

Fall 2017 Partnership with Apache Junction

ASU Project Cities Homelessness Project

Understanding Homelessness– PAF 509: Public Affairs Capstone

Joan Serviss, et. al.– Dr. Malcolm Goggin



Project Cities



Capstone Overview

Eight Student Projects

Group Composition

- Eight capstone students
- Four are local and four live outside the metro area
- Two of the locals met with Heather and toured the city and observed locations where the homeless gathered, slept, and ate
- Two of the locals visited the soup kitchen

Sample Research Questions

- Who are the homeless people in the City of Apache Junction and how can they be helped?
- What programs are proven to be most effective?
- Will more police presence have an impact on illegal activities?
- What is the nutritional content of Genesis Project meals?

Student's Research Methods

- Data collected through obtaining personal narratives from Apache Junction citizens
- Case studies about programs and strategies that have been implemented in other cities
- Survey of city council members
- Content analysis of documents

Sample of Key Findings

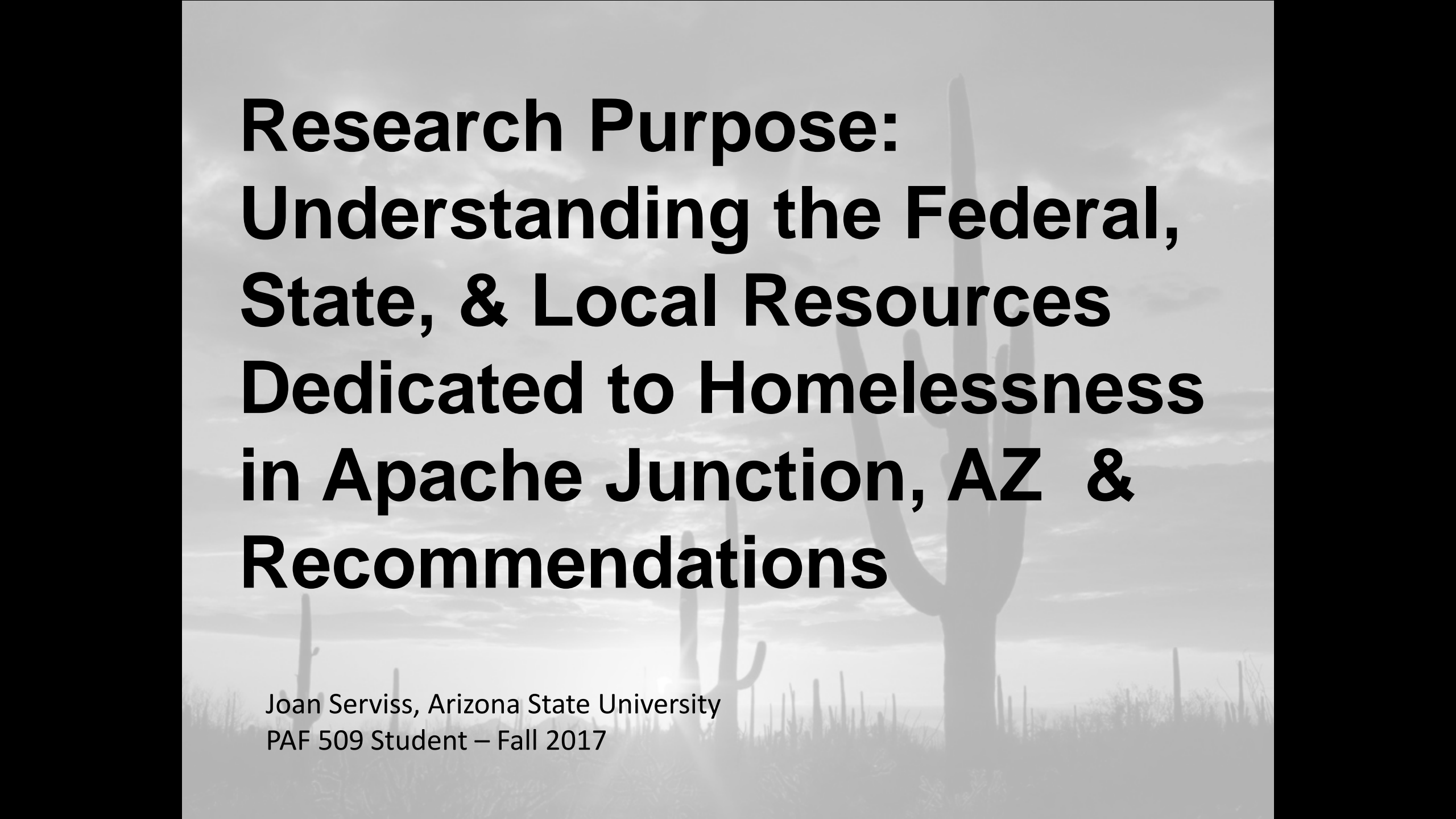
- Transportation in the city of Apache Junction is limited
- Local businesses may not be as concerned about the homeless population and its perceived rapid increase
- Support services and addition are two of the homeless populations' greatest needs
- Comparable cities are beginning to incorporate the need for additional housing, safe havens, and resources facilities within their districts
- When the homeless are approached as victims of the situation instead of criminals or nuisance, there will be a decrease in the homeless population

