE CONTACTED 178 HOUSELESS PERSONS AND USED THE APP TO GET REQUESTED RESOURCES. THIS NUMBER DOES NOT INCLUDE FOLLOW-UP CONTACTS WITH THE SAME INDIVIDUALS. FROM SEPTEMBER TO NOVEMBER WE REFLECTED ON THE LESSONS LEARNED FROM THIS ENDEAVOR TO DEVELOP A MORE ROBUST TRACKING METHOD THAT EMPHASIZES CASE MANAGEMENT AND OUTCOMES. LOOKING TOWARDS 2018 WE ARE WORKING TO SHARE INITIAL AND FOLLOW-UP CONTACT INFORMATION ALONG WITH SERVICE REFERRALS WITH OUR PARTNER AGENCIES, SERVICE PROVIDERS, TO ENSURE SITUATIONAL AWARENESS AND INFORMED FUTURE SERVICE DELIVERY THE HOPE TEAM BELIEVES A LOT OF GOOD WORK HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED. THEREFORE, HAS MANY SUCCESS STORIES TO SHARE. OUR TEAM WILL GO TO ANY PUBLIC PLACE IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY NECESSARY TO ENGAGE INDIVIDUALS IN NEED. RECREATIONAL AREAS, HIGH WAY RIGHT OF WAY, PARKING LOTS AND MORE.

I WANT TO SHARE WITH YOU TWO SPECIFIC SITUATIONS WHERE WE ASSISTED PEOPLE. THE FIRST IS THE HOPE TEAM WAS CONTACTED BY A CONCERNED CITIZEN IN TROUTDALE ABOUT A FAMILY LIVING IN THEIR CAR NEAR THE SANDY RIVER. THE TEAM MET THE FAMILY AND ENABLED THEM TO FIND STABLE BUT SHORT TERM TRANSITIONAL SHELTER. WE PROVIDED IMMEDIATE RESOURCES INCLUDING A FOOD BOX, WATER AND OTHER QUALITY OF LIFE

NECESSITIES. OVER THE NEXT FEW MONTHS OF FOLLOW-UP THE HOPE TEAM IN COLLABORATION WITH HOMELESS OUTREACH PROVIDER TIFFANY WERE ABLE TO LOCATE A FAMILY TRANSITIONAL SHELTER. THEY ARE CURRENTLY WAITING LONG TERM FAMILY HOUSING TO BECOME AVAILABLE. STACY, THE MOTHER OF THE FAMILY, IS PRESENT HERE TODAY.

Sheriff Reese: I JUST WANTED TO ACKNOWLEDGE STACY. I MET HER EARLIER TODAY. SHE HAS A GREAT STORY TO TELL AND I HOPE THAT AFTER WE'RE DONE PRESENTING THAT SHE FEELS SAFE SHARING WITH YOU HER EXPERIENCES SHE'S IN SHELTER NOW WITH HER 16 -YEAR-OLD SON IN ONE OF OUR DOWNTOWN SHELTERS AND IT'S A REALLY POSITIVE STORY OF GETTING SOMEONE THE SERVICES THAT THEY NEED AND CONNECTING THEM TO THE BROADER COALITION OF SERVICE PROVIDERS. SECONDLY, THE PORT OF PORTLAND CONTACTED THE HOPE TEAM CONCERNING CAMPERS ON THE WEST BANK OF THE SANDY RIVER.

Lt. Bevens: THE HOPE TEAM MADE CONTACT WITH THE HUSBAND AND WIFE AND THROUGH CONVERSATION IDENTIFIED THE HUSBAND AS A VETERAN WHO SERVED OVERSEAS. AFTER ADDITIONAL FOLLOW-UP, THEY'RE ON A VETERAN'S HOUSING WAITLIST WHILE THE HOPE TEAM CONTINUES TO PROVIDE BASIC RESOURCES AND SUPPORT. THEY ARE PRESENT TODAY.

