

MAKINGSPACE

optimistic strategies for addressing urban homelessness

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MIG | SvR
February 25, 2019

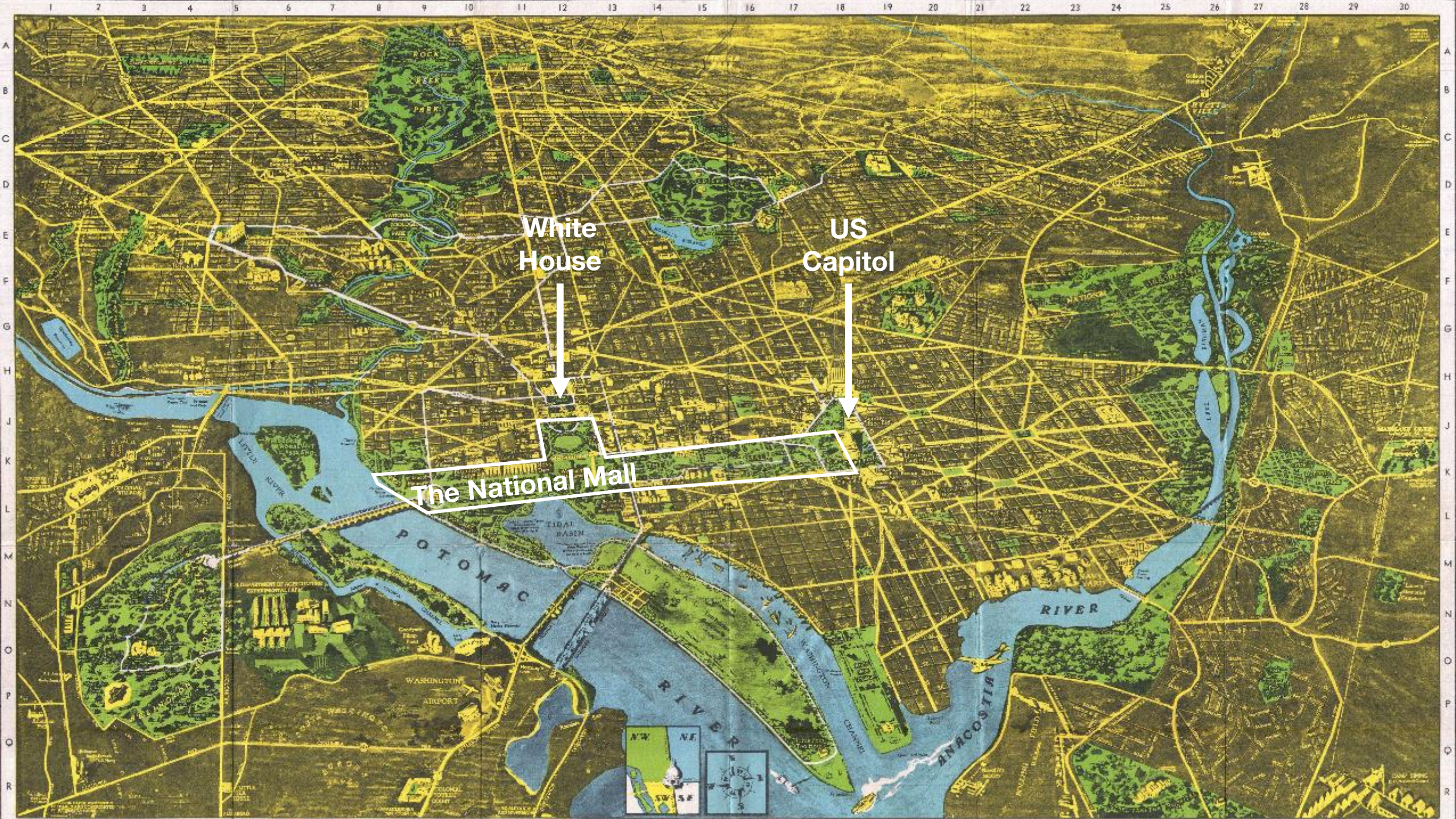
	arrival
	connection
	invitation
	prevention
	action

	arrival
	connection
	invitation
	prevention
	action



LIKE YOU, I AM AN OPEN SPACE ADVOCATE

Open Space Seattle 2100
2008 Seattle Parks Levy
Board of Seattle Parks Commissions
2015 Seattle Parks District



White House

US Capitol

The National Mall





Image: Wikipedia



Image: Wikipedia



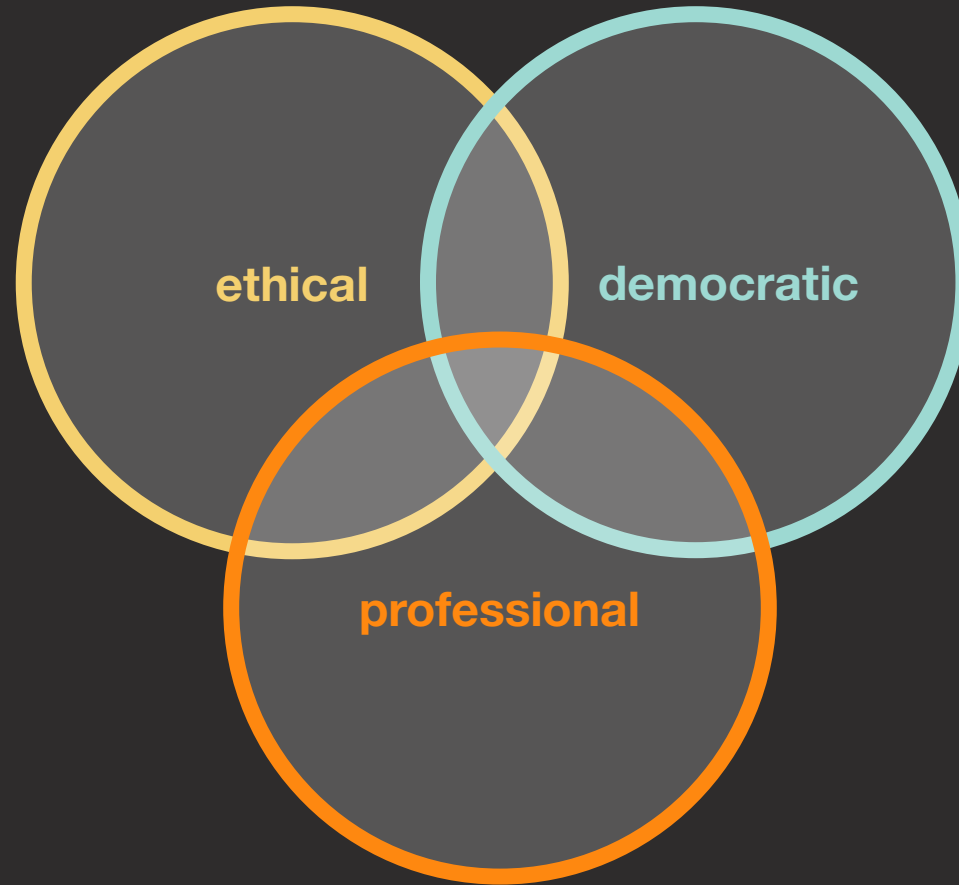
Image: Phil Roeder

my story with homelessness begins here . . .



. . . in seattle's "jungle" on the evening of January 26, 2016

what is society's responsibility?
do we have a moral imperative?

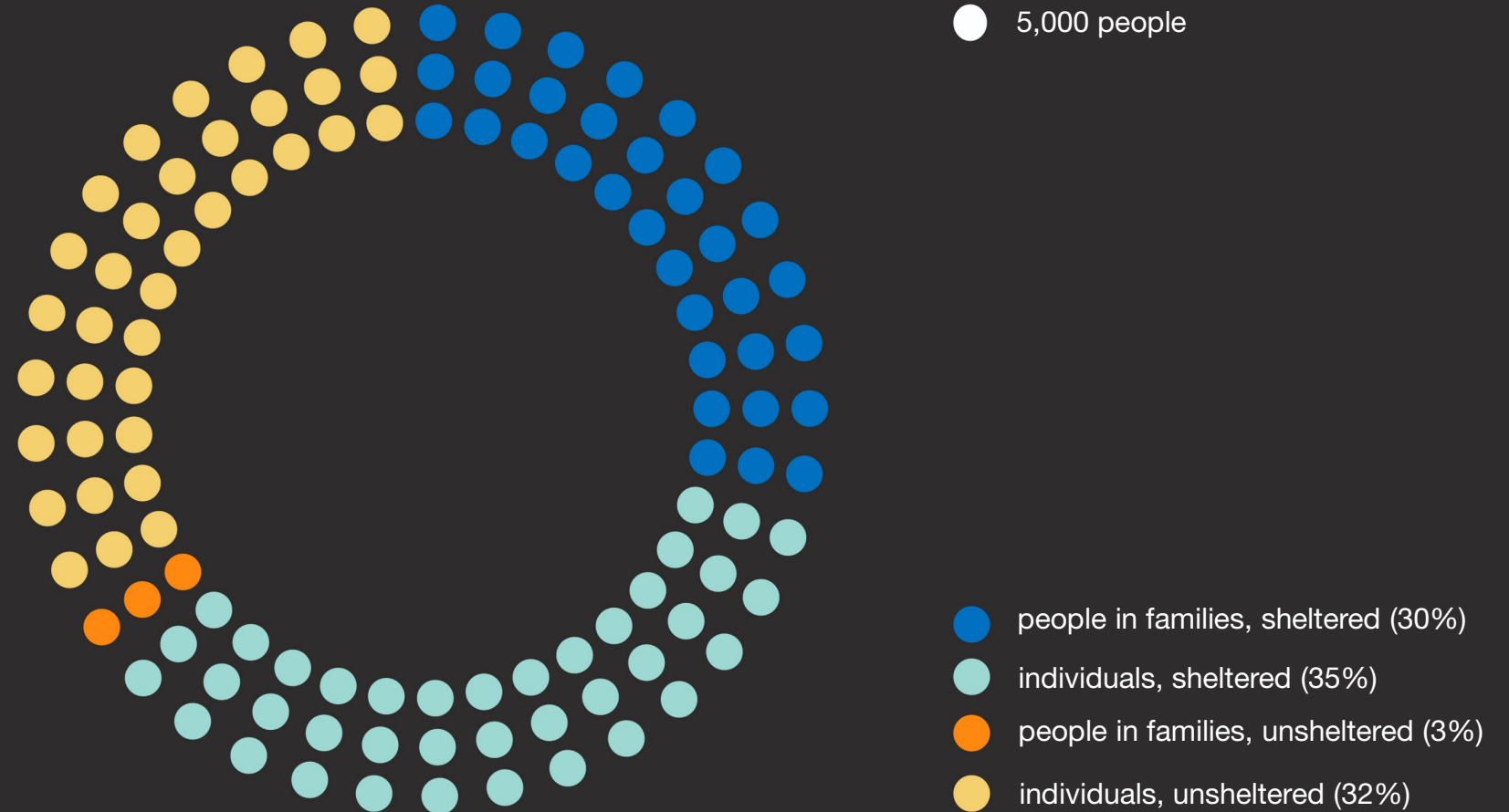


what is the role of public space?
what does this exclusion say
about our social contract?
is there long term damage to our
democratic idea of public space?
if public land is not for the most
vulnerable, then who is it for?

have we helped or hurt the environment for those
experiencing homelessness?

do we have a special responsibility to confront this crisis?

