

; 05/15/19 3:50 AM

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>>> PLEASE CHECK IN SOME SIGN UP
FOR PUBLIC TESTIMONY IF YOU
WOULD LIKE TO OFFER IT.

THIS IS A BUDGET REVIEW THAT
WILL ENCOMPASS PART OF OUR 34
HEARINGS THAT WE'RE HAVING OVER
ROUGHLY SIX WEEKS.

WE STRONGLY ENCOURAGE RESIDENTS
TO GIVE TESTIMONY FOR THE
RECORD.

YOU CAN GIVE THE TESTIMONY IN
PUBLIC OR YOU CAN SUBMIT IT VIA
E-MAIL.

WE ALSO HAVE A DEDICATED PUBLIC
TESTIMONY ONLY HEARING ON
TUESDAY, JUNE 4th, FROM
2:00 P.M. TO 6:00 P.M.

WE WILL BE HERE, AT LEAST FOR
THAT PERIOD OF TIME.

IF PUBLIC TESTIMONY EXTENDS
BEYOND 6:00 WE WILL CONTINUE IT.

YOU CAN SEND OUR TESTIMONY BY
MAIL TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS
AND MEANS CITY COUNCIL, FIFTH
FLOOR, BOSTON CITY HALL, BOSTON
MASS, 02201 OR MAPLE US AT
CCC.WM AT BOSTON.GOV.

TODAY'S HEARING IS -- THE FOCUS
IS RECOVERY SERVICES, AND IT'S
REGARDING DOCKETS 0622 TO 0625,
ORDERS FOR THE FY OPERATING
BUDGET, INCLUDING ANNUAL
APPROPRIATIONS FOR DEPARTMENTAL
OPERATIONS, ANNUAL
APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE
DEPARTMENT, APPROPRIATIONS FOR
OTHER BENEFITS AND THE
APPROPRIATION FOR CERTAIN
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC REALM
IMPROVEMENTS.

THIS IS ALSO COVERING DOCKETS
0626 THROUGH 0628, CAPITAL
APPROPRIATION, INCLUDING LOAN
ORDERS AND LEASE PURCHASE
AGREEMENTS.

THIS AFTERNOON WE ARE JOINED BY
THE DIRECTOR OF RECOVERY
SERVICES, JENNIFER TRACY AND THE

BUREAU DIRECTOR FOR RECOVERY SERVICES DEVIN MARKEN.
I'M ALSO JOINED THIS AFTERNOON BY COUNCILOR ED FLYNN, I'M GOING TO TURN IT OVER TO THE TWO OF YOU FOR A PRESENTATION.
WELCOME.

>> GOOD AFTERNOON, COUNCILOR ESSAIBI-GEORGE, COUNCILOR FLYNN, I'M GRATEFUL TO BE HERE WITH YOU ALL TODAY SINCE I WAS BEFORE YOU LAST YEAR, THE MAYOR'S OFFICE OF RECOVERY SERVICES HAS CONTINUED TO EXPAND THE SCOPE OF OUR EFFORTS AND HAS WORKED TO MEET THE NEEDS OF OUR CONSTITUENTS. WE'VE CONTINUED TO ADDRESS GAPS IN CARE AND ASSIST PEOPLE. FROM STREET OUTREACH TO EARLY ENGAGEMENT TO ACCESSING TREATMENT BEDS TO SUPPORTING INDIVIDUALS IN EARLY RECOVERY WE'VE FOCUSED ON EACH STEP OF THE CONTINUUM.
THANKS TO MAYOR WALSH'S LEADERSHIP AND OUR CITY COUNCIL'S SUPPORT OUR BUDGETS HAVE STEADILY INCREASED SINCE OUR CREATION IN 2015. THIS HAS HOW'D US TO CREATE AND ENHANCE A WIDE ARRAY OF -- THIS YEAR I AM JOINED BY MY COLLEAGUE DEVIN MARKEN DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF RECOVERY SERVICES. WITH MAYOR WALSH'S COMMITMENT -- AND SUPPORT WE ARE STRATEGICALLY COMBINING AND ELEVATING OUR COLLECTIVE EFFORTS TO MAXIMIZE IMPACTS AND EFFICIENCY. WHILE WE HAVE WORKED CLOSELY SINCE THE CREATION OF ORS IN 2015, WE ARE NOW FORMALLY COMBINING OUR EFFORTS TO BETTER MEET BOSTON'S EXPANDING RECOVERY SERVICES NEEDS. THIS YEAR WE CONTINUE TO EXPAND OUR PARTNERSHIPS WITH OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS FROM FIRST RESPONDERS TO LIBRARIES TO ARTS. WE ARE WORKING TO MAKE SURE THAT RECOVERY SERVICES ARE EQUALLY PRESENT ACROSS ALL CITY DEPARTMENTS.

WHILE WE HAVE MADE A LOT OF HEADWAY AND BASED ON THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S DATA RELEASED YESTERDAY SHOWING DECREASES IN BOSTON FOR FATAL OVERDOSES WE ARE OPTIMISTIC, BUT THERE IS STILL A LOT OF WORK TO DO.

WE REMAIN IN THE MIDST OF A NATIONAL SUBSTANCE USE EPIDEMIC THAT LAST YEAR TOOK MORE LIVES THAN THE WORST YEAR OF THE AIDS EPIDEMIC, GUN VIOLENCE, DEATHS OR CAR FATALITIES, THE DEVASTATING TOLL OF THIS EPIDEMIC IS SEEN NOT ONLY IN DRUG-RELATED DEATHS AND THEIR RIPPLE EFFECTS, BUT ALSO IN QUALITY OF LIFE ISSUES IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS.

HOMELESSNESS RELATED TO ADDICTION AND NEEDLE DEBRIS HAVE INCREASED ALL OVER THE COUNTRY. CITIES ACROSS THE U.S. ARE GRAPPLING WITH THESE QUALITY OF LIFE CHALLENGES MORE THAN EVER BECAUSE THEY HAVE NEVER BEEN AS PREVALENT OR COMPLICATED AS THEY ARE RIGHT NOW.

WE HIGHLIGHT THIS NATIONAL CONTEXT NOT TO MINIMIZE THE ISSUES IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS IN BOSTON, BUT -- THE UNPRECEDENTED SCOPE OF OUR CURRENT NATIONAL EPIDEMIC.

IN SHORT, DRUG USE IN THE U.S. HAS NEVER BEEN AS WIDESPREAD, VISIBLE OR DEADLY.

IN BOSTON WE HAVE A COORDINATED MULTIDEPARTMENT RESPONSE TO QUALITY OF LIFE ISSUES.

THIS INCLUDES STREET OUTREACH STAFF AND MOBILE HARM REDUCTION OUTREACH STAFF.

ALL NEW INVESTMENTS SINCE 2015. WE'VE ALSO TRAINED MULTIPLE CITY DEPARTMENTS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS.

MORE THAN EVER OUR SOLUTIONS TO ADDRESSING THE EPIDEMIC HAVE TO BE COMPREHENSIVE AND VERSATILE TO MEET BOSTON'S EVER-CHANGING NEEDS.

OUR GOALS FOR THE NEXT YEAR

REFLECT THE NEED TO MAKE RECOVERY SERVICES MORE SUSTAINABLE AND EQUITABLE. TO INCREASE SUSTAINABILITY WE ARE VISING IN BETTER DATA COLLECTION WHICH WILL HELP US BETTER EVALUATE OUR SERVICES, KEEP TRACK OF OUR PROGRESS AND MAXIMIZE INCREASED REVENUE ACROSS ALL BILLABLE SERVICES. ON THE EQUITY FRONT WE ARE WORKING TO INCREASE ACCESS TO COMPREHENSIVE RECOVERY SERVICES ESPECIALLY TO HISTORICALLY MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES. LAST SUMMER WE RELEASED THE CITY'S FIRST-EVER YOUTH PREVENTION YOUTH STRATEGIC PLAN. IT OVERWHELMINGLY FOCUSES ON RACIAL EQUITY AIMED AT OFFERING OVERDUE HOLISTIC SUBSTANCE USE SUPPORT TO YOUTH OF COLOR. WHILE OVERDOSE DEATHS IN MASSACHUSETTS HAVE SLIGHTLY DECLINED IN THE LAST COUPLE OF YEARS, OVERDOSES AMONG BLACKS AND LATINOS HAVE INCREASED. TO ADDRESS THIS WE APPLIED AND RECEIVED A FEDERAL OFFICE OF MINORITY HEALTH GRANT WHICH HAS ALLOWED US TO EXPAND OUTREACH EFFORTS IN PREVIOUSLY UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES. WE REALIZE THAT WE CANNOT ADEQUATELY ADDRESS THESE ISSUES WITHOUT FIRST NAMING THE INEQUITIES IN OUR COMMUNITIES AND RECOGNIZING REMNANTS OF THE FAILED WAR ON DRUGS. OUR RECENT OPERATION EXIT RENEW INITIATIVE OFFERED MEN OF COLOR FORMERLY INCARCERATED FOR DRUG-RELATED CRIMES LIVING WAGE EMPLOYMENT AT A LOCAL RECOVERY PROVIDER PARADE WITH ADDITIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES. AND FINALLY, WE CONTINUE TO WORK TO REALIZE MAYOR WALSH'S VISION FOR A RECOVERY CAMPUS ON LONG ISLAND. THE NEED FOR A LONG-TERM COMPREHENSIVE RECOVERY CAMPUS IS GREATER THAN EVER. WE ARE IN THE EARLY STAGES OF A

MASTER PLAN PROCESS FOR LONG ISLAND AND WE CONTINUE TO TAKE FEEDBACK FROM THE COMMUNITY. LUCKILY, WE HAVE HAD A GREAT AMOUNT OF LOCAL SUPPORT FOR THE CAMPUS INCLUDING FROM MEMBERS OF THIS COUNCIL AND WE ARE HOPEFUL ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THAT PROJECT.

THANK YOU, AGAIN FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND ADVOCACY OF OUR EFFORTS.

WE CANNOT SOLVE THESE COMPLEX ISSUES ALONE.

WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT THE YEAR AHEAD WILL BE FILLED WITH NEW OPPORTUNITIES, NEW TEACHABLE CHALLENGES AND PROGRESS IN THE AREAS OUTLINED IN MY TESTIMONY TODAY.

THANK YOU.

WE'RE GOING TO THROUGH THE POWERPOINT NOW WITH SOME DATA AND OUTLINING SOME OF THE INVESTMENTS.

THIS IS WHAT WE'RE GOING TO COVER TODAY, THE FY19 ACCOMPLISHMENTS, SOME INITIATIVES AROUND NEEDLE RESPONSE AND OUR FY20 GOALS.

AS I STATED IN MY TESTIMONY THE OPEN IDENTITY EPIDEMIC IS A NATIONAL CRISIS, A NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS AND IN 2017, WE LOST OVER 72,000 PEOPLE IN THIS COUNTRY DUE TO OVERDOSE DEATHS.

CLOSE TO 1,262 OR MORE IN MASSACHUSETTS.

THANKS TO MAYOR WALSH'S INVESTMENTS AND THE SUPPORT FROM THIS COUNCIL, RECOVERY SERVICES BUDGETS HAVE INCREASED OVER THE LAST FIVE YEARS CONSECUTIVELY. SOME OF OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR FY19 INCLUDE EXPANDING OUR ACCESS TO CARE AND HARM REDUCTION EFFORTS.

WE WERE ABLE TO PLACE OVER 7,000 PEOPLE IN TREATMENT AND THAT'S ALL MODALITIES OF TREATMENT THIS YEAR.

WE WERE ABLE TO PROVIDE -- TO EXPAND OUR HARM REDUCTION

SERVICES TO MEET THE NEEDS OF
OVER 8,000 INDIVIDUALS THIS
YEAR.

AND WE WERE ABLE TO TRAIN 6,000
PEOPLE IN OVERDOSE PREVENTION,
WHICH INCLUDES ACCESS -- THE
OUTREACH TEAM DOUBLED THIS YEAR.
WE BELIEVE ABLE TO EXPAND FROM
FOUR TO EIGHT FTE JUST IN THE
AREA.

WE WERE ABLE TO EXPAND OUR
FOOTPRINT WHERE WE ARE ABLE TO
REACH CONSTITUENTS IN THE CITY.
WE RECEIVED THE FEDERAL GRANT
AND AN INCREASED CARE ZONE
PROJECTS SO WE WERE ABLE TO
PROVIDE MORE HOURS THROUGHOUT
THE AREA AND WE'RE HOPING TO
EXPAND THAT MORE TO MATTAPAN AND
WE'RE ABLE TO INCREASE
COLLABORATION AND COORDINATION
WITH PICKUP STRATEGIES BY ADDING
CAPACITY AND THE OUTREACH TEAM
TO PROVIDE MORE SWEEPS IN THE
NEIGHBORHOODS.

HERE ARE THE PAST WALK-IN
NUMBERS.

YOU MAY REMEMBER WE EXPANDED THE
HOURS TO BE OPEN UNTIL 7:00 P.M.
EVERY NIGHT AND TO EXPAND TO
WEEKENDS AND YOU CAN SEE WHAT
THAT'S DONE FOR OUR ABILITY TO
HAVE MORE PEOPLE PLACED
SUCCESSFULLY IN TREATMENT.

WE KNOW THAT WHEN WE CLOSED THAT
THREE AND ASKED PEOPLE TO WAIT
UNTIL THE NEXT MORNING TO COME
BACK WE LOST A LOT OF PEOPLE BY
DOING THAT SO BY BEING OPEN
UNTIL 7:00 WE'RE ABLE TO GET
PEOPLE INTO TREATMENT THE SAME
DAY OR MAKE THE WAIT A LOT
SHORTER.

A NUMBER OF CLIENTS THAT WE'RE
REACHING THROUGH OUR DRUG USER
HELP PROGRAM HAS INCREASED DUE
TO THE FACT THAT WE'VE BEEN ABLE
TO INCREASE OUR OUTREACH
FOOTPRINT AND REACH MORE PEOPLE
IN MORE COMMUNITIES.

THIS IS A SIDE OF OUR
DISTRIBUTION NUMBERS.

