



TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Allyson Griffith, Neighborhood and Community Services, Director
COPY: Community Vitality and Safety (CVS) Committee.
PRESENTER: Caleb Carbone, Homelessness Strategy, Systems and Service Manager
Erin Watlington, Community Resource Analyst, Senior
Hayley Saucedo, Community Resource Analyst, Senior
SUBJECT: NCS, Systems and Strategy Division Issue Statement
DATE: May 9, 2024

PRESENTATION TYPE:
Informational Briefing; Other

SUMMARY:
Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS) staff will present a briefing regarding NCS' System and Strategy Division Issue Statement, which outlines the department's recommended funding priorities for the 2025-2026 competitive funding process. The update will also include an overview of programs that we recommend not competing in the Request for Proposal (RFP), the funding process timeline, and next steps.

BACKGROUND:
Prior to releasing a competitive funding process, NCS reviews data, strategies, and current and local trends to identify gaps in our service delivery model. This review informs the creation of our Systems and Strategy Division Issue Statement, which guides decision-making throughout the competitive process, ensuring that we prioritize programming and services that best align with Council priorities, department goals and meet the community's evolving needs.

ISSUE:
NCS holds a competitive process every biennium, and due to the pandemic, and limited staffing resources, we were unable to release an issue statement since 2018. While we still held competitive processes during that time, NCS aligned our funding priorities to the 2018 issue statement. The updated issue statement, as with the 2018, statement aligns with Council priorities and community needs, while also informing the Human Services Commission (HSC) of the City's funding priorities and informs how funding will be allocated. NCS recognizes that community needs have shifted in recent years, and in response have reviewed current data and feedback from Tacoma residents to align our programming to better reduce barriers impacted by marginalized community's while still remaining equitable in our funding practices. Due to critical nature, limited provider pool, city initiatives, and interlocal agreements, some funds will not be competing for funding in 2025-2026.

ALTERNATIVES:
CVS Committee could provide feedback to help prioritize one focus areas over the others or may recommend additional funding priorities.

FISCAL IMPACT:
There is no fiscal impact.



RECOMMENDATION:

We are recommending proceeding with the issue statement recommendation and funding priorities. We will present at a later date with the actual contract recommendations after the RFP.