Sheriff Reese: IT'S AN HONOR TO HAVE THESE FOLKS JOIN US TODAY. AS I SHARED WITH THEM BEFORE OUR MEETING WITH YOU TODAY, WE HAVE INCREDIBLY COMPASSIONATE COMMISSIONERS AND A CHAIR WHO CARE DEEPLY ABOUT THIS ISSUE AND WANT TO HEAR FROM THEM AND KNOW THAT THE WORK THAT WE'RE DOING TANNED THAT OUR SERVICE PROVIDERS ARE DOING IS HAVING AN IMPACT ON PEOPLE LIVING ON OUR STREETS.

I WANT TO THANK LT. BEVENS AND THE TEAM OUT THERE ON THE FRONT LINES DOING THIS REALLY IMPORTANT WORK EVERY DAY. THIS FAR WE HAVE TOUCHED UPON OUT COMES OF OUR TEAM WHICH INCLUDED EFFICIENCIES CREATED THROUGH OUR PROFESSIONAL CONTACTS AND RELATIONSHIPS, COMPASSIONATE, EMPATHETIC ENGAGEMENT AND SAFE PRESENCE IN THE FIELD LINKED TO SOCIAL SERVICES AND REGISTRATION OF PUBLIC SPACES. WE'RE DOING THIS WORK BECAUSE LIVABILITY IS A COMMUNITY PRIORITY. WHEN I TALK TO COMMUNITY GROUPS IT'S ONE OF THE TOP THINGS I HEAR FROM FOLKS. WHAT ARE WE DOING ABOUT COMMUNITY LIVABILITY AND HOW CAN WE REDUCE TENSION IN OUR COMMUNITY AROUND SOME OF THESE CONCERNS.

Sheriff Reese: I KNOW THAT TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE AND I HAVE SEEN THE GOOD WORK OF OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT AND OUR SOCIAL SERVICE PROVIDERS AND OUR COLLECTIVE WISDOM COMING TOGETHER TO HELP PROVIDE SERVICES TO FOLKS. BUT THE WORK ISN'T WITHOUT CHALLENGES. IT'S A SYSTEMIC ISSUE. WE REALIZE LIVABILITY AND THE MANY

SUBSETS OF LIVABILITY CREATE CHALLENGES FOR US REGARDLESS OF THE RESOURCES WE'RE PUTTING FORWARD TOWARDS IT THERE'S A LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING. EMPLOYMENT. SOME OF THE FOLKS WE'RE DEALING WITH HAVE MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES AND ADDICTION ISSUES THAT MAKE IT HARD TO GET THEM INTO SERVICES AND INTO SHELTER OR PERMANENT HOUSING. WE ALL FEEL THE CHALLENGES OF WORKING THROUGH LIVABILITY ISSUES. LAW ENFORCEMENT HAS MADE MULTIPLE CONTACTS IN THE FIELD WITH PEOPLE WHO ARE SEEKING ASSISTANCE. WE IDENTIFY NEEDS AND A PLAN TO HELP.

YET THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE FOR THE GREATER COUNTY ARE MULTIPLE CONTACTS WITH PEOPLE WHO ARE NORTHBOUND OBVIOUS NEED OF SERVICES. SOME OF THE FOLKS THAT I TALKED TO THIS MORNING ACKNOWLEDGE THERE ARE FOLKS OUT THERE THAT BECAUSE OF ADDICTION OR MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES THEY ARE REALLY DIFFICULT FOR US TO WORK WITH. BUT WE'RE NOT GOING TO GIVE UP. WE'RE GOING TO WORK THROUGH THOSE CHALLENGES AND BE RELENT LESS TRYING TO BET PEOPLE INTO SHELTER AND PERMANENT HOUSING. WE'RE GOING TO USE A TRAUMA INFORMED APPROACH TO LITERALLY AND FIGURATIVELY MOVE THEM TO BETTER SITUATIONS. ADDITIONALLY, WE BELIEVE THAT WE CAN CONTRIBUTE VALUABLE DATA FROM OUR FIELD CONTACTS TO INTERLINK CASE MANAGEMENT AND PUBLIC HEALTH FACILITIES. WITH MORE INFORMATION COMES BETTER DECISION MAKING.