BY INCREASING OUR FOOTPRINT
ACROSS THE CITY WE'VE BEEN ABLE

TO ALSO ENROLL MORE PEOPLE IN THE NA -- PROGRAM AND THIS SHOWS THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF OVERDOSE REVERSALS THAT WE HAVE BEING REPORTED BACK TO US SO WHEN SOMEBODY IS ENROLLED IN THE PROGRAM, THEY CAN COME BACK TO US AFTER THEY'VE REVERSED AN OVERDOSE AND REENROLL TO GET ACCESS TO MORE NALOXONE AND THESE NUMBERS HAVE GONE UP DRAMATICALLY OVER THE YEARS. WE DID ANOTHER INVESTMENT IN THE ENGAGEMENT CENTER FOR FY19. WE WERE ABLE TO EXPAND OUR STAFFING TO INCLUDE MORE MANAGEMENT OF OUR STAFF. IT WAS CLEAR AFTER THE FIRST --WE WERE CONSISTENTLY AT CAPACITY IN THE SPACE AND WE DID A BIT MORE INFRASTRUCTURE SO WE WERE ABLE TO ROLL THAT OUT. WE WERE ABLE TO PURCHASE A VAN SO THAT WE WERE ABLE TO HELP PEOPLE WITH TRANSPORT WHEN THEY NEEDED TO GET BACK TO A DIFFERENT NEIGHBORHOOD OR FIND A SAFE PLACE TO BE FOR THE NIGHT WHETHER IT'S THE LOCAL SHELTER OR THE KNIGHT CENTER DOWNTOWN AND WE WERE ABLE TO GET MORE PEOPLE OFF THE STREET TO ADDRESS THE NEIGHBORHOOD CONCERNS AROUND CONGESTION. SO THE ENGAGEMENT CENTER IS HIGHLY UTILIZED. WE ACTUALLY STARTED OPENING UP AT 6:00 A.M. THIS PAST YEAR AT THE REQUEST OF THE NEIGHBORING BUSINESSES. WE WERE AT CAPACITY WHEN WE OPEN EVERY DAY. THERE'S A LINE FOR PEOPLE TO GET IN, AND IT'S BUSIEST IN THE MORNING WHEN THERE'S MOST DEMAND. FOR -- [INAUDIBLE] WE WERE ABLE TO ADD TWO RECOVERY COACHES TO HELP CONNECT PEOPLE TO CARE. WE WERE ALSO ABLE TO ROLL OUT A CONSUMER ADVISORY BOARD TO HELP INFORM NEW PROGRAMMING IN THE

SPACE AND ALSO TO HELP WITH SOME CLEANUP EFFORTS IN THE AREA.

>> ANOTHER FY19 INVESTMENT THROUGH THE LEADERSHIP OF MAYOR WALSH AND THE COUNCIL SUPPORT, WE RELEASED A YOUTH SUBSTANCE USE PREVENTION STRATEGIC PLAN LAST SUMMER AND THE INVESTMENT ALLOWED US TO HIRE STAFF TO IMPLEMENT THE STRATEGIC PLAN AS WELL AS TO COORDINATE ACTIVITIES ACROSS THE CITY FOR THE FIRST TIME SO ONE OF THE FOCUSES WAS PROVIDING EVIDENCE-BASED TRAINING AND SUPPORT TO YOUTH SERVING AGENCIES.

WE TRAINED OVER 300 BOSTON YOUTH THAT RECEIVED THIS CURRICULUM THROUGH COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS, WE'VE LAUNCHED TWO LEARNING COLLABORATIVES. ONE IS A CITY--WIDE LEARNING COLLABORATIVE FOR EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE FOR SUBSTANCE USE PREVENTION IN YOUNG PEOPLE WHERE WE COORDINATE AND MEET WITH DIFFERENT SECTORS ALL OVER THE CITY TO SHARE BEST PRACTICES IN OUR WORK IN SCHOOLS AND AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS.

THE OTHER LEARNING COLLABORATIVE IS A COLLABORATIVE OF COLLABORATIVES AND WE HAVE REACHED INTO THE HIGH-RISK YOUTH NETWORKS AND OTHER YOUTH-SERVING ORGANIZATIONS AND COALITIONS IN A DIFFERENT WAY.

HISTORICALLY WHEN WE HAVE WORKED -- WE STILL DO, AND -- YOUNG PEOPLE AND WE ARE STARTING DEVELOPING A YOUTH COMMUNICATIONS CAMPAIGN WHICH STARTED A FEW MONTHS AGO WITH A CONSULTANT AND IT CONTINUES NOW AND STARTING TO DO SOME TESTING AROUND YOUTH COMMUNICATION, DRIVEN AND LED BY YOUTH ACROSS THE CITY.

HOPEFULLY, EVERYONE KNOWS THAT MAYOR WALSH FILED A LAWSUIT AGAINST OPIOID MANUFACTURERS AND DISTRIBUTORS IN DECEMBER OF THIS YEAR.

AND THAT CONTINUES IN LITIGATION.

A CORE COMPONENT OF THE OFFICE OF RECOVERY SERVICES IS TO WORK ACROSS CITY DEPARTMENTS AND BUILD CAPACITY AROUND RECOVERY STRATEGIES IN ALL DIFFERENT SETUPS.

HERE'S A LIST OF SOME, NOT ALL WHERE WE CURRENTLY HAVE INITIATIVES WITH OR WORK CLOSELY IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER.

SOMETIMES, IT'S EDUCATION AND RESOURCES.

OTHER TIMES IT'S TRAINING AROUND HOW TO PICK UP SHARPS OR OVERDOSE PREVENTION OR ENGAGING -- FOR EXAMPLE.

WE HAVE WORKED WITH THEIR -- TO HOLD CONFERENCES AND PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH GRANDPARENTS RAISING CHILDREN AND OVERALL AWARENESS.

THEY DEDICATED THEIR APRIL ISSUE OF THE MAGAZINE AROUND ADULTS IN THE BOSTON NEIGHBORHOODS WHO ARE IN RECOVERY.

SO WE WILL CONTINUE TO FOCUS ON EXPANDING THESE PARTNERSHIPS AND ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY THROUGH OUR OTHER DEPARTMENTS.

AND WE HAVE, OF COURSE, ONE OF THE FIRST PARTNERSHIPS, PUBLIC SAFETY PARTNERSHIPS AND WE HAVE A LOT OF WORK THAT WE

CONTINUOUSLY DO WITH OUR PUBLIC SAFETY PARTNERS, EMS, BOSTON POLICE, BOSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT, SOME OF OUR SIGNIFICANT

PARTNERSHIPS ARE THE POST OVERDOSE RESPONSE TEAM, WHICH ALLOWS THE PUBLIC HEALTH PROFESSIONAL HARM REDUCTION

SPECIALISTS TO TEAM UP WITH A RECOVERY COACH FROM THE EAP TEAM AT BOSTON FIRE AND RESPOND TO OVERDOSES THAT OCCUR IN HOMES THROUGHOUT THE CITY AND OFFER CARE, EDUCATION AND SUPPORT.

EMS I KNOW YOU'LL HEAR IN A COUPLE OF WEEKS TO PROVIDE MORE ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT AROUND HOMELESS AND ADDICTION ISSUES AND THE BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT AND THE SUPERINTENDENT TAKING A FOCUS ACROSS THE CITY AND

HELPING TO SUPPORT THE ISSUES OF HOMELESSNESS RECOVERY AND RECOVERY SERVICES AND MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES HAS BEEN PRIMARY TO US REALLY WORKING TOGETHER TO DEAL WITH THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES THAT WE FACE AND SO WE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THEIR INITIATIVES.

SO WE WANTED TO REALLY JUST BRING FORTH ONE OF THE MOST CONCERNING ISSUES AND RESULTS OF THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC WHICH IS QUALITY OF LIFE ISSUES AND NEEDLE DEBRIS.

PRIOR TO 2015, WE WANT TO MAKE SURE PEOPLE UNDERSTAND THERE WAS NO CITY OF BOSTON POLICY FOR NEEDLE PICKUP.

SINCE THAT TIME, WE HAVE CONSECUTIVELY ADDED FOLKS TO RUN THE MOBILE SHARPS TEAM, AND I THINK THERE'S A LOT OF CONFUSION SOMETIMES AROUND OUR EFFORT AND OUR STRATEGIC ACROSS THE CITY ACROSS MOBILE SHARPS PICKUP.

WE DO HAVE THE MOBILE SHARPS TEAM, WHICH IS NOW AT FOUR INDIVIDUALS THAT ARE EXCLUSIVELY RESPONDING TO 311 REQUESTS ACROSS THE CITY.

THAT OBVIOUSLY IS NOT ENOUGH SUPPORT TO HELP US AND TO COLLECTIVELY HAVE AN IMPACT ON THE ISSUES.

WE HAVE ADDED AS FOLKS KNOW LAST YEAR MAYOR WALSH INVESTED WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE CITY COUNCIL THE -- TWO YEARS AGO THE STREET OUTREACH TEAM IN BOSTON.

THAT HAS NOW DOUBLED WITH AN INVESTMENT THROUGH THIS PAST YEAR AND THOSE FOLKS ARE ALL PART OF THEIR OUTREACH IS ALSO PICKING UP SHARPS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD SO WE'VE ADDED TO THE TEAM FOUR PLUS EIGHT AS WELL AS COMMUNITY AND PRIVATE PROVIDERS WHO HAVE JOINED THE EFFORT SO THIS IS AN ITERATIVE BUILDING TO MAKE A STRONGER TEAM AND REALLY TO TACKLE THIS ALL HANDS ON DECK BECAUSE THAT'S THE ONLY WAY THAT WE CAN HAVE AN

IMPACT AT ALL AND SO THROUGH PRIVATE FUNDING WE HAVE PROJECT STAFF THAT ARE WORKING IN THE AREA ALSO AS WELL AS THE ENTIRE STAFF THAT DOES OUTREACH AT THE RECOVERY SERVICES BUREAU SO THOSE FOLKS THAT ARE OUT IN ALL THOSE NEIGHBORHOODS.

OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS ARE TRAINED AND CONTINUE TO BE TRAINED.

WE CONSISTENTLY ARE WORKING WITH FIRST AND FOREMOST PARKS AND REC DEPARTMENT, DPW, BUT OTHER DEPARTMENTS, AS WELL, CERTAINLY BPS, CUSTODIANS, BPS FACULTY THAT DO PLAYGROUND DUTY.

WE'VE PROVIDED TRAININGS FOR, AS WELL.

OVER 400 CUSTODIANS HAVE BEEN TRAINED THROUGH THE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH BUREAU AND THE RECOVERY SERVICES BUREAU.

IN ADDITION TO THAT, WE HAVE FOUND THERE WAS A NEED AND A REQUEST FROM THE COMMUNITY TO INSTALL MORE NEEDLE KIOSKS THROUGHOUT BOSTON NEIGHBORHOODS AND IN RESPONSE TO THAT WE HAD A MID-YEAR INVESTMENT AGAIN TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL KIOSKS AND SO WHEN THE OFFICE OF RECOVERY SERVICES OPENS IN 2015 THE CITY MANAGED FOUR KIOSKS ACROSS THE CITY.

WE ARE ADDING TO THAT EVERY YEAR, WE'VE ADDED ONE AND WE'VE PURCHASED ADDITIONAL ONES.

WE DON'T HAVE LOCATIONS IDENTIFIED FOR ALL THOSE.

WE HAVE REQUESTS THAT HAVE COME IN FROM COMMUNITIES THAT WE WILL WORK WITH WITH THEM AND ABUTTERS AND NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS AND CITY DEPARTMENTS TO REALLY LOCATE THE APPROPRIATE PLACE TO INSTALL THEM AND SO IN THE CASE OF ORCHARD GARDENS WHICH THE KIOSK HAS COME UP A LOT WITH FOLKS, THE INITIAL ONE ABOUT A YEAR AGO THERE WAS STUDENT ADVOCACY THAT HAPPENED WITH THE STUDENTS AND TEACHERS AT ORCHARD GARDENS AND ONE OF THE REQUESTS

FROM THAT GROUP WAS A KIOSK.
WE MET WITH THE LEADERSHIP AT
THE SCHOOL AND UNDER THE
GUIDANCE OF BPS AS WELL DID A
WALK-AROUND IN THE AREA WITH
LEADERSHIP FROM ORCHARD GARDENS,
ISD, PARKS, SOMEONE FROM THE
PARKS DEPARTMENT.

I THINK COUNCILOR BAKER -- YOU
WERE THERE, TOO, AND JUST KIND
OF WALKED AROUND TO LOCATE AN
APPROPRIATE SPACE BASED ON THE
REQUEST AND WE DID THAT.

I THINK FOLKS SHOULD KNOW THAT
THAT HAS BEEN CONTROVERSIAL, AND
I THINK WE'RE OPEN TO TALKING
FURTHER ABOUT THAT, IF IT NEEDS
TO BE MOVED, IT SHOULD BE MOVED
RIGHT NOW.

ARE PEOPLE USING IT AND IS IT
EFFECTIVE?

SO I THINK WE WILL CONTINUE TO
MONITOR THAT AND TO WORK WITH
BPS AND WITH THE SCHOOL
COMMUNITY ON THAT AND WE'VE ALSO
CONTRACTED WITH THE NEW 24
TRAUMA TO DO THE DISPOSAL IN
HOPES THAT THAT WILL RELIEVE
SOME OF THE MOBILE SHARPS STAFF
THAT RESPONDS TO 311 CALLS WHO
HISTORICALLY HAVE ALSO BEEN
RESPONSIBLE FOR EMPTYING THOSE
KIOSKS AND GOING AROUND TO THE
DIFFERENT LOCATIONS AND SO AS WE
ADD MORE WE WANT TO RELIEVE THEM
OF THAT, HAVE THE 24 TRAUMA DO
THAT PIECE OF THE WORK SO IT
FREES THEM UP TO RESPOND TO 311.
THESE ARE ALL PIECES OF REALLY
THINKING OF A LARGER STRATEGY
THAN JUST POSITIONS.

I DON'T WANT TO FORGET THE LAST
BULLET THERE, THE VERY RECENT
NEEDLE TAKEBACK DAY.

WE PARTICIPATED IN THAT AND IT
WAS AN EXPERIMENT, BUT I THINK
WE LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING TO
WORK WITH ALL THE COUNCILORS ON
CREATIVE IDEAS TO COLLECTIVELY
ADDRESS THIS ISSUE.

