

# HOMELESSNESS IN COLORADO SPRINGS



An Update to the Colorado Springs City  
Council on Efforts to Reduce Homelessness  
in Our Community

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# HOMELESS POPULATION 2023 CENSUS



Year	HUD PIT				
	Sheltered Persons			Unsheltered Persons	Total Persons – HUD Count
	Emergency	Transitional	Total		
<b>2023</b>	<b>555</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>928</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>1,302</b>
<b>2022</b>	<b>688</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>1,176</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>1,443</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>626</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>1,156</b>	<b>N/A*</b>	<b>1,156*</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>621</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>981</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>1,339</b>
<b>2019</b>	<b>679</b>	<b>439</b>	<b>1,118</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>1,562</b>

**17% decline** in overall population since 2019

**16% decline** in unsheltered population since 2019

# SHELTER CAPACITY 2023 CENSUS



## Housing Inventory Count

## CO-504 – Colorado Springs/El Paso County

Current & New Year-Round Beds (beds under development not included)						Seasonal, Overflow, & Church/Voucher Beds	Total Beds Available
Year	Emergency Shelter Year-Round Beds	Transitional Housing Beds	Permanent Housing Beds	Rapid Re-Housing Beds	Total Year-Round Beds		
2023	698	475	881	120	2,174	157	2,331
2022	807	588	825	170	2,390	140	2,530
2021	861	642	722	179	2,404	0	2,404
2020	792	394	694	99	1,979	2	1,981
2019	809	451	657	97	2,014	31	2,045

**14% overall increase** in available beds since 2019

2022 Avg utilization rate: 84%

2023 Avg utilization rate: 80%

# HOUSE AMERICA CHALLENGE - 2022



## 3 goals:

- ✓ Deploy 101 Emergency Housing Vouchers
- ✓ Add 50 temporary shelter/housing options for families
- ✓ Receive Low Income Housing Tax Credits for 150 Permanent Supportive Housing units by 2025

# PIKES PEAK CONTINUUM OF CARE



# 2019 HOMELESSNESS INITIATIVE



## Five Goals:

- Inform the public
- Increase access to shelter & services
- Decrease barriers to exiting homelessness
- Increase access to housing
- Cleanup illegal camps & protect the environment

# HOMELESS OUTREACH PROGRAM - CSFD



*The four person CSFD Homeless Outreach Program (HOP) conducts intensive outreach work with individuals experiencing homelessness who are vulnerable and exhibit high-acuity behaviors. HOP is designed to increase access to healthcare and services that improve quality of life for targeted individuals in our community.*

- *Trust & rapport building*
- *Medical and behavioral health assessment*
- *Service & housing navigation*
  
- *203 individual vulnerability assessments*
- *Transportation for 188 individuals*

# HOMELESS OUTREACH TEAM - CSPD



**362 Felony Warrants** were cleared through contacting persons within illegal camps to include warrants for murder, serious assaults, bank robberies, sexual assaults, and other serious crimes.

**2783 Misdemeanor Warrants** were cleared through contacting persons within illegal camps.

CSPD initiated a shopping cart recovery program, in partnership with Neighborhood Services, which locates and returns stolen shopping carts to local businesses.

**1841** stolen shopping carts were recovered within homeless camps in 2023.

- Those recovered shopping carts were worth over **1.5 million dollars** (\$850 per cart, on average). The return of the stolen carts allowed local businesses to avoid having to purchase new carts to replace the previously stolen carts.

# HOMELESS OUTREACH COURT



## 2022 Outreach Stats

112 Clients Seen (May 2022 Start DATE)

200 Cases

50 -VI-SPDATS Completed

## 2023 thru November 30 ONLY

272 Clients Seen

634 Cases

158 -VI-SPDATS Completed

Update 12/23:

- 294 Clients
- 693 Cases
- 172 VI-SPDAT

# CAMPING CITATIONS



**1749** Citations issued for camping-related violations in 2023 (Some offenders were issued multiple citations for continued violations) to include:

- **116** Citations for persons camping on City properties.
- **266** Citations for camping within or nearby dangerous waterways and stormwater structures.
- **986** Citations for persons camping on private property within the City's boundaries.
- **20** Citations for illegal fires that threatened life and/or property.
- **361** Citations issued for camping within City parks.
- Persons arrested for camping-related violations are served and released only; they are not taken to jail for camping-related violations unless they have an outstanding warrant that requires them to be booked into jail.

