

**From:** [Strauss, Daniel](#)  
**To:** [Auriemma, Anthony](#); [McLean, Alyson](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Talking Points-Nav Team cuts  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 14, 2018 9:14:00 AM

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Thanks!

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**From:** Auriemma, Anthony  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 14, 2018 9:12 AM  
**To:** McLean, Alyson <Alyson.McLean@seattle.gov>; Bagshaw, Sally <Sally.Bagshaw@seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Talking Points-Nav Team cuts

Hi, sending some talking points about why we oppose the Nav Team cut:

### **Top Line Messages**

- The Navigation Team has doubled its productivity in 2018—nearly doubling the amount of people we got inside, the number of unsafe encampments removed, garbage that’s been picked up—this is due to the expansion that already occurred this year. Rolling this expansion back will leave 400 more people living on our streets, 200 more encampments in our parks and public spaces, and 2,000 fewer contacts to unsheltered people not contacted by the Navigation Team’s police officers, field coordinators, and outreach workers.
- This \$480,000 cut of the Navigation Team’s budget will dramatically decrease the team’s ability to get vulnerable people inside and remove unsafe encampments.
- The Navigation Team is made up of field coordinators, contracted outreach workers, police officers, clean-up crews from City departments, and clean-up contractors. Cutting the team’s budget and reducing staff makes it harder for the team to get people inside, remove unsafe encampments, and clean up garbage across Seattle.

### **Detailed 2018 Efforts**

#### **People**

- The Navigation Team has surpassed last year’s efforts to get people inside. In 2018, the team has made over 8,000 contacts with people living unsheltered, referring nearly 1,000 people to safer shelter. Last year the team got 675 people inside. This increase is due in large part to the expansion that occurred in July
- This budget cut will reduce the team’s capacity to get people inside, leaving hundreds of more people outdoors on Seattle’s streets next year.

#### **Unsafe Conditions**

- In 2018, the Navigation Team removed over 400 unmanaged encampments and

cleaned-up over 8 million pounds of garbage, debris, and human waste from unmanaged encampments—this work would be hurt by a reduction in staffing and resources, contributing to human suffering and creating an even more serious public health crisis.

- A cut to the team’s ability to engage encampments will reduce the team

### **Complaints**

To date, the City has received nearly 13,000 complaints about homeless encampments across Seattle this year. Without a robust Navigation Team, the City will struggle to deliver basic services such as keeping parks open for everyone to enjoy or ensuring sidewalks are safe and accessible.

### **HSD Investments & Integration**

- 18% of HSD’s total investments in street outreach is dedicated to the Navigation Team. This funding pays for 8 full time outreach workers. Reducing Navigation Team outreach means leaving more people in place outdoors, not getting the help they need.
- Outside of the Navigation Team outreach workers, HSD already invests \$4.2 million in homeless street outreach, funding over 30 full time positions with service providers in Seattle. Shifting outreach funding and workers away from the Navigation Team does nothing to actually expand the City’s overall capacity to connect people to services and a path to housing.