MCSO IT FUNCTION AS A SAFETY NET TOLLS HUMAN SERVICES AND PUBLIC HEALTH IN REGARDS TO THIS EFFORT FROM A PUBLIC SAFETY PERSPECTIVE WE WOULD LIKE TO CONTINUE THE HOPE TEAM BEYOND THE PILOT PROGRAM. I BELIEVE WE HAVE BEEN VERY EFFECTIVE AND I THINK YOU'LL HEAR THAT FROM SOME OF THE SERVICE PROVIDERS HERE TODAY AS WELL. WE HAVE BEEN MANAGING WITH A SMALL PORTION OF OVER ALL RESOURCES COMMITTED TO HOMELESSNESS YET WE HAVE HAD A REALLY TREMENDOUS, POSITIVE IMPACT IN EAST COUNTY. WE WISH FOR PUBLIC SAFETY'S ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES TO BE INCLUDED IN AN OVERALL STRATEGY AND BUDGETARY DISCUSSION ABOUT REDUCING HOMELESSNESS. I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME. WE'RE HAPPY TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU DO. WE HAVE QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

Commissioner Stegmann: THANK YOU, CHAIR. THANK YOU FOR THE REPORT. I APPRECIATE THAT. I WANTED TO THANK DEPUTIES SCHNEIDER AND MCLEAN WHO WERE SO GRACIOUS TO TAKE MY STAFF AND I OUT ON A WALKING TOUR OF THE AREA. SEEING FIRSHTHAND OBVIOUSLY THIS IS A MAJORITY DISTRICT FOR EAST COUNTY WHERE THESE OFFICERS ARE SERVING. I HAD A FEW QUESTIONS BUT WHAT I NOTICE THAT IS IN FACT I THINK I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET STACY AND HER FAMILY SO I'M REALLY HAPPY TO SEE YOU HERE TODAY AND SEE THAT YOU'RE DOING A LITTLE BIT BETTER. WHAT

I WAS IMPRESSED ABOUT IS THAT THESE OFFICERS, WE MET LIKE SIX OR SEVEN DIFFERENT FAMILIES OR INDIVIDUALS. THESE OFFICERS KNEW THEIR NAMES, KNEW THEIR STORY, AND THERE WAS I THINK DEPUTY SCHNEIDER ASKED THIS ONE INDIVIDUAL WHO WAS HONESTLY SITTING THERE DRINK AGO BEER. HE'S LIKE, HEY, DO YOU WANT TO COME IN? I CAN GET YOU RESOURCES AND HELP THE GUY IS LIKE, NO, I'M GOOD. HE WAS LIKE, YOU KNOW I'M GOING TO KEEP ASKING. YOU JUST NEVER KNOW WHEN SOMEDAY MAYBE SOMETHING WILL HAVE HAPPENED TO THAT PERSON WHERE THEY SAY, MAYBE I WANT TO TAKE YOU UP ON THAT OFFER. BUT THE POINT IS THAT WE HAVE OFFICERS THAT ARE OUT THERE ASKING EVERY TIME, AND JUST CONNECTING PEOPLE TO SERVICES IS HUGE.

I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK ABOUT THE LIVABILITY ISSUES THAT THE CITY OF PORTLAND IS HAVING COMPARED TO, WELL, WE HAVE AN ISSUE IN EAST COUNTY. I HAVE TO BELIEVE THAT IT'S NOT AS GREAT OF AN ISSUE BECAUSE OF THE HOPE TEAM. SO I JUST WANTED TO RECOGNIZE HOW MUCH I REALLY APPRECIATE IT. MAYBE YOU COULD SPEAK TO THAT COMPARISON BECAUSE I MEAN OF COURSE WE ALL HAVE ISSUES ABOUT LIVABILITY, BUT I DON'T REALLY HEAR IN EAST COUNTY THE MAGNITUDE OF THE ISSUES THAT PORTLAND EXPERIENCES. SO I'M JUST WONDERING IF YOU COULD EXPAND ABOUT LIKE HOW -- YOU KNOW, AM I RIGHT? HOW MANY COMPLAINTS ARE WE GETTING? ARE WE GETTING FEWER COMPLAINTS? ARE PEOPLE FEELING THAT THE HOPE TEAM IS REALLY PROVIDING A VALUABLE SERVICE? COULD YOU SPEAK TO THAT?