Sample Recommendations

- Improve transportation options for the homeless population
- Make available affordable low-income housing within walking distance of jobs and support services
- Create a public marketing internship position
- Encourage more non-profits to organize and implement programs to aid the homeless

Understanding Homelessness

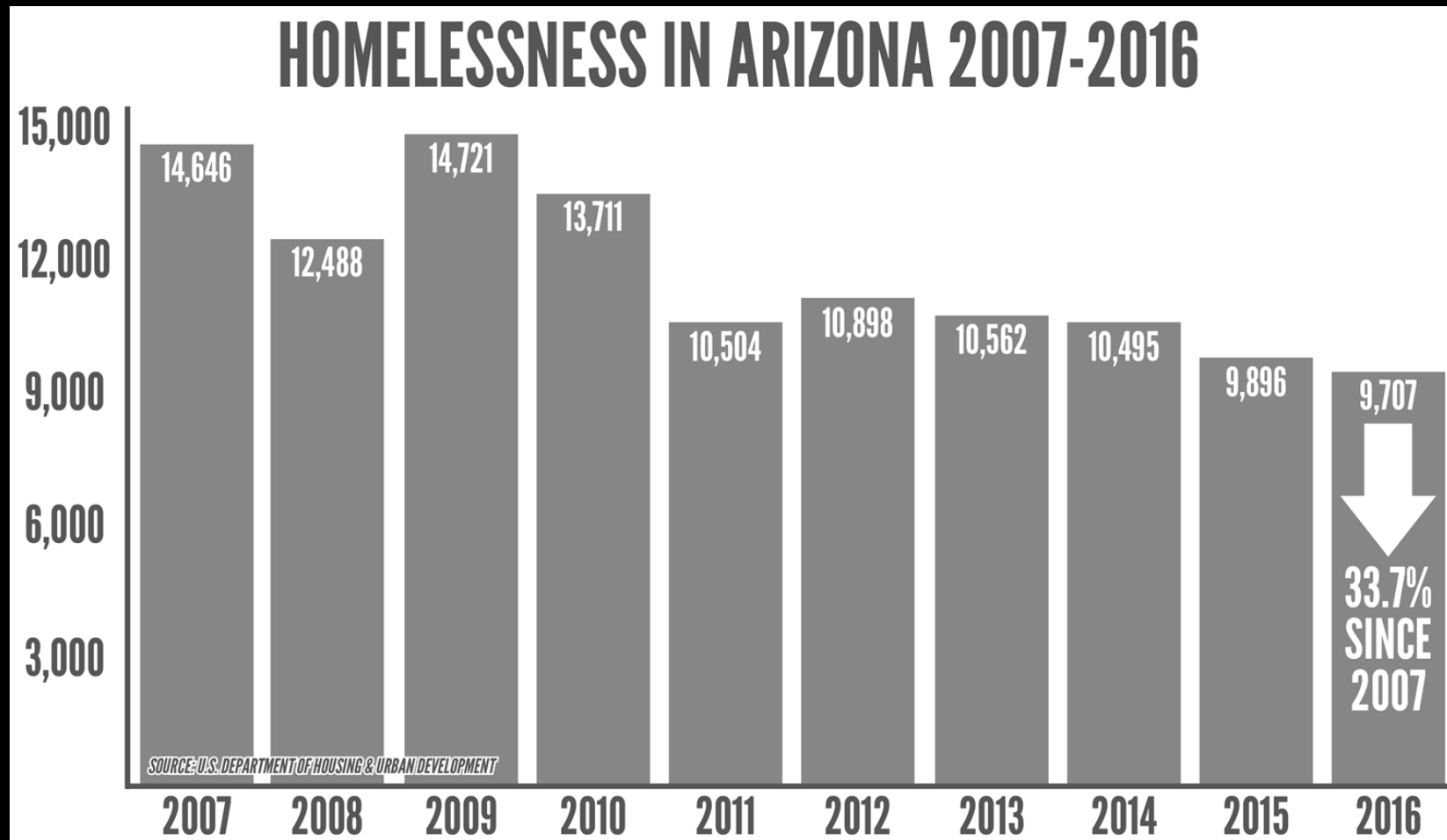
Joan Serviss



Research Purpose: Understanding the Federal, State, & Local Resources Dedicated to Homelessness in Apache Junction, AZ & Recommendations

Joan Serviss, Arizona State University
PAF 509 Student – Fall 2017

Statement of the Problem



- 549,928 individuals experiencing homelessness in the U.S. on any given night
- 9,682 men, women, and children experiencing homelessness in Arizona

DOLLARS
(in billions)

\$80 —

\$60 —

\$40 —

\$20 —

THE COST OF ENDING HOMELESSNESS

Cost of Ending
Homelessness
in the U.S.



Taxpayer Subsidies
for the Oil Industry[†]