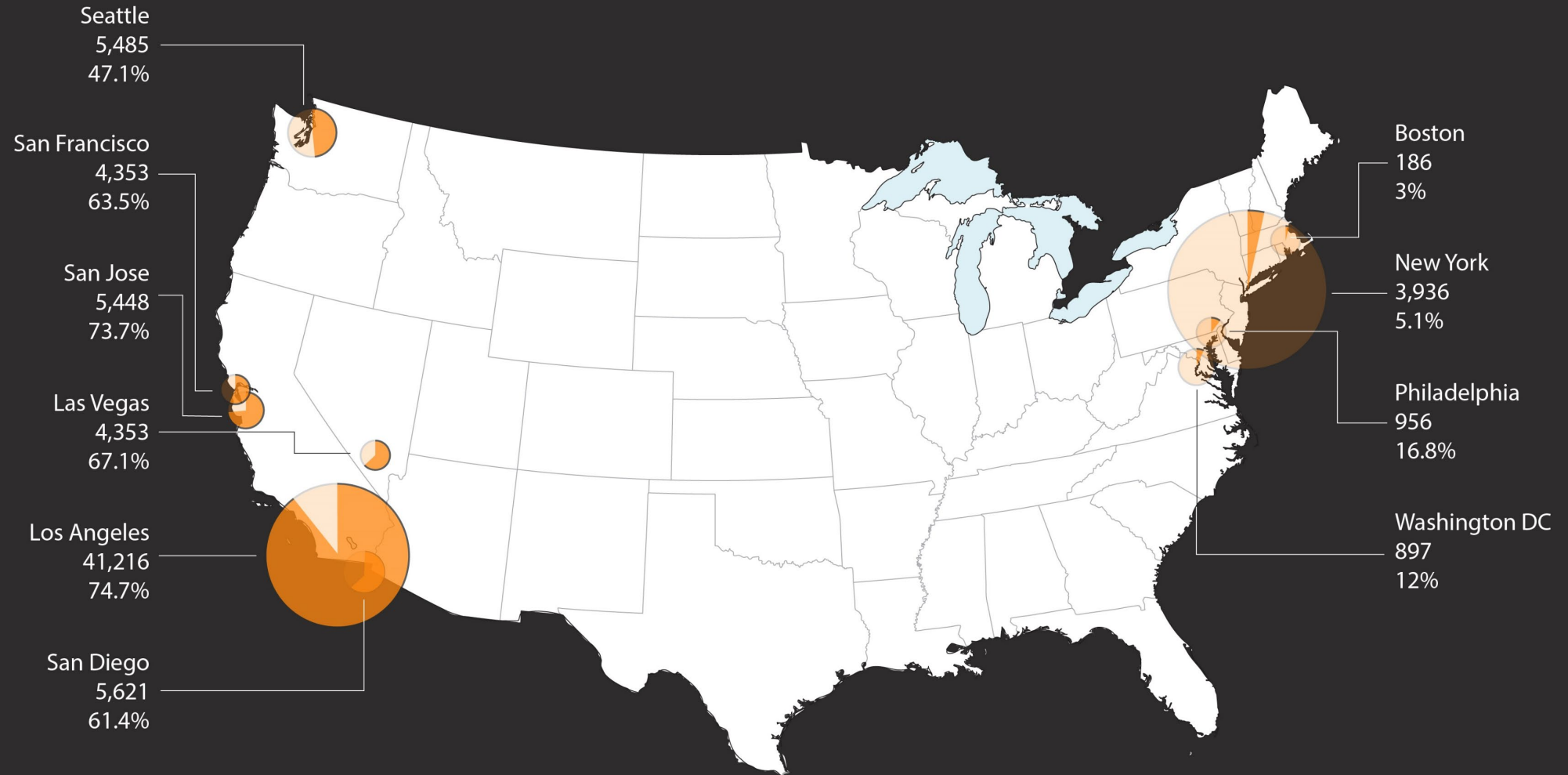
AMERICA'S HOMELESS POPULATION IN 2017



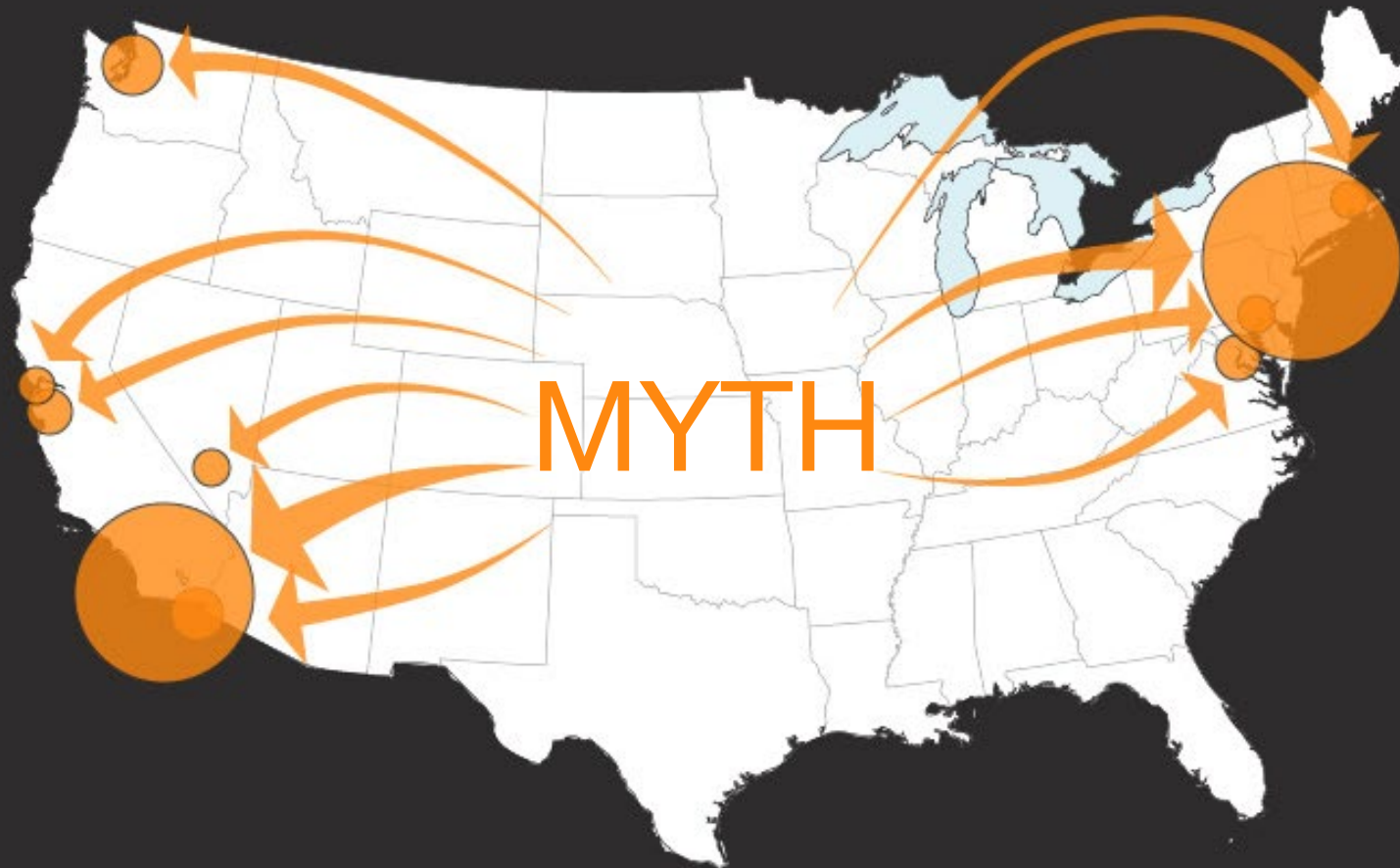
TEN LARGEST POPULATIONS OF PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS



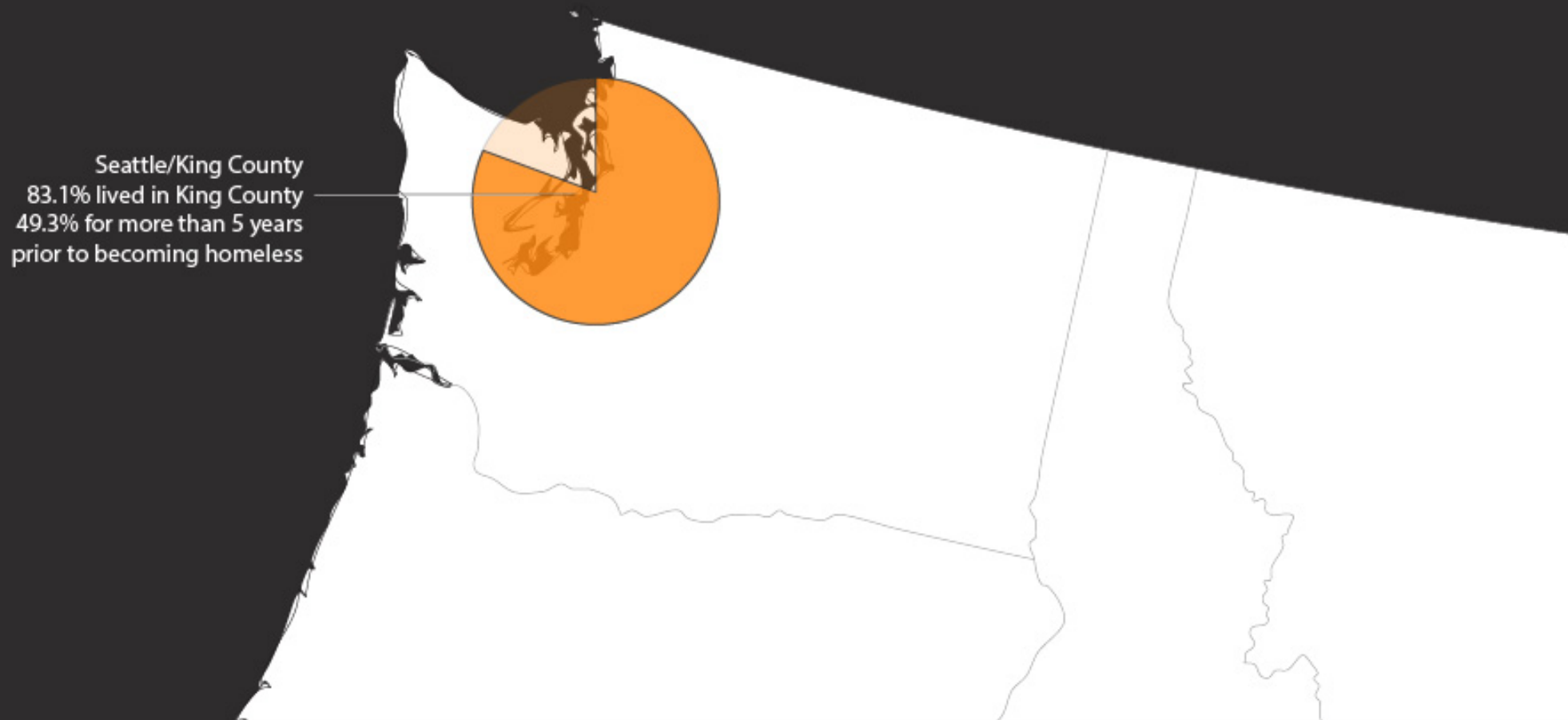
UNSHELTERED HOMELESS



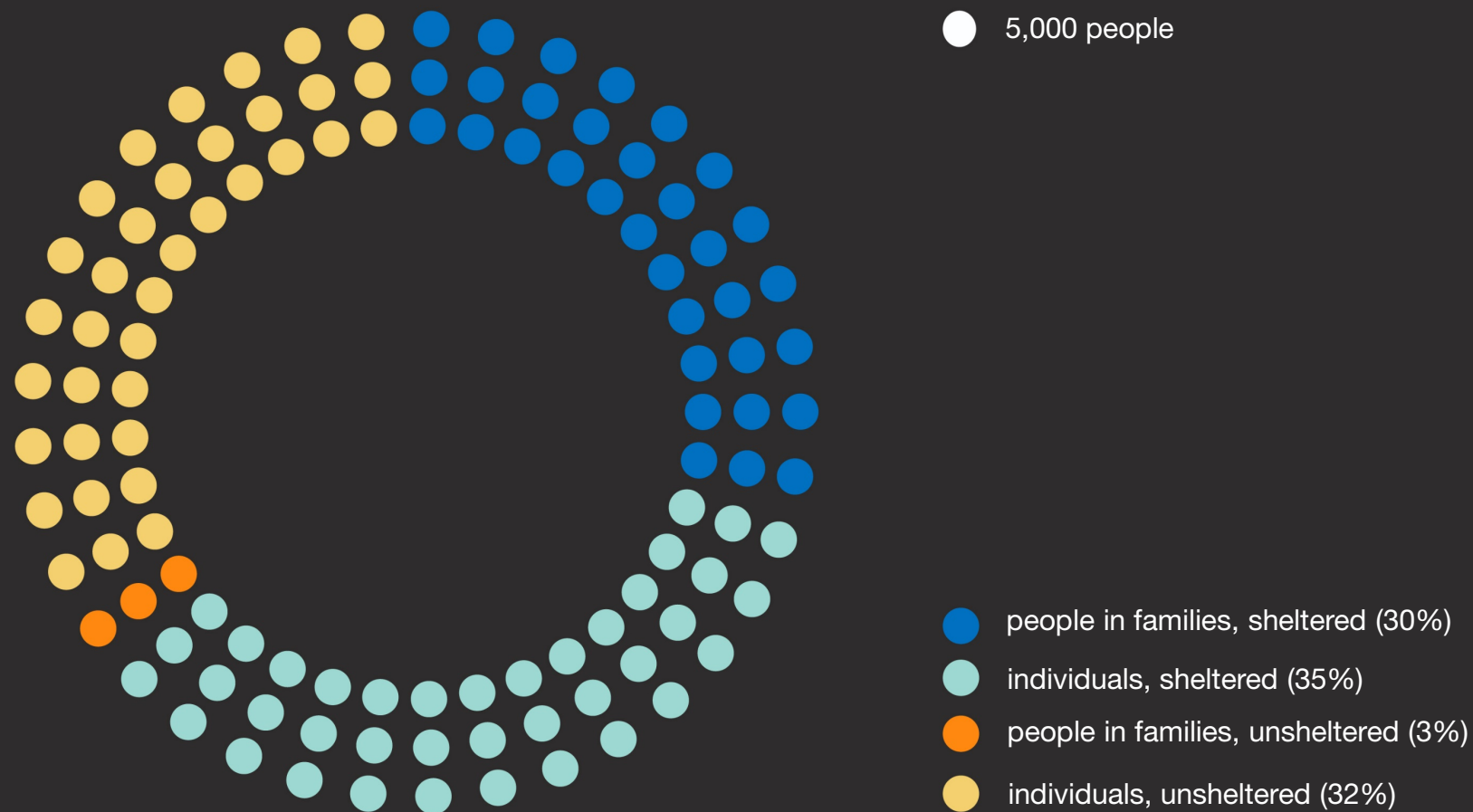
WHERE ARE PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS COMING FROM?



WHERE ARE PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS COMING FROM?



THE STORIES WE TELL OURSELVES ABOUT THE HOMELESS



Alcohol Use



2005

2010

2015

“Why is Homelessness Increasing?”
Washington State Department of Commerce

Illicit Drug Use



2005

2010

2015

“Why is Homelessness Increasing?”
Washington State Department of Commerce

Teen Mother Birth Rates



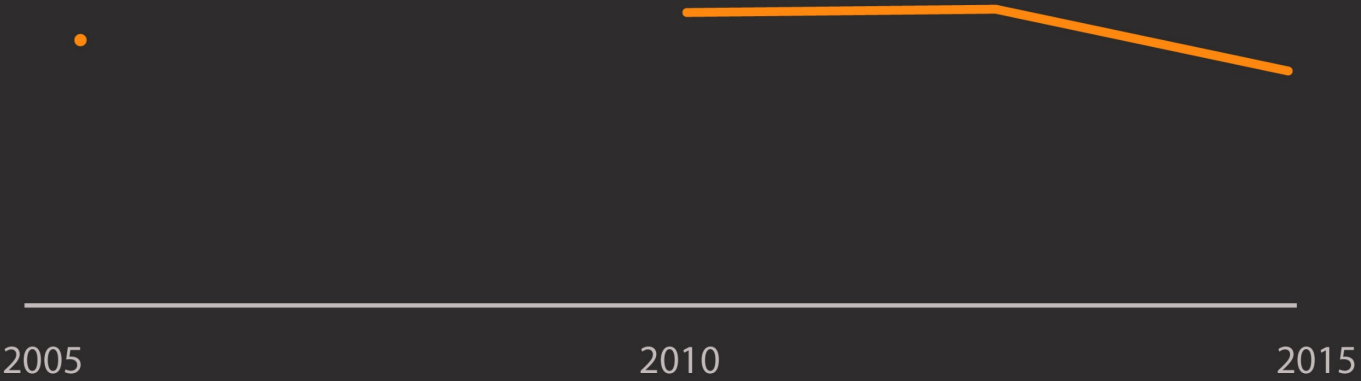
“Why is Homelessness Increasing?”
Washington State Department of Commerce

Divorce Rate



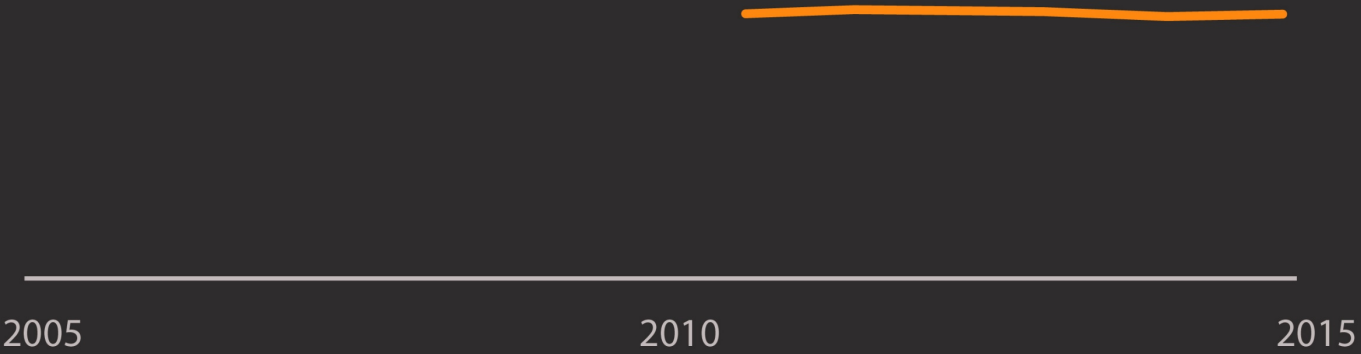
“Why is Homelessness Increasing?”
Washington State Department of Commerce