Sheriff Reese: I THINK THAT'S A GREAT QUESTION. THAT'S ONE OF THE ROLES THAT AS AN ELECTED OFFICIALS OFFICIALLY CAN PLAY IN CONVENING PUBLIC SERVICE AGENCIES TO COME TOGETHER AND WORK ON COMMON STRATEGIES, WHICH WE DID IN 2016 TO ADDRESS THE SPRINGWATER CORRIDOR ISSUES AND IN THE SPRING OF 2017 AGAIN I CONVENED ALL OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT PARTNERS TO TALK ABOUT COMMON STRATEGIES WHICH I SHARED WITH THE CHAIR'S OFFICE AND THE MAYOR'S OFFICE IN PORTLAND, AS WELL AS THE MAYORS OF OUR EAST COUNTY CONTRACT CITIES. AND THE MAYOR OF GRESHAM.

IT IS A LITTLE BIT DIFFERENT I THINK LANDSCAPE ONCE YOU HEAD EAST OF 162ND. GRESHAM AND MCSO HAVE BEEN WORKING IN A VERY HIGHLY COLLABORATIVE FASHION ON THESE ISSUES. YOU'LL NEVER HEAR OUR DEPUTIES SAY WE CAN'T HELP. WHEN WE GET A CALL AND IT'S IMPORTANT TO REALIZE THAT WE DO GET CALLS ON THESE SITUATIONS WE RESPOND. WE DON'T POINT SOMEONE IN A DIFFERENT DIRECTION. WE CONNECT AND COLLABORATE WITH OUR SOCIAL SERVICE PARTNERS BUT WE'RE GOING TO GET THE CALL THERE. AS YOU SAID THE ONE INDIVIDUAL THAT WAS DRINKING ALCOHOL PROBABLY OUT IN PUBLIC, THAT COULD BE A 911 CALL OR NON EMERGENCY LINE CALL THAT THE POLICE GET DISPATCHED ON. CERTAINLY WITH ADDICTION ISSUES AND MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES WE'RE NOT

NECESSARILY THE FOLKS ARE GOING TO SOLVE THAT BUT WE'RE GOING TO CONNECT AND WE'LL BE THERE BECAUSE WE'RE GOING TO GET THE CALL FROM 911 OR NON EMERGENCY WHEN PEOPLE'S BEHAVIOR IS PROBLEMATIC TO FOLKS IN THE COMMUNITY.

Commissioner Stegmann: I APPRECIATE THE HOPE TEAM AND I THINK THAT WE EXPECT SO MUCH OF OUR PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS. WE EXPECT THEM TO BE SOCIAL WORKERS AND TO SOME DEGREE THAT'S KIND OF WHAT THIS PROGRAM IS MOVING TOWARDS A LITTLE BIT. I THINK THAT THAT'S GOOD BY HAVING OFFICERS THAT HAVE SPECIFIC TRAINING AND HAVE ACCESS TO RESOURCES THAT ACTUALLY TRULY CONNECT PEOPLE TO THE RESOURCES THAT THEY NEED. I THINK THIS PROGRAM IS GREAT I KNOW THAT EAST COUNTY LOVES IT I THINK IT'S IMPORTANT AND WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ALLOW PEOPLE TO MAINTAIN A QUALITY OF LIFE WHETHER YOU'RE HOMELESS OR A NEIGHBORHOOD RESIDENT, AND TO COEXIST, IN SOME DEGREE. EVEN THOUGH IT'S NOT IDEAL, I THINK WE HAVE AVOIDED SOME OF THE PROBLEMS OTHER JURISDICTIONS HAVE BEEN DEALING WITH. SO THANK YOU.

Sheriff Reese: WE ARE COUNTYWIDE. LIKE THE BRIDGEHEADS, WE'VE DONE SOME WORK IN DOWNTOWN PORTLAND. HAWTHORNE AND MORRISON BRIDGES ARE PROBLEM LOCATIONS THAT WE HAVE HAD SOME SUCCESS DEALING WITH. WE HAD COUNTY OWNED PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF PORTLAND THAT HAD SQUATTERS INSIDE. COUNTY FACILITY FOLKS CONTACTED OUR DEPUTIES. WE WERE ABLE TO RESOLVE IT IN A POSITIVE WAY.

