

RECEIVED

CITY OF SPOKANE EXECUTIVE ORDER	AUG 03 2023	EO 2023-00 ⁰² LGL 2023-00 ²²
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE		
TITLE: EXECUTIVE ORDER COMMITTING CITY LEADERSHIP AND STAFF SUPPORT TO THE SPOKANE REGIONAL COLLABORATIVE WITH THE INTENT OF CREATING A REGIONAL AUTHORITY EFFECTIVE DATE: August 1, 2023 REVISION DATE IF APPLICABLE:		

WHEREAS, establishing a regional collaborative is the next of evolution of Spokane Mayor Nadine Woodward's plans to address homelessness released in 2020 and 2022; and

WHEREAS, in July 2020, during the early months of the pandemic, Mayor Woodward's initial plan included partnering regionally to meet existing and emerging health and safety needs; prioritizing 6-month needs for moving 100 individuals to accommodate social distancing; improving the Cannon Street shelter to convert it from seasonal to year-round use with overnight space and services; establishing a service-intensive bridge model for transitional space; and collaborating on the opening of a shelter specifically for young adults ages 18-24; and

WHEREAS, in April 2022, Mayor Woodward engaged community and statewide stakeholders, including former Governor Christine Gregoire, over many months to update her plan to address homelessness in Spokane, known as Spokane's Homelessness Plan 2.0; and

WHEREAS, the Homelessness Plan 2.0 was based on a vision statement for "A regional framework of community expectations for behavior that builds from successes with youth, families, and veterans and prioritizes civility, prevention, efficient use of taxpayer resources, collaboration, outcomes, and universal accountability for behavior of the individuals, neighborhoods, and entities of a vibrant, clean, and safe community in a way that respects and values everyone"; and

WHEREAS, the Homelessness Plan 2.0 was further based on the statement from former Governor Gregoire that, "This is not a partisan issue. It's not a political issue. It's a human issue" and the statement from local organization Hello for Good that, "Homelessness has been over-politicized in Spokane to the detriment of potential solutions"; and

WHEREAS, the Homelessness Plan 2.0 follows as an overarching strategy to "Work collaboratively to build trust among regional partners, grow from areas of strength,

and scale the solution based on successes to make best use of available resources”; and

WHEREAS, the Homelessness Plan 2.0 has eight strategies: Get individuals emergency housed; Provide on-demand services; Coordinate resources; Know them by name; Maximize case management effectiveness; Deliver transparency and accountability to retain buy-in; Create more housing inventory; and Expect compassionate accountability; and

WHEREAS, the “Chronic Homelessness: A Crossroad” report published by former Governor Gregoire found the annual impact of inaction for the chronically homeless individual to be a 20-year-plus life expectancy reduction, \$60,000 direct cost of emergency services, \$25,000 cost to the community in property valuation, tourism, parks access, property damage, public safety, and deteriorating trust, and \$12,000 cost to the economy for a total of \$90,000 plus per individual; and

WHEREAS, the City of Spokane, in March 2023, entered into through legislative action by the City Council a due diligence period to gather input and evaluate the options of creating a Spokane Regional Authority for addressing homelessness; and

WHEREAS, the City of Spokane joined Spokane County and the cities of Spokane Valley, Medical Lake, Airway Heights, and Cheney and later joined by the City of Liberty Lake in support of that effort; and

WHEREAS, the Spokane Regional Collaborative (SRC), comprised of principles Gavin Cooley, Theresa Sanders, and Rick Romero, agreed to donate their time and services to complete the 90-day due diligence work; and

WHEREAS, the 90-day due diligence work was completed by SRC on June 28, 2023 with the presentation of a set of recommendations and draft legal documents for the creation of a Spokane Regional Authority for Homeless, Housing, Health, and Safety; and

WHEREAS, the City of Spokane has determined that advancing a joint and cooperative undertaking to coordinate services within an equitable operational framework will enable and facilitate joint planning, program funding and establishing standards for and accountability of programs, thereby improving the delivery of homelessness, affordable housing and behavioral health services and enhancing outcomes for those receiving such services in Spokane County; and

WHEREAS, the City of Spokane desires to delve further into the details of funding, staffing, contracts and governance, in order to execute and/or enhance the legal documents that have been provided by SRC; and

WHEREAS, the City of Spokane commits to the continued services of SRC to work directly with City leadership and staff during the period of August 1, 2023 through October 15, 2023 with the intent of executing said legal documents to create the Regional Authority;

NOW, THEREFORE, Mayor Woodward hereby offers the following leadership and supports and directs City staff to accomplish the same:

- A. Access to and full support from leadership and staff as reasonably practicable from relevant departments and divisions related to this Executive Order.
- B. Access to the appropriate data systems and full support as reasonably practicable of the staff relevant to homelessness, affordable housing and behavioral health related to this Executive Order.
- C. Access and full support as reasonably practicable from the appropriate accounting staff relevant to all funding identified in Section No. 5 of the draft Interlocal Agreement (ILA) proposed by SRC on June 28, 2023.
- D. Access and full support as reasonably practicable from the appropriate legal staff relevant to the contracts referenced in Section No. 5 of the draft ILA proposed by SRC on June 28, 2023.
- E. Continuation of the Elected and Leadership Committee that has been convening during the 90-day due diligence period, which will continue meeting every other Thursday until execution of the legal documents to create the Regional Authority.

Dated this 3 day of August, 2023.



Mayor Nadine Woodward

Attest:



City Clerk

Date of Publication: 8/9/2023

Effective Date: 8/1/2023

Approved as to form:



City Attorney

