

## Encampment Update

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From: Will, Meghan OHCS:EX <Meghan.Will@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Sturtevant, Darryl MMHA:EX <Darryl.Sturtevant@gov.bc.ca>, Fieltsch, Raymond SDPR:EX <Raymond.Fieltsch@gov.bc.ca>, Kamper, Carolyn MCF:EX <Carolyn.Kamper@gov.bc.ca>, Jensen, Dana SDPR:EX <Dana.Jensen@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: March 29, 2023 4:45:45 PM PDT  
Attachments: Hastings Sit Rep Partner Update \_March 27-29\_Final for distribution.pdf, Provincial Executive Steering Committee\_Minutes\_03.24.23.pdf

Hello there,

Wanted to reach out directly and share the attached materials with you as an update on the status of CoV's approach to the encampment over the next week, or so. s.13; s.16

s.13; s.16

s.13; s.16

If you want to talk

directly or have any questions, happy to make time.

s.13; s.16

These materials are being shared with your teams and they have all been participating on the weekly encampment coordination call with Provincial partners and BCH, as well as the M/W/F situation calls with CoV.

Thanks,

Meghan

Previous Urgent items	Resolutions implemented
None	None

## Hastings Supportive Relocation Response: All Partners Situation Updates

Week of March 27<sup>th</sup>

### Date: March 28 Sit Rep Update Meeting

**Priority Site Location:** 400 Dunlevy Ave (WS) and 300 Dunlevy Ave (ES).

# of people impacted: Undetermined

# of structures removed: 7

Notes: No impoundments, people packed up voluntarily and took the storage bins. 19 storage Bins distributed along with meal tickets. Several structures removed were empty, used for storage. Several propane tanks removed. CoV notes 'everyone is back' today and re-establishing structures.

All offers of shelter space were declined. Province requested number of offers, CoV will follow up.

2100 kg of materials removed.

### Date: March 29 9am

**Priority Site Location:** North side of unit block 0 blk, 300blk Main Street

*\*No updates as of yet. Crews started at 9am.*

# of people impacted: TBC

# of structures to be removed: TBD

Notes: TBD

### Date: March 31<sup>st</sup> 9am

**Priority Site Location:** 300 Columbia St (WS/ES)

*\*No updates as of yet.*

# of people impacted: TBC

# of structures to be removed: TBC

Notes: TBC

### Post Brief/ Discussion for March 28<sup>th</sup>

**CoV, BCH, HOUS, MCF, VCH, SDPR**

- Discussion on how it will be helpful for CoV to share the general mood or tone of the neighbourhood during process.
- Updated fire # from last month – 500 fires responded to.

- Hastings Sunrise and West End are seeing an increase in people because they don't feel safe in DTES – neighbourhoods struggling to respond and manage.
- Discussion how to support people once they "turn up" outside of the zone.
- Shelter is offered to everyone without housing, so far no one has accepted – will continue to collect data on why people are not returning to housing, for those with units.
- BCH connecting with EWR sites to let them know there is funding if operators are able to stay open.

**Urgent items to resolve / Issues flags (incidents/media/protests)/Actions**

CONFIDENTIAL



**Ministry of Housing**  
**Provincial Executive Steering Committee**  
**Minutes**  
Friday, March 24, 2023  
3:45-4:45 pm  
MS Teams

**Attendance**

**BC Government:**

**Premier's Office (PO)**

Shannon Salter, Deputy to the Premier  
Matt Smith, Chief of Staff  
Don Bain, Deputy Chief of Staff  
Jessica Prince, Assistant Deputy Minister  
Kelly Newhook, Director  
Craig Jones, General Counsel

**Ministry Responsible of Housing (HOUS)**

Teri Collins, Deputy Minister  
Meghan Will, a/ADM, Homelessness, Partnerships & Housing Supports  
Sarah Petrescu, Director  
Clay Suddaby, Communications Director, GCPE  
Nina Karimi, Ministerial Advisor  
Sian Madoc-Jones, Senior Ministerial Advisor  
Sarah Marriot, Director  
Jennifer Miller, A/Executive Director

**Attorney General (AG)**

Barbara Carmichael, A/Deputy Attorney General  
Kate Saunders, Supervising Counsel  
Michael Kleisinger, Legal Counsel  
Amelia Hill, Ministerial Advisor  
Katherine Reilly, Legal Counsel  
Maya Engelbrecht, A/Director Executive Operations

**Emergency Management & Climate Readiness (EMCR)**

David Boone, Assistant Deputy Fire Commissioner  
Brian Godlonton, Fire Commissioner

C O N F I D E N T I A L

**Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD)**

Carolyn Kamper, Assistant Deputy Minister

**Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions (MMHA)/ Ministry of Health (HLTH)**

Christine Massy, Deputy Minister

Maureen O'Donnell, Associate Deputy Minister

Daryl Sturtevant, Assistant Deputy Minister

Theresa Ho, Chief of Staff

Seamus Wolfe, Ministerial Advisor

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**Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction (SDPR)**

David Galbraith, Deputy Minister

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Sandra Singh, General Manager Arts, Culture and Community Services

Mellisa Morphy, Acting Chief of Staff

Taryn Scollard, Deputy General Manager Engineering

Lon LaClaire, General Manager Engineering Services

**City of Victoria**

Jocelyn Jenkyns, City Manager

**Park Board**

Betty Lepps, Director Urban Relationships

**Vancouver Police Department (VPD)**

Howard Cho, Deputy Chief Constable

**Vancouver Fire Rescue Services (VFRS)**

Karen Fry, Fire Chief

**BC Housing (BCH)**

Vincent Tong, Interim Chief Executive Officer

Dale Mcmann, Vice President Operations

Heidi Hartman, Associate VP Operations

Allison Dunnett, ED Homelessness

Sara Goldvine, VP Communications

C O N F I D E N T I A L

**Vancouver Coastal Health Authority (VCH)**

Vivian Eliopoulos, President and CEO

Bob Chapman, VP

Shannon Mc Carthy, Executive Director Indigenous Health

**First Nations Health Authority (FNHA)**

Darius Pruss, Regional Advisor

Delaram Farshad, Regional Planner

**Meeting Summary**

**Welcome, Introductions and Action Item Log – DM Collins**

DM Collins welcomed new members, confirmed minutes. Updated on tentative announcement Sunday to release DTES plan with Minister Kahlon and Mayor Sim. Noted that the situation on the ground changes daily.

