

## Miles Slattery

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**From:** Rob Holmlund  
**Sent:** Monday, June 08, 2015 8:36 AM  
**To:** Miles Slattery  
**Cc:** Andrew Mills  
**Subject:** RE: Working from the same playbook

I haven't read a single one of these emails. I'll stand behind whatever you choose to do.

The only time I can invest in homelessness right now is Focus Strategies and the homeless camp.

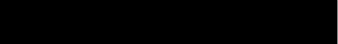
R

**From:** Miles Slattery  
**Sent:** Monday, June 08, 2015 8:21 AM  
**To:** Andrew Mills; Cyndy Day-Wilson; Greg Sparks; Brian Gerving; Brian Stephens; Rob Holmlund; Pam Powell  
**Subject:** FW: Working from the same playbook

Hey Guys,

Can we discuss this and all be on the same page moving forward? It's my understanding that we will be out in the marsh on a routine basis, every Thursday, until all of the abandoned camps and random encampment remnants are lessened to a manageable level. I don't think that it would be in the City's best interest if Mr. Rogers perceives some sort of partnership without any agreement or on-going waiver of liability, not only for him and his group, but also any houseless illegally camping on our property.

Miles

**From:** Roger Pryor [<mailto:>   
**Sent:** Monday, June 08, 2015 8:05 AM  
**To:** Andrew Mills; Steve Watson; Miles Slattery; Cyndy Day-Wilson  
**Cc:** Rob Holmlund; 'erin taylor'; 'Rudy and Vicky'; Greg Sparks; Brian Gerving; Brian Stephens  
**Subject:** RE: Working from the same playbook

Good Morning Chief Mills,

Thank you for your message, explanations and sentiments. I agree that you are doing pretty (I would say very) well at the delicate (and very challenging) balancing act you are faced with. I also appreciate the way you are including those of us in the community who want to be involved in the process.

I would like to highlight one item in particular from your message: "When we are going to do clean ups it might be wise to let you guys know so you can go in a head of time, warn and help move or clean up. Please do this! In fact if we could get a hundred or so of those clear plastic bags that the crew was using on Thursday I think we can get the current Marsh residents to fill them and even toss them in a dumpster if we could park one out where there was one on Thursday. If not give them to us perhaps sell them to us at cost or a least let us know where to get them.

Also I want to talk about carts. On Thursday at least 10 perhaps 20 perfectly good shopping carts where crushed and dumped with the front loader. I realize these carts were essentially stolen but then

destroying them does not make sense. We are now working with the Marsh residents to end the flow of carts into the Marsh completely. The clear bags would help in this process as well.

And yes "Let's continue to work together and move forward."

We have a lunch-meeting planned for this Wednesday in the north end of the north parking lot.

Please let us know and be involved when another cleanup by the City is planned.

Roger

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**From:** Andrew Mills [<mailto:>]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 5, 2015 10:42 AM  
**To:** Roger Pryor; Steve Watson; Miles Slattery; Cyndy Day-Wilson  
**Cc:** Rob Holmlund; 'erin taylor'; 'Rudy and Vicky'; Greg Sparks; Brian Gerving; Brian Stephens  
**Subject:** RE: Working from the same playbook

Roger et al,

First, thank you to those helping clean up the marsh and help those less fortunate. All of us here in the city, residents and staff, see what you are doing of your own volition and applaud your efforts. You are right, it is a challenge.

I think we have some difficulty in our definition of sweeps and clean ups. The City still has a responsibility to clean up the areas of property identified and respond to citizens who complain about specific locations or locations where crime is frequent. We legally and morally must do so. We have however refrained from a massive, wholesale sweep that evicts everyone, tears down their tents and send them to the streets. If patients is a virtue, then we are developing a lot of virtue.

Our procedure is to notify camps ahead of time that we will clean up and clear specific camps in areas complained on by residents and business owners. They get a chance to move with their items and then at great expense the City goes in and cleans up the mess. While limited in nature, we must continue this process as you also work to correct the problems there also.

Roger, as you are aware this is a delicate balancing act. We are trying to uphold the law, protect the community and respect the constitutional rights of the homeless. I think we do pretty well at this.

In this last effort we contacted 90 people between the tanks and the mall. 19 arrests were made and it was a response to crime. Some were barricaded in the tombs, exactly where they cannot be. The cleanup followed the action and in the same areas. When we are going to do clean ups it might be wise to let you guys know so you can go in a head of time, warn and help move or clean up.

When the MAC is opened we will need and want your help in transitioning people to the MAC and ultimately into homes. That should solve some of this problem.

Let's continue to work together and move forward.

Andy

**From:** Roger Pryor [mailto: [REDACTED]]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 04, 2015 6:14 PM  
**To:** Andrew Mills; Steve Watson; Miles Slattery  
**Cc:** Rob Holmlund; 'erin taylor'; 'Rudy and Vicky'; Greg Sparks; Brian Gerving; Brian Stephens  
**Subject:** Working from the same playbook

Chief Mills, Captain Watson, and Miles,

Thank you all for responding in the way that you did today. I would also like to thank Officer Hubbard for listening and responding in the way that he did.

