



The following information comprises the minutes for a special meeting of the City Council, a joint meeting of the Banning City Council and Banning Utility Authority and a joint meeting of the Banning City Council and the Banning City Council sitting in its capacity as the Successor Agency Board.

**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL**

**11/14/2023
SPECIAL MEETING**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Council Member Sheri Flynn
Council Member Rick Minjares
Mayor Alberto Sanchez
Mayor Pro Tem Colleen Wallace

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Council Member Reuben Gonzales

OTHERS PRESENT: Doug Schulze, City Manager
Serita Young, City Attorney
Marie Calderon, City Clerk
Caroline Patton, Administrative City Clerk
John Garside, Multimedia Specialist
Derek Thesier, Acting Chief of Police
Jeff Platt, Homeless Services Site Director
Vincent Avila, Police Captain

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Sanchez called the special meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

1.1 Roll Call

COUNCIL MEMBER	PRESENT:	ABSENT
Flynn, Sheri	×	
Gonzales, Reuben		×
Minjares, Rick	×	
Sanchez, Alberto	×	
Wallace, Colleen	×	

2. PUBLIC COMMENT – Agenda Items

None

3. WORKSHOP

3.1. Police Statistics and Homeless Services Report

Derek Thesier, Acting Chief of Police, presented the staff report.

4. ADJOURNMENT

The Special City Council meeting adjourned at 4:51 p.m.

Minutes Prepared by:



Caroline Patton, Administrative City Clerk

*These minutes have been prepared as **Action Minutes** in accordance with City Council Resolution 1995-21 and Government Code Sections 36814, 40801, and 54953(c)(2).*

This entire meeting may be viewed here:

<https://banninglive.viebit.com/index.php?folder=City+Council+Meetings>

All documents related to this meeting are available here:

<http://banning.ca.us/Archive.aspx?ADID=2927>

ATTACHMENTS:

Exhibit A – Agenda Item 3.1: Staff Presentation

EXHIBIT A



Banning Police Department & Homeless Services' Report



Researchers at UC San Francisco have released the largest representative survey of homeless people in more than 25 years. Thirty percent of the American homeless population and 50 percent of its unsheltered population live in California, more than 170,000 people total. Jul 18, 2023





home·less

/'hōmləs/

adjective

1.(of a person) without a home, and therefore typically living on the streets.

"the plight of young homeless people"

[Homelessness is not a crime and is not a Law Enforcement Issue](#)

Why is Law Enforcement involved if Homelessness is not a crime?