DM Collins advised that we will be moving away from the IN and into weekly situation report with progress and actions.

**Presentation: East Hastings decampment**

*Background*

s.16

s.22

s.22

*VCH*

6 units in each modular site targeted for high needs, but the supports are available to everyone in the building. Supports include mix of personal care aids, nursing (LPN), peer supports, in-reach, overdose prevention and MAP.

s.16

C O N F I D E N T I A L

s.16

**3. Partner Roundtable:**

No time for roundtable.

**4. Communications**

Clay Suddaby shared that there will be a noon news conference with Minister Kahlon and Mayor Sims, and they are working on common messaging. Releasing the Plan/Strategy (calling it a working document), with the overall message that all partners have been working the plan as we go. Reinforcing the message is the safety and security of people on the street and people living working in the community.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

## RE: Slides from Encampment Check In call 27 March 2023

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From: Clow, Adam OHCS:EX <Adam.Clow@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Miller, Jennifer E HOUS:EX <Jennifer.E.Miller@gov.bc.ca>, Will, Meghan OHCS:EX <Meghan.Will@gov.bc.ca>, Campbell, Tracy AG:EX <Tracy.Campbell@gov.bc.ca>, XT:Matthews, Laura GCPE:IN <lmathews@bchousing.org>, Madoc-Jones, Sian HOUS:EX <Sian.MadocJones@gov.bc.ca>, Dowler, Thea HOUS:EX <Thea.Dowler@gov.bc.ca>, Petrescu, Sarah OHCS:EX <Sarah.Petrescu@gov.bc.ca>, Talbott, Catherine MCF:EX <Catherine.Talbott@gov.bc.ca>, Sturtevant, Darryl MMHA:EX <Darryl.Sturtevant@gov.bc.ca>, Martiniuk, Daryn SDPR:EX <Daryn.Martiniuk@gov.bc.ca>, McCorkindale, Mack EMCR:EX <Mack.McCorkindale@gov.bc.ca>, Warren, Brynn OHCS:EX <Brynn.Warren@gov.bc.ca>, Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca>, Jangi, Shirin MCF:EX <Shirin.Jangi@gov.bc.ca>, Grewal, Preet GCPE:EX <Preet.Grewal@gov.bc.ca>, Blemings, Roxanne HLTH:EX <Roxanne.Blemings@gov.bc.ca>, Butler, Liam GCPE:EX <Liam.Butler@gov.bc.ca>, Fieltsch, Raymond SDPR:EX <Raymond.Fieltsch@gov.bc.ca>, Paterson, Travis GCPE:EX <Travis.Paterson@gov.bc.ca>, Suddaby, Clay GCPE:EX <Clay.Suddaby@gov.bc.ca>, Hartman, Heidi <hhartman@bchousing.org>  
Cc: Godfrey, Samuel SDPR:EX <Samuel.Godfrey@gov.bc.ca>, Dale McMann <dmcmmann@bchousing.org>, Ho, Theresa HLTH:EX <Theresa.Ho@gov.bc.ca>, Wolfe, Seamus MMHA:EX <Seamus.Wolfe@gov.bc.ca>, Copeland, Alison HLTH:EX <Alison.Copeland@gov.bc.ca>, Elliott, Cassin SDPR:EX <Cassin.Elliott@gov.bc.ca>, Dunnett, Allison <adunnet@bchousing.org>, hglazebrook@bchousing.org, ministrymeetings@bchousing.org, Harrison, Terry JEDI:EX <Terry.Harrison@gov.bc.ca>, Malacas, Edel MCF:EX <Edel.Malacas@gov.bc.ca>, Karimi, Nina HOUS:EX <Nina.Karimi@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: March 29, 2023 4:46:41 PM PDT  
Attachments: Hastings Sit Rep Partner Update \_March 27-29\_Final for distribution.pdf, PESC BC Housing Update on Progress on Ops Plan March 24 2023 FINAL.pdf, Encampment Check In Call Copy\_Provincial Executive Steering Committee\_Minutes\_03.24.23\_(003).pdf

Good afternoon everyone,

As a follow-up to the slide deck we shared on Monday, I am including a copy of the minutes from the ad-hoc Provincial Executive Steering Committee on March 24<sup>th</sup> which share more details of the content of the presentation.

In addition, as promised please see attached the Encampment Situation Report which covers the March 27 and March 29<sup>th</sup> updates provided by the City of Vancouver.