Domestic Violence



“Why is Homelessness Increasing?”
Washington State Department of Commerce

Percent of Children in Married Couple Households



“Why is Homelessness Increasing?”
Washington State Department of Commerce

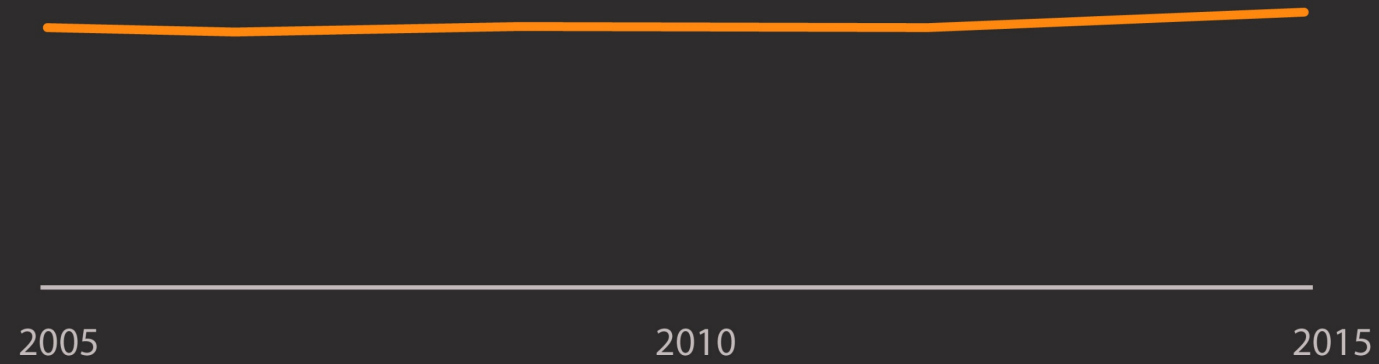
High School Educational Attainment



2005 2010 2015

“Why is Homelessness Increasing?”
Washington State Department of Commerce

Bachelors Degrees



“Why is Homelessness Increasing?”
Washington State Department of Commerce

Employment



2005

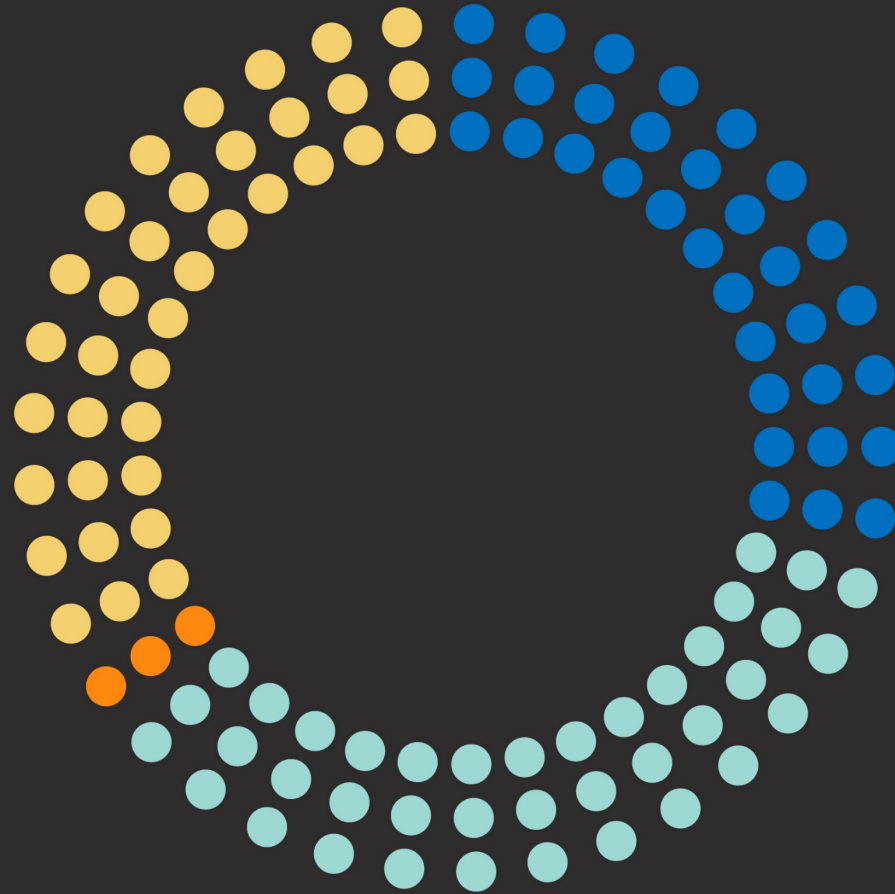
2010

2015

“Why is Homelessness Increasing?”
Washington State Department of Commerce

so what is the proximate cause of homelessness?

THE UNDERLYING TRAUMA: A LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING



Vacancy Rates

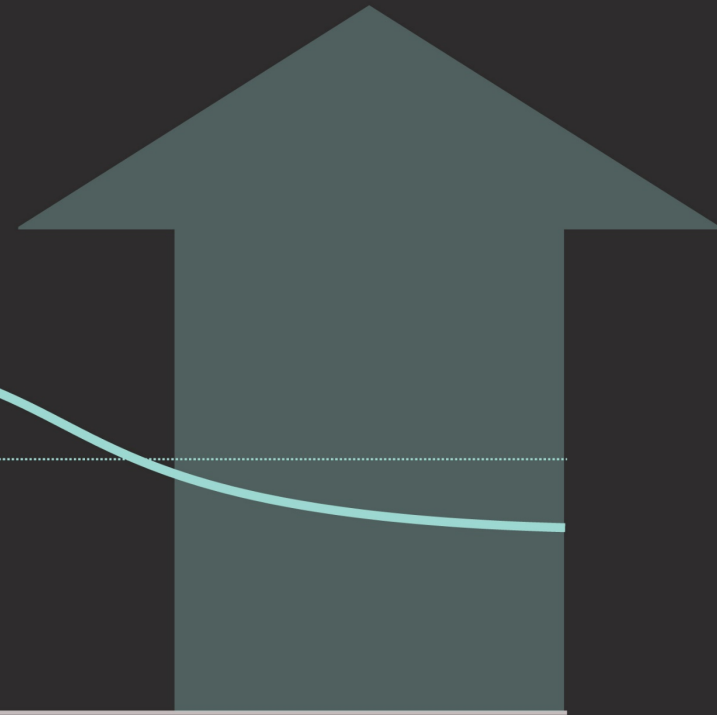
5%

2005

2010

2015

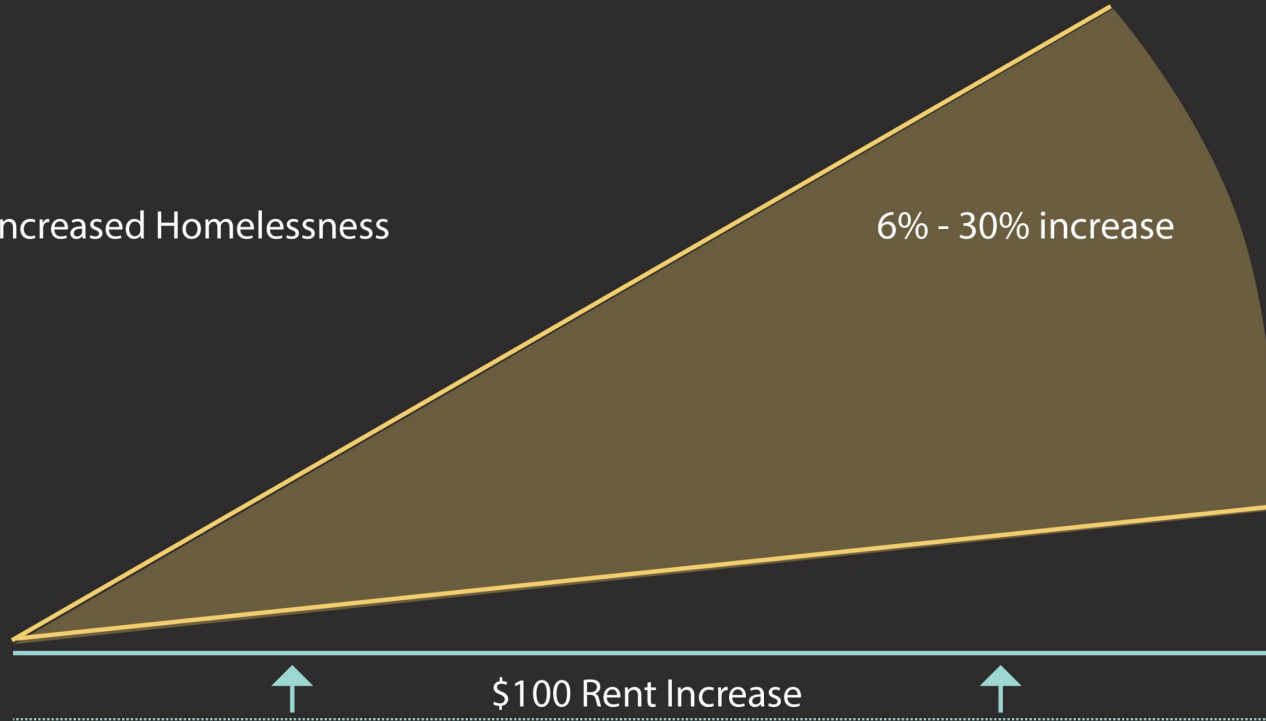
“Why is Homelessness Increasing?”
Washington State Department of Commerce



Increased Homelessness

6% - 30% increase

\$100 Rent Increase

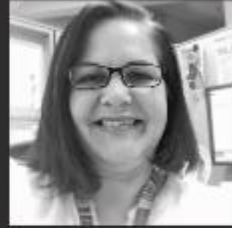


AFTER THE TRAUMA OF HOMELESSNESS, WHAT DOES THE PUBLIC REALM OFFER?





HomeLandLab Podcast



THREE STRATEGIES



CONNECTION

ME YOU NOW

HOW TO RESPOND TO PANHANDLING

Hello, I am not able to give money, but I hope you have a great day.

Hi, how are you?

- * Make eye contact
- * Smile
- * Have compassion

When you meet a fellow human who is asking for help, it may make you feel uncomfortable. This does not mean that person does not deserve the same rights as you.

Seeking
Compassion

I have to keep walking but thanks for saying hello.

Sure, here is a little bit. Have a good day.

Cities are increasingly **criminalizing** people who are financially poor with laws, such as making it illegal to sit on sidewalks. This works to remove people from sight, but is not a humane or sustainable solution.

GREATER CINCINNATI
**HOMELESS
COALITION**

To learn more about the lack of affordable housing and inadequacy of services that contributes to panhandling, visit us at www.cincihomeless.org.



