

**03-20-2019 Town Council Meeting**  
**Responses to Council Questions**

**ITEM #4: Orange County Partnership to End Homelessness Update**

**Council Question:** Is there a way to account for how many homeless individuals and families stay in Orange County long-term vs. those who stay short term or even those who may spend time between Orange and Durham counties?

**Staff Response:** *The average length of time homeless in Orange County is 295 days. There is not data on the day to day movements of homeless individuals in Orange County. National data shows that most homeless individuals tend to stay in one community.*

**Council Question:** What accounts for the increase in the number of homeless individuals in Orange County between 2010 and 2018?

**Staff Response:** *There are currently seven system gaps that have been identified through a Gaps Analysis conducted in 2017. The existence of these gaps in the system is causing the homeless population to increase in Orange County. One gap that was created in the period between 2010 and 2018 is the need for a rapid rehousing program. A rapid rehousing program had been funded in Orange County by the State's Emergency Solutions Grant program, but in 2014-15 was cut by 50% and then cut by 100% in 2018. Another gap that has been created in the last few years is a street outreach program, as Housing for New Hope is no longer providing this service in Orange County and is focusing their efforts in Durham County.*

**Council Question:** What is envisioned or meant by street outreach as a current system gap?

**Staff Response:** *Street outreach is a relationship based program that connects people living unsheltered with housing and services. This service does not currently exist in Orange County.*

**Council Question:** Does the OCPEH budget request go through our regular budget process or through the Town's non-profit grant process via HSAB?

**Staff Response:** *The OCPEH budget request is considered through the Town's regular budget process.*