Thank you,  
Adam

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**From:** Clow, Adam OHCS:EX **On Behalf Of** Miller, Jennifer E HOUS:EX

**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2023 1:35 PM

**To:** Will, Meghan OHCS:EX <Meghan.Will@gov.bc.ca>; Campbell, Tracy AG:EX <Tracy.Campbell@gov.bc.ca>; XT:Matthews, Laura GCPE:IN <lmathews@bchousing.org>; Madoc-Jones, Sian HOUS:EX <Sian.MadocJones@gov.bc.ca>; Dowler, Thea HOUS:EX <Thea.Dowler@gov.bc.ca>; Petrescu, Sarah OHCS:EX <Sarah.Petrescu@gov.bc.ca>; Talbott, Catherine MCF:EX <Catherine.Talbott@gov.bc.ca>; Sturtevant, Darryl MMHA:EX <Darryl.Sturtevant@gov.bc.ca>; Martiniuk, Daryn SDPR:EX <Daryn.Martiniuk@gov.bc.ca>; McCorkindale, Mack EMCR:EX <Mack.McCorkindale@gov.bc.ca>; Warren, Brynn OHCS:EX <Brynn.Warren@gov.bc.ca>; Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca>; Jangi, Shirin MCF:EX <Shirin.Jangi@gov.bc.ca>; Grewal, Preet GCPE:EX <Preet.Grewal@gov.bc.ca>; Blemings, Roxanne HLTH:EX <Roxanne.Blemings@gov.bc.ca>; Butler, Liam GCPE:EX <Liam.Butler@gov.bc.ca>; Fieltsch, Raymond SDPR:EX <Raymond.Fieltsch@gov.bc.ca>; Paterson, Travis GCPE:EX <Travis.Paterson@gov.bc.ca>; Suddaby, Clay GCPE:EX <Clay.Suddaby@gov.bc.ca>; Miller, Jennifer E HOUS:EX <Jennifer.E.Miller@gov.bc.ca>; Hartman, Heidi <hhartman@bchousing.org>

**Cc:** Godfrey, Samuel SDPR:EX <Samuel.Godfrey@gov.bc.ca>; Dale McMann <dmcmmann@bchousing.org>; Ho, Theresa HLTH:EX <Theresa.Ho@gov.bc.ca>; Wolfe, Seamus MMHA:EX <Seamus.Wolfe@gov.bc.ca>; Copeland, Alison HLTH:EX <Alison.Copeland@gov.bc.ca>; Elliott, Cassin SDPR:EX <Cassin.Elliott@gov.bc.ca>; Dunnett, Allison <adunnet@bchousing.org>; hglazebrook@bchousing.org; 'ministrymeetings@bchousing.org'

<ministrymeetings@bchousing.org>; Harrison, Terry JEDI:EX <Terry.Harrison@gov.bc.ca>; Malacas, Edel MCF:EX <Edel.Malacas@gov.bc.ca>; Karimi, Nina HOUS:EX <Nina.Karimi@gov.bc.ca>

**Subject:** Slides from Encampment Check In call 27 March 2023

Good afternoon everyone,

Please see attached the slides from this morning's call.

Kind regards,  
Adam

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Will, Meghan OHCS:EX <Meghan.Will@gov.bc.ca>

**Sent:** Thursday, March 2, 2023 10:53 AM

**To:** Will, Meghan OHCS:EX; Campbell, Tracy AG:EX; XT:Matthews, Laura GCPE:IN; Madoc-Jones, Sian HOUS:EX; Dowler, Thea HOUS:EX; Petrescu, Sarah OHCS:EX; Talbott, Catherine MCF:EX; Sturtevant, Darryl MMHA:EX; Martiniuk, Daryn SDPR:EX; McCorkindale, Mack EMCR:EX; Warren, Brynn OHCS:EX; Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX; Jangi, Shirin MCF:EX; Grewal, Preet GCPE:EX; Blemings, Roxanne HLTH:EX; Butler, Liam GCPE:EX; Fieltsch, Raymond SDPR:EX; Paterson, Travis GCPE:EX; Suddaby, Clay GCPE:EX; Miller, Jennifer E HOUS:EX; Hartman, Heidi

**Cc:** Godfrey, Samuel SDPR:EX; Dale McMann; Ho, Theresa HLTH:EX; Wolfe, Seamus MMHA:EX; Copeland, Alison HLTH:EX; Elliott, Cassin SDPR:EX; Dunnett, Allison; [hglazebrook@bchousing.org](mailto:hglazebrook@bchousing.org); 'ministrymeetings@bchousing.org'; Harrison, Terry JEDI:EX; Malacas, Edel MCF:EX; Karimi, Nina HOUS:EX

**Subject:** Encampment Check In

**When:** Monday, March 27, 2023 10:00 AM-10:30 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada).

**Where:** Microsoft Teams Meeting

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## Microsoft Teams meeting

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# Provincial Executive Steering Committee Presentation: East Hastings Decampment