Commissioner Smith: MADAME CHAIR, THANK YOU, SHERIFF, FOR THIS PRESENTATION. I KNOW THAT WE ALL SHARE THE SAME VALUES ON THIS BOARD ABOUT HOMELESSNESS AND IT'S AN IMPORTANT ISSUE THAT I THINK WE WANT TO WORK TOGETHER TO TRY TO ELIMINATE. THE QUESTION THAT I WAS GOING TO ASK YOU AND YOU JUST ANSWERED IT SO THAT WE'RE CLEAR BECAUSE GENERALLY THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE YOU'RE WORKING IN UNINCORPORATED AREAS BUT YOU WILL WITH THIS PARTICULAR PROGRAM IF IT'S A COUNTY BUILDING, IN THE CITY OF PORTLAND, YOU WILL COME OUT AND ASSIST.

Sheriff Reese: YES.

Commissioner Smith: HOW MANY STAFF DO YOU HAVE IN THE ENTIRE OPERATION?

Sheriff Reese: JUST TWO DEPUTIES ASSIGNED FULL-TIME TO THIS WORK. THEY HAVE A SERGEANT WHO HAS OTHER DUTIES AS WELL, BUT SUPERVISES THE TEAM AND CAN ASSIST IF NEEDED.

Commissioner Smith: THAT'S IMPRESSIVE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR WORK.
Sheriff Reese: IF IT'S ALL RIGHT WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE TIFFANY, WHO DOES WORK FOR THE JOINT OFFICE, COME UP AND THEN ALSO STACY, WHO WANTED TO SAY A FEW WORDS IF THAT'S ALL RIGHT. THANK YOU.

Ms. Grieg: I'M TIFFANY GRIEG, I'M THE OUTREACH I HAVE HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF COMING OUT WORKING WITH THESE GUYS FOR ABOUT SIX MONTHS, FOUR, FIVE MONTHS. IT WAS REALLY ODD TO ME TO HAVE OFFICERS GET EXCITED WHEN OFFERED RESOURCES TO HELP INDIVIDUALS. IT KIND OF MADE ME LOOK SIDEWAYS AT THEM. ONE JOB OF OFFICERS IS TO KEEP PEOPLE SAFE. THAT'S NOT WHAT YOU GET WHEN YOU'RE HOUSELESS. A LOT OF TIME THERE'S BEEN FEAR INSTILLED WITH OFFICERS. THERE'S NO TRUST BASE. I HAVE WATCHED THESE RELATIONSHIPS GET FORMED INDIVIDUALS THAT WOULDN'T WANT TO RECEIVE SERVICES THEY HAVE BEEN ABLE TO GET PEOPLE TO COME AND START RECEIVING SERVICES. YOU DON'T WANT TO HAVE TO OPEN UP. THAT'S PAIN. YOU DON'T WANT TO OPEN UP THAT PAIN FOR NO REASON FOR SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T REALLY CARE.

OVER TIME THEY ARE BUILDING THESE RELATIONSHIPS WITH PEOPLE WHERE IT'S LIKE IF YOU HAD SOMEBODY THAT YOU KNEW YOU DON'T JUST SIT DOWN AND TELL SOMEONE YOUR ENTIRE STORY. YOU PICK IT UP BITS AND PIECES OVER TIME. A LOT OF THE INDIVIDUALS WE'RE WORKING WITH ARE VETERANS. THEY PARTED I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY AT ONE TIME BUT IT'S AMAZING TO WATCH THE OFFICERS PUT THEM IN A VAN, TAKE THEM OUT AND START THE PROCESS OF STARTING TO WANT TO RECEIVE SERVICES. IT'S A WHOLE 'NOTHER BALLGAME WORKING WITH VETERANS. I GET COLD CHILLS JUST THINKING ABOUT THE DIFFERENCES THEY HAVE HAD, GETTING PEOPLE INTO SHELTER THEY HAVE BEEN ABSOLUTELY AMAZING. IT'S BEEN A BLESSING WATCHING THE RELATIONSHIPS THEY'RE BUILDING AND THE IMPACT THEY'RE HAVING ON INDIVIDUALS THEY'RE WORKING WITH RIGHT NOW.

