

**Facilitated Collaborative Process
between Administration and Legislative Drafting Group
for Mass Care and Long-Term Navigation Decisions**

Implementation Status Update 011822

The workgroup is continuing to meet to maintain alignment and progress implementation of the client / community focused approach for exit from mass care that was unanimously approved by the Mayor and Assembly in AR2021-350. The next meeting is January 26, 2022.

Implementation update:

- **Funding Plan** - A fund has been established at the Alaska Community Foundation to collect and timely distribute capital funds from public and private sources in support of collaborative funding for implementing the overall plan. The fund gives spending authorization to the Mayor, Assembly and private funders / philanthropy. Funders to date have specifically designated the projects(s) for their respective funding. For instance, the Assembly appropriation specifically identified the Sockeye Inn, the Barratt Inn and the Single Adult Shelter / Navigation Center. Further governance processes for managing the distribution of fund may need to be developed if the nature of the funding changes. To date, \$8M is in the fund at ACF. \$3.5M is committed but not yet transferred to ACF, all designated for specific projects. Additional funding requests are pending. The working group will continue to consult with MOA Legal and Procurement to confirm requirements for purchase and operational decisions for locations that include funding from the MOA.
- **Operational Plans:** Plans for operation are being developed for the new locations. An RFI is being drafted by the working group to solicit interest from potential service providers for operating the Sockeye Inn. RFI's may also be developed for operations of one or more of the other new facilities.
- **Medical Fragile Convalescence Shelter:** The facilitated plan to exit mass care is to move people as quickly as possible out of mass care to more suitable shelters and ultimately to housing. The Sockeye Inn was identified by the facilitation group as the site for the medically fragile.

The Sockeye Inn will provide shelter and more suitable care in approximately 61 units serving up to 120. A Purchase Sales Agreement has been signed between the Sockeye Inn and the non-profit that owns the former Bean's Café property that is being turned into the 3rd Avenue navigation/engagement center. The property sale will close no later than March 31, 2022. Funds for this purchase are a combination of private and public funding. In addition, a grant from Doyon was received to provide beds, linens, storage units, and an automatic door access system for the facility.

Plans for long term operations, including determination of the operating entity remain to be developed. The facility will continue to operate as a mass care location in the interim. A transition plan for moving medically fragile individuals to the facility is also being developed.

Rooms are available immediately for mass care leases under the current ownership as we collectively build a full transition plan to serve the medically fragile. The Assembly

appropriated funds in late December to lease a total of 50 units at the Sockeye from January through March. There are 20 rooms currently under lease for mass care and immediate action is underway to lease the 50 total rooms that are available. Transition to the Sockeye will initially focus on moving: (1) those who are medically fragile but do not need PCA level care; (2) the elderly; and (3) couples since most units have double beds. AHD Mass Care and ACEH will collaborate on a final placement list that supports both Mass Care demobilization and long-term use of this facility in the post-emergency environment.

ACEH previously received a national grant to facilitate development of a healthcare and homelessness model for Anchorage (one of six awarded nationwide). With the identification of the need for a medical convalescence shelter, the work is now focused on developing the operational plan for the Sockeye Inn. Parties participating include Catholic Social Services, Rasmuson Foundation, Alaska Mental Health Trust and ACEH with project management support by Agnew::Beck. The plan is expected to be ready by the end of 1st quarter and will support operational decisions for the Sockeye Inn.

- **Workforce / Permanent Supportive Housing**: Financing analyses are underway to begin negotiations with the Barratt Inn to be converted to approximately 90 workforce and supportive housing units (subject to due diligence). Efforts continue to identify additional housing units to fill anticipated capacity needs as identified in the exit strategy, approximately 210 units. Operational pro formas are in development with two local housing providers to analyze various operational funding streams and sustainability. Identification of an entity to own the property is still underway.
- **Single Adult Navigation Center**: The Administration will issue an RFP on January 21 for construction of a navigation center / shelter (likely at Tudor / Elmore) for single adults with a capacity of 200 beds with possible surge capacity of up to an additional 130. The RFP is written to allow a variety of potential facility designs to be considered. \$2.8M has been appropriated by the Assembly to cover preliminary design for the successful RFP response. The Mayor's office proposed a \$15M request for the navigation center in the State of Alaska legislative program which requires approval by the Assembly. The request will be before the Assembly on January 25.
- **Special Populations** (Elderly, Women, LBGTQ+): Location has not yet been identified. Capacity for approximately 200 beds is needed.
- **Substance Abuse and Housing**: Efforts are underway with the Salvation Army to return the 48th Avenue facility to service for providing 68 substance abuse treatment beds. The Boutet Company is developing engineering plans for renovating the existing location to repair 2018 earthquake damage and allow safe occupancy using State of Alaska funds. Other potential Salvation Army locations are also being discussed for return to service.
- **Current Mass Care Operations**: AHD Mass Care is monitoring potential space at existing shelter locations that could be used to reduce the number of beds needed within current mass care operations.

As previously communicated:

- AR2021-350: A Resolution of the Anchorage Assembly and Mayor's Office in support of an Exit Strategy to End Mass Care and Implement an Integrated Client and Community Centered Approach to Addressing Homelessness was unanimously approved by the Assembly on November 1.
- Implementation planning will include refining homelessness census data, further evaluation of shelter / navigation center / treatment site locations, finance plans, operating plans, project plans and timelines, state/ federal government advocacy plans, community impact mitigation plans and ongoing community engagement efforts.
- We continue working together with commitment to collaborative process.
- We share goals to end homelessness and belief that navigation is only one part of the continuum of care; housing always a goal; shelter will be a part of navigation plans.
- Not politically focused – it's about getting it right for the benefit of the community.
- Have agreed to a decision process that supports reaching agreement on quality decisions that are best for our community.
- Have agreed to a decision frame that includes problem statements, timeline, outcome goals, ranking criteria, alternatives to be considered and analysis to support decisions.
- Will socialize / communicate / vet progress with rest of Assembly and other key stakeholders and community partners to include Community Councils as discussions move forward.