- Update on Encampment Response Plan Implementation prepared by BC Housing

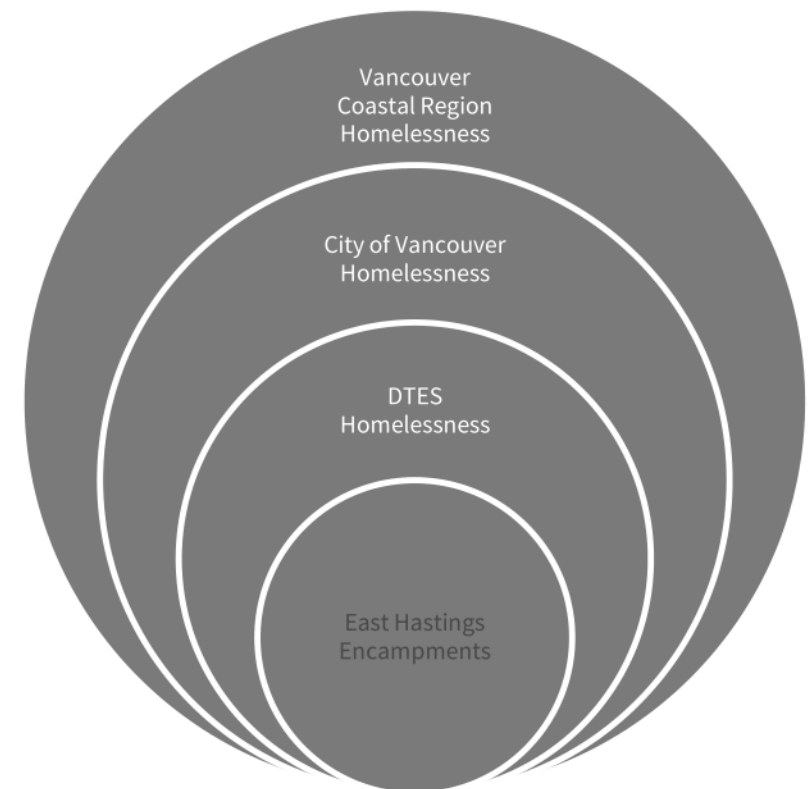
March 24, 2022

## Outline

- Encampment Response Plan Update – BC Housing
- Vancouver Coastal Health’s Modular Workforce Proposal
- Update - City of Vancouver
- Discussion: Partner’s Resolution Criteria

## Encampment Response & Homelessness Prevention - Vancouver

- The East Hastings and surrounding areas encampment response is the priority homelessness response effort in the City of Vancouver.
- To ensure positive and lasting resolution on E Hastings, partners need to sustain the larger DTES and City-wide homelessness response effort while resolving E Hastings.
- The City of Vancouver homelessness context:
  - 3,800+ people waiting for supportive housing
  - 1,500+ BC Housing supported shelter spaces.
  - 100+ people connected with the East Hastings encampment identified as still requiring housing



## How the East Hastings encampment is different than previous ....

- Not a park: No firm geographic boundaries, unable to fence and restrict access while working through resolution allows new flow into encampment.
- E Hastings is a major arterial with very active public realm.
- Elevated safety risks for encampment residents and tenants in adjacent buildings (fires, access and egress, personal safety, etc.) due to the location and adjacent built form of buildings.
- Risk of delayed response time for emergency services due to obstruction and safety risks for staff.
- Significant impact on neighbourhood residents, local business owners and the public.

## Completion Objectives Agreed to by Partners (December '22)

### Homelessness Response

- Carnegie Outreach and Orange Hall have worked through each area of the encampment and offered an indoor option to everyone verified as needing housing.
- Everyone remaining in the encampment area currently on the by-name list has been offered at least one indoor option.

### Street Operations & Public Realm

- Engineering reaches a steady state on E Hastings and surrounding streets similar to previous years. As structures come up, they are removed within a reasonable amount of time and there are no entrenched structures.
- Imminent fire risk from street encampment on buildings is addressed

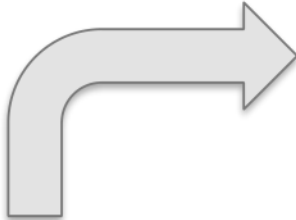
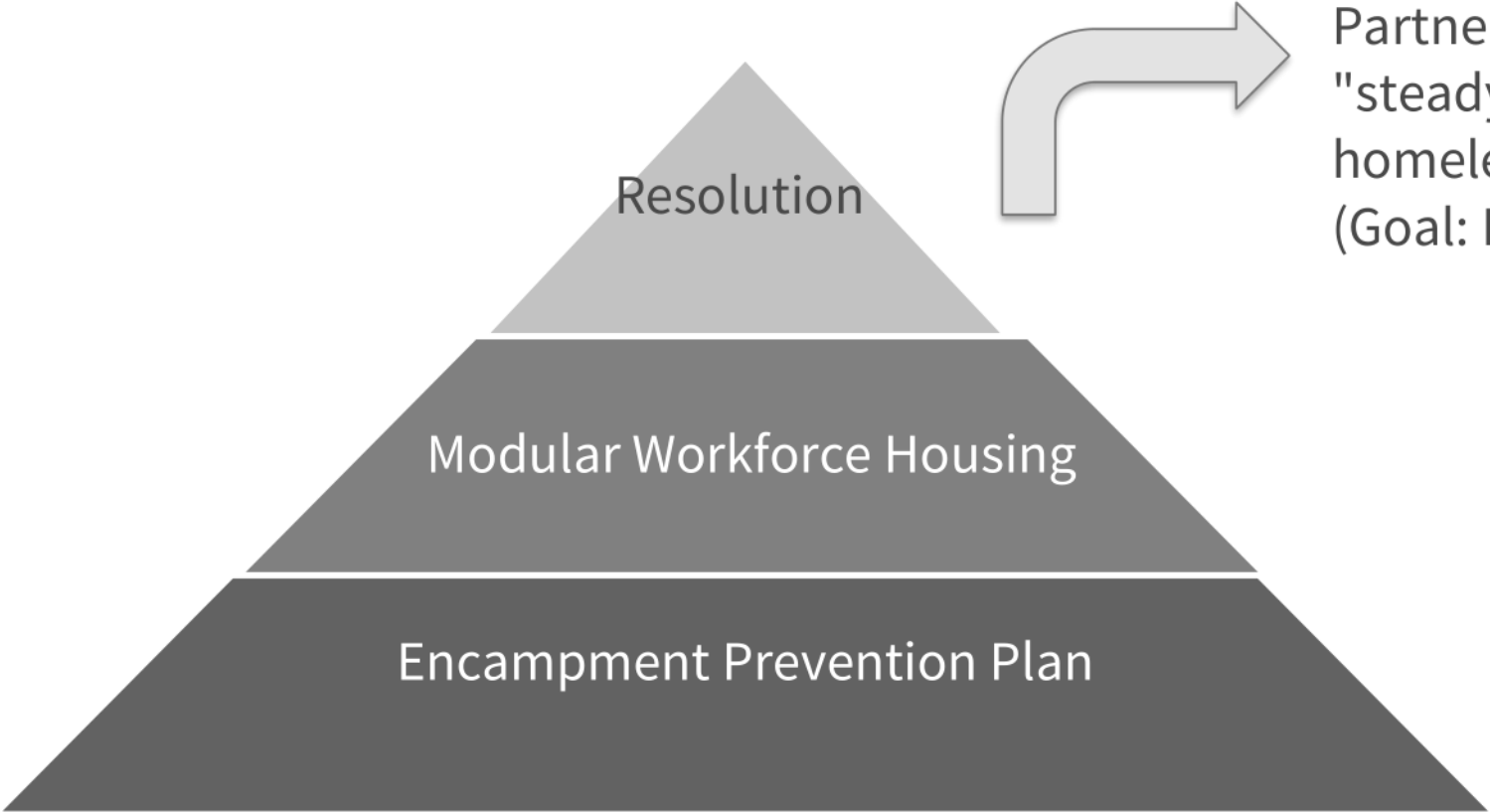
### Additional Priorities