SO SOME OF THE FY20 NEW
INVESTMENTS ARE TO CONTINUE THE
WORK ON IMPROVING OUR COLLECTIVE
RESPONSE TO MOBILE SHARPS MOST

OF WHICH I THINK I JUST
ADDRESSED.

AND ENHANCING DATA AND REVENUE
SYSTEMS.

SO NEARLY -- ADDRESSING DATA AND
COORDINATED DATA ACROSS RECOVERY
SERVICES.

RIGHT NOW, WE HAVE SEPARATE
PROGRAMS COLLECTING SEPARATE
DATA OFTEN ON PAPER AND WE NEED
TO BE THE MOST-EFFECTIVE -- TO
IMPROVE THAT SYSTEM FOR DATA SO
THAT WE CAN BETTER REPORT ON
WHAT WE'RE DOING AND REPORT TO
ALL OF YOU.

SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASE REVENUE.

THERE'S A LOT OF MISSED

OPPORTUNITIES RIGHT NOW WITH OUR
SYSTEM AROUND NOT CAPTURING FULL
REVENUE REIMBURSABLE COMPONENTS
AND THE -- AND THEY'RE REQUIRED
BY LICENSING AND REGULATORY.

OTHER FY20 GOALS JUST INCREASE

EQUITY IN CARE, FOCUS ON

INCREASING EQUITABLE ACCESS TO

CARE WITH A ON COMMUNITIES OF

COLOR, VETERANS, LGBT COMMUNITY

AND SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE

AND CONTINUE TO FOCUS ON

EXPANDING LONG-TERM RECOVERY

SUPPORT THAT KEEP PEOPLE

STABILIZED.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

OPPORTUNITY, STABLE HOUSING,

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AS WELL

AND THAT WOULD BE FY20

INVESTMENTS WE WILL EXPAND OUR

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TEAM.

AND LONG ISLAND RECOVERY CAMPUS

IS A MAJOR FY20 AND BEYOND GOAL

SO WE'RE CURRENTLY INVOLVED IN

THAT PROCESS, AS WELL.

THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

DURING YOUR PRESENTATION WE WERE

JOINED BY A FEW ADDITIONAL

COLLEAGUES.

I WOULD LIKE TO RECOGNIZE IN THE

ORDER OF THEIR ARRIVAL AFTER

COUNCILOR FLYNN HAS ALREADY BEEN

HERE COUNCILOR CAMPBELL,

COUNCILOR FRANK BAKER, COUNCILOR

JANEY, COUNCILOR WU, COUNCILOR

EDWARDS.

SO I JUST THANK YOU FOR INCLUDING THE NEEDLE TAKEBACK DAY IN YOUR PRESENTATION. I ALSO THANK THE DIRECTOR HERE TODAY FOR YOUR PARTNERSHIP THROUGH YOUR OFFICE ON THAT DAY. WE HAD 17 ADDITIONAL SITES ACROSS THE CITY TAKING BACK NEEDLES. SOME WERE QUIET AND SOME GOT OVERLOADED AND WE HAD TO GIVE THEM MORE SUPPLIES TO CONTINUE COLLECTION SO I THINK IT WAS CERTAINLY A GOOD EXPERIMENT. A GOOD EFFORT. AND ONE THAT WE'RE GOING TO HOPEFULLY DO A LITTLE BIT OF A REPORT BACK ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THAT DAY AND THAT SORT OF FOLLOWS ALONG SOME OF MY WORK AROUND ADVOCATING FOR THE MOBILE SHARPS TEAM, WHICH WE WERE ABLE TO DOUBLE THE CAPACITY TWO YEARS AGO.

CAN YOU TALK A LITTLE BIT ABOUT THE INVESTMENT IN MOBILE SHARPS AND WHAT IT GETS US?

HOW MANY NEEDLES ARE THEY PICKING UP?

WHAT'S THE RETURN THAT WE'RE COLLECTING IN THE KIOSKS AND HOW WE'RE LOOKING TO BUILD THE CAPACITY GOING FORWARD.

THAT'S THE REAL NUMBER THAT WE NEED.

>> WELL, I'M GOING TO ANSWER THAT BACKWARDS, BUT I THINK I JUST WENT OVER A FEW WAYS THAT WE'RE THINKING REALLY I THINK IN A LARGER WAY AROUND MOBILE SHARPS MATCH-UP AND THAT'S A COLLECTIVE EFFORT ACROSS THE CITY DEPARTMENTS INCREASING THE CAPACITY FOR CITY DEPARTMENTS TO ALSO PICK UP NEEDLES AND SUPPORT THAT STRATEGY AS WELL AS THE MOBILE SHARPS AS WELL AS WORKING NOT ONLY FIRST AND FOREMOST, WHICH WE HAVE WITH OUR OUTREACH STAFF OF WHICH THERE ARE OUTREACH STAFF THAT COVER MASS CAST, THERE'S OUTREACH STAFF THAT COVER NEIGHBORHOODS DOWNTOWN AND OTHER NEIGHBORHOODS

AND INCREASING THE EFFORT THERE FOR FOLKS TO COLLECT SHARPS AND WE'VE HAD A NUMBER OF PRIVATE COMMUNITY PROVIDERS WHO WORK WITH US IN THOSE NEIGHBORHOODS AND HAVE OFFERED SUPPORT, AS WELL.

SO IN THE NEW MARKET AREA, THERE'S A PRIVATE BUSINESS THAT HAS JOINED THE EFFORT IN THE MASON SCHOOL IN ORCHARD GARDEN AND DOES A SWEEP ONCE A DAY TO ADD TO THAT EFFORT ON THOSE SCHOOL GROUNDS.

ADVOCATING FOR RESOURCES IN THE STATE BUDGET RIGHT NOW TO ADD A PHYSICIAN THAT BOSTON HEALTHCARE FOR THE HOMELESS WOULD COLLABORATE WITH US ON ADDING A PERSON SO AGAIN EXPANDING SORT OF THE WAY WE THINK ABOUT THE EFFORT AROUND RECEIVING SHARPS, BUT I THINK I'LL LET DEVIN ANSWER SOME OF THE SPECIFICS AROUND HOW WE'RE COLLECTING THE AMOUNT.

>> RIGHT NOW, THE FTEs ARE THE 311 RESPONSE AND SO THEY'RE ON THE ROAD ACROSS THE CITY, RESPONDING TO THE CALLS AS THEY COME IN AND THEY DO COME IN FROM EVERY INCH OF THE CITY AND THEY DO TAKE A CUSTOMER SERVICE ONE TO ONE RESPONSE.

SOMETIMES, THERE'S CONSTITUENTS THERE THAT WANT TO POINT IT OUT, AND SO YOU REALLY NEED A STAFF PERSON TO DO THAT WORK SO -- TO EMPTY THE KIOSKS SO WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO VEND THAT OUT TO A VENDOR SO THAT THAT'S GOING TO ALLEVIATE A LOT OF TIME OFF THE MOBILE SHARPS TEAM TO BETTER RESPOND TO 311 AND DO SOME OF THE PROACTIVE SWEEPS THEY HAVE SCHEDULED RIGHT NOW IN ORCHARD GARDEN.

THE MOBILE SHARP TEAM ARE NOT THE ONLY PEOPLE THAT ARE RESPONDING TO SOME OF THOSE AREAS SO WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO THROUGH TRAINING AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS AND NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION PARTNERSHIPS ADD TO

THE MOBILE SHARPS FTE CAPACITY BY SHARING SOME OF THOSE SWEEPS AND TIMING THEM OUT DIFFERENT POINTS IN THE DAY SO PARKS AND REC, YOU KNOW, HAVE AGREED TO DO SWEEPS AT CERTAIN PARTS OF THE DAY, OUR OUTREACH TEAM WILL TAKE PARTS OF THE DAY SO WE HAVE A CONSISTENT PRESENCE ACROSS THE DEPARTMENTS AND JUST TO GET MORE BANG FOR OUR BUCK SO TO SPEAK BASED ON STAFFING.

WE'VE ALSO BEEN ABLE TO TRAIN ALL 400 CUSTODIANS AND THEY'RE THE FIRST TEAM ON SITE IN THE MORNING, OFTEN STARTING SWEEPS AS EARLY AS 5:00 A.M. AND SO JUST MAKING SURE WE'RE IN TOUCH WITH THEM REGULARLY, ESPECIALLY IN THE SCHOOLS THAT ARE THE MOST HARD HIT.

I THINK WE FEEL LIKE THAT'S WHERE WE WANT TO INVEST SO WE HAVE AS MANY BOOTS ON THE GROUND AS POSSIBLE THAT ARE TRAINED AND PREPARED TO RESPOND IF THEY SEE A SYRINGE.

>> AND WHAT ABOUT THE COLLECTION NUMBERS?

WHAT ARE WE BRINGING IN?
WHEN I STARTED THIS WORK 43 YEARS AGO, WE THOUGHT THE NUMBER WAS 9,000 AND WE REALIZED IT WAS 20,000, AND I THINK IT'S POTENTIALLY INTO THE HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS.

>> WE COLLECT SYRINGES FROM SEVERAL DIFFERENT SOURCES.
THE TEAM AT --

>> DO WE HAVE THOSE BROKEN DOWN?
WE DO.

RIGHT NOW, WE'RE SEEING TO SCONE THOUSAND SYRINGES A WEEK THAT WE'RE COLLECTING THROUGH THOSE DIFFERENT SOURCES.

>> WITH BETWEEN THE THREE A WEEK.

>> AND WE'LL ADD TO THE EXCHANGE, TOO.

THE HIGHEST VOLUME IS WHAT ACTUALLY IS PHYSICALLY BROUGHT INTO THE BUILDING.

>> AND THAT INCLUDES I'M SORRY SO THAT'S MOBILE SHARPS --

[OVERLAPPING SPEAKERS]

>> MOBILE SHARPS, OUTREACH WORKERS ON MASS CAST AND THE KIOSKS.

>> FOUR PLACES AND DO WE KNOW FROM THE 311 CALLS THE COMMUNITY INITIATED HOW MANY WE'RE PICKING UP?

>> IT'S ABOUT 2,000.

A WEEK.

OKAY.

YEAH.

AND THAT DOES INCLUDE 311 CALLS THAT WE MIGHT GET FROM A POLICE DEPARTMENT OR A FIRE DEPARTMENT WHO HAVE GONE OUT AND COLLECTED SOME SYRINGES AND GIVING US BULK IN ONE TIME.

>> THANK YOU FOR THAT.

APPRECIATE THAT.

COUNCILOR FLYNN.

>> THANK YOU, COUNCILOR ESSAIBI-GEORGE AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR GREAT WORK ON THIS DIFFICULT SUBJECT.

FOR ACTIVE USERS, A HIGHER RISK FOR THE SPREAD OF HIV, TUBERCULOSIS, WHAT ARE YOU DOING ON THAT TYPE OF OUTREACH? MAYBE LIKELY TO CONTRACT A DISEASE, SUCH AS HIV OR TUBERCULOSIS?

>> SO OUR DRUG USER REDUCTION PROGRAM IS TRAINED TO TEST FOR STI'S AND HIV AND THEY CAN DO THAT ON THEIR MOBILE OUTREACH BOOTH.

WE'VE PARTNERED WITH HEALTHCARE FOR THE HOMELESS TO ROLL OUT THE CARE ZONE VAN SO WHEN SOME OF OUR -- WE ALSO HAVE A DOCTOR WITH US.

AND THEY CAN DO A MEDICAL VISIT ON THE VAN.

WHAT WE'RE TRYING TO DO RIGHT NOW IS REALLY PROACTIVELY PUSH FOR TESTING LIKE ANYTHING WE CAN DO TO TEST AS MANY PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE SO THAT AT LEAST WE'RE ABLE TO DETECT EARLIER, WE'RE ALSO REALLY ENCOURAGING PEOPLE THAT WE KNOW THAT HAVE REALLY HIGH RISK TO GET -- ANYBODY WHO IS WILLING TO ENGAGE WILL GET

SAME DAY APPOINTMENTS AT OUR HEALTHCARE FOR THE HOMELESS OR BOSTON MEDICAL CENTER AND IF PEOPLE COME BACK POSITIVE, WE'LL LOOK TO ENGAGE IN TREATMENT. THERE ARE TIMES WHEN PEOPLE AREN'T READY TO ENGAGE, BUT WE STAY CLOSE AND THE MOMENT THEY'RE READY TO ACCESS CARE WE'LL KNOW TO THE APPOINTMENTS WITH THEM.

>> THANK YOU.

AND MY FINAL QUESTION, YOU KNOW, WITH EVERY DEPARTMENT OR A LOT OF PEOPLE FOCUSED ON THIS ISSUE IT CAN BE STRESSFUL AT TIMES DOING THIS TYPE OF WORK FOR THE PEOPLE THAT ARE IN THE FIELD. WHAT ARE WE DOING FOR THOSE DEDICATED CITY EMPLOYEES WHO ARE WORKING ON THIS 12 HOURS A DAY, FIVE DAYS A WEEK? HOW ARE WE BEING RESPONSIVE TO THEM IN TERMS OF THEIR NEEDS OF THEIR COUNSELING OR THEIR TIME OFF OR THEIR LETTING THEM TAKE A BREAK, YOU KNOW, MAKING SURE THAT THEY'RE OKAY BECAUSE IT IS A DIFFICULT TASK THAT WE'RE ASKING THEM TO DO.

>> SO YEAH, I DON'T THINK WE'VE EVER BEEN AT A TIME IN THIS FIELD WHERE THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SHORTAGE HAS BEEN QUITE WHAT IT IS NOW, AND I THINK THAT'S LARGELY ATTRIBUTED TO BURNOUT AND THE WORK HAS GOTTEN SO ACUTE THAT A LOT OF PEOPLE AREN'T ABLE TO STAY AS LONG AS THEY ONCE WERE SO WE'VE BEEN TROUBLE SHOOTING THAT WITH MANY OF OUR PARTNERS WHO ARE EXPERIENCING THE SAME THING. ONE OF THE THINGS THAT WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ROLL OUT THIS YEAR IS TO HAVE A TRAUMA RESPONDER ON STAFF.