Stacy: GOOD MORNING. I'M STACY. I'M ONE OF THOSE RELATIONSHIPS. IT WAS REALLY DIFFICULT TO HAVE A HOME WITH MY FAMILY TO BECOMING HOMELESS ON THE STREETS WITH MY FAMILY AND NOT FEARING OF LOSING MY CHILDREN DUE TO SITUATIONS. THEY HAD A SHELTER THAT I HAD TO PASS UP DUE TO MY FAMILY'S PTSD THE HOPE PROGRAM HERE WAS JUST GRACIOUS AND I CAN'T EVEN TELL YOU, LIKE, HOW MUCH THEY HELPED US BY PROVIDING US WITH FOOD, BY PROVIDING US WITH JUST OVER ALL NOT LOOKING DOWN ON US.

ACTUALLY GIVING US THE SERVICES THEY BROUGHT ME TO AND I'M HAPPY TO SEE YOU AGAIN AND WE ARE IN A HOMELESS SHELTER AT THIS TIME WHICH PROBABLY WOULDN'T HAVE GONE FOR TOO MUCH DUE TO OUR SITUATIONS IF THESE NICE PEOPLE ARE NOT WORKED WITH US. IT'S VERY HARD TO BE OUT THERE AND I SEE A LOT OF PEOPLE EVERY DAY AND THEIR ADDICTIONS AND MENTAL HEALTH. I UNDERSTAND THAT IT GETS HARDER FOR

THE PUBLIC TO LOOK AT THE PEOPLE WHEN THEY ARE THROWING THEIR SYRINGES AND THEIR THINGS AND IT MAKES IT HARDER FOR THE PEOPLE TO WANT TO HELP THEM. I JUST WANT TO SAY BLESSED HOPE PROGRAM BECAUSE IF IT WASN'T FOR THEM, THEN THERE WOULDN'T BE PEOPLE LIKE US. SO THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR ALL YOUR HELP. I LOVE YOU GUYS.

Chair Kafoury: AWW! THANK YOU SO MUCH.

Stacy: THERE'S STILL A LOT OF WORK THAT NEEDS TO BE DONE AND THEY ARE WORKING ON IT. A LOT MORE PEOPLE WHO NEED THIS HELP. THERE'S A LOT OF PLACES, THOUGH, FOR US PEOPLE OUT THERE SO THAT ARE NOT WORKING. MAYBE PEOPLE AREN'T GOING TO HIRE THEM BECAUSE THEY ARE NOT CLEAN. BUT THERE'S A PLACE AND A JOB FOR EVERYBODY. THERE'S SOMETHING IN THIS WORLD FOR EVERYBODY TO DO. WE JUST NEED TO FIGURE OUT WHERE TO PUT THEM, WHERE TO PUT IT. WHETHER IT BE IN MAKING JACKETS OR PUTTING PACKETS TOGETHER, WHATEVER. THERE IS A PLACE, SOMETHING EVERYBODY COULD DO. THEY JUST NEED THAT CHANCE FOR SOMEBODY TO SAY THAT, HEY, WE NEED YOUR HELP. LET US FEEL LIKE WE'RE VALUABLE. THANK YOU.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE] THANK YOU, STACY, FOR COMING TODAY AND TALKING WITH US ABOUT YOUR EXPERIENCES. I THINK YOUR STORY GIVES OTHER PEOPLE HOPE AS WELL THAT JUST BY ACCEPTING HELP FROM PEOPLE YOU WILL GET INTO A BETTER PLACE. I THINK THAT ESPECIALLY AT THE HOLIDAY TIMES PEOPLE NEED TO HEAR THOSE STORIES OF HOPE AND SUCCESS. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR COMING BY. WE ALL WANT TO BE LIKE TIFFANY. DO WE HAVE ANY OTHER QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD? THANKS, SHERIFF, THANK YOU TO YOUR TEAM FOR COMING THIS MORNING AND SHARING GOOD NEWS WITH US ON THIS VERY COLD DAY. SEEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS WE'RE ADJOURNED. [GAVEL] [APPLAUSE]

ADJOURNMENT – 10:41 a.m.

[CAPTIONS PROVIDED BY LNS CAPTIONING AND MAY INCLUDE INACCURATE WORDS OR PHRASES DUE TO SOUND QUALITY, OTHER TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES AND/OR SOFTWARE ERRORS.]

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