- Conflict for staff and encampment residents is minimized and mitigated.
- Risk of new encampments resulting directly from encampment response is mitigated.
- New encampments that arise are quickly responded to by partners before they grow/become entrenched.
- CAA practices and other service alignments put in place for the East Hastings response are sustained to support prevention.



*Source: Encampment Response Plan*

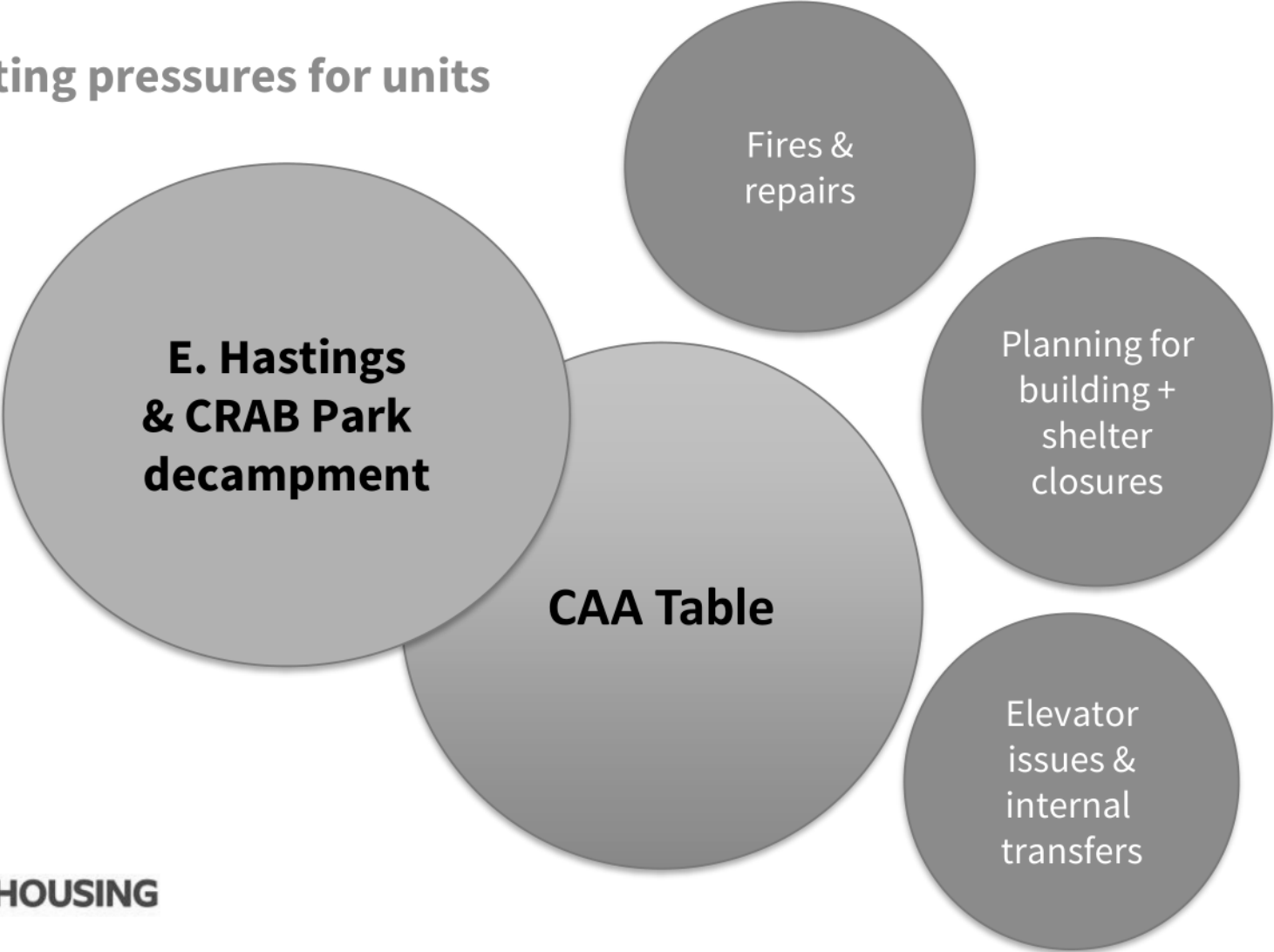
# Partners Optimal Coordinated Encampment Resolution



Partners transition into "steady state" homelessness response (Goal: February 2023)



