

Homeless Services Overview
City of Tacoma | Neighborhood and Community Services
City Council Study Session
September 19th, 2023

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City of Tacoma Homeless Strategy

- Delivered to Council September 2022
- Aligned with Pierce County Comprehensive Plan to End Homelessness
- Focused on reaching 'Functional Zero' – episodes of homelessness are rare, brief and one-time. Prioritize immediate access to emergency shelter and permanent housing.

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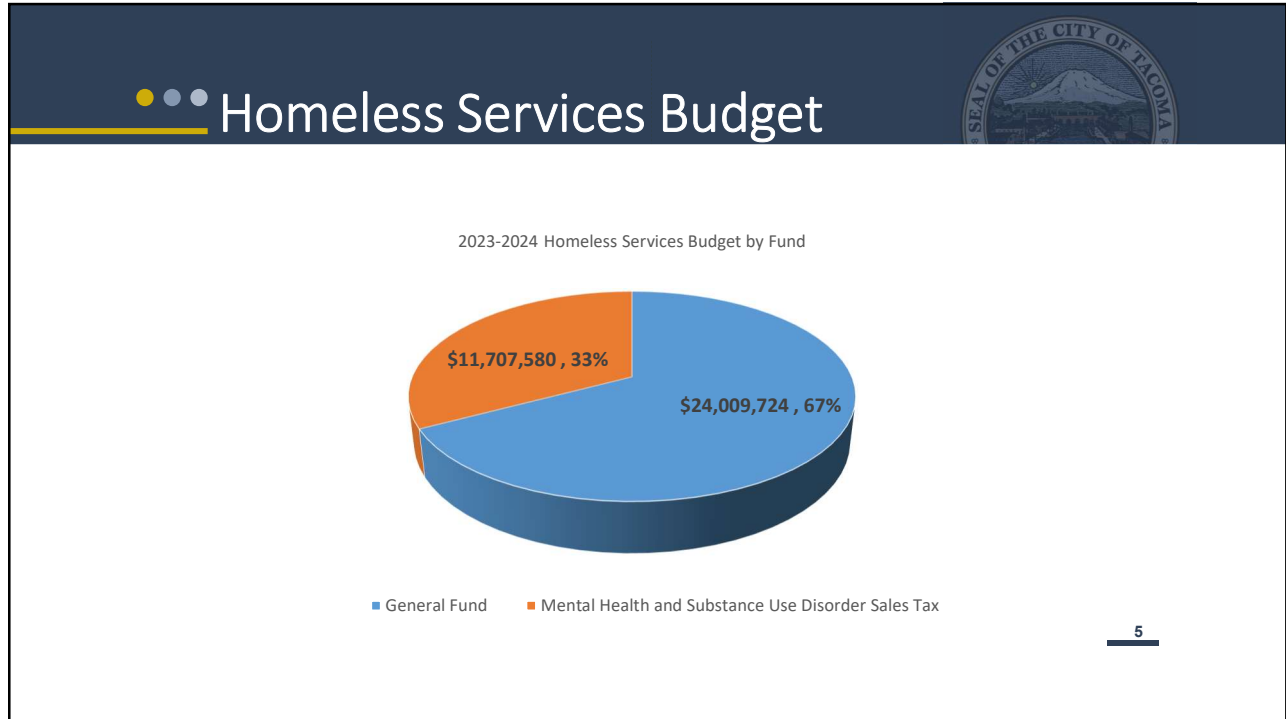