CONNECTION: TELL BETTER STORIES



Jonathan Martin and Scott Greenstone

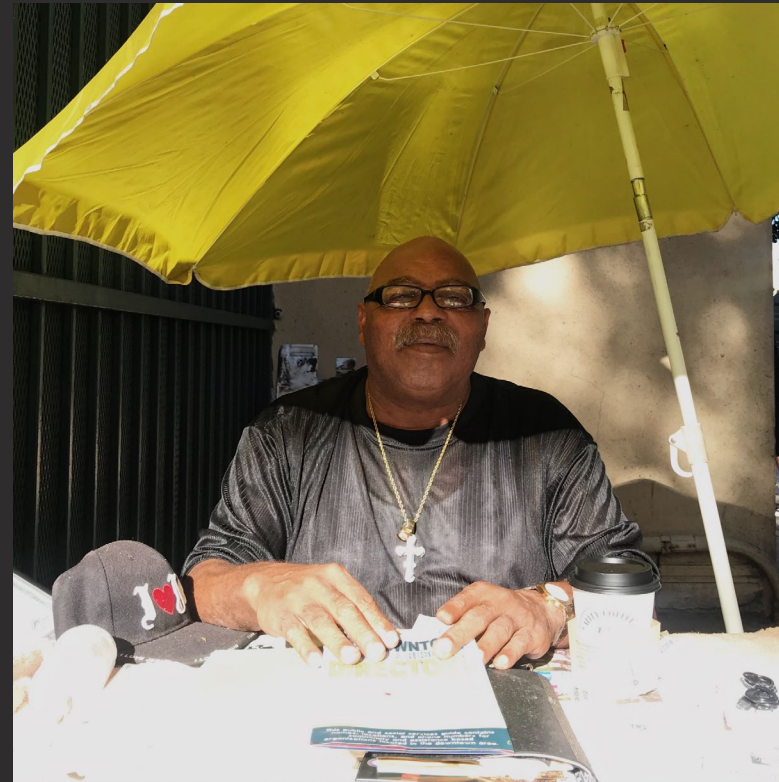


Seattle Times | Project Homeless

CONNECTION: **GUIDANCE**



Wendell Blassingame



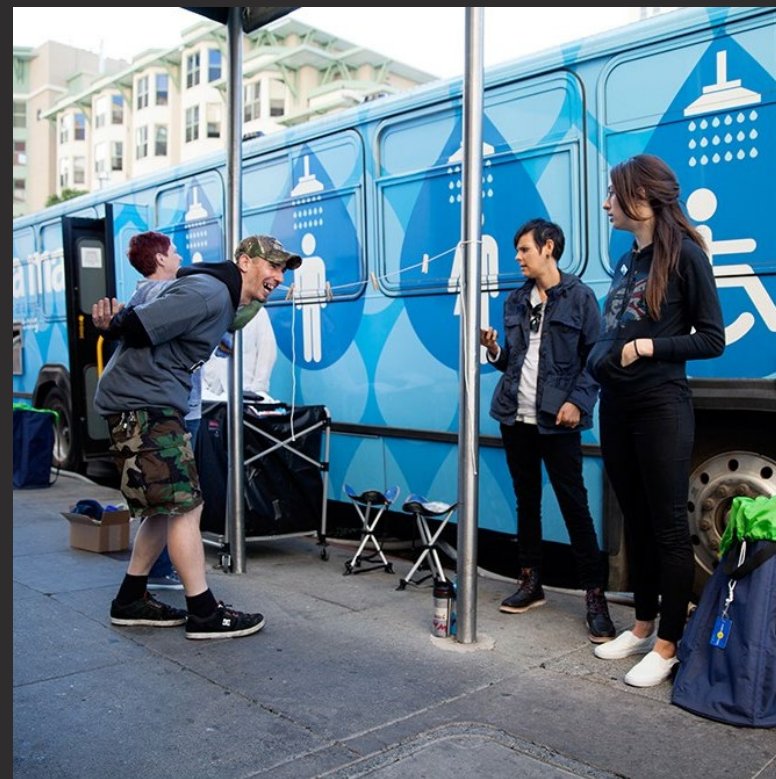
In St. James Park, Skid Row



INVITATION: **RADICAL HOSPITALITY**



Leah Filler



LavaMae

INVITATION: INCLUSIVE PROGRAMMING



Leslie Smith
Alliance for Pioneer Square



Activation



Tim Harris
RealChange Homeless Empowerment Project

INVITATION: **GIVING**



Graham Pruss



WeCount's Box of Socks

INVITATION: **SAFE, ECONOMICALLY DIVERSE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS**

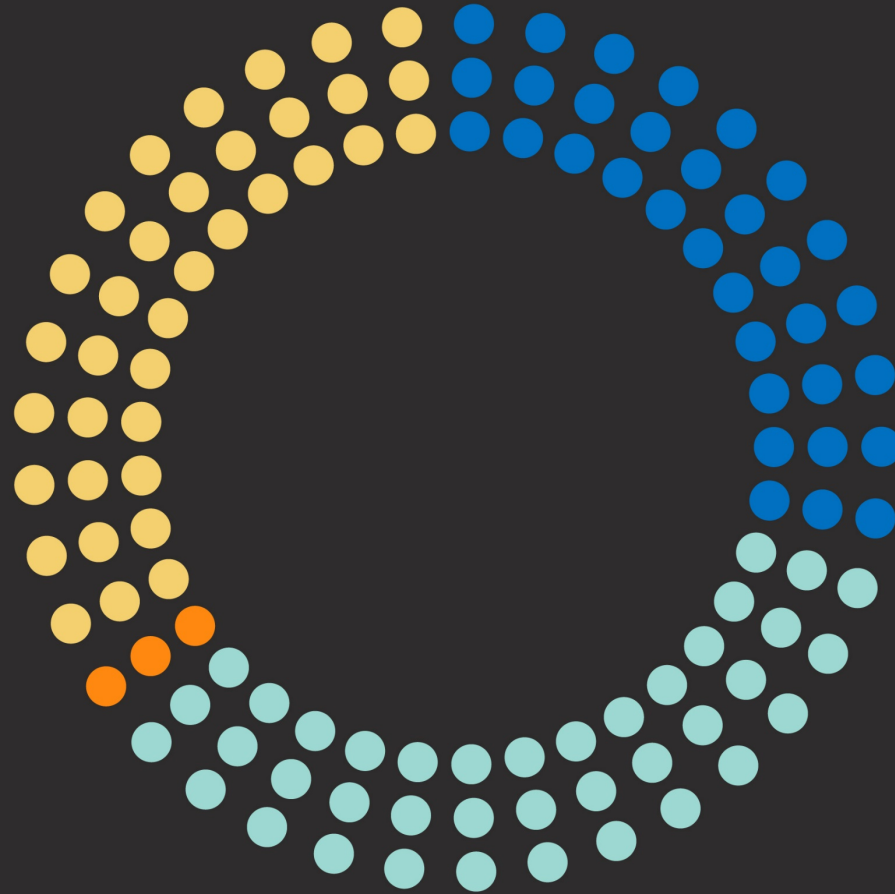


Tamika Butler

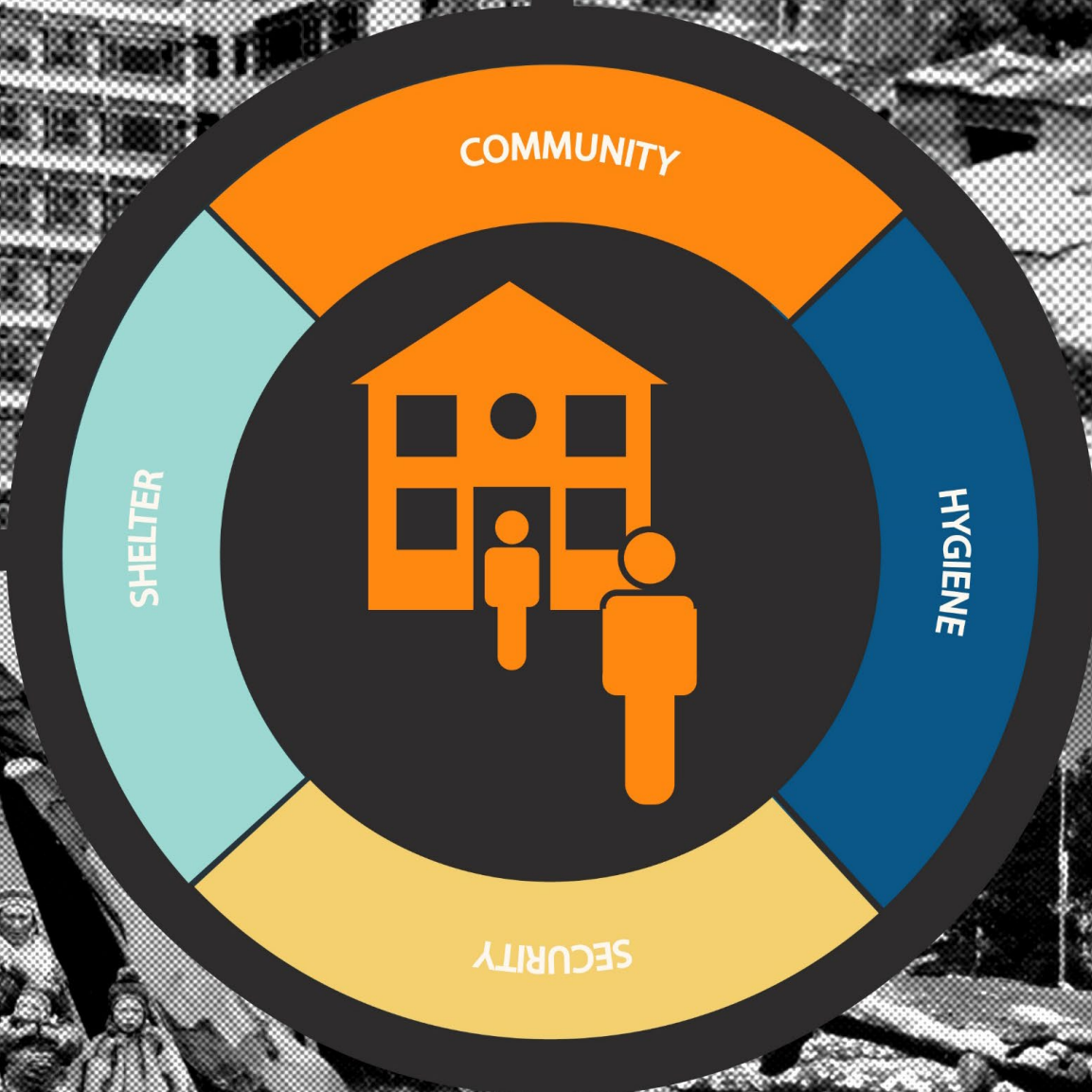
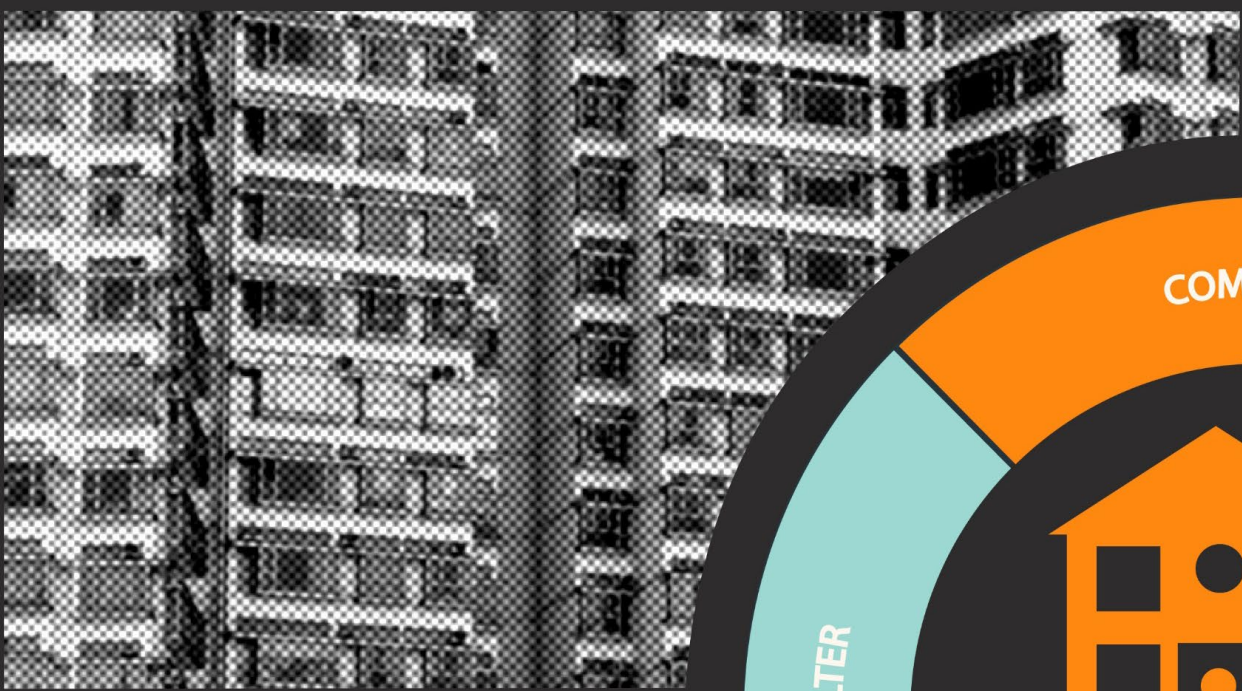




THE UNDERLYING TRAUMA: A LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING

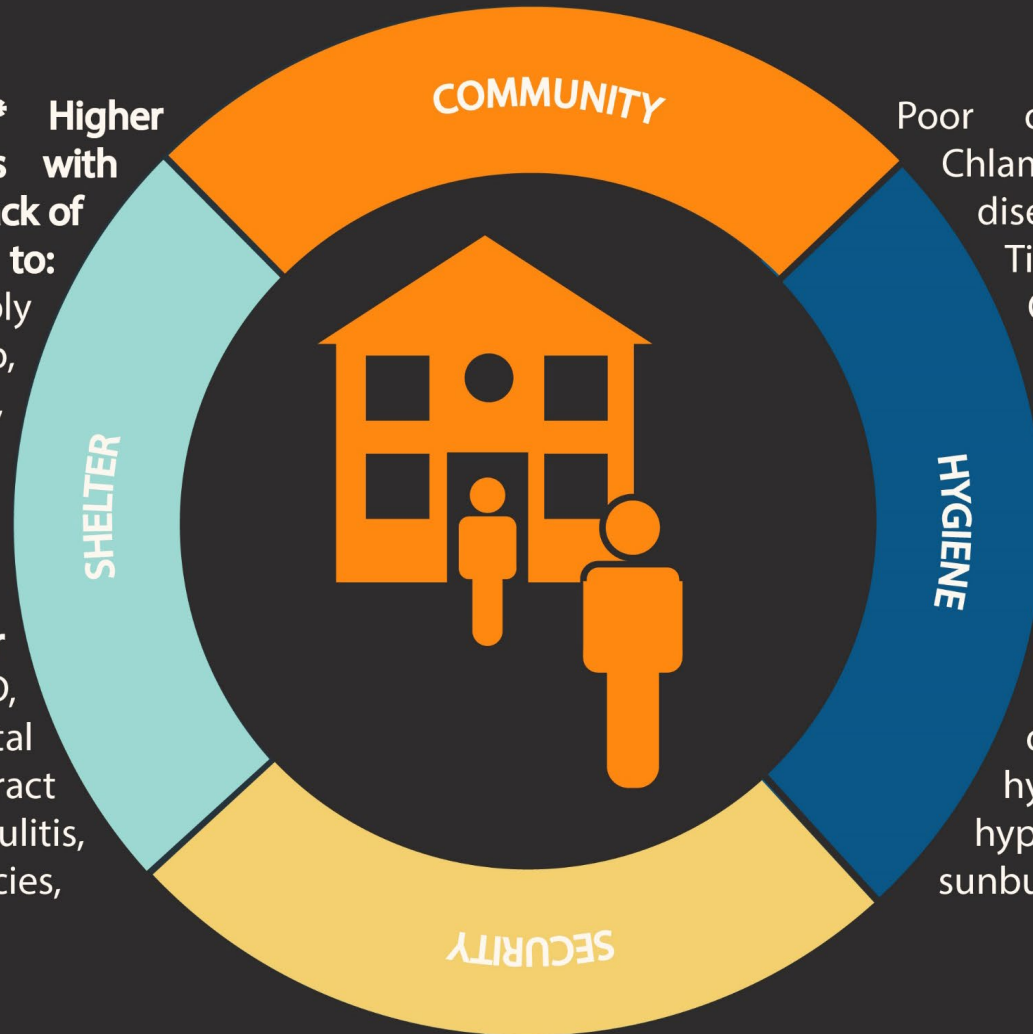








Increased risk of death * Higher likelihood of interactions with criminal justice system * Lack of an address makes it hard to: access public services, apply for and maintain a job, exercise due process rights, court may not release on own recognizance during pendency of prosecution, may not be able to plea and receive probation * **Greater Risk:** Seizures, COPD, Arthritis, Musculoskeletal disorders, Respiratory tract infections, Gonorrhea, Cellulitis, TB, HIV, Unwanted Pregnancies,

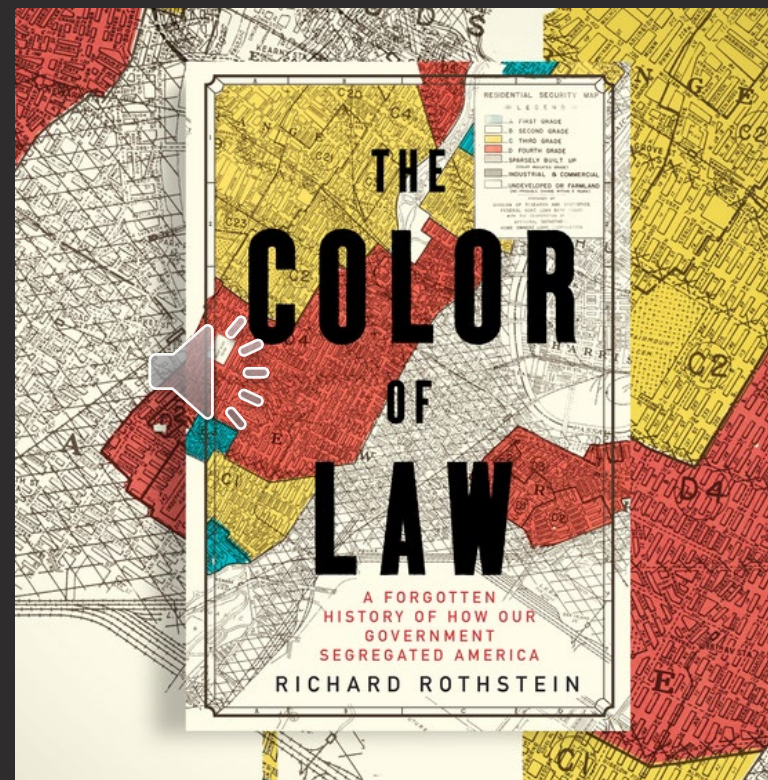


Poor oral and dental health, Chlamydia, Impetigo, Venous stasis diseases, Scabies, Body lice, Tinea pedis, Onychomycosis, Corns, Callouses, Immersion foot * **Mental illness * Denial of constitutional rights * Inadequately controlled medical conditions:** hypertension, diabetes and anemia * **Violence and Injury:** assault, rape, murder, being struck by vehicles, drug and alcohol overdoses, hypothermia, frostbite, falls, hypothermia, freezing, severe sunburn, heatstroke