# Competing pressures for units



## CAA Process

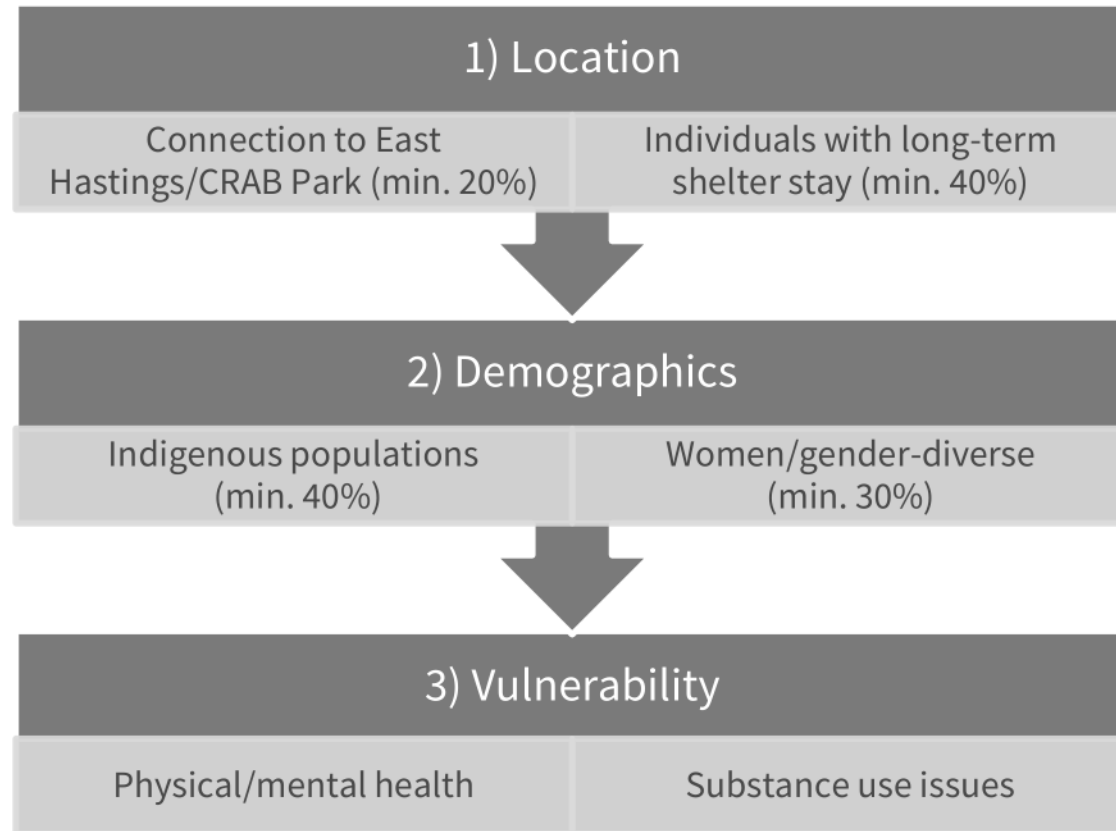
- The Community Access and Assessment (CAA) Table meets weekly to review priority referrals affiliated with East Hastings Street.
- Priority for housing allocations is based on vulnerability and informed by meeting the needs of priority populations – Indigenous, women, seniors.
- Shelter holds at four sites have been in place since January so that individuals accepting offers of shelter can retain their bed, if desired.
- CAA is engaging with partners to seek feedback and exploring CAA Best Practices and ways to improve system integration in Vancouver.

## Progress on E Hastings List to date

- s.16; s.22
- 
- 
- Inflow from October to Now (Not on E Hastings By-name List):
  - 49 new individuals verified as needing housing

## Coordination of Tenanting – Temporary Modulars

- CAA and Vancouver Coastal Health are aligning tenant selection processes to ensure a balance of acuity, demographics, and location



# Vancouver Coastal Health's Modular Workforce Proposal

**Downtown Eastside Provincial  
Executive Steering Committee**

March 29, 2023

Presented by Christine Massey and Bob  
Chapman



## VCH DTES Modulares Enhanced Health Services



BC Housing has identified two sites to locate three temporary modular housing structures to support the DTES decampment



The Ministry of Health has approved the VCH proposal for enhanced health supports needed for newly housed individuals



The health workforce will be moved from the temporary site to other enhanced support settings over time



Proposal is in alignment with both the Provincial Plan: Supporting the DTES and the Integrated Support Framework

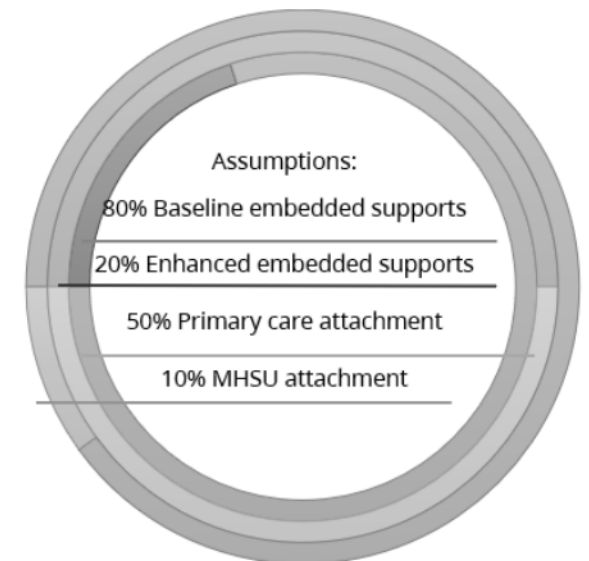
## VCH Enhanced Health Supports

### Embedded Supports (Contracted with operator):

- Personal Care, Care Aids
- Nursing
- Overdose prevention, harm reduction and peer engagement

### VCH In-reach Supports

- Attachment to Primary Care provider
- Attachment to Mental Health and Substance Use (MHSU) team
- Access to server supply (including an enhanced virtual services)
- Managed Alcohol Program



Ministry of  
Mental Health  
and Addictions

## City of Vancouver - Update



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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13 ; s.15 ; s.16