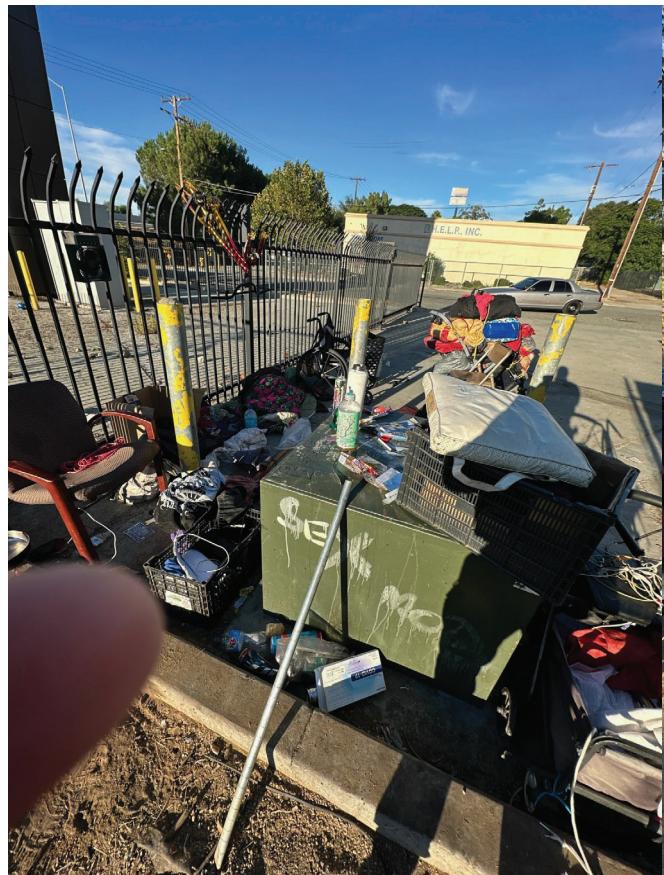
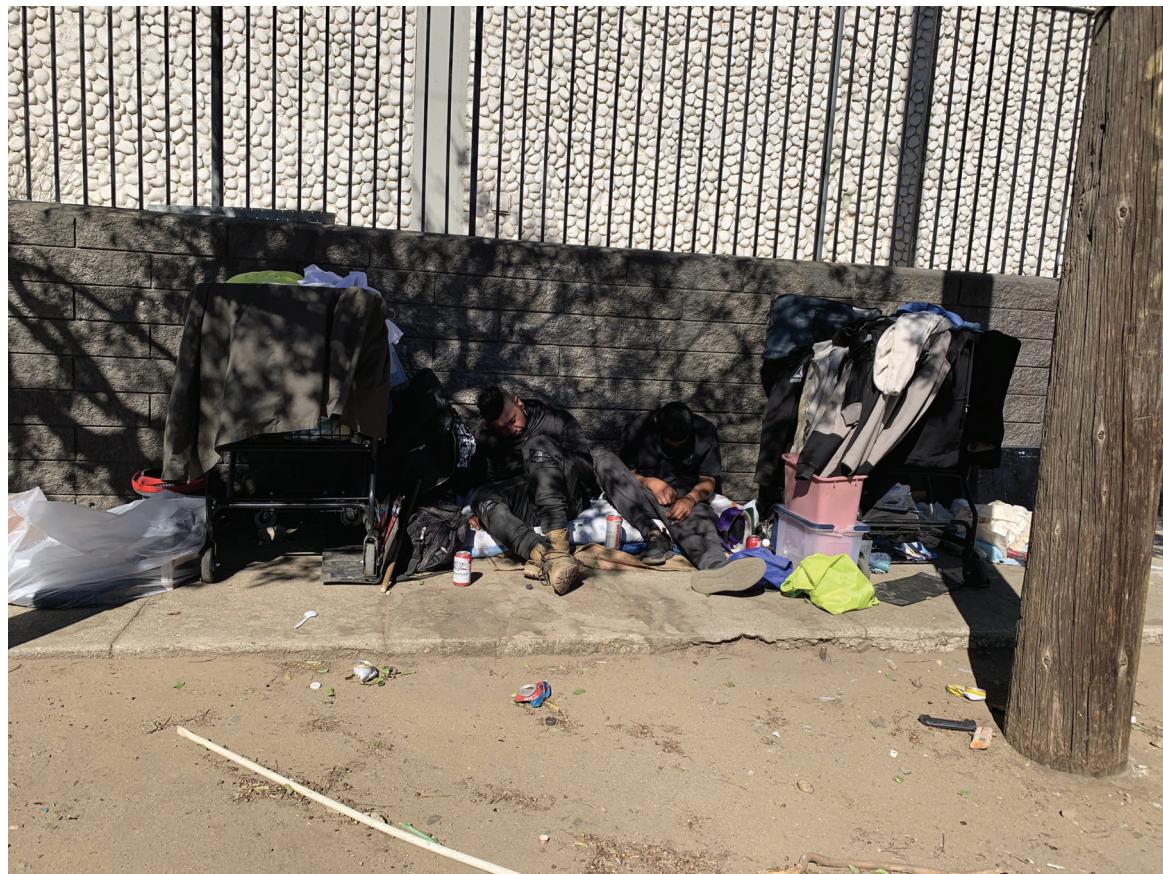
Homeless are often involved in:

- Panhandling
- Trespassing
- Loitering
- Littering
- Theft
- Indecent exposure
- Illegal camping
- Illegal campfires /Arson
- Drug and alcohol addiction

Homeless are often victims:

- Theft
- Battery
- Assault
- Sexual violence
- Mental illness
- Addiction
- Overdose
- Exposure
- Lack of care





What brings and attracts the Homeless to the City of Banning?

- Weather
- Locality
- Transportation / Freeway / Railroad
- Hospital
- Mental Health
- Welfare
- Church's
- Outreach organizations
- Food and clothing donations
- Group homes (aged out)
- County Services (Public Social Services)
- Riverside County Childrens Services
- Mid County Court House
- Larry Smith Correctional Facility
- Subsidized Housing



Homeless need

- Clothing
- Food
- Water
- Medical care
- Psychological care
- Medication
- Shelter
- Detox
- Counseling
- Stability
- Accountability
- Resources
- Direction
- Goals
- Family
- Friends



What steps has the city taken?