A MENTAL HEALTH CLINICIAN WHO IS TRAINED IN TRAUMA RESPONSE SPECIFICALLY TO BE EMBEDDED IN OUR PROGRAMS FOUR HOURS A WEEK. COPPING GROUPS WITH THE STAFF AND ONE-ON-ONE APPOINTMENTS AND IF SOMEBODY NEEDS A BRIDGE TO A

THERAPIST WE CAN DO THAT TOO,
BUT REALLY HELPING ANYONE WHO
EXPERIENCES TRAUMA TO STEP BACK,
HAVE A APPOINTMENT WITH HER,
BUILD SOME SKILLS AROUND
SELF-CARE AND THAT'S A NEW
INITIATIVE FOR US, IT'S
SOMETHING WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO
ROLL OUT THIS YEAR AND WE'RE
HOPEFUL THAT WILL HELP US WITH
THE STRESS AND THE BURNOUT WE'RE
SEEING.

THE BIGGEST RESOURCE IS OUR
STAFF AND IF THEY'RE NOT OKAY
THEY'RE NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO
TAKE CARE OF ANYBODY.

ALWAYS OPEN TO SUGGESTIONS ON
THAT FRONT, BUT IT'S SOMETHING
THAT WE'RE TRYING TO PAY A LOT
OF ATTENTION TO.

>> THANK YOU.

THAT'S ALL I HAVE.

THANK YOU FOR THE GREAT WORK
THAT YOU'RE DOING.

>> THANK YOU.

, COUNCILOR

CAROLINA.

FLYNN.

>> COUNCILOR CAMPBELL.

THANK YOU FOR THE WORK THAT
YOU GUYS DO, CLEARLY, NOT AN
EASY JOB.

YOU'RE RESPONSIVE WHEN WE CALL.
FRANKLY, SEEING YOU EVERYWHERE
SO IT'S A DEEP -- JUST WANTED TO
EXPRESS MY DEEP GRATITUDE FOR
THE WORK YOU'RE DOING.

I WANTED TO THANK PEOPLE WHO ARE
SITTING UP THERE AND THOSE WHO
ARE OUT DOING THE WORK, AS WELL.
WE COULDN'T BE HERE WITHOUT THE
WORK THAT THEY DO.

JUST FOLLOWING UP ON COUNCILOR
FLYNN'S QUESTION, WHICH WAS
SIMILAR TO MINE, BUT I'M CURIOUS
WHAT ARE SORT OF THE MOBILE
SHARPS PEOPLE PAID?

>> SO IN ADDITION TO THE
SUPPORTS AND THE TRAUMA
SUPPORTS, THE MOBILE SHARPS TEAM
ARE PART OF OUR SCIU PROGRAM
UNIT AND THEY COME IN AS PUBLIC
HEALTH ADVOCATES, TOO, AND SO
THE AVERAGE RATE THAT THEY'RE

PAID COMING IN WOULD BE ANYWHERE FROM 38,000 TO 40,000 A YEAR.

>> AND THEN THE PERSON -- THE TITLE MIGHT BE A MENTAL HEALTH RESPONDER, THIS TRAUMA PERSON FOCUSING ON THE WELLBEING OF THE FOLKS DOING THIS WORK, THIS PERSON IS A FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE IN THE DEPARTMENT, IN YOUR DEPARTMENT?

>> NO, WE'VE CONTRACTED OUT WITH A GROUP CALLED RIVERSIDE TRAUMA CENTER, WHICH IS SPECIALIZING IN THIS WORK.

WORKING WITH A COUPLE OF OTHER FOLKS.

LOOKING KIND OF TO DEVELOP THE MOST APPROPRIATE MODEL FOR RESPONSE ESPECIALLY FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE ON THE GROUND.

AND SO SHE'S FOUR HOURS EVERY TWO WEEKS AND THEN ALSO AVAILABLE TO RESPOND IF WE HAVE A CRITICAL EVENT LIKE A DEATH ON SITE OR SHE'S ALSO ABLE TO RESPOND IN REAL TIME OR SEND SOMEBODY ELSE TO COME AND KIND OF DO THE IMMEDIATE FOLLOW-UP WITH STAFF.

>> IS THERE ANY APPETITE BY YOUR DEPARTMENT TO TRY TO BRING SOMEONE INTERNAL ON A FULL-TIME BASIS TO RESPOND?

OR DO YOU THINK THIS IS ADEQUATE?

>> I THINK IT'S NEW, AND I THINK WE'LL SEE HOW IT GOES AND IF WE'RE SEEING A LOT OF BENEFIT FROM IT I THINK WE'LL LOOK TO FIGURE OUT WHAT WILL THIS PERSON LOOK LIKE AND IT MAKES SENSE TO HAVE THEM IN-HOUSE.

I THINK WE INITIALLY THOUGHT BECAUSE HAVING SOMEBODY WHO IS WORKING FOR THE COMMISSION MIGHT BE A LITTLE BIT OF A CONFLICT OF INTEREST, THEY MIGHT WANT TO GO TO SOMEBODY THEY PERCEIVE AS THEIR SUPERVISOR AND TALK ABOUT CERTAIN THINGS.

THEY'RE ALWAYS WELCOME, BUT WE WANTED THIS PERSON TO BE A NEUTRAL KIND OF PERSON AND SO THIS IS HOW WE'RE TRYING IT NOW,

BUT WE ARE OPEN TO SEEING WHAT THE BEST WAY IS TO MOVE FORWARD.

>> REMIND ME WHAT YOUR TOTAL BUDGET IS IN YOUR DEPARTMENT.

>> IT'S JUST OVER 7 MILLION IN CITY FUNDING.

>> 7 MILLION.

WHAT WAS YOUR PROPOSED BUDGET?

SO THE BUDGET THAT YOU GUYS SUBMITTED HOPING TO GET?

WAS IT 7 MILLION, MORE, LESS?

>> EVERY DEPARTMENT OBVIOUSLY PUTS FORTH A PROPOSED BUDGET.

WE HAVE TO DO IT AS A COUNCIL TO THE ADMINISTRATION.

>> IT WAS ABOUT TWICE WHAT --

THE INVESTMENT THIS YEAR IS \$500,000, CITY OF BOSTON

DOLLARS, WHICH IS A MAJOR INCREASE FOR THE RECOVERY SERVICES SINCE 2015 OF CITY OF BOSTON DOLLARS.

EVERY YEAR WE HAVE GOTTEN MORE AND MORE STARTING OFF WITH THE

BUDGET FOR THE OFFICE AND THE

TWO STAFF THAT I THINK, THREE

STAFF, 300,000, AND THEN

CONSISTENTLY GOING UP.

>> I ONLY ASK BECAUSE IT GIVES US A SENSE OF FROM WHERE YOU SIT

THE WORK YOU'RE DOING EVERY

SINGLE DAY, WHAT YOU THINK YOU

MIGHT NEED IN ORDER TO DO WHAT

YOU ENVISION THE DEPARTMENT

WOULD LIKE TO DO IN THE NEXT

FISCAL YEAR SO THAT'S WHY I WAS

ASKING SORT OF THAT QUESTION.

BUT ONE THING I DID WANT TO ALSO

APPLAUD IS YOUR -- AND YOU

REALLY TALKED ABOUT THIS, YOUR

COMMITMENT TO EQUITY IN THIS

WORK, FRANKLY, NAMING WHAT

HAPPENED AS A RESULT OF THE WAR

ON DRUGS AND HOW IT WAS NOT

EFFECTIVE PARTICULARLY IN

COMMUNITIES OF COLOR,

APPRECIATED YOU NAMING THAT AND

SHOWING UP IN THE WORK WITH THAT

DEEP UNDERSTANDING AND LOOKING

AT THE DRAMATIC INCREASES IN

OVERDOSE RATES AMONG BLACK AND

LATINO RESIDENTS IS ALWAYS

UNSETTLING.

IT'S WORSE FOR PEOPLE OF COLOR,
THAT'S ALWAYS UNSETTLING SO I
APPRECIATE YOUR COUCHING IT IN
CERTAIN TERMS OF REALLY USING
THAT EQUITY LENS IN YOUR WORK.
AND I'M SURE I'M -- JUST ONE
QUESTION WITH RESPECT TO THAT.
THE FEDERAL GRANT THAT YOU GUYS
APPLIED FOR THAT YOU GOT, YOU'RE
USING IT TO EXPAND YOUR OUTREACH
INTO CERTAIN COMMUNITIES OF
COLOR.

IMMEDIATELY WHEN I LOOKED AT
THIS GEOGRAPHIC FOOTPRINT I
ALWAYS EXPECT TO SEE WHEN YOU
THINK OF COMMUNITIES OF COLOR,
ROXBURY, DORCHESTER, MATTAPAN,
DON'T SEE MATTAPAN WHICH IS IN
MY DISTRICT, FRANKLIN FIELD, SO
I'M CURIOUS WHAT THE STRATEGY IS
TO EXPAND TO MORE COMMUNITIES OF
COLOR TO HAVE A GREATER TOUCH
AND OUTREACH TO THOSE
COMMUNITIES.

>> SO THE MINORITY HEALTH GRANT
WAS SPECIFIC TO EXPANDING IN
THREE NEIGHBORHOODS, DORCHESTER,
MATTAPAN AND ROXBURY AND WORKING
SPECIFICALLY WITH SOME HEALTH
CENTERS IN THOSE NEIGHBORHOODS
TO INCREASE THEIR CAPACITY TO
WORK WITH ACTIVE DRUG USERS AND
SO IT'S PART OF EXPANDING HARM
REDUCTION STRATEGIES ACROSS THE
CITY, THAT WAS ONE OF THEM AND
SO THAT'S ONE EFFORT.

THE OTHER EFFORT WAS THE
EXPANSION -- ARE LOOKING TO DO.
MAYBE YOU CAN TALK A LITTLE
BIT --

>> SO FOR STREET OUTREACH
SPECIFICALLY WE ARE FOCUSING ON
AREAS WHERE PEOPLE GATHER ON THE
STREET SO WE CAN SORT OF FIND
THEM IN THAT WAY AND THAT'S HOW
WE'RE ROLLING OUT FIRST.

THERE ARE, YOU KNOW -- THERE IS
A NEED THERE FOR ACTUAL STREET
OUTREACH AND WORKING WITH THE
BUSINESSES THERE BECAUSE PEOPLE
DO KIND OF HANG OUT IN THOSE
AREAS.

WE'RE FINDING THAT MATTAPAN
SQUARE, IT'S A LITTLE HARDER TO

BREAK INTO.

THERE'S NOT A LOT OF PEOPLE ON THE STREET WILLING TO ENGAGE AND WE KNOW IT'S GOING TO TAKE SOME TIME.

WE'RE EXPANDING THAT FOOTPRINT AND ADDING OURS THERE.

ONE OF THE OTHER THINGS THAT WE'RE DOING AS WELL IS HOME VISITING POST-OVERDOSE.

IT'S ANOTHER WAY IN THE DOOR AND OBVIOUSLY, NOT EVERYBODY IS GOING TO BE ABLE TO ENGAGE IN THAT WAY OR OPEN THE DOOR, BUT WE'RE HOPING BY HOME VISITING AND STREET OUTREACH IN THOSE COMMUNITIES THAT WE'RE REACHING MORE PEOPLE.

WE'RE ALSO CONNECTING WITH THE LOCAL HEALTH CENTERS AROUND HOW CAN THEY EXPAND ACCESS TO CARE FOR THOSE FOLKS FROM FRONT DOOR ON, TO BE ABLE TO PROVIDE SERVICES ON SITE, BUT EVEN HOW DO YOU BUILD A FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT AND A CULTURE THAT WELCOMES PEOPLE IN WHEN THEY HAVE A SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER RIGHT FROM THE FRONT DESK PERSON ON, YOU -- THEY'RE THE MOST AHEAD OF THE GAME IN THAT AREA. THEY'RE WONDERFUL PARTNER FOR US.

BUT WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE IN THAT ALL THE HEALTH CENTERS INVOLVING NEIGHBORHOODS.

>> THANK YOU.

I CAN WAIT FOR THE NEXT ROUND.

>> I WOULD JUST ADD TO THAT SOME OF OUR PARTNERSHIPS THAT ALSO GET THE SAME THING, THE POLICE ASSISTED RECOVERY COACHES, THE PERRY INITIATIVE, RECOVERY COACHES ARE TEAMING UP WITH THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, BUT AS RECOVERY COACHES IN DIFFERENT NEIGHBORHOODS.

THEY ARE IN OTHER NEIGHBORHOODS AS WELL AND WE COORDINATE AND COLLABORATE WITH THEM.

THEY HAVE TEAMED UP WITH POLICE TO DO RIDE ALONG TO BE ABLE TO ADDRESS SOME OF THOSE NEEDS IN THE COMMUNITY.

THERE'S WHAT THE STAFF AT THE BUREAU -- DO, BUT THERE'S ALSO WHAT OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS ARE STARTING TO PICK UP IN THE SPACE OF ENGAGING COMMUNITIES AROUND THE RECOVERY SERVICES ACTIONABLE ITEMS THAT THEY CAN DO.

>> THANK YOU.

THANK YOU, COUNCILOR BAKER.

>> GOOD MORNING LADIES, DEVIN AND JEN.

THANK YOU FOR WHAT YOU GUYS DO WITH YOUR SHOVELING AND YOU'RE SHOVELING A LOT.

IN 17 THERE WAS 1,262 DEATHS AND NALOXONE DISTRIBUTION AT 4,361. IS THAT JUST WHAT WE HANDED OUT? THAT'S NOT ACTUAL USAGE.

IS THERE ANY PLACE WHERE WE CAN SEE WHAT'S ACTUALLY BEING USED OF NALOXONE?

BECAUSE IN 19 IT WAS 16,000 DISTRIBUTED.

DO WE HAVE ANY SENSE OF --

>> WELL, WHAT WE KNOW IS WHAT WE GET FROM THE REPORT BACK IN REVERSAL.

SOME SOMEONE COMES BACK IN AND SAYS I WOULD LIKE ANOTHER DOSE OF NALOXONE, WE DO A BRIEF SCREEN, TELL US WHAT HAPPENED AND SO WE COLLECT SOME OF THAT INFORMATION ABOUT WHEN DID YOU USE IT, WHERE DID YOU USE IT, WE KNOW ZIP CODE AND WE KNOW THE BASIS OF WHAT HAPPENED.