**Ministry of Housing**  
**Provincial Executive Steering Committee**  
**Minutes**  
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3:45-4:45 pm  
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Matt Smith, Chief of Staff  
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Jessica Prince, Assistant Deputy Minister  
Kelly Newhook, Director  
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Michael Kleisinger, Legal Counsel  
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Mellisa Morphy, Acting Chief of Staff

Taryn Scollard, Deputy General Manager Engineering

Lon LaClaire, General Manager Engineering Services

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Betty Lepps, Director Urban Relationships

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Heidi Hartman, Associate VP Operations

Allison Dunnett, ED Homelessness

Sara Goldvine, VP Communications

C O N F I D E N T I A L

**Vancouver Coastal Health Authority (VCH)**

Vivian Eliopoulos, President and CEO

Bob Chapman, VP

Shannon Mc Carthy, Executive Director Indigenous Health

**First Nations Health Authority (FNHA)**

Darius Pruss, Regional Advisor

Delaram Farshad, Regional Planner

**Meeting Summary**

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Clay Suddaby shared that there will be a noon news conference with Minister Kahlon and Mayor Sims, and they are working on common messaging. Releasing the Plan/Strategy (calling it a working document), with the overall message that all partners have been working the plan as we go. Reinforcing the message is the safety and security of people on the street and people living working in the community.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

**C O N F I D E N T I A L**

## Re: Encampment

---

From: O'Donnell, Maureen HLTH:EX <Maureen.ODonnell@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Massey, Christine MMHA:EX <Christine.Massey@gov.bc.ca>, Sturtevant, Darryl MMHA:EX <Darryl.Sturtevant@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: March 30, 2023 5:44:14 PM PDT  
Attachments: image001.jpg

Hi both,

Thanks for the info Darryl and yes just to say I'm happy to collaborate on the joint BN.

I think its reasonable to plan for this. I agree that early next week will be important and good timing.

im eager to hear about the collaborative meeting that happened this afternoon to facilitate the planning - we iwll hear at 0730h tomorrow when we meet with VCH if not before.

Thanks  
m

---

**From:** Massey, Christine MMHA:EX  
**Sent:** March 30, 2023 5:15 PM  
**To:** Sturtevant, Darryl MMHA:EX; O'Donnell, Maureen HLTH:EX  
**Subject:** Re: Encampment

Thanks for this. I just heard from David about this exact thing. I heard that MSM may ask for a joint briefing with our Minister early next week

DM CM, MMHA

---

**From:** Sturtevant, Darryl MMHA:EX <Darryl.Sturtevant@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 30, 2023 5:14:25 PM  
**To:** O'Donnell, Maureen HLTH:EX <Maureen.ODonnell@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Massey, Christine MMHA:EX <Christine.Massey@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Encampment

Hi – my folks heard through SDPR that they had a discussion today with Minister Malcolmson on the encampment. <sup>s.13</sup>

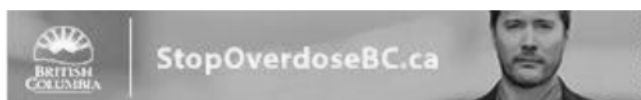
s.13

I do have a draft IBN for our two Ministers. I don't think we have enough of the details yet nailed down for it to be ready to send through. That said, I am flagging this for awareness.

Darryl

Darryl Sturtevant  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Mental Health & Substance Use  
Ministry of Mental Health & Addictions and Ministry of Health

Ph: (250) 812.8691  
E: [Darryl.Sturtevant@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Darryl.Sturtevant@gov.bc.ca)



## **RE: 1255274 - IBN - Downtown Eastside Decampment - Final Draft 2023-03-31**

---

From: Blemings, Roxanne HLTH:EX <Roxanne.Blemings@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Sturtevant, Darryl MMHA:EX <Darryl.Sturtevant@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: March 31, 2023 1:10:20 PM PDT  
Attachments: 1255274 - IBN - Downtown Eastside Decampment - Final Draft 2023-03-31V.2.docx

You are quite right, it was not right

See update.

---

**From:** Sturtevant, Darryl MMHA:EX <Darryl.Sturtevant@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 31, 2023 1:03 PM  
**To:** Blemings, Roxanne HLTH:EX <Roxanne.Blemings@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** 1255274 - IBN - Downtown Eastside Decampment - Final Draft 2023-03-31

Hi – can you redo the yellow highlighted piece. It not quite right.

Thanks

Darryl

## Ministry of Health - Information Briefing Note - Cliff 1255274

**Prepared for:** Hon. Minister Dix and Hon. Minister Whiteside- **For information.**

**Title:** Downtown Eastside Decampment

**Purpose:** To inform the Ministers about health supports for Downtown Eastside (DTES) encampment residents amidst the City of Vancouver's (CoV) decampment initiative

**Background:** On July 25, 2022, Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services issued a Fire Order to remove tents and structures along East Hastings Street due to imminent structure and life safety dangers. CoV has developed a phased Hastings Structure Removal plan that commenced on August 9, 2022. This plan was paused until recently, and CoV has resumed activities. While previous decampments had been led by BC Housing, this iteration is unique as it is being led by Vancouver Police Department (VPD).

In September 2022, A Provincial Executive Steering Committee (PESC), led by the Attorney General (Ministry of Housing), was established to provide oversight of the planning and implementation of the encampment response. This committee includes executive representatives from CoV (fire, police, and the city), BC Housing, Ministry of Health (HLTH), Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction (SDPR), Emergency Management BC, Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions (MMHA) and Vancouver Coastal Health Authority (VCH).

VCH Outreach teams regularly connect with DTES encampment residents to provide care and refer to services. Since October, outreach workers have had 2110 interactions; referred 47 to primary care and 17 to substance use services; assisted 18 to access acute care and directly provided 110 people acute care. 85 people have also been referred to Integrated Housing and Outreach Teams (IHOT). Additionally, Mental health nurses have been added to IHOT teams to provide additional support for when decampment enforcement occurs.