Our Partners in our efforts:

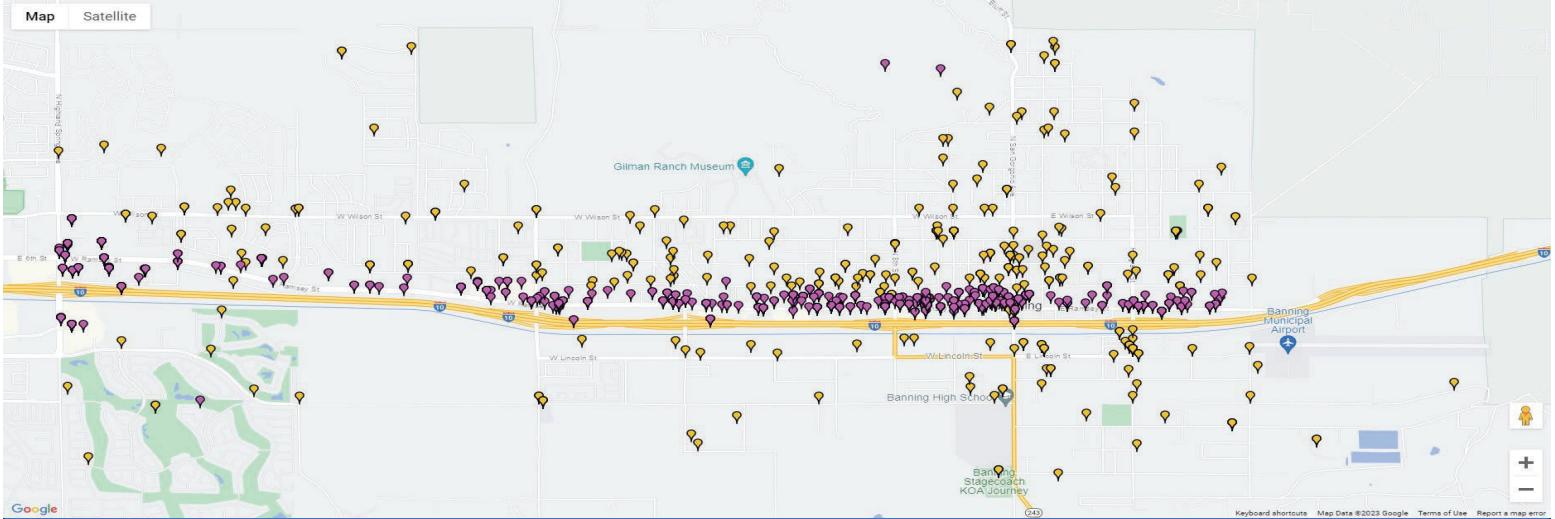
- City Managers Office
- Opportunity Village
- Code Enforcement
- Building and Safety
- Riverside County Sheriff's Office
- Riverside University Health Systems
- CALTRANS
- California Highway Patrol
- Community Behavioral Health Assessment Team
- Union Pacific Railroad Police