ONE OF THE IMPORTANT THINGS WE ASK IS DID YOU CALL 9-1-1 AND SO RIGHT NOW, WE KNOW THAT AT LEAST HALF OF THE PEOPLE THAT WE'RE SERVING ARE NOT CALLING 9-1-1 DURING AN OVERDOSE, WHICH IS A WHOLE OTHER ISSUE THAT WE'RE WORKING ON.

AND SO WE DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENS TO EVERY DOSE THAT GOES OUT THE DOOR.

WE KNOW EVERY PERSON THAT COMES BACK TO US REPORTS AN OVERDOSE.

>> WE MIGHT HAVE A SENSE OF IT, BUT YOU'RE NEVER GOING TO BE ABLE TO GET A TRUE NUMBER, BUT THE 16,000 OVER TWO YEARS, THAT SHOWS WE'RE AT LEAST GETTING IT

OUT THERE AND HOPEFULLY, SAVING LIVES.

7,425 APLACEMENTS, MOST OF THOSE DETOX.

>> YES.

STILL ABOUT 50% ARE DETOX PLACEMENTS, 20% ARE --

>> THAT'S THE STEP DOWN. STEP-DOWN PROGRAMS.

AND RESIDENTIAL.

THE REST WOULD BE

RESIDENTIAL, AND THEN

APPOINTMENTS FOR MEDICATION ASSISTED TREATMENT OR ANY OTHER TYPE OF ASSISTANCE PEOPLE MIGHT NEED.

WE'RE WORKING VERY CLOSELY WITH THE TEAM DIVERTING PEOPLE INTO THAT SYSTEM IF THAT'S WHERE THEY NEED TO GO FIRST.

>> SO WE WERE HERE YESTERDAY WITH THE STRENGTH AND HE SAID AND IT WAS A -- IT WAS AN ALARMING STAT THAT OUT OF EIGHT PEOPLE COMING OUT OF DETOX WE ONLY HAD ONE STEP-DOWN DEAD FOR THEM.

WAS THAT A CORRECT.

>> I WOULD SAY THAT'S IMPROVED A BIT.

IT USED TO BE -- IT WAS MORE LIKE ONE IN FOUR.

I CAN GET YOU THE ACTUAL DATA ON THE BED AVAILABILITY.

BUT THE STATE HAS ACTIVATE PUT PUT -- ACTIVELY PUT MORE BEDS -- [OVERLAPPING SPEAKERS]

>> WHERE ARE THEY COMING FROM?

THEY'RE COMING ONLINE --

WHERE --

>> ACROSS THE STATE.

SO THEY'VE INCREASED BED COUNTS IN DIFFERENT PROGRAMS.

>> WE'RE STILL SEEING FAR TOO MANY PEOPLE THAT RETURN FROM DETOX WITHOUT TREATMENT ON DEMAND WHEN THEY'RE READY, THERE'S NO BED AVAILABLE FOR THEM MANY TIMES AND UNFORTUNATELY, WE OFTEN SEE THEM BACK TO OUR PROGRAM SO THAT THEY MAY HAVE LEFT EARLY, BUT THEY'RE STILL INTERESTED IN CARE SO THAT'S PART OF THE PAST NUMBERS

OF THE 7,400.

>> AND THAT WAS MY NEXT QUESTION.

THOSE 7,400, THOSE ARE JUST PAST NUMBERS?

>> THOSE ARE PAST NUMBERS.

THOSE ARE NOT NUMBERS FROM THE MATTAPAN CAMPUS, THE RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM.

>> SO WHAT IS AN A. HOLD CLIENT --

>> IT COULD BE THAT SOMEBODY WITH THE --

[INAUDIBLE]

DECIDED THEY WANTED TO ACCESS CARE AND WAS ABLE TO DO SO.

>> OKAY.

GOOD JOB ON THE SHARPS.

CAN WE TALK A LITTLE BIT -- A COUPLE OF YEARS AGO WE DIDN'T HAVE ANY SHARPS TEAM AND WE WOULD SEND OUT AMBULANCES OR FIRE TRUCKS.

JUST GETTING THE SHARPS TEAM, CAN WE TALK DETAILS -- I KNOW YOU DID THE CONTRACT FOR 24-HOUR TRAUMA.

SO LIKE MAJOR CLEANUPS THAT WOULD BE BY TRAIN STATIONS. DO THEY HAVE A SET SCHEDULE? IS THERE A MAJOR CLEANUP DAY? ANY PLACE THAT THEY GO TO EVERY DAY FOR US?

>> NO, THERE ARE DIFFERENT CONTRACTS IN BOSTON.

THEY WORK WITH BHA HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS.

THEY'RE ALWAYS CLOSE BY.

WHEN WE HAVE NEED OF THEM THEY ALWAYS HAVE PEOPLE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD THAT CAN HELP ALMOST IMMEDIATELY.

AND SO WE'RE NOT QUITE SURE HOW OFTEN WE'LL NEED THAT TYPE OF HELP, BUT AT LEAST WE HAVE SOMEBODY ON CONTRACT READY TO GO, SHOULD WE FIND AN AREA THAT NEEDS A CLEANUP THAT'S FAR BEYOND WHAT SHARPS CAN DO.

WE WANT THAT RESPONSE TO BE AS QUICK AS POSSIBLE AND SO HAVING THEM ON CONTRACT I THINK WILL HELP THEM HAVE A BETTER RE RESPONSE.

>> THANK YOU.

I'LL STAND DOWN.

>> THANK YOU.

COUNCILOR JANEY.

>> THANK YOU SO MUCH.

GOOD AFTERNOON, EVERYONE.

FIRST, I JUST WANT TO THANK YOU FOR THE WORK THAT YOU DO EVERY DAY.

WE KNOW THAT WE HAVE A CRISIS ON OUR HANDS NOT JUST IN BOSTON, BUT ACROSS OUR COUNTRY, LISTENING TO THE RADIO THIS MORNING AND THERE WERE A COUPLE OF STORIES TALKING ABOUT THIS CRISIS AND WHAT PEOPLE IN DIFFERENT CITIES ARE TRYING TO DO ABOUT IT.

I WANTED TO JUST FOLLOW UP ON SOME OF YOUR COMMENTS DURING THE PRESENTATION, YOU TALKED ABOUT THE PROACTIVE SWEEPS, HOW OFTEN ARE YOU DOING THEM?

>> IT DEPENDS ON THE AREA.

SO IF YOU'RE REFERRING -- WE'RE DOING OUR TEAM SPECIFICALLY ARE DOING TWO SWOOPS A DAY IN THE MORNING AT ORCHARD GARDENS AND AT CLIFFORD PARK AND ORCHARD PARK AND MASON SCHOOL AND TWO IN THE AFTERNOON.

>> SO YOU DO TWO SWEEPS A DAY AT ORCHARD GARDEN SCHOOLS.

>> WE DO FOUR AT EACH PLACE.

I WOULD ADD AS PART OF THE PARTNERSHIPS THAT ARE HAPPENING, THAT'S THE TEAM THERE.

AGAIN, THERE'S A PRIVATE PARTNER IN THE COMMUNITY THAT'S DOING A SWEEP AND THEY'LL TELL US HOW MANY NEEDLES THEY FIND SO WE CAN ADD THAT TO THE COUNT AND THE CUSTODIANS AT THE SCHOOLS ARE DOING SWEEPS.

>> YOU MENTIONED PARKS I THINK?

IN TERMS OF THE KIOSK THAT IS THERE NOW TO PICK UP TO CAPTURE NEEDLES, DISCARDED NEEDLES, HOW MANY NEEDLES HAVE BEEN COLLECTED, HOW OFTEN IS THE PARK CHECKED?

ARE THERE STILL NEEDLIN' EVEN WITH THE BOX THERE?

DID WE SEE A DECREASE IN THE

NUMBER OF NEEDLES ON THE GROUND
GIVEN THAT WE HAVE THE BOX
THERE?

DO YOU HAVE THAT DATA YET?

>> WE ARE WORKING WITH 24 TRAUMA
REALLY TO MONITOR.

IT TAKES TIME FOR THEM TO BE
USED FULLY, ALTHOUGH DEBBIE CAN
SHARE A STORY WITH THIS WEEK, WE
HAD THE ORCHARD GARDEN ONE OUT,
BUT RIGHT NOW 24 TRAUMA AND
STAFF ARE MAKING SURE THAT
THEY'RE NOT FILLING UP AND THEY
HAVEN'T.

I THINK THEY'VE EMPTIED A FULL
ONE YET.

WE'RE MONITORING THAT.

THAT'S WHAT WE'RE DOING.

-- A DECREASE IN THE NUMBER OF
NEEDLES ON THE GROUND, BECAUSE
THE KIOSK THERE OR --

[OVERLAPPING SPEAKERS]

>> SURE, SINCE BPS INSTITUTED
SOME OF THE RESPONSES THAT THEY
PUT ONLINE WITH HAVING MONDAY
MORNING, THEIR CITYWIDE CLEANUP
GREW DOES MONDAY MORNING SWEEPS
THEMSELVES AS WELL AS SOME OF
THE FIVE DIFFERENT SWEEPS OR SIX
DIFFERENT SWEEPS A DAY.

ONCE THOSE FOLKS CAME TOGETHER
DOING A COLLECTIVE EFFORT WE DO
SEE A DECREASE IN NEEDLES IN THE
AREA.

ARE THERE STILL NEEDLES?

YES, ABSOLUTELY.

>> AND I KNOW THERE ARE STILL
NEEDLES --

[OVERLAPPING SPEAKERS]

>> WHAT I'M TRYING TO ASCERTAIN
HERE IS WHETHER OR NOT THE BOX
IS MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN TERMS
OF THE DECREASE IN NEEDLES ON
THE GROUND.

WHEN THESE PEOPLE COME IN TO DO
THEIR SWEEPS, ARE THEY PICKING
UP THE SAME NUMBER OF NEEDLES
THAT THEY WERE PICKING UP MONTHS
AGO BEFORE THE BOX THERE WAS OR
ARE THERE SEEING A DECREASE?

>> THEY'RE SEEING A DECREASE.

AND WE'VE BEEN REPORTING ON THAT
SO BPS HAS SEEN A SIGNIFICANT
DECREASE IN THE NUMBER OF SHARPS

THEY ARE PICKING UP ON SCHOOL
GROUNDS.

>> AND IS THAT TRUE FOR YOUR
TEAM AS WELL?

>> YEAH, I WOULD SAY.

I THINK THE COLLECTIVE EFFORT,
EVERYBODY IS SEEING LESS EVERY
TIMIN' THE OUT BECAUSE THERE'S
LESS EFFORT AND THERE'S MOR
PEOPLE USING THE BOX SO ALL
THOSE THINGS TOGETHER,
PARTICULARLY THE FIVE AL-QAEDA
SWEEP THAT THEY'RE DOING AT
ORCHARD GARDEN WHERE IT'S THE
CITYWIDE GROUNDS CREW I THINK,
THAT I THINK HAS MADE A
TREMENDOUS DIFFERENCE BECAUSE
THEY'RE CUTTING BACK THE BRUSH.

>> THE FIVE A.M. SWEEP.

WHICH IS WHERE THINGS WERE
GETTING LOSS --

>> HOW MUCH OF THE DECREASE IS
PEOPLE -- WHEN I WITNESS PEOPLE
USING NEEDLES AFTER THEY INJECT,
THEY'RE NOT REALLY IN A STATE TO
PUT THE NEEDLE IN THE BOX.

THEY'RE USUALLY IN A STATE WHERE
THE NEEDLE MAY FALL OUT OF THEIR
HAND OR WHAT HAVE YOU SO I GUESS
HOW MUCH OF IT IS DUE TO THE
FIVE A.M. SWEEP VERSUS THE KIOSK
IS THERE AND SO PEOPLE ARE BEING
MINDFUL AND NOT LITTERING THEIR
NEEDLES OR PUTTING THEM IN THE
BOX?

OR IS IT A COMBINATION?

>> IT'S HARD TO SAY.

A COMBINATION OF THE TWO
THINGS AND TO BE HONEST WITH THE
KIOSKS WHAT WE SEE IN OUR PEERS
IS THAT ONE PERSON WILL TAKE
RESPONSIBILITY FOR CLEANING UP
AN AREA AND USE THE BOX AND SO
YEAH, SOME PEOPLE ARE VERY
IMPAIRED AND THAT'S WHAT THEY'RE
DOING AT THE MOMENT, BUT THEY'RE
USUALLY WITH A GROUP OR THERE'S
A GROUP NEARBY OR SOMEBODY
THAT'S TAKEN ON THE
RESPONSIBILITY FOR CLEANING UP
AND WILL USE THE BOX.

>> ONE FINAL QUESTION IF I MAY.

WE'LL DO IT IN THE NEXT
ROUND.

>> I'M NOT GOING TO BE HERE IN THE NEXT ROUND.

>> I'M SORRY, WE'VE GOT LOTS OF COUNCILORS HERE.
COUNCILOR WU.

>> OKAY.

I'M SHARING SOME OF MY THOUGHTS, I DON'T HAVE THAT MANY QUESTIONS.

2,000 NEEDLES THAT WE COLLECTED IN THE CITY COULD YOU SHARE BY ZIP CODE?

>> WE CAN GET YOU THAT DATA. IT'S ALL PUBLICLY AVAILABLE.

>> AND SO FOLLOWING UP ON THAT, WHAT IS THE BEST PLACE TO TRACK THE DATA IN TERMS OF BOX BY BOX OR KIOSK BY KIOSK HOW MANY NEEDLES ARE BEING PICKED UP AND HOW IT'S TRENDING OVER TIME.

>> THAT'S SOMETHING WE WERE COLLECTING ON OUR OWN ON A WEEK WEEKBY WEEK BASE.

>> ARE THOSE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE SOMEWHERE OR WILL THERE BE A REPORT LOOKING BACK AFTER A CERTAIN PERIOD OF TIME?

>> WE REPORTED OUT TO VARIOUS CITY DEPARTMENTS, BUT WE COULD POST A REPORT ONLINE, TOO.

>> OKAY GREAT.

