

ENCAMPMENT PILOT INFORMATIONAL SHEET

BACKGROUND:

Over the past 6 years, Mayor Bowser has dedicated historic funding and resources to combat homelessness in Washington, DC. The issue of homelessness brings about many health and safety risk factors which affect District residents in a myriad of ways. The District's population of encamped residents are particularly susceptible to these health and safety risks. As the challenging issue of homelessness continues in the District, and around the country, Mayor Bowser and her leadership team have constructed a plan of action to provide some of the District's most vulnerable residents with the opportunity to participate in intensive onsite case management and behavioral health/substance use support while they relocate from unsuitable living conditions into viable and affordable housing options.

OBJECTIVE:

The District's encampment pilot seeks to provide intensive case management and behavioral health/substance use services to encamped individuals while working to connect clients to appropriate housing opportunities. In the circumstance that an individual is not interested in housing support, we will continue to engage with them and work to addressing any needs they have. It will also provide a significantly higher level of trash collection and restorative cleaning at the pilot sites, addressing some of the adjacent community concerns. Through these efforts, we will determine whether the selected pilot encampment sites show a decrease in health and safety risks and an increase in meaningful service connections and stable housing.

PILOT STRATEGIES:

- Create by-name lists for pilot locations and implement more robust data collection at these sites.
- Increase outreach and behavioral health/substance use supports to improve residents' connection to housing. Residents who agree to participate will be engaged in intensive case management services which will help them obtain vital documents, complete housing voucher applications, provide housing navigation, and connect them to other vital services not previously available to the community.
- Increase the overall cleanliness of the selected sites by reducing the amount of trash and biohazards that may be consistently present.
- Assist with building positive relationships between encamped residents, surrounding community members, and neighboring businesses.

LOCATIONS AND TIMELINE:

- NoMa Underpasses (M/L St. NE), **beginning August 23**
- 20/21st and E St. NW, **beginning September 20**
- New Jersey and O St. Park NW, **beginning September 20**