On March 24, 2023, the PESC was officially notified of CoV's intent to escalate resolution of the encampment on Hastings sighting increasing fire and safety risk to residents and community. The details on approach and timelines are being managed by the VPD. There was a meeting of all parties i.e., CoV, VPD, and VCH on Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup> to further refine the operational details for ensuring the required supports are in place on the day of decampment and that individuals who need to access critical health services on Hasting have access to those service. The tentative date for decampment to occur is during the week of April 3 to 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 (TBC), however this may be further delayed due to concerns that word is out in the encampment of these pending plans.

**Discussion:** There are approximately 117 people currently sheltering outside at the encampment, 70 of whom have expressed a desire for housing. Offers of indoor spaces have been made to most people sheltering outside. As of March 14<sup>th</sup>, the number of structures along East Hastings Street has been reduced from 180 to 79. This number fluctuates slightly daily due to both decampment activities which reduce the number, and new incoming encampment residents which increase the number. and decampment activities progress.

VCH has identified four key areas of focus for contingency planning for ensuring that people receive the health support required and that there is no distribution in people's access to critical health care services are as follows:

**Care for people being decamped:**

- IHOT, Car 87/88, mental health clinicians, ambulances, and Emergency Health Services bike squads will be on standby. VCH will provide details as they are able.
- Experience in prior decampments suggests minimal update for health supports during a decampment response. VCH will be present at an operations centre (Mustard Station by the viaduct) to facilitate primary care/mental health supports.
- CoV will have Triage Teams on the ground to address sanitation. They will be offering storage bins to encampment residents for up to 30 days.
- BC Housing will be offering same day shelter space or a housing spot for encampment residents.

**Continuity of care to the over 300 housed residents in the area:**

- VCH will provide an updated plan following receipt of further details.
- Mitigation plan options pending approach are triaging needs, altering time/day of visits, alternate access points, escorted access, pop up clinics. At this time, there are no projected disruptions to care as VPD will provide escorts for staff.

**Continuity of care to the individuals who access critical mental health and substance use service on Hasting Street:**

- There are 10 critical substance use service sites (Appendix A) on Hasting Street, including prescribed safe supply (Vancouver SAFFER), OAT clinics, overdose preventions services and supervised consumption sites. All sites will remain open, and clients will have full access to these services. Decampment will happen in phases starting at Dunlevy Avenue and moving west towards Abbott Street.
- If structures that are being dismantled are located near service entrances, VPD will provide escorts to clients and staff to access the service site.
- VCH will provide an updated plan following receipt of further details.

**Staff Safety Considerations:**

- Increased staffing ratios will be added where required and feasible. Police escorts will also be facilitated as needed.

s.13; s.16

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Program ADM/Division:  
Program Contact (for content):  
Drafter:  
Date:

Phone number:

## Appendix A

<b>Services</b>	<b>Operator</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Alternative access possible</b>
Needle Depot (Harm reduction supplies, alley OD response)	PHS	177 E Hastings	24/7	Access alley from Cordova rather than Hastings
Molson OPS	PHS	166 E Hastings	7 am – 10:30 pm	Access alley from Pender rather than Hastings
Overdose Prevention Society	OPS	141 E Hastings	8 am – 9 pm	Access from alley via inhalation site
Insite Supervised Consumption Site (includes Prescribed Safe supply)	VCH/PHS	139 E Hastings	9 am – 3 am	No
Onsite Withdrawal Management (2 <sup>nd</sup> floor detox and 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor transitional housing)	VCH/PHS	139 E Hastings	24/7	No
Overdose Prevention	OPS	390 Columbia (outdoors)	9 am – 6pm	No

Society (outdoor OD response)				
Columbia St Clinic (Primary care, safe supply)	PHS	350 Columbia St	9 am – 4:30 pm	No
Crosstown Clinic (iOAT clinic)	PHC	77 E Hastings	7 am – 11 pm	No
SAFER (Prescribed Safe Supply clinic)	PHS	73 E Hastings	7:30 am – 5 pm	No
CTCT	VCH/PHS	412 Carrall St	24/7	No

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**To:** Sturtevant, Darryl MMHA:EX <Darryl.Sturtevant@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** April 3, 2023 9:07:49 AM PDT  
Will do. I've also reactivated my twitter...this has been the best source of truth so far...

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Two things:

1. This did not mention the Emergency Departments which it should as one of the areas for preparedness at the end.
2. Mustard = muster (as in muster stations)
3. Anything new that came up on the weekend.

m

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**Sent:** Friday, March 31, 2023 2:22 PM  
**To:** O'Donnell, Maureen HLTH:EX <Maureen.ODonnell@gov.bc.ca>  
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**To:** Sturtevant, Darryl MMHA:EX <Darryl.Sturtevant@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** April 3, 2023 9:10:31 AM PDT  
Mustard station lol Pretty sure there will not be hot dogs served...

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**To:** Sturtevant, Darryl MMHA:EX <Darryl.Sturtevant@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** April 3, 2023 9:20:19 AM PDT

Vancouver Sun article sites leaked City of Vancouver document with escalation plan...engineering crews with VPD support will not longer disengage with tensions arise...

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**Sent:** April 3, 2023 11:01:50 AM PDT

Just texted you Darryl with an update. Awaiting specific notes from bob but key messages in the text m

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**To:** Sturtevant, Darryl MMHA:EX <Darryl.Sturtevant@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** April 3, 2023 12:08:48 PM PDT  
And VCH have been uninvited from all meetings today...

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I'll wait for these before finalizing the IBN.

Changes: no muster station, will go to essential service plan which is the detail I believe Bob is sending...do not that outreach is not deemed an essential service...

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