AGAIN, TRYING TO UNDERSTAND THE DYNAMICS OF ALL THE DIFFERENT EFFORTS AND WHAT'S WORKING AND WHERE AND HOW MUCH. AND THEN JUST FOR A MINUTE ON KIND OF RESOURCES WHEN IT COMES TO ADDRESSING TRAUMA, THAT THE COMMUNITY MIGHT BE ABSORBING. WE HEARD A LOT FROM ORCHARD GARDENS FAMILY AND THE COMMUNITY IN GENERAL THAT A LOT OF THE STUDENTS ARE KIND OF NOT KNOWING HOW TO DEAL WITH OR MIGHT BE FEELING SCARED OR ANXIOUS ABOUT WHAT THEY'RE SEEING ON THE WAY TO SCHOOL.

IS THERE A WAY TO PARTNER AND THIS IS FOR THE REST OF THE HEALTH COMMISSION TO SUPPORT ON ONGOING COMMUNICATIONS AND RESOURCES ON THAT FRONT FOR THAT COMMUNITY?

>> YEAH, ABSOLUTELY.

WE'VE BEEN HAPPY TO WORK WITH THEM.

WE CAN DO IT IN COORDINATION WITH OTHER SERVICES THAT ARE AVAILABLE OR OUR OWN TEAM.

WE HAVE A YOUTH PREVENTION TEAM NOW AND WE'VE DISCUSSED SOME OF THAT BECAUSE THIS IS -- BECAUSE OF THE EPIDEMIC AND WHAT PEOPLE ARE SEEING ON THE STREET IS VERY, YOU KNOW, DISCONCERTING TO MANY FOLKS WHO ARE SEEING IT PARTICULARLY IN CERTAIN NEIGHBORHOODS AND SO I THINK THAT IS SOMETHING THAT WE NEED TO EXPLORE MORE.

>> GREAT.

HAPPY TO TALK TO YOU MORE ABOUT THAT.

>> AND THEN FINALLY SO I MAY HAVE MISSED IT WHEN YOU GAVE -- WE'RE GOING IT THROUGH THE PRESENTATION EARLIER, BUT WHAT IS THE PLAN FOR THE SHARPS TEAM KIND OF GOING INTO THE NEXT COUPLE OF FISCAL YEARS AND WHAT IS YOUR IDEAL NUMBER OF STAFF?

>> SO THE WAY THAT WE'RE LOOKING AT IT RIGHT NOW IS REALLY EXPANDING THE CAPACITY OF NOT JUST MOBILE SHARPS RESPONSE TO 3-1-1, REALLY HAVING THAT DIRECT CUSTOMER SERVICE RESPONSE, BUT ALSO EXPANDING THE COLLECTIVE EFFORT AND WORKING MORE WITH OUR PARTNERS, PRIVATE, PUBLIC, NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS. CITY EMPLOYEES.

>> ASKING DIFFERENTLY AND FOLLOWING UP ON WHAT COUNCILOR ESSAIBI-GEORGE WAS TALKING ABOUT EARLIER IN TERMS OF A NUMBER, WHAT IS KIND OF THE -- WHAT ARE THE GOALS FOR HOW YOU WOULD MEASURE SUCCESS IN TERMS OF AT LEAST MEETING NEED IN TERMS OF HOW MANY NEEDLES, THE CAPACITY OF THE TEAM AND ALL THE COLLECTIVE EFFORTS TO BE ABLE TO PICK UP THOSE NEEDLES?

HOW MUCH MORE OF AN INCREASE ARE YOU HOPING TO MEET IN THE NEXT COUPLE OF YEARS?

>> I'M NOT SURE I UNDERSTAND THE

QUESTION.

>> SO YOU SAID THERE'S FOUR FTE'S, ARE WE MEETING HALF OF THE DEMAND THAT'S OUT THERE? DO YOU THINK THAT WE NEED TO DOUBLE THAT CAPACITY THROUGH MORE PARTNERSHIPS AND STAFF SORE WHAT IS THE LEVEL OF GROWTH THAT WE NEED TO SEE THAT?

>> I THINK WE'RE MONITORING THAT CLOSELY.

I THINK THE FOUR FTE'S ARE ABLE TO RESPOND TO 311.

THEIR RESPONSE TIME IS VERY QUICK.

I THINK DETERMINING -- WE'RE ROLLING OUT ALL THESE NEW EFFORTS.

IF THE SWEEPS OF PARKS ARE NOT WORKING, WHERE THE RIGHT PLACE IS, IS IT THAT WE NEED MORE PEOPLE IN PARKS?

WHERE DO WE NEED TO PUT THE FTE'S ON THE RIGHT TEAM IS WHAT WE FOCUSED ON RIGHT NOW AND, YOU KNOW, IF WE FEEL LIKE THE VOLUME GOES UP THIS YEAR AND WE'RE NOT ABLE TO ADDRESS THE NEED THEM WE WOULD WANT MORE SHARPS PEOPLE. WE'RE PAYING ATTENTION TO WHAT'S HAPPENING AT NIGHT TIME RIGHT NOW.

THERE WASN'T A NEED AT NIGHT TIME BEFORE.

THERE IS NOW AND SO THAT'S SOMETHING WE'LL BE PAYING CLOSE ATTENTION TO THIS YEAR.

>> GOT IT THANK YOU.

THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR.

>> THANK YOU, COUNCILOR WU. COUNCILOR FLAHERTY.

>> THANK YOU FOR THE GREAT WORK THAT YOU GUYS DO.

IT'S NEVER ENDING AND YOU'VE COME TO DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES AS WELL AS WORKING WITH US ON THE COUNCIL.

YOU GUYS DO A GREAT JOB AND JUST WANT TO MAKE NOTE OF THAT.

YOU ALSO KNOW I'VE BEEN A LONG-TIME PROPONENT OF RECOVERY AND TREATMENT ON DEMAND AND ALSO ONE THAT WANTS TO PUT PRESSURE ON OUR SUBURBAN CANDIDATES TO

STEP UP AND DO THEIR FAIR SHARE
BY WAY OF RESERVE RESOURCES.
ALWAYS SEEMS TO FALL ON BOSTON
AND ONE OF THE BIG ISSUES WE
HAVE IS YOU NEED TO TAKE THE KID
KIND OF OUT OF HIS OR HER
ELEMENT AND PUT THEM SOMEWHERE
AND OFTENTIMES, YOU SEE A LOT OF -- WE HAVE A LOT OF GREAT
RECOVERY PLACES HERE IN THE
CITY, BUT WE'RE ALSO HOUSING,
YOU KNOW, CHILDREN AND MEN AND
WOMEN FROM OTHER PARTS OF THE
COMMONWEALTH.
WISH IT WAS RECIPROCAL IN A
BIGGER WAY.
THAT WILL BE MY FOOTNOTE.
SO REALLY INTERESTING TIMES.
YESTERDAY, WE HAD ATTENDED AND
COUNCILOR FLYNN HAD ATTENDED AN
EVENT AND THE PART WHERE WE GOT
TOGETHER WAS RIGHT AROUND THE
JEWEL AND AROUND TOBACCO SMOKING
AND YESTERDAY HERE ON THE
COUNCIL, COUNCILOR O'MALLEY AND
COUNCILOR ESSAIBI-GEORGE PUT
TOGETHER A HEARING TO DISCUSS
THAT.
SO WE'RE IN BOSTON.
YOU CAN'T GET A CIGAR ANYWHERE
THESE DAYS.
WE'RE CRACKING DOWN ON THE
JUULS, BUT POT SHOPS ARE GOING
TO BE CRACKING UP LEFT AND
RIGHT.
WHAT EFFORT ARE BEING UNDERTAKEN
NOW TO PREPARE FOR THE THC
ONSLAUGHT THAT'S COMING?
THE POT BONANZA AND SHOPS START
OPENING UP LEFT AND RIGHT, KIDS
ARE GOING TO BE GETTING THE
GUMMY BEARS AND THE BROWNIES AND
THE CANDY FORM.
WHAT EFFORTS ARE WE MAKING WITH
REGARD TO RECOVERY SERVICES TO
PREPARE FOR THAT?
A LOT OF FOLKS RECOGNIZE THAT
THC IS HIGHLY ADDICTIVE AND OUR
RESIDENTS PARTICULARLY OUR YOUTH
ARE GOING TO GET THEIR HANDS ON
THIS THING SOONER THAN LATER AND
STRANGE WE'RE BANNING SMOKING
ITEMS AND WE DON'T WANT CIGAR
SMOKING BUT EVERYONE'S TAKING A
PASS ON THE POT SHOPS.

I WOULD LIKE TO GET YOUR THOUGHTS IF YOU'RE PREPARING FOR THIS AND WHAT EFFORTS CAN WE DO TO ADDRESS THE HIGHLY ADDICTIVE THC THAT WILL BE COMING TO NEIGHBORHOODS THROUGHOUT OUR CITIES SOON?

>> SURE.

YOU KNOW, I WOULD THINK MOST ALL OF OUR EFFORTS ARE FOCUSED ON YOUTH, FAMILIES, CARETAKERS AND YOUTH-SERVING AGENCIES AND WORKERS, PEOPLE WHO ARE WORKING WITH YOUTH REGARDLESS OF WHERE, WHETHER IT'S THE COMMUNITY CENTER, BCYF COMMUNITY CENTER, BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OR SCHOOLS OR PARENTS THEMSELVES SO OUR EFFORTS ARE REALLY FOCUSED ON FROM THE INVESTMENTS FROM LAST YEAR TO INCREASE OUR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT WITH YOU.

WE HAVE THE PREVENTION INVESTMENT LAST YEAR, HIRING THE STAFF -- ACTUALLY THE WHOLE STAFF YESTERDAY AT THAT EVENT, BUT THAT'S WHAT WE'RE FOCUSED ON.

WE'RE FOCUSED ON TRAINING, ADULTS THAT ARE WORKING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE ON HOW TO HAVE CONVERSATIONS AROUND DRUG USE THAT AREN'T PENALIZING YOUNG PEOPLE FOR THEIR USE, BUT HAVING REAL CONVERSATIONS ABOUT WHERE THEY'RE AT AND HOW TO MAKE HEALTHY CHOICES AND DECISIONS. AND WE'RE WORKING ACROSS DIFFERENT SECTORS SO EVEN AT THE BOSTON PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION WHERE THEY'RE DOING WORK IN NEIGHBORHOOD WITH YOUTH ON TRAUMA OR ON PEER LEADERSHIP. WE'RE WORKING WITH BOTH FOLKS WHO HISTORICALLY REALLY IN THE SUBSTANCE USE WORLD WE HAVEN'T COORDINATED IN THAT WAY SO WE'RE WORKING CLOSER TOGETHER WITH DIFFERENT YOUTH SERVING AGENCIES AND THEN YOUNG PEOPLE THEMSELVES, HAVING ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS WHERE PEOPLE CAN TALK ABOUT SOME OF THESE ISSUES AND DO PROACTIVE WORK TO BE MORE

INFORMED AND EDUCATED.

>> I WANT TO MAKE SURE IT'S NOT GETTING LOST IN THE SHUFFLE. WE'VE BEEN FOCUSED ON OPIOID, WE FOCUS ON TOBACCO, ALCOHOL AND MAKING SURE THAT WE'RE DOING SORT OF AN AWARENESS CAMPAIGN AROUND THC AS WELL AS MARIJUANA USE.

I KNOW AGAIN THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION TO SOME DEGREE CONFLICTED BECAUSE THERE ARE SOME MEDICINAL USES AND BENEFITS ON A PORTION OF THAT, BUT THERE'S ALSO EXPECTED TO BE WIDESPREAD USE AND ABUSE AS WELL AND JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE YOU'RE ON YOUR GAME ON THAT FRONT.

>> I MEAN, WHAT WE'RE NOT CONFLICTED ON AND RECOVERY SERVICES IS GETTING FACTUAL INFORMATION AND SKILLS TO YOUNG PEOPLE AND HELP IN THE COMMUNITY.

>> THANK YOU, JEN, THANK YOU, DEVIN, THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR.

>> THANK YOU.

COUNCILOR CAMPBELL.

>> THANK YOU, COUNCILOR ESSAIBI-GEORGE.

SHE RUNS A GREAT HEARING.

SO I JUST HAVE A COUPLE OF FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS.

SO THIS SLIDE WHERE IT TALKS ABOUT MASSACHUSETTS, IN 2017, THE 72,000.

COULD WE GET BOSTON NUMBERS SPECIFICALLY?

AND THEN, WHICH WE COULD JUST E-MAIL.

AND THEN GOING BACK TO JUST TRYING TO GET A BETTER SENSE OF WHERE THE ISSUE IS VISIBLY SHOWING UP, RIGHT?

SO OBVIOUSLY, I GREW UP ON MASS AVENUE SO I DEPRIVE DOWN THERE AND I'M LIKE THIS LOOKS VERY DIFFERENT.

SEEING PEOPLE WALK AROUND, USING ON THE CORNER.

YOU MAY NOT NECESSARILY SEE THAT IN CERTAIN POCKETS OF MY DISTRICT.

IT'S STILL THERE, BUT MAYBE NOT THE SAME SCALE.

I COVER FOUR CORNERS, MATTAPAN, GROVE HALL.

OTHER NEIGHBORHOOD WHERE IT'S PREDOMINANTLY RESIDENTS OF COLOR.

IS THERE SOME DATA, MAYBE IT'S WHERE WE'RE PICKING UP THE NEEDLES OR GETTING THE MOST 311 REQUESTS TO GIVE US A SENSE WHERE WE'RE SEEING IT MORE ACUTE?

AND THEN THAT MAY THEN EXPLAIN WHY YOU HAVE MORE MOBILE SHARP TEAM MEMBERS OR PROACTIVE SWEEPS IN CERTAIN AREAS VERSUS OTHERS. AND THEN COULD ALSO DICTATE WHAT THE STRATEGY IS TO EXPAND TO THOSE OTHER AREAS.

COULD WE GET SOMETHING SENT TO US THAT PULLS THAT APART A LITTLE BIT?

>> WE CAN SHOW YOU A COUPLE OF EFFORTS AND HOW THEY'RE MAPPED WHETHER IT'S SYRINGE PICKUP, OVERDOSE AND OTHER THINGS.