# CAMP CLEANUPS



## *Neighborhood Services - 2023 Homeless Camp Summary*

Time Spent (Hours)	1,045.5
Mattresses Collected	183.0
Number of Camps	1,677.0
12v Batteries Collected	112.0
Propane Tanks Collected	332.0
Tires Collected	642.0
Shopping Carts Collected	1,817.0
Roll Offs of Trash Collected	85.0
Trailer Loads of Trash Collected	237.0
Truckloads of Trash Collected	1,400.5
Total Roll Off Trash Weight	510,000.0
Total Trailer Load Trash Weight	711,000.0
Total Truckload Trash Weight	700,250.0
<b>Total Weight of Trash Collected</b>	<b>1,921,250.0</b>

# WORKCOS



WorkCOS is a Public Works program providing homeless individuals with training and temporary employment for the City of Colorado Springs cleaning medians and roads.

- Two teams with a total of 8 participants
- 3 participants are now full-time City employees
- 4 participants acquired full-time jobs with other companies
- 5 participants moved into permanent housing

# HUD FUNDING PRIORITIES



## Affordable Housing (CDBG & HOME)

\$3,633,175 (63%)

## Human Services (CDBG)

\$506,194 (9%)

## Public Infrastructure & Facilities (CDBG)

\$506,194 (9%)

## Prevent Homelessness (ESG)

\$253,953 (4%)

## Economic Development (CDBG)

\$0 (0%)

## Administration (CDBG, HOME, ESG)

\$878,391 (15%)

TOTAL EXPECTED: \$5.7 MILLION

Affordable Housing  
63%

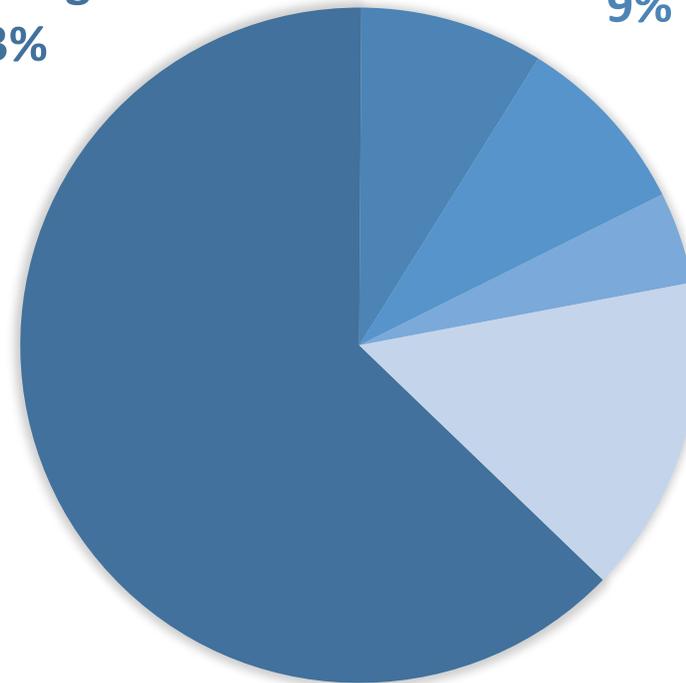
Human Services  
9%

Public Infrastructure & Facilities  
9%

Prevent Homelessness  
4%

Admin  
15%

Economic Development  
0%



# “ALL HANDS-ON DECK”



## 2024 Initiative Refresh:

- Inter-departmental SWOT analysis
- Proactive & Responsive
- Prioritizing mental/behavioral health challenges
- Supporting the work of our partners
- Protecting citizens & the environment

# QUESTIONS?



Reports & Data Compiled Locally:

<https://www.ppchp.org/homelessness/coc-reports-and-resources/>

Reports & Data Compiled Nationally:

<https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/ahar/#2023-reports>