City of Tacoma Homeless Strategy

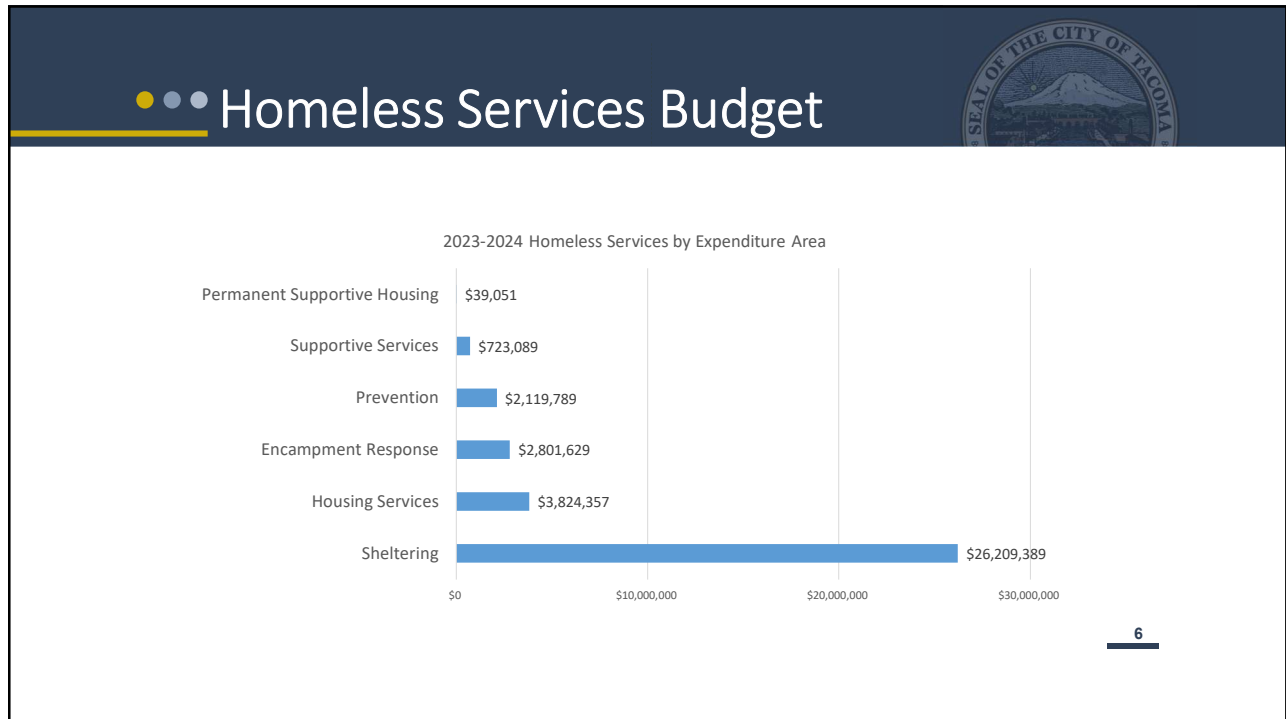
- 1) Ensure affordable housing is available and accessible to Tacoma residents.**
 - Create flexibility in contracting
 - Leveraged publicly and partner-owned land for affordable housing
 - Integrated culturally competent and trauma informed practices
- 2) Everyone experiencing homelessness in Tacoma, or impacted by homelessness, can access services and support.**
 - Hire additional HEAL Team members.
 - Eliminate known barriers to accessing shelter.
 - Establish strategic outreach schedule with HEAL Team and service providers.
 - Create "By-Name List" (CPEH 5.1)
- 3) The shelter system in Tacoma offers all people a safe and dignified experience that is easy to access.**
 - Contracted with new providers and implemented new shelter models
 - Modified existing temporary shelter regulations
 - Published weekly reporting on shelter bed utilization, capacity, and availability
 - Coordinate shelter providers to create accessible intake services (CPEH 4.2)
 - Increase shelter staff workforce
- 4) Tacoma's homeless service system provides individuals and families with access to a continuum of tailored supports to prevent and end homelessness.**
 - Increase Temporary Financial Assistance
 - Invest in direct MHSUD interventions that meet best-practice standards.
- 5) Tacoma's homeless service system provides individuals and families with access to permanent, stable housing in order to end the cycle of homelessness.**
 - Support existing service and shelters providers transition into providing housing and housing services
 - Acquisition of Aspen Court to use for Permanent Supportive Housing

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