>> OKAY BECAUSE THAT WOULD BE REALLY HELPFUL, AND I THINK IT MIGHT ALSO JUST WHEN WE'RE OUT IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD BECAUSE OBVIOUSLY, IF A RESIDENT SEES ONE NEEDLE THEN THE PROBLEM IS TOO MUCH, IT'S ACUTE, IT'S MASSIVE.

BUT WE OFTEN HAVE TO GO OUT AND SAY HEY, WE HAVE A LIMITED NUMBER OF RESOURCES, PEOPLE ARE OUT THERE DOING WHAT THEY CAN. WE CAN'T NECESSARILY HAVE PROACTIVE SWEEPS JUST YET IN THIS AREA BECAUSE WE'RE SEEING THE PROBLEM MORE ACUTELY HERE BASED ON THE DATA OR WHATSOEVER. THAT'S HELPFUL IN JUST HAVING SOME MORE THOUGHTFUL, INFORMATIVE CONVERSATIONS WITH OUR RESIDENTS.

AND THEN I WOULD LOVE TO JUST SEE HOW WE EXPAND TO INCLUDE SOME OUTREACH, BASED ON WHAT YOU'RE SEEING IN SOME OF THESE OTHER COMMUNITIES AND MAYBE IT'S NOT ALL ON US, BUT IT IS THE

HEALTH CENTERS THAT ARE STEPPING UP LIKE MATTAPAN TO HELP SUPPLEMENT OR AUGMENT WHAT YOU'RE DOING, WHICH IS GREAT, I WOULD LOVE TO KNOW A LITTLE BIT MORE OF WHAT THAT LOOKS LIKE.
>> AND THAT'S ALL I HAVE FOR NOW.

THANK YOU, GUYS AGAIN FOR THE WORK YOU'RE DOING. REALLY APPRECIATE YOU AND YOUR TEAMS, APPRECIATE IT.

>> THANK YOU.

THANK YOU, COUNCILOR ESSAIBI-GEORGE.

>> COUNCILOR BAKER.

THANK YOU.

SO I JUST DID THE MATH, NOT TO KEEP BEATING UP THESE SHARPS RIGHT NOW, BUT WE GET CALLED CONSTANTLY ON THEM.

CLIFFORD PARK GET SWEEPED SIX TIMES A DAY.

I GET CALLS, WHAT ARE YOU DOING ABOUT IT.

WE REMOVED AREAS THAT WERE PUBLIC TOILETS.

WE HAVE TEAMS REACHING OUT TO PEOPLE TO GET THEM INTO SERVICES.

SO I'M THANKING YOU GUYS. DOING THE MATH ON IT.

14,000, SO 14,000 TIMES 52 IS 728,000 SHARPS A YEAR.

THAT'S ASTRONOMICAL.

SO COULD JOB ON THAT, NO ONE SAYS YOU PICKED UP 750,000 SHARPS THIS YEAR, WHAT ABOUT THAT ONE RIGHT THERE?

SO I THANK YOU FOR THE 750,000 YOU PICKED UP, AND NOT THAT ONE THAT WAS LEFT OVER THERE.

OKAY GOOD.

ENHANCED DATA AND REVENUE SYSTEMS.

SO IS THAT FIGURING OUT WHO'S PAYING FOR WHAT?

BECAUSE A LOT OF TIMES WHEN YOU'RE TRYING TO GET PEOPLE INTO SERVICES IT'S JUST YOU'VE GOT THEM THERE SO WAS THAT KIND OF JUST TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHO'S PAYING FOR WHAT AND TRACKING PATIENTS OR CLIENTS?

CAN YOU EXPLAIN THAT A LITTLE BIT HOW WE'RE -- IT SAYS WE'RE SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASING REVENUE, AM I RIGHT IN MY THINKING THERE?

>> RIGHT NOW, WE PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SERVICES, BUT THEY ARE BILLABLE SERVICES AND TO BUILD THE INFRASTRUCTURE TO BE ABLE TO TRACK THAT DATA, A MEDICAL RECORD AND A CASE MANAGEMENT DATABASE, WE WOULD BE ABLE TO DO THAT AND BRING IN SOME REVENUE TO INCREASE THE EFFORT THAT WE'RE ABLE TO PROVIDE THERE OR TO OFFSET THE CITY DOLLARS.

I THINK WE ROLL THINGS OUT AT THE -- IT'S GOING TO PASS PRETTY QUICKLY IN RESPONSE TO A CRISIS, AND NOW, WE WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT ALL THE PEOPLE WHO CAN PAY FOR IT ARE PAYING FOR IT.

>> FIGURING OUT WHO PEOPLE ARE AND WHO'S PAYING WHAT SHARE. OKAY YOU HAD TALKED ABOUT FOUR PROJECT STAFF.

IT'S FINANCED THROUGH A COMPANY DOWN THERE.

WHERE ARE THEY AND WHEN ARE THEY OUT DO YOU KNOW?

>> IT'S FUNDED BY B.U., IT'S A COLLABORATION.

>> OKAY SO UP BY -- WHERE DO THEY COVER?

>> THEY COVER THE MASS AND ALBANY INTERSECTION UP TO THE SOUTHAMPTON SHELTER AND AROUND THAT AREA, BUT, YOU KNOW, IT'S FLUID.

I THINK FOR SUMMER WE'LL BE HAVING SOME ADDITIONAL SEASONAL CAPACITY PUT ON BY D.P.W. AND PARKS AND SO WE MAY SHIFT THE AREA --

[OVERLAPPING SPEAKERS]

KIND OF WITH POLICE AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS AND KIND OF GO OVER THE MAPS AND WHO'S COVERING WHAT AND WHEN NEW RESOURCES ARE BROUGHT ON WE MIGHT SHIFT SOMETHING, BUT THEY'VE BEEN A GREAT RESOURCE AND IT'S BEEN A GREAT PARTNERSHIP BECAUSE IT

DOESN'T MAKE A -- IT DOES MAKE A
DIFFERENCE TO HAVE THEM OUT
EVERY DAY.

>> AND THEY'RE PICKING UP
SHARPS, ALSO.

>> SHARPS AND TRASH.

AND YOU MAY HAVE MENTIONED
THIS A LITTLE BIT.

WE TALKED ABOUT THE ENGAGEMENT
CENTER.

HOW MANY LIKE -- HOW MANY PEOPLE
ARE COMING TO THE ENGAGEMENT
CENTER A DAY?

YOU SAID RIGHT AT 6:00 IT'S
CAPACITY.

IS CAPACITY LIKE 275?

>> IT'S 125.

OKAY.

AND SO WE'RE -- AND WE ARE AT
125 ALL DAY LONG?

>> WE'LL SEE A BIG RUSH IN THE
MORNING AND SO WE'RE AT 100
MIDMORNING, IT'S KIND OF THE
FIRST STOP PEOPLE MIGHT MAKE FOR
COFFEE OR TO BRUSH THEIR TEETH
OR JUST TO SOCIALIZE IN THE
MORNING AND DO WHAT THEY WANT TO
DO.

>> DO THEY HAVE ACCESS TO A
SHOWER IN THERE?

>> WE DO HAVE SHOWERS THAT WE'VE
JUST GOTTEN ONLINE TO START
ALLOWING SOME SHOWERING HOURS,
TOO, ESPECIALLY FOR THE FOLKS
WHO ARE SLEEPING OUTSIDE OR WE
DO HAVE A FAIR SHARE OF PEOPLE
WHO WORK THE OVERNIGHT, AND THEN
THE SHOWER HOURS FOR THE SHELTER
THEY HAVE TO WAIT A LITTLE WHILE
SO WE GIVE THEM A WAY TO SHOWER
IN THE MORNING.

WE'RE EXCITED TO GET THAT
ONLINE.

>> OKAY.

SO MAYBE ONE OF THE HOLES WE
HAVE IN THE SYSTEM ARE THOSE
STEP-DOWN BEDS.

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO WITH
STEP-DOWN BEDS, THE CITY OF
BOSTON?

ARE WE INCREASING OUR CAPACITY
AND IF SO WHERE IS THAT
HAPPENING?

>> WE'RE BUILDING A BRIDGE TO

LONG ISLAND.

>> I KNOW THAT WE'RE GOING TO TALK ABOUT THAT NEXT. WE'RE GOING TO TALK ABOUT THAT NEXT.

ARE WE DOING ANYTHING LIKE IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE GOING ON NOW?

>> I MEAN, THERE IS CAPACITY WITHIN THE CITY CURRENTLY, BUT SITING ANY NEW FACILITIES THAT WOULD ADD TO THAT CAPACITY IS -- WE HAVEN'T FOUND A LOCATION THAT'S WILLING TO REALLY ENTERTAIN THAT OR THE SPACE TO DO SO, SO WE'RE PUTTING PEOPLE INTO THOSE STEP-DOWN SERVICES ALL ACROSS THE STATE.

>> CAN WE TALK ABOUT LONG ISLAND FOR A LITTLE WHILE? FOR A MINUTE OR SO?

OKAY.

SO ARE WE LOOKING TO DO MOSTLY STEP-UP BEDS?

CAN YOU JUST EXPLAIN FROM A 30,000-FOOT VISION OF WHAT WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THERE?

IF WE CAN?

I KNOW -- AND I'M SORRY I DIDN'T MAKE -- I SEE CHIEF MARTINEZ UP THERE, GREAT JOB THE OTHER NIGHT AT THE MEETING.

AND THEY PROBABLY DID IT THERE.

CAN WE HAVE A 30,000 -- IF YOU'RE ABLE TO, WHAT -- BEDS GOING INTO ONE OR TWO YEAR HOUSING, GED PROGRAMS?

CAN WE GET AN OVERVIEW?

>> SURE.

WE'RE IN THE PROCESS, AS YOU KNOW, WORKING WITH A CONSULTANT, COLLECTING THAT INFORMATION FROM STAKEHOLDERS AND REALLY DOING THE RESEARCH AND THE DATA.

WE'RE PULLING THAT ALL TOGETHER. WE'VE DONE A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF FOCUS GROUPS ACROSS THE REGION ON THE NORTHEAST, SOUTHEAST, OUTSIDE OF BOSTON, INDIVIDUAL INTERVIEWS AND REALLY ASSESSING THE GAPS IN REALTIME BUT ALSO LOOKING AHEAD TO THREE YEARS DOWN THE ROAD.

WHERE DO WE EXPECT THE GAPS TO

BE AS WE WATCH WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING, BUT ALSO JUST THE MAJOR GAPS AROUND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND WELLNESS AND HEALTH AND THE THINGS THAT GIVE PEOPLE HOPE AND STABILITY TO MOVE FORWARD.

SO ALL OF THAT IS BEING CONSIDERED IN A COMPREHENSIVE RECOVERY CAMPUS, WHICH IS -- WE CAN THINK ABOUT THE DETAILS AND THAT'S WHAT WE'RE DOING, BUT REALLY WE'RE TALKING ABOUT A COMPREHENSIVE RECOVERY CAMPUS ON LONG ISLAND THAT UTILIZES THAT SPACE IN A HOLISTIC HEALING WAY AND HAS THE ABILITY WITH THE CURRENT STRUCTURES THAT ARE THERE TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO FOLKS IN EARLY RECOVERY TO LONG-TERM RECOVERY.

>> SO THAT SPACE WOULD BE WHERE YOU WOULD GO FOR YOUR STEP-UP AND HOPEFULLY STAY THERE AND GET TRAINING, WHATEVER IT IS FOR THE CLIENT TO BECOME HEALTHY WILL BE OFFERED OVER THERE IS IDEALLY, WHAT WE'RE LOOKING TO DO?

>> IDEALLY.

SO A COUPLE OF -- WE HAVE A LITTLE WHILE BEFORE ALL THAT INFORMATION COMES OUT, WHERE DO YOU THINK IS GOING TO HAPPEN? IS IT STILL GOING TO BE HEROIN? I HEAR A LOT ABOUT METH COMING IN, SO THAT'S A DIFFERENT DRUG. WHAT DO WE SEE HAPPENING IN THREE YEARS?

IS IT GOING TO BE ALL, YOU KNOW, LESS CENTERED ON OPIOID AND MORE METH?

DO WE HAVE A SENSE OF WHAT THAT'S GOING TO BE IN THE NEXT COUPLE OF YEARS?

THREE YEARS?

>> ARE I DON'T THINK WE'RE SEEING A REDUCTION IN FENTANYL RIGHT NOW.

IN FACT, WE'RE SEEING IT BEING INTEGRATED INTO OTHER --
[OVERLAPPING SPEAKERS]

>> SO POLY-SUBSTANCE USE --
IN THREE YEARS WE'RE GOING TO

BE EXACTLY WHERE WE ARE OR WORSE?

I'LL SAY THAT, YOU DON'T NEED TO SAY THAT, IN THREE YEARS --

>> THE SYNTHETIC DRUG PRODUCTION IS SOMETHING WE'VE BEEN FACING FOR THE PAST FOUR OR FIVE YEARS THAT IS DAUNTING I THINK.

SO JUST SO YOU KNOW IN REGARD TO THE MEETING THE OTHER NIGHT THERE WAS A COUNCILOR WHO WOULD BE CONSIDERED MY COUNTERPART THAT SPOKE.

HE GREW UP IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD, I'VE ALREADY REACHED OUT TO HIM AND MADE MYSELF AVAILABLE TO HIM, ANYTHING THAT HE NEEDS, WHATEVER YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT, THE OFFER WAS TO THE CITY COUNCIL ALSO, SO WE MAY HAVE TO COME BACK AND GET A TEAM DOWN THERE.

I'M TRYING TO WORK WITH THAT TO MAKE MYSELF AVAILABLE IF WE CAN ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS THAT THEY NEED.

>> I APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT IN THAT AND WE WOULD BE HAPPY TO JOIN YOU AT ANY TIME.

AS A COUNCILOR, AS A DISTRICT CITY COUNCILOR, A LOT OF THE TALK WAS ABOUT SPENDING \$92 MILLION ON A BRIDGE.

THE LAST THING THAT I WOULD WANT TO DO IS SPEND \$92 MILLION THAT WE DIDN'T HAVE TO SPEND.

WE HAVE TO SPEND THIS \$92 MILLION.

WE'RE GETTING A LIBRARY IN ADAMS CORNER, \$18 MILLION.

