

Agenda Item 12, Homeless Camps

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August 12, 2025

A Little Context

- People don't like homeless camps on public property
- Some homeless sites are tidy, some messy
- Governments tends to criminalize anything unpopular
- Criminalizing something doesn't make it go away

Housing The Homeless

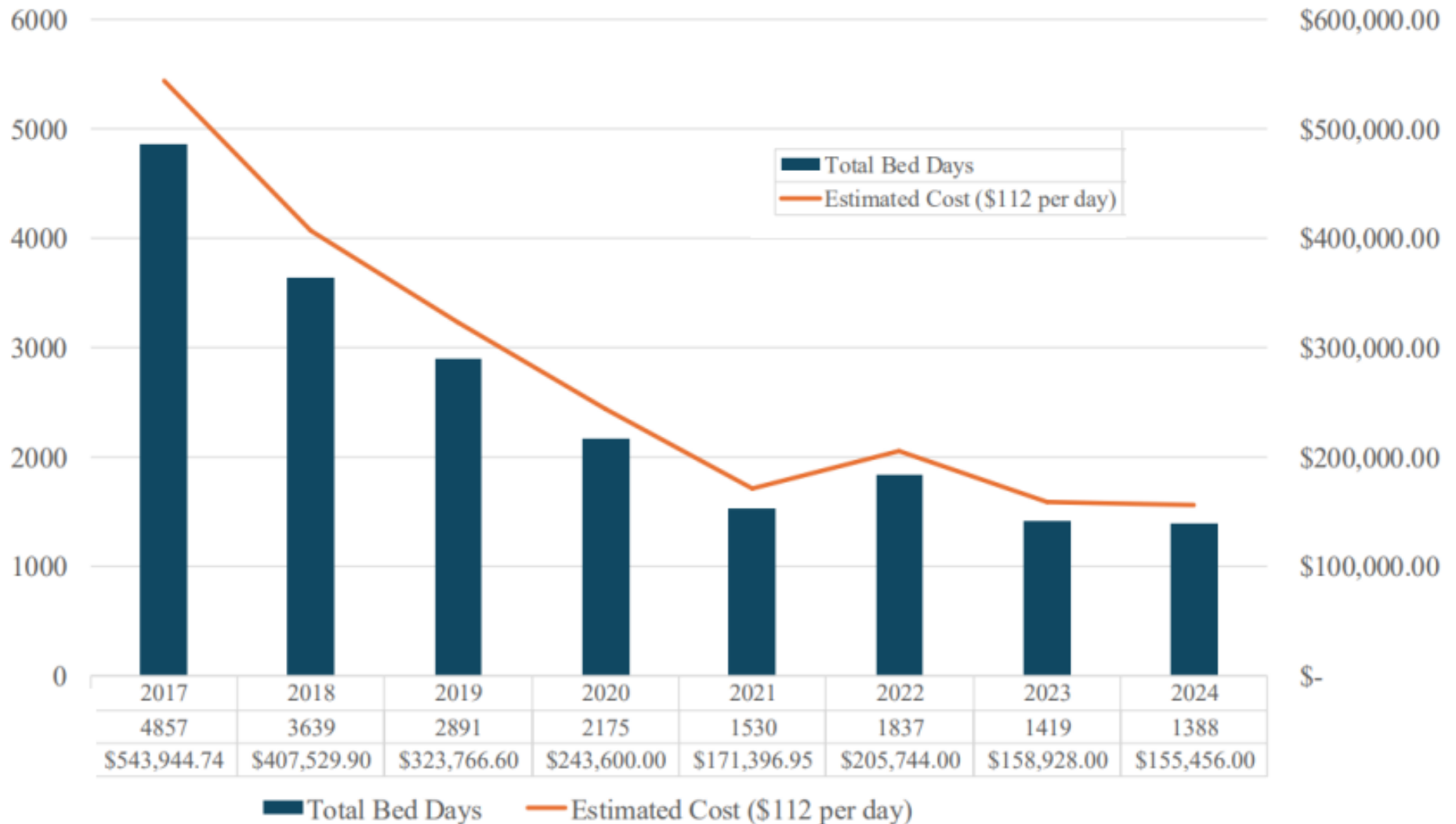
- Housing homeless people costs less than emergency calls
- Shelters that serve alcohol reduce alcohol consumption
- The return on addiction treatment is 4 to 1!
- See "The investment and regenerative value of addiction treatment" on <https://www.emerald.com/dat/article-abstract/15/1/12/78403/The-investment-and-regenerative-value-of-addiction>

City Remediation Efforts

- City made great strides from 2017 to 2021 in reducing “class 2 misdemeanor bookings” – kudos!
- No real progress since then
- Time for a change of strategy
- What needs are not being met?
- What can we do differently?
- Laws don't fix social health issues

Remediation Data

Total Bed Days and Cost for Civil and Misdemeanor Class 2 Bookings 2017 - 2024



Recommendations

- Determine why there are still homeless people
- Fix what we can
- Practical, caring government

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Nature,
Enjoy
Life

