



City of Malibu News

23825 Stuart Ranch Road • Malibu, California • 90265-4861
Phone (310) 456-2489 • Fax (310) 456-3356 • www.malibucity.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Susan Dueñas, Public Safety Manager

310-456-2489 ext. 313

SDuenas@malibucity.org

Homeless Encampment Initiative and Other Details of Malibu Homelessness Strategic Plan to Be Discussed at Community Meeting

(Malibu CA) – The City’s efforts to address public safety and public health concerns about homeless encampments, as well as other aspects of the City’s Homelessness Strategic Plan, will be discussed during a community meeting on May 24 at Malibu City Hall.

“Dealing with encampments compassionately but effectively is a huge challenge, but one we must face,” Mayor Rick Mullen said. “We are working to find ways to provide effective, meaningful assistance to people experiencing homelessness while addressing public safety and public health concerns. Wildfire is the single most dangerous public safety threat we face here in Malibu, and we cannot afford the risk that a wildfire could start from a homeless encampment.”

City representatives and the Malibu Homelessness Strategic Plan Community Advisory Group will present the City’s draft Strategic Plan on Homelessness for community review during the meeting on Thursday, May 24 at 7:00 PM at City Hall (23825 Stuart Ranch Road, Malibu). All community members are encouraged to attend, ask questions and give their feedback on the Draft Plan. No RSVPs are needed.

The proposed Homeless Encampment Management Initiative is part of the draft Homelessness Strategic Plan. One of the most urgent public safety concerns involving homelessness in Malibu is the potential for fires used for warmth or cooking in homeless encampments to spark wildfires that could threaten lives and homes.

The three-year Strategic Plan is a roadmap designed to improve the effective use of existing resources, align our local efforts with those of the Los Angeles County region and balance the need to protect public safety while addressing the humanitarian and long-term needs of homeless individuals.

The Advisory Group worked with a consultant to draft the Strategic Plan, which is the result of a community survey, targeted questionnaires and three half-day strategic planning workshops. The Advisory Group included representatives from the City, Malibu residents, the Sheriff’s Department, the

faith community, CART (Community Action Resource Team), the People Concern, the Malibu Homeless Outreach Team, S.O.S. (Standing on Stone), the business community, California State Parks, the County of Los Angeles Public Library, St. Joseph's Center (Malibu's Coordinated Entry System partner), and the Pacific Palisades Task Force on Homelessness.

The City's effort was funded by a grant of \$50,000 through the County of Los Angeles Measure H to develop a Strategic Plan to address Homelessness. The draft Strategic Plan is expected to be presented to the City Council for adoption in late June.

The City recently created a dedicated web page at <https://www.malibucity.org/homelessness> to provide information and resources about homelessness in Malibu, information about the Homelessness Strategic Plan, links to staff reports, information on public safety questions, contact information for organizations that work on homeless outreach and services, ways to get involved and upcoming events.

For more information, call Public Safety Manager Susan Dueñas at 310-456-2489 ext. 313 or email SDuenas@MalibuCity.org.

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