Homeless Liaison



Map showing Transient Disturbance calls





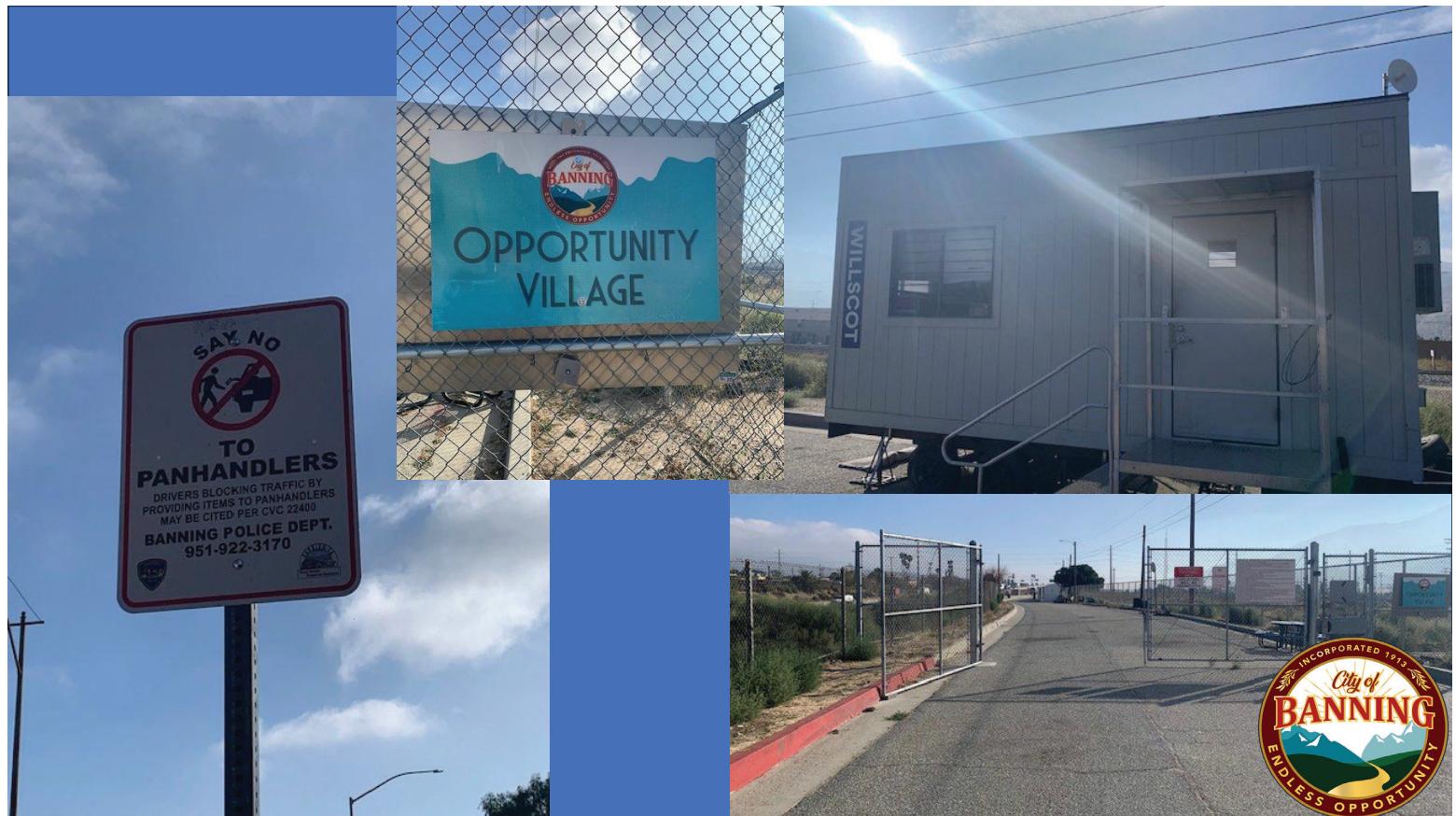
Director of Homeless Servicers

Jeff Platt

City Managers Office

- Created and supports clean-ups and a volunteer program in association with opportunity village.
- Is able to identify and direct city efforts and resources as needed through a unified command.
- Utilizes a volunteer program to pick up shopping carts and other items that are commonly stolen and abandoned across the city.
- Helps place those who are willing to get sober and receive help.
- **Several success stories to share.**





Captain Vince Avila



Where does all the food packages and items end up?

- One of the biggest issues is the debris that is left behind once the person or persons move on.
- Who is cleaning up the mess?
- What hazardous items are in that debris?
- The citizens end up paying the price.
- Food packaging, tents and sleeping bags end up cluttering our streets and public spaces.









Riverside County Sheriff's Department efforts

- RSO does not release other cities arrestees in Banning and does not relocate transients into our City nor would he allow others to do so.
- No inmate leaves the jail without a ride, no one walks away from jail when released and into the neighborhood.
- If the transient was booked in by an outside agency, they are transported back with a bus pass or taxi voucher depending on time of day.
- The Sheriff's Department only drops off to a location where there is a driveway.
- Once given a taxi or bus pass, RSO cannot force them to use them.
- The only inmates released in the Banning Civic Center or Sun Lakes bus stop have an address in the pass or they specifically requested to be dropped off at that location.