Responsibly
Cutting Nuclear
Weapons Spending

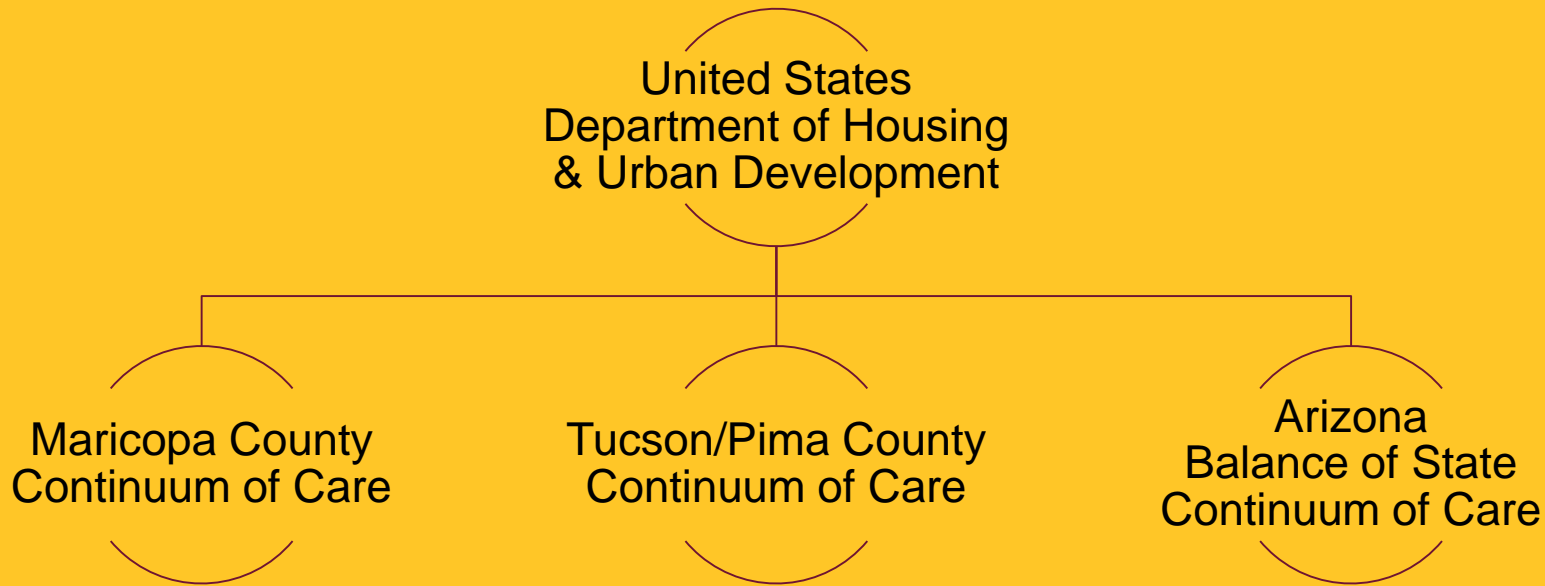
Eliminating
Capital Gains
Tax Cuts^{*}

Amount Americans Will
Spend on Christmas
Decorations & Flowers

Eliminating Corporate
Meals & Entertainment
Write-Offs

* FY 2012 - FY 2016
† Cost over five years

Major Government Funders



Literature Review



- Increased funding creates an increase in sheltered homelessness
 - Increased funding expands shelter availability
 - Families “couch-surfing” find “room at the inn”
 - Increased funding expands outreach

Literature Review



- Addressing homelessness thought to be a local official's issue to resolve
- Highly dependent on community's perceptions
- Community task force can lead to shared advocacy and participatory budgeting

Data Methodology

- Arizona Department of Economic Security's Coordinated Homeless Services
- Arizona Department of Economic Security's Domestic Violence Prevention Program
- Arizona Department of Economic Security's Emergency Solutions Grant Program
- Arizona Department of Housing's Community Development Block Grants
- Arizona Department of Housing's Community Development Block Grants-State Special Projects
- Arizona Department of Housing's HOME Investment Partnership Program
- Arizona Department of Housing's HOME Investment Partnership Program
- Arizona Department of Housing's Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS
- Arizona Department of Housing's National Housing Trust Fund
- Arizona Department of Housing's State Housing Trust Fund
- Arizona Department of Health Services' Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness
- Arizona Department of Health Services' Cooperative Agreements to Benefit Homeless Individuals
- HUD's Continuum of Care Program

Data Findings