I WOULD RATHER BE FIVE LIBRARIES BUILT, BUT WE CAN'T DO THAT.

WE NEED TO BUILD THIS BRIDGE.

SO LET'S KEEP MOVING IT FORWARD TOWARDS BUILDING THE BRIDGE.

THANK YOU.

>> COUNCILOR BREAKER.

I JUST HAVE A COUPLE OF WRAP-UPS QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESENTATION.

THE VARIOUS PLACEMENTS AND CONTACTS THAT YOU'VE HAD, HAVE YOU BEEN ABLE TO EXTRACT THE UNIQUE NUMBERS?

I NOTICED ON ONE OF THE SLIDES
IT DID SAY UNIQUE, BUT I'M
WONDERING WHEN WE THINK ABOUT
7,400 PLACEMENTS AND TREATMENTS
ARE THOSE UNIQUE OR ARE WE ABLE
TO FIGURE THAT OUT?

ARE THEY REPEAT INDIVIDUALS?

>> SO WITH THE INVESTMENT --
WE'LL BE ABLE TO TELL YOU MORE
ABOUT THE PEOPLE THAT WE'RE
PLACING.

THAT COULD BE DUPLICATED
INDIVIDUALS.

>> GREAT, AND THEN IN YOUR
PRESENTATION, YOU MENTIONED THE
INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF FOLKS
WALKING IN AND --

>> I THINK ADDING 33 HOURS A
WEEK IS PROBABLY THE BIGGEST
THING THAT CHANGED.

WE ARE ALSO WORKING REALLY
CLOSELY WITH PUBLIC SAFETY
PARTNERS WHO ARE DIRECTING
PEOPLE.

I THINK THERE'S A LOT OF BOOTS
ON THE GROUND THAT ARE DIRECTING
PEOPLE TOWARDS TREATMENT AND
USING PATH AS A RESOURCE
LOCALLY.

>> AND THEN THE NALOXONE
DISTRIBUTION HAS ALSO GONE UP.
IS THAT COMING OUT OF OUR
OPERATING BUDGET OR IS THAT
GRANT FUNDED?

>> THAT'S TOTALLY GRANT FUNDED.
STATE OR FEDERAL?

AND THEN DO WE EXPECT THAT
GRANT TO CONTINUE FOR THE NEXT
AMOUNT OF YEARS?

>> AS WELL AS THAT GRANT THERE'S
BEEN OTHER --

[INAUDIBLE]

TO WORK ON THE POST-OVERDOSE
RESPONSE WITH US AND A BIG PIECE
OF THAT GRANT WILL BE NARCAN
DISTRIBUTION AS WELL SO WE'RE
COORDINATING WITH THEM ON THAT.
THERE'S A STATE GRANT THAT
RECOVERY SERVICES GETS, BUT
THERE'S OTHER PARTNERS THAT ARE
RECEIVING OTHER GRANTS AND
COORDINATING WITH US ON REACHING
EVEN MORE PEOPLE.

>> GREAT, AND THEN WITH THE

ENGAGEMENT CENTER ARE WE ABLE TO MEASURE THE INCREASE IN -- OTHER PROGRAMS, OTHER TREATMENTS? TO SEE THAT THAT'S HELPING AT ALL?

BECAUSE ONE OF THE THINGS I'VE HEARD FROM CONSTITUENTS IN THE AREA IS SOMETIMES, IT ATTRACTS INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE EITHER DEALING OR USING.

THERE MIGHT BE A VERY NEGATIVE REACTION TO WHATEVER IT IS BECAUSE WE DON'T ALWAYS KNOW WHAT PEOPLE ARE ON.

THEY DON'T ALWAYS KNOW WHAT SUBSTANCE THEY'RE USING.

TALK ABOUT THE SUCCESS STORIES AT THE ENGAGEMENT CENTER.

>> SURE I THINK WHAT THE ENGAGEMENT CENTER HAS DONE BEST IS TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE, OF PEOPLE WHO ARE DOWN THERE AND ON THE STREET.

I THINK PEOPLE HAVE A PLACE TO WASH THEIR HANDS AND TO SEE A NURSE AND TO GET FOOD AND TO BE IN THE AC WHEN IT'S REALLY HOT AND THEY'RE AVOIDING INJURIES IN THAT WAY, AND I THINK IT'S JUST A SOCIAL CONNECTION.

I THINK FOR SOME PEOPLE AS THEY BECOME MORE -- ABOUT MAKING CHANGE THE MORE -- OVER TIME OVER TIME THREE WEEKS, THREE MONTHS.

IT HELPS TO MOVE PEOPLE ALONG THE CONTINUUM OF READINESS FOR CHANGE OR TO ASK FOR HELP.

I'M READY TO GET BACK ON THE HOUSING LIST I'M READY TO TRY AGAIN.

THAT'S WHAT WE'RE SEEING THE MOST GOOD AND AGAIN WITH INVESTMENTS IN MORE DATA SYSTEMS, WE'RE HOPEFUL THAT WE CAN DEMONSTRATE THAT WITH MORE DATA.

WE'RE VERY CAUTIOUS WHEN WE OPENED THE ENGAGEMENT CENTER TO HAVE IT BE AS LOW THRESHOLD AND LOW BARRIER AS POSSIBLE BECAUSE WE WANTED PEOPLE TO COME IN.

I THINK WE'VE ESTABLISHED THAT NOW WITHIN THE COMMUNITY SO I

THINK WE CAN START, YOU KNOW,
LIGHTLY TRIAGEs PEOPLE A
LITTLE BIT DIFFERENTLY TO FIND
PEOPLE WHERE THEY'RE COMING FROM
AND THEIR NEEDS.

>> AND CAN YOU SHARE -- ONE OF
THE THINGS THAT I'VE HEARD A LOT
ABOUT IN OUR WORK, AND I THINK
IT'S TALKED ABOUT IS THE LACK OF
RECOVERY BEDS OR STEP-DOWN BEDS
POST-DETOX.

WHAT IS THE NUMBER THAT WE NEED
WHEN WE THINK ABOUT THE CRISIS
THAT'S HIT IN BOSTON?

>> I THINK IT'S HARD TO PINPOINT
A NUMBER, BUT CERTAINLY, WE'RE
NOT ANYWHERE NEAR THAT NUMBER,
WE STILL HAVE FOUR OR FIVE, SIX
MONTHS WAITING LIST FOR
RESIDENTIAL CARE.

AND I THINK THAT'S PART OF THE
THINKING THAT WE'RE PUTTING INTO
LONG ISLAND AS FAR AS THE MASTER
PLANNING.

HOW CAN LONG ISLAND BE A
RESOURCE NOT JUST TO BOSTON BUT
THE RAOEG CRON.

WE SEE MANY FOLKS FROM OUTSIDE.
IF WE HAVE THE ABILITY TO PUT,
PROVIDES US WITH THE ABILITY TO
PUT A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF
TREATMENTS TO RESOLVE SOME OF
THIS, YOU KNOW, SOME OF HOW
PEOPLE GET SIPHONED THROUGH AND
SQUEEZED.

WITH ADDICTION PEOPLE CAN'T
WAIT.

WHEN THEY'RE READY WE NEED TO
GET THEM THE CARE THAT THEY
NEED.

>> YOU THINK IT'S A FEW HUNDRED
OR A FEW THOUSAND?

>> I WOULD SAY IT'S BETWEEN.

>> 500.

>> NO I THINK IT'S 2000.

I ASK THAT QUESTION TREKLY TO
PEOPLE IN THIS WORK.

MAYBE YOU'RE NOT IN THE POSITION
TO SAY.

WE HEAR 2500 IS THE AMOUNT OF
RECOVERY, TRANSITIONAL BEDS IN
THE STATE.

HERE IN BOSTON WE KNOW WE --

>> MAYBE I'M NOT SURE THE

DESCRIPTION OF THE BED.
IT'S AFTER DETOX.
IT CAN'T BE AT HOME ON THE COUCH
OR THE CORNER.
THEN WE ARE DEALING WITH SOMEONE
CONTINUING TO SPIRAL AND WE'RE
NOT GIVING THEM THE SERVICES
THEY NEED.
WHEREVER THE NEXT STEP AND STOP
IS.
ANY UPDATE ON THE LAWSUIT?
THAT THE MAYOR HAS FILED AGAINST --
>> NO.
PENDING.
IT'S PENDING.
>> OKAY.
>> COUNSELOR BAKER.
>> YES.
IS THERE ANY PLACE IN, OUT SIDE
OF BOSTON WITH A PATH TYPE
PROGRAM.
HAS ANYWHERE REPLICATED OR
TRIED.
>> NO PATH IS A FAIRLY ONE OF A
KIND PROGRAM.
WE'RE AWARE THAT THE GOALS HAVE
TO CHANGE A BIT SO WE'RE IN THE
COMMUNITY.
MORE TA ON HOW DO YOU THE WORK.
>> TA?
>> TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.
ANYONE CAN GET SOMEONE INTO
CARE.
HEALTH CENTERS AND HOSPITALS.
NO REASON IT CAN'T BE DONE A
LITTLE BETTER.
YOU KNOW PARTNER BE WITH THE
STATE KEEP TRACK OF WHERE WE
FEEL PEOPLE ARE NOT GETTING
REFERRED AS THEY SHOULD BE.
ALSO THINKING WHERE CAN WE DO
MORE TRAININGS AND REACH OUT TO
PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO COPE
PEOPLE WHERE THEY'RE AT AND GET
THEM PLACED DIRECTLY.
WE HAVE HAD PEOPLE VISIT FROM
DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE STATE.
I THINK THAT'S POSITIVE.
SO THAT CERTAINLY IS A PRIORITY
OF OURS TO MAKE SURE MORE PEOPLE
PROVIDE THE SERVICES IN OTHER
PARTS OF THE STATE.
>> IN HOME CYSTS AFTER OVERDOSES
HOW DO WE CONNECT ON THOSE.

EMERGENCY ROOM DATA?

HOW ARE WE CONNECTING TO THAT PERSON.

WHO DOES THAT?

>> RECOVERY SERVICES STAFF ALONG WITH THE BOSTON FIRE ACCIDENT MEET REGULARLY AND RESPOND TO THOSE ADDRESSES.

>> OKAY.

>> IF THERE IS A CALL WE KNOW WHO THE PERSON IS AND WHERE THEY'RE GOING AFTER THE EMERGENCY ROOM OR WHEREVER THEY GO.

THAT'S FOLLOW-UP.

>> FOLLOW-UP IS AT THE ADDRESS WHERE THE EVENT TOOK PLACE. ACCORDING TO THE DATA AVAILABLE. WHEN WE DO THAT VISIT IT'S NOT THE PERSON WITH THE OVERDOSE. IT'S MOM OR DAD OR ROOMMATE WHO ALSO NEEDS A TALK IN SERVICES GENERALLY.

THEY HAVEN'T TALKED TO ANYONE ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED.

WE DO HAVE, WE MEET WITH THE INDIVIDUAL WHEN THEY'RE THERE AND FOLLOW-UP WITH US LATER. WE GET PEOPLE INTO TREATMENT THAT WAY.

>> THAT SEEMS LIKE THAT MIGHT BE DIFFICULT TO DO.

THE HOUSE CYSTS IF THEY DON'T HAVE A PLACE.

WHAT IS THE SQUAT 80 EMS. IS THAT THE QUICK RESPONSE TEAM. CAN YOU TALK ABOUT IT BRIEFLY.

>> SQUAD 80 THROUGH EMS.

>> RIGHT.

THINK IT'S BEST ANSWERED BY CHIEF NEXT WEEK.

IT'S A RAPID RESPONSE TEAM IN HIGH VOLUME AREAS --

>> DO WE HAVE A SENSE ON THE LONG TERM OF THE ENGAGEMENT CENTER.

ANY THOUGHT BUILDING A REAL BUILDING THERE?

MAYBE DOING THAT LONG TERM? ANY DISCUSSIONS ON THAT?

>> YES.

WE'RE HAVING THE DISCUSSIONS RIGHT NOW.

>> FOR LIKE REPLACE IT WHERE IT

IS BUILDING?

>> YES.

>> HOW LONG AGO WERE THE DISCUSSIONS?

>> WE'RE WORKING WITH A CONSULTANT NOW FOR A STUDY. SO THE SITE STUDY COMES FIRST THEN DESIGN AND RESOURCES.

>> MY LAST THING IS THE RUTH PREVENTION STRATEGY. THE GROUP LAST NIGHT, IS THAT ONE OF THE GROUPS THAT YOU GUYS HELPED TO FUND?

>> SO, WE ACTUALLY DON'T FUND THAT GROUP.

THIS IS THE, THIS IS THE EXPOSURE THAT THE COMMUNITY PREVENTION TEAM HAS THE IMPACT THEY HAVE BEEN ABLE TO HAVE IN BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS.

THAT GROUP REACHED OUT TO US THEY ASKED FOR SUPPORT, PREVENTION WEEK.

NOW THAT WE HAVE A TEAM AND FOLKS ABLE TO WORK WITH COMMUNITY PROVIDERS WE JUST SAT DOWN WITH THEM AND SAID WHAT DOES THIS LOOK LIKE IN THE COMMUNITY.

THEY DID THE HEAVY LIFTING. WE SUPPORTED THE EFFORTS.

>> THINK IT'S IMPORTANT.

MY LAST, THROW IT OUT THERE, IF I COULD GET, PEOPLE ASK FOR IT EARLIER.

THE ACTUAL NUMBER THAT IS GOING IN THE KIOSK AT THE PARK AND OUTSIDE THE MASON.

JUST LANDED MAYBE A MONTH AGO OR SO, WHAT THE WEEKLY TOTALS ARE WHEN YOU GET A CHANCE.

>> SURE.

>> THANK YOU, LADIES.

>> THANK YOU.

WE DON'T HAVE MANY PUBLIC TESTIMONY.

I APPRECIATE YOU BOTH BEING HERE AND SHARING THE INFORMATION WITH US.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE FOLLOW-UP PIECES OF INFORMATION.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR WORK THAT YOU DO EVERY DAY.

ON BE HALF OF THE RESIDENTS OF

THE CITY, THOSE MOST VULNERABLE.
THANK YOU.
THIS MEETING IS ADJOURNED.
>> THANK YOU.