



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jessica Spaulding
On behalf of the City of Dana Point
(949) 233-8575
jessica@spauldingthompson.com

PRESS RELEASE

Dana Point Adopts Community Work Plan to Address Homelessness

Dana Point, CA (June 6, 2018) – On June 5, the Dana Point City Council adopted its Community Work Plan to Address Homelessness. The Plan was passed unanimously by the Council.

Homelessness has become a critical focus for many communities across the nation. The purpose of the plan is to describe the City of Dana Point's activities and partners who will work together to eliminate the necessity of homelessness in the Dana Point regional area.

"Homelessness is a complex issue and solving it will necessitate contributions from all sectors. That is why this community plan includes stakeholders across all disciplines such as government, faith-based, non-profit and business. Working together we can make a difference," said Dana Point City Council Member Paul N. Wyatt.

Looking ahead, the City's leadership recognizes the need to coordinate resources to provide services to improve the situation of homeless individuals and families living in its community. The objective is to utilize best practices and reduce the incidence of homelessness in Dana Point.

The Dana Point Homeless Task Force includes: Dana Point City Council: Paul N Wyatt; Dana Point Chamber of Commerce: Bev Jorgensen; California State Parks: Rich Haydon; Dana Point Harbor: Shannon Levin; Dana Point Harbor Merchants Association: Kim Tilly; Dana Point Planning Commission: Dani Murphy; South Coast Water District: Rick Erkeneff; County of

Orange: Susan Price; County of Orange Health Care Agency: Larry Pritchett; Veterans of Foreign Wars: Wayne Yost; Dohney Village Merchant Association: Jim Surber.

The Task Force unanimously approved recommendation of the plan to the City Council in late March. Following the Task Force's recommendation, the plan was open for a 30-day public comment period.

The City has currently increased its outreach activities through Mercy House to six days per week, established a homeward bound program through Family Assistance Ministries and is supporting its faith-based community on their efforts to address homelessness in Dana Point.

Moving forward the focus will be to establish relationships, trust, and connections to services and individualized approaches to moving homeless residents into housing options.

"With this program and the help of our partners, we are diligently working to reduce homelessness in our community," added Dana Point Mayor Richard Viczorek.

More information can be found on the City's website. Please visit <http://www.danapoint.org/residents/services-a-p/connections-for-homeless-resources>.

#