ROOT CAUSES OF HOUSING UNAFFORDABILITY



WE NEED TO CONFRONT OUR HISTORY: **SEGREGATING HOME**



WITH PEOPLE DYING ON THE STREETS, MANY CAN'T WAIT TO MAKE CHANGE

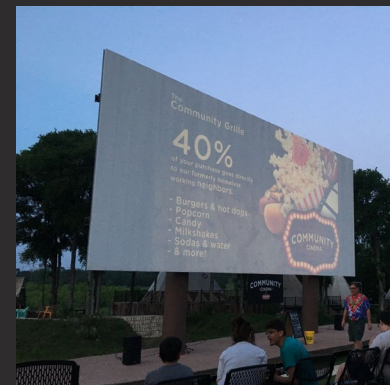
PREVENTION: **COMMUNITY FIRST! VILLAGE**



Alan Graham



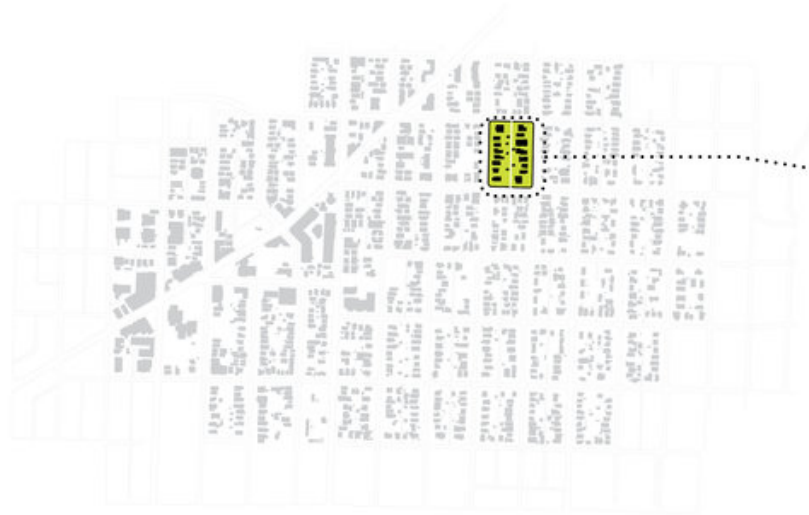
Community First Village



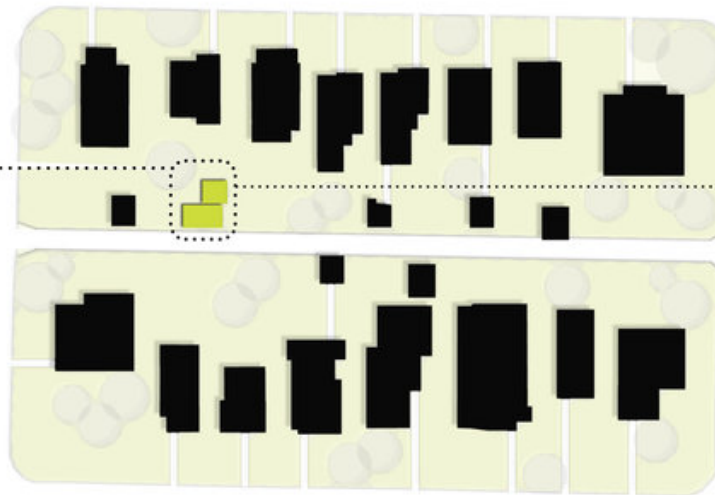
PREVENTION: THE BLOCK PROJECT



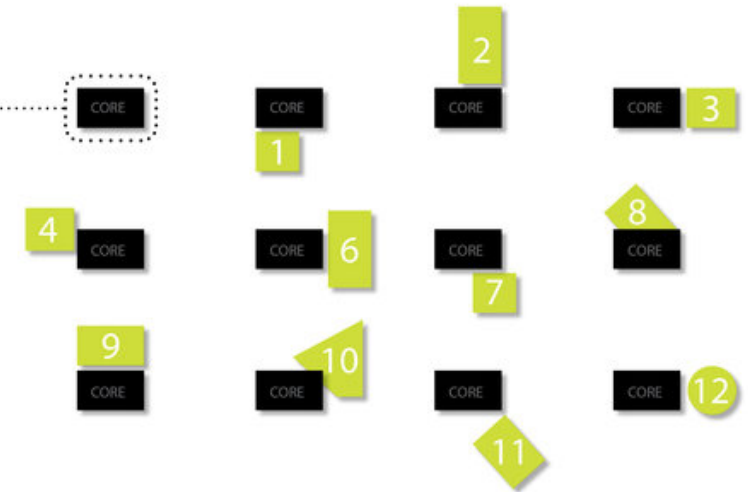
PREVENTION: THE BLOCK PROJECT



TYPICAL NEIGHBORHOOD



TYPICAL BLOCK



CUSTOM LAYOUTS, ENDLESS OPTIONS

	arrival
	connection
	invitation
	prevention
	action

1. THIS IS A BUILT ENVIRONMENT PROBLEM

2. THERE APPEARS TO BE NO POLICY OBJECTIVE.

3. WE'VE DESIGNED A SYSTEM THAT CREATES MAXIMUM IMPACTS ON PUBLIC SPACES

1. THIS IS A BUILT ENVIRONMENT PROBLEM

2. NO ONE LIKES WHAT WE'RE DOING NOW

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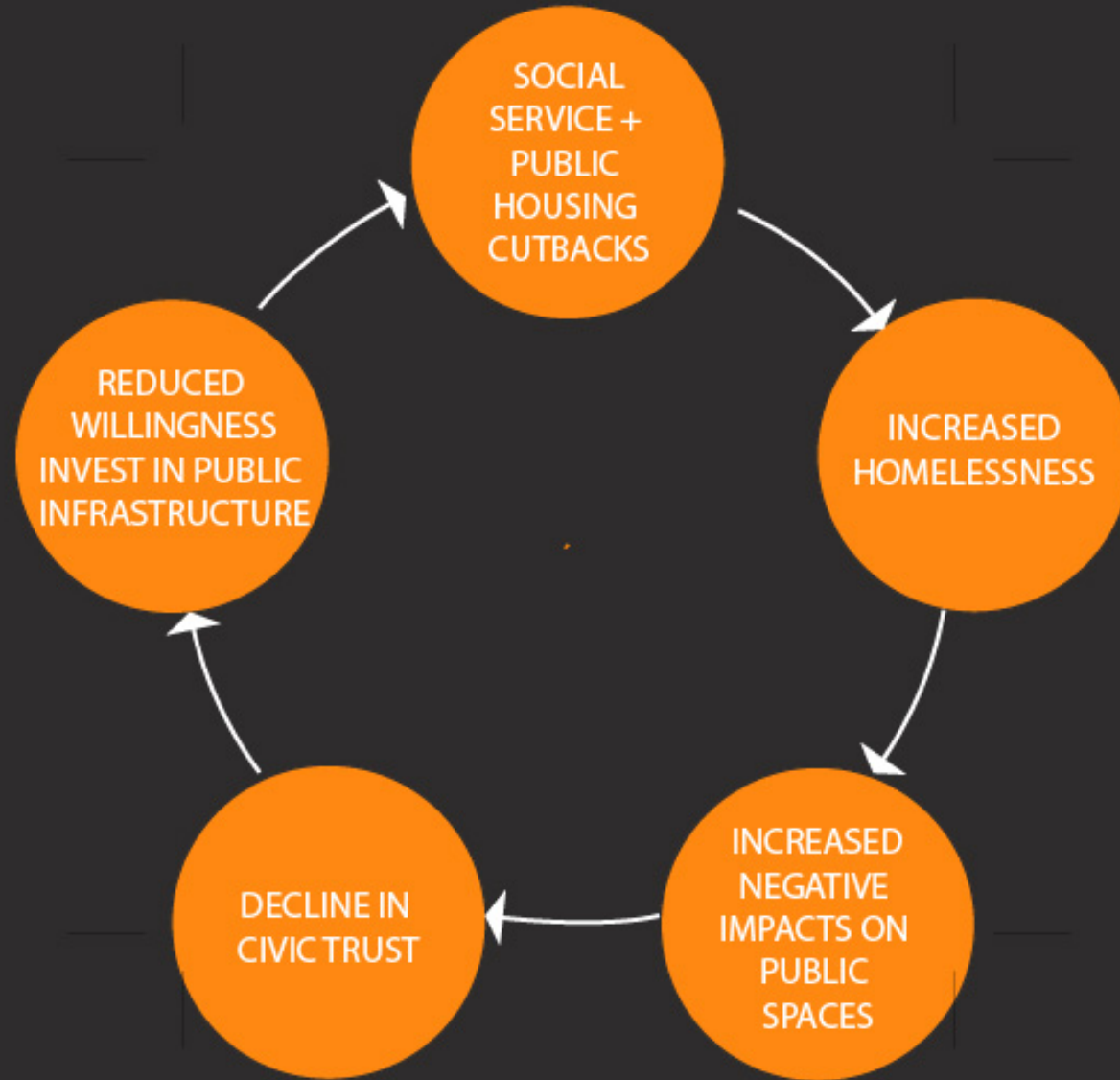
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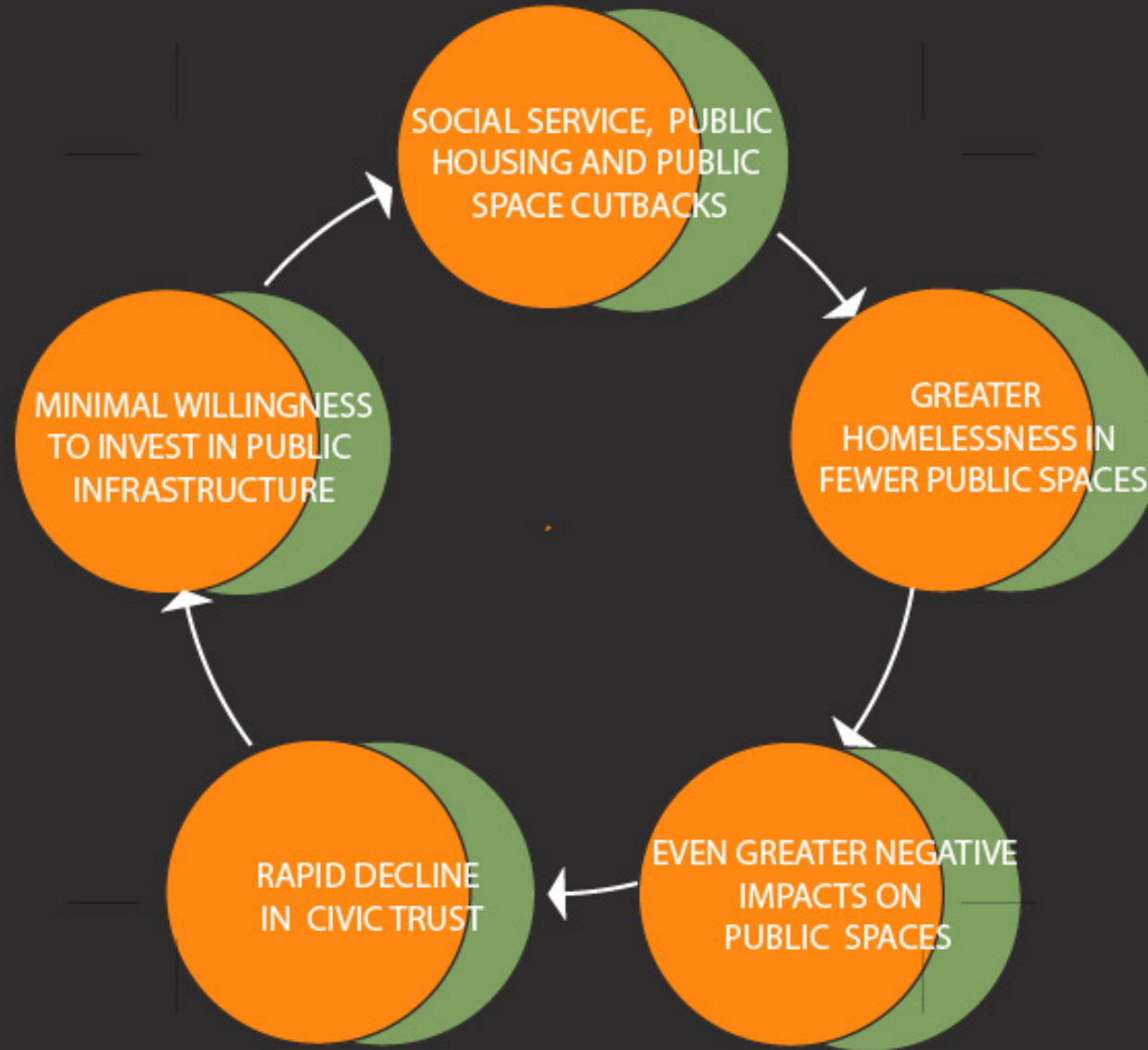
strengthening community
increasing safety
keeping families together
protecting the commons
respecting dignity
encouraging hygiene
promoting productivity
treating mental health
providing stability
being cost effective
ending homelessness

1. THIS IS A BUILT ENVIRONMENT PROBLEM
2. NO ONE LIKES WHAT WE'RE DOING NOW
3. THERE APPEARS TO BE NO POLICY OBJECTIVE
4. WE'VE DESIGNED POLICIES, SYSTEMS AND ENVIRONMENTS THAT MAXIMIZE IMPACTS ON PUBLIC SPACES