Community Behavioral Health Assessment Team (CBAT)

Janet De La Cruz

Clinical Therapist II
Riverside University Behavioral Health System-Behavioral
Health Community Based Assessment Team-CBAT



Community Behavioral Health Assessment Team

- Community Behavioral Assessment Team provides the following
- Crisis stabilization, safety planning, assessment for danger to self/ others, and gravely disabled. Assessment for 5150 application holds as needed and provide follow up support (linkage to mental health clinics)
- Provide referrals for additional mental health services including substance abuse treatment programs and housing (Riverside County)
- Provide transportation and resources to voluntary emergency psychiatric services, Tele-care (Palm Springs, Riverside and Perris)
- Referrals to family advocates

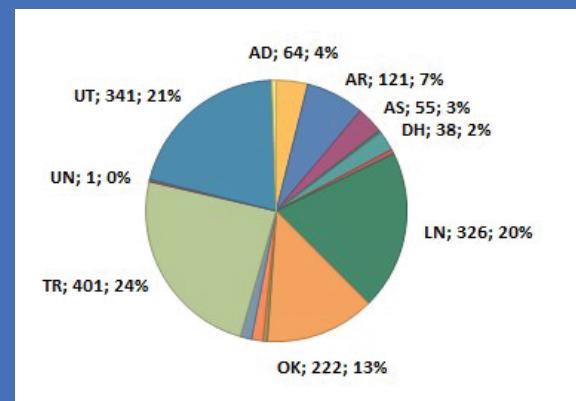
What kind of resources are used from the Police Department?

From October of 2022 to October of 2023

- 1569 calls for service related to Transient Disturbance

During each call for service there is a protocol, where the subject is contacted, identified and an investigation is conducted.

- Average time per contact is 28:44.
- If the call results in a booking or transport to a facility, that call can be greatly increased and can result in a 90:00 minute plus contact.

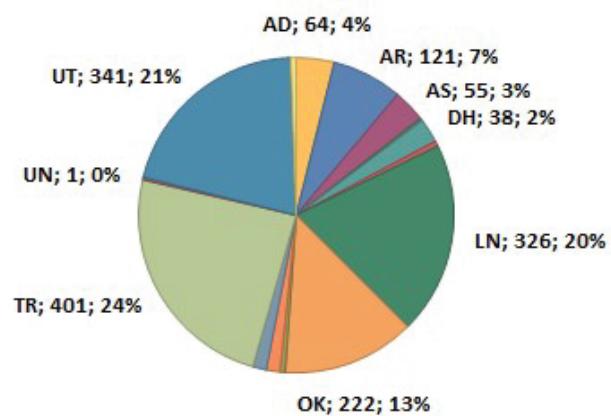


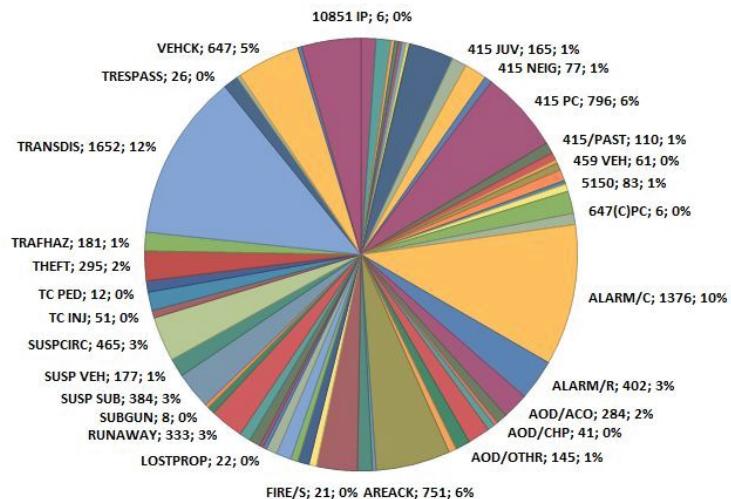


Dispositions

Incident Search Results

Date Between 10/15/2022 and 10/14/2023, Type is transient disturbance





Future efforts

- The retired Banning Police Department Radio system will be reallocated and installed at Banning City Hall allowing direct and immediate communications between city departments, allowing for immediate response to pressing incidents.
- Ordinances/ Municipal Codes that support the efforts of the City Managers Office to combat the crimes that accompany homelessness.
- Work with our partners to come up with sensible solutions for donating items and food.
- Bolster the City Manager's volunteer program
- Bolster Banning Police Department's Volunteer program
- As Officer staffing rises, create a P.O.P. team (Problem Oriented Policing Team) or (I.R.T.) Immediate Response Team that can take direct, immediate action upon identified issues.
- Work with our partners to find new and innovative solutions to the problems associated with homelessness.



Questions

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