MEMO

June 5, 2022

To: Nick Edwards, City Manager
City Council
From: Tony Robyn, Assistant City Manager
Re: Homelessness Planning Consultant

Please see the below and attached information on the status of our selection and planning process.

In January we released #2023-RFP-03 Consulting Services for the Development of a Joplin Homelessness Strategic Plan. We had five respondents with a variety of experiences and approaches. The RFP process and final review included our Joplin Homeless Coalition Partners, the Proposition Use Tax Committee, and an internal city staff review team.

An internal review committee consisted of the City Manager's Office, Planning and Community Development, Convention and Visitor's Bureau, and the Joplin Police Department. The intention was to identify the best practices and possible approach to the specific needs and desired outcomes of the Joplin community, and less on standardized one-size-fits-all plans. We emphasized a process weighted toward a citizen, partner, and leadership engagement process to gather ideas and information. We also stressed the importance of a final actionable plan with accountability.

Through a multistep review process and a series of interviews, the selection team agrees Sharity, Inc. has the best approach and timeline, and will provide us with the desired outcomes. Their experience with city shelters, community clinics, housing, and mental health issues are of particular interest. In our reference checks we solicited feedback on Sharity's prior related efforts, all positive.

We presented this information to our Coalition Partners, the Proposition Action Implementation Committee and assigned liaison, and the City Department Heads leadership team.

We are soliciting additional input from City Council prior to proceeding with executing the agreement for services starting June 2023.