

HOMELESS SERVICES DIVISION

Response to Grand Jury Report *Safe Parking/Oklahoma Is Not Ok!* recommendations 3, 5 and 11. *as of September 18, 2023*

Recommendation 3 (R3): By September 1, 2023, the Homeless Services Division of the Department of Social Services shall update the participant contract for any safe parking sites. The contract must be appropriate, enforceable, and approved by the County Counsel.

- **R3 Original Response:** Recommendation 3 has not yet been implemented but will be implemented by 1 August 2023.
- **R3 Updated Response (as of September 18, 2023):** All clients served at the Oklahoma Safe Parking site have signed a participant contract for the Oklahoma Safe Parking site. The completion date was delayed two weeks due to unforeseeable issues. The contract was approved by County Counsel.

Recommendation 5 (R5) : The County shall maintain 24/7 security provided by a licensed security contractor at Oklahoma Avenue Parking Village. HSD shall conduct monthly reviews to assess the adequacy of site security and address any deficiencies. Empower the on-site security to enforce contract rules and policies.

- **R5 Original Response:** The portion of Recommendation 5 that states “*The County shall maintain 24/7 security provided by a licensed security contractor at Oklahoma Parking Village*” has been implemented. Regarding the portion of Recommendation 5 that states “*HSD shall conduct monthly reviews to assess the adequacy of site security and address any deficiencies. Empower the on-site security to enforce contract rules and policies*” we have always maintained daily contact with the owners of the guard company and/or the assigned guard. We address concerns as soon as we hear about them, and we do regular check-ins to determine how the service is going. On 1 August 2023 we will begin a more formal monthly review process.
- **R5 Updated Response (as of September 18, 2023):** Jeff Al-Mashat, the Community Projects Program Manager for the Homeless Services Division and site manager for the Oklahoma Safe Parking site, conducts a weekly on-site security and incident review with the contracted security guards (who have been present on site 24 hours a day/ 7 days a week since February 2023) and addresses issues, concerns, and security improvements with the security contractor leadership at least monthly.

Recommendation 11 (R11): To facilitate the closure of the Site, relocate running and registered RVs currently at the Oklahoma Avenue Parking Village to Coastal Dunes RV Park. The Homeless Services Division of the Department of Social Services would conduct an analysis of which RVs are “running and registered” by August 1, 2023.

- **R11 Original Response** The recommendation requires further analysis. The Department of Social Services and the Homeless Services Division do not have the authority to “relocate running and registered RVs currently at the Oklahoma Parking Village to Coastal Dunes RV Park.” This would

have to be directed by the Administrative Office to the Department of Parks and Recreation and would likely require approval by the Board of Supervisors for that directive to be given. The owner of the vehicle would also need to agree with the decision to have their vehicle moved to the site. However, conducting an analysis of which RVs are “running and registered” could be conducted by the Homeless Services Division by 1 August 2023. The remainder of this recommendation is outside the scope of the Homeless Services Division authority to implement.

- **R11 Updated Response (as of September 18, 2023)**: An analysis of which RV’s are “running and registered” was completed by Jeff Al-Mashat, the Community Projects Program Manager for the Homeless Services Division, and site manager for the Oklahoma Safe Parking site, on September 13, 2023. The Administrative Office continues to evaluate all options including relocating running and registered RVs currently at the Oklahoma Parking Village to Coastal Dunes RV Park.