Entitle ment & Non- Entitle ment Comm unities	AZ Coordinat ed Homeless Program (DES)	AZ Domestic Violence Program (DES)	HUD's Emergenc y Solutions Grant (DES/AD OH)	HUD's Communit y Developm ent Block Grants Non- entitleme nt & Entitleme nt (ADOH)	HUD's Communi ty Developm ent Block Grants- State Special Project (ADOH)	HUD's HOME Investmen t Program (ADOH)	HUD's Housing Opportun ities for People w/AIDS (ADOH)	HUD's National Housing Trust Fund (ADOH)	AZ State Housing Trust Fund (ADOH)	SAMHSA Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homeless ness (ADHS/AH CCCS)	SAMHS A Cooperat ive Agreeme nts to Benefit Homeles s Individua ls-State& Expand ed (ADHS/A HCCCS)	HUD's Continuu m of Care Grants	Total
Arizon a (statew ide)	\$3,522,600	\$13,903,700	\$1,685,724	\$10,578,395	\$1,373,054	\$4,804,047	\$239,786	\$3,000,000	\$2,500,000	\$1,173,429	\$711,818		\$43,492,553
Balanc e of State (covers 13 remain ing countie s)												\$3,999,999	\$3,999,999
FY 2016 Total	\$3,522,600	\$13,903,700	\$1,685,724	\$10,578,395	\$1,373,054	\$4,084,047	\$239,786	\$3,000,000	\$2,500,000	\$1,173,429	\$711,818	\$3,999,999	\$47,492,542

Apache Junction's Homelessness & Housing Support Funding Availability



Image: AJCity.net

0.9% available to City of Apache Junction to fund homelessness and housing supports

Recommendations



Image: AJCity.net

- Expand Chronic Homelessness Workgroup to include citizen subcommittee
- Continue seeking public comments as part of budget
- Engage with local Continuum of Care
- Coordinate homelessness-ending activities with neighboring cities to learn best practices, new funding sources (horizontal diffusion)

Thank you!

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ASU Sustainable Cities
Network
Arizona State University

Project Cities