THE INTERTWINED FATES OF HOMELESSNESS AND PUBLIC SPACE

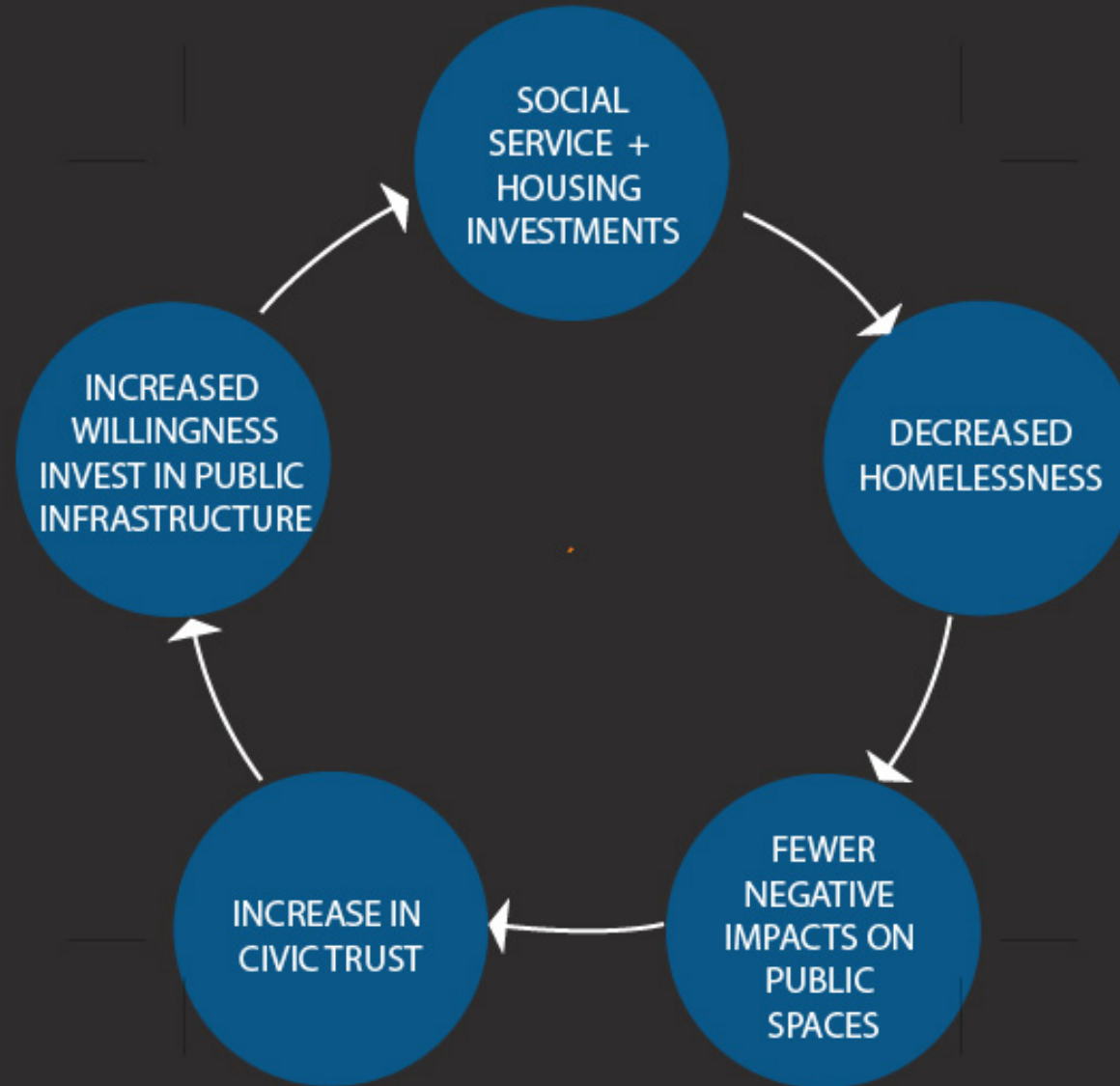


THE INTERTWINED FATES OF HOMELESSNESS AND PUBLIC SPACE

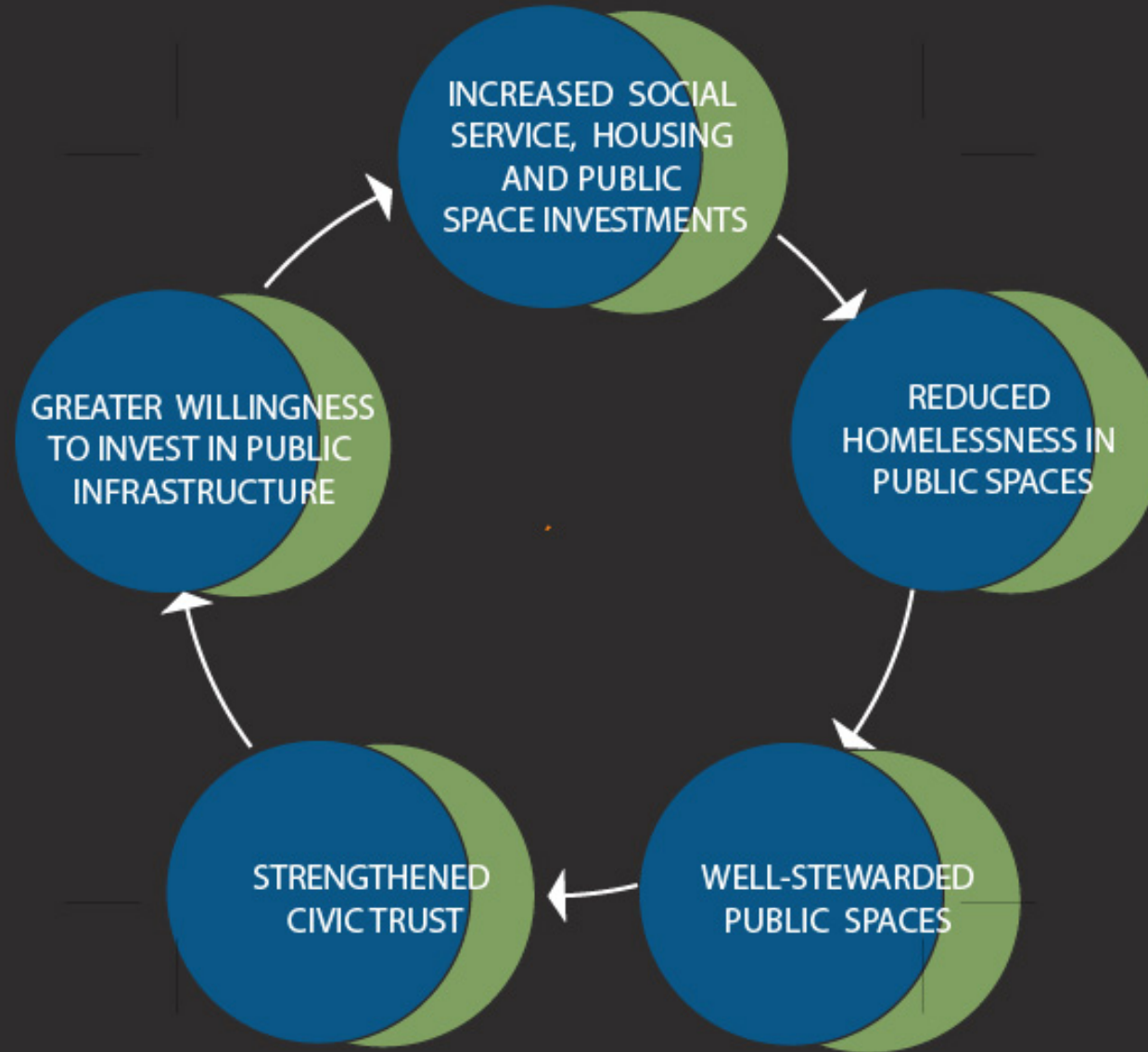


WE CAN **DESIGN** BETTER POLICIES, SYSTEMS AND ENVIRONMENTS

NEW MODEL OF PUBLIC SPACE AND HOMELESSNESS THAT IS AFFIRMING



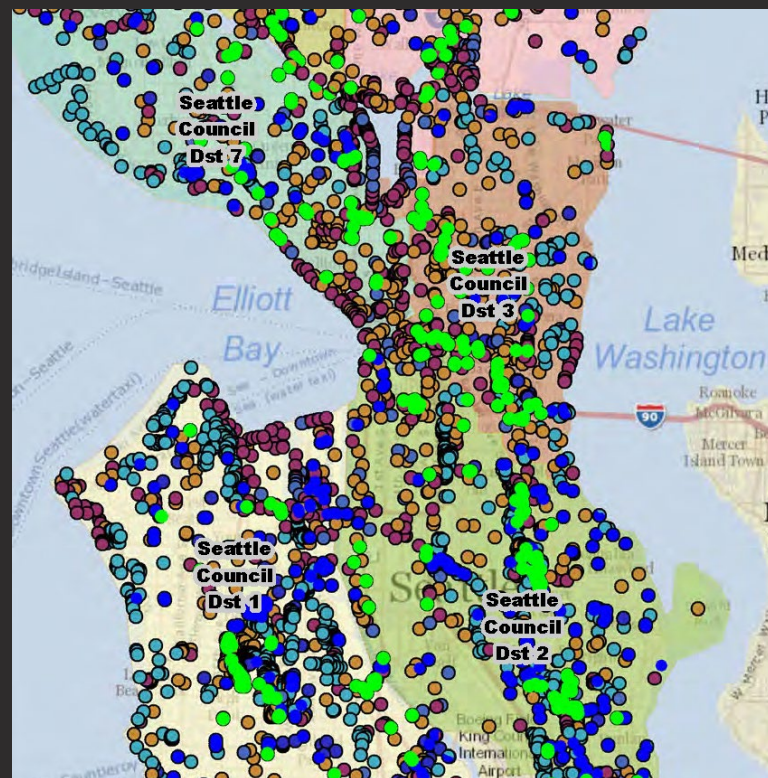
NEW MODEL OF PUBLIC SPACE AND HOMELESSNESS THAT IS AFFIRMING



PREVENTION: HOUSING ON PUBLIC LANDS



John Wilson, King County Assessor





AUSTIN'S SYSTEM OF ENCAMPMENT TRIAGE

Response Level	Level Description	Description of Camp	Response Protocol
5	Immediate Threat to Life, Health and Safety	Major sanitation concerns, Obvious illicit activity, violent behavior and open lewd conduct	Call APD --> Call Integral Care --> Staff follow up for abatement
4	Blocking access to amenities and/or damages to assets	Blocking ADA accessible amenities, camping in playscapes or directly on trail	Staff education and Establish Relationship --> Coordinate with Integral Care --> work to bring down to level 2 (abatement)
3	Environmental Concern	tent cities, large furniture, cutting and removal of vegetation, within water ways or flood prone areas , large quantities of trash, cutting of vegetation, fire dangers, improperly disposed hypodermic needles	Staff Education --> Integral Care --> work to bring down to level 2 (abatement)
2	Clean, Safe Camp	these are model camps, we would work to help find more permanent solutions (intragyal care) but are not a priority for notices to vacate	Staff education, establish relationship to assist with litter abatement and stewardship of location and connection to services
1	Abandoned Camp	clean by contractor, clean with available staff, revegetation if cleared by volunteer groups	Coordination with staff for cleanup --> follow up with revegetation and check for reentry into area

Restrooms

- UN standards: 224 restrooms
- City of Seattle has: 6 restrooms



PREVENTION: OPPORTUNITIES FOR HOUSING ON PUBLIC LANDS



**BLOCK PROJECT
HOMES**



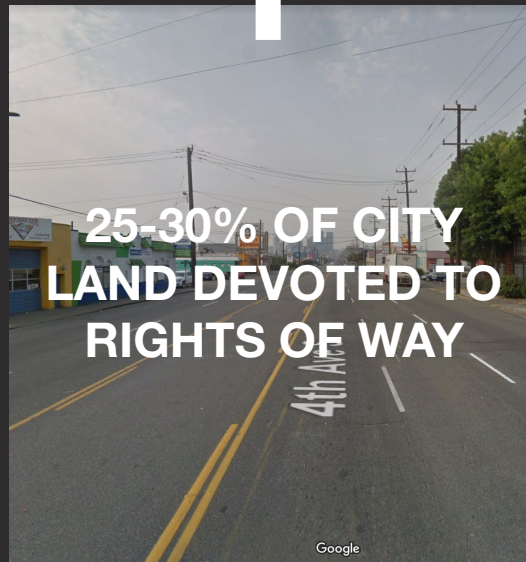
**AN RV PARK ON
STERIODS**



PLATFORM TENTS



**540 ACRES OF
PUBLIC PARK
PARKING**



**25-30% OF CITY
LAND DEVOTED TO
RIGHTS OF WAY**



**THOUSANDS OF
ACRES OF SURPLUS
PUBLIC LANDS**

“The minimum requirement for a dream is a safe place to lay your head.

“The minimum requirement for a dream is a safe place to lay your head. We must hold our governments and ourselves accountable for keeping our shared cities safe for everyone in them

“The minimum requirement for a dream is a safe place to lay your head. We must hold our governments and ourselves accountable for keeping our shared cities safe for everyone in them because the only cities worth building, indeed the only futures worth dreaming of, are those that include all of us.”

-OluTimehin Adegbeye



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