It is clear that we are dealing with a very challenging and complicated situation at the Marsh. Resolving the situation in a way that consistently honors and respects everyone involved will be challenging and complicated and is not only morally right but also the most sustainably effective.

What is essential moving forward is that we are all working from the same playbook and making as certain as possible that at any given moment and with any given action we are all on the same page of that playbook.

In my opinion this morning we were certainly not on the same page and in fact seemed to be operating from different playbooks. At the very least the definition of "abandoned campsites" was stretched to include campsites that were temporarily unoccupied, or where people were being told to move out the day before, the hour before or in one case while a campsite was in fact still occupied. When I arrived it seemed an indiscriminate and complete clear out sweep was in process starting at the south end of the Marsh. The effort then shifted to having residents bring trash from campsites to the edge of the roadway to be picked up.

Again moving forward:

**The playbook** as I have understood it from meetings with Chief Mills, Captain Watson, and Rob Holmlund, (please fill in any gaps or make any needed corrections):

The ultimate goal is to eventually move all campers out of the Marsh area and in the meantime:

1. EPD Sweeps for guns, drugs and criminals will continue as needed and unannounced.
2. Current noncriminal Marsh residents although camping illegally will be allowed to stay until other situations can be set up for them to camp legally, transitional housing is available, and/or truly affordable housing is available. Indiscriminate wholesale clear out sweeps will not be carried out.
3. At large community members, organizations and current Marsh residents will be actively encouraged to step up and take a full share of responsibility for resolving the situation with

both time and money. "The resolution should not be a police action" and the City of Eureka does not have the funding needed to resolve this situation.

4. In a process two major focuses will be pursued simultaneously by all of us.
  - a. Clean up the entire Marsh area, keep it clean and transition current Marsh residents into managing themselves and putting an end to shoplifting, violence and stealing & destroying shopping carts.
  - b. Develop viable alternatives to camping at the Marsh and move current campers to those alternatives as soon as possible.
5. Throughout this process all players need to be committed to communicating and coordinating with all the other players — to being on the same page in the same playbook.

From our perspective we are just beginning to make significant progress on numbers 3 and 4a above. We are about to make a major outreach to bring in more community members, develop funding and enroll a majority of the marsh residents actively in the process.

This evening Officer Hubbard mentioned that another "cleanup" will be happening next Thursday. Is that plan?

Talk to you soon,

Roger



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## Miles Slattery

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**From:** Miles Slattery  
**Sent:** Monday, June 08, 2015 9:35 AM  
**To:** Andrew Mills; Pam Powell  
**Cc:** Rob Holmlund  
**Subject:** RE: Behind the Mall

Also, we need to make it clear we have no agreement with Shelter or any other group related to their efforts in the marsh areas. We need to make sure that it is clear that what they do is not something sanctioned by the City. I have known Shelter for over 8 years. He is self-serving and has consistently made false statements to further his agenda.

Please let Linda know that I said that.

Miles

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Andrew Mills  
**Sent:** Monday, June 08, 2015 9:26 AM  
**To:** Pam Powell; Miles Slattery  
**Cc:** Rob Holmlund  
**Subject:** RE: Behind the Mall

We did not forcibly remove campers. We were cleaning up the abandoned and notified camps on Parcel 4. I received a call from Roger Pryor during the clean-up expressing similar concerns as John. I spoke with the officer overseeing the clean-up, and he addressed their concerns. The front loader did not "come through trees and wipe out camps". SWAP and staff collected encampment remnants from abandoned and notified camps and placed them in the front loader, which then placed the litter in dumpsters. We are not forcibly removing any campers. The campers are notified to remove personal belongings so we can maintain our property as we ask all property owners in Eureka to do. We will not be forcibly removing any campers in the future, but we will continue to clean up our property and protect the City from any potential liabilities associated with illegal encampments and environmental claims.

Andy said he will send an email too.

Thanks,

Miles

Pam,

From EPD's perspective we are not and will not conducting massive sweeps or large clean ups. EPD is responding to community complaints and violent crime. Our stance has been to work with AHHA and others civic minded citizens who are helping the homeless clean up their own camps. We have supported them and encouraged them to continue and expand.

We do however support Park and Rec by sending an officer for protection as they use front loaders to clean up abandoned camps and property strung about. Our experience is P&R are pretty careful to do minimal damage to the camps and are very careful not to remove occupied camps or personal property.

I would be happy to take Councilmember Atkins out there on the Gator and show her the area if she would like. It might also be interesting to note we also took people out of the tombs, the very place we were already sued and lost and consequently have no liability coverage.

Andy

-----Original Message-----

From: Pam Powell

Sent: Monday, June 08, 2015 9:00 AM

To: Andrew Mills; Miles Slattery

Subject: FW: Behind the Mall

Andy and Miles,

Could you advise me on what happened so that I can get back with Linda? Thanks, pam

-----Original Message-----

From: Linda Atkins Home

Sent: Monday, June 08, 2015 8:26 AM

To: Pam Powell; Greg Sparks

Subject: Behind the Mall

Pam,

I just read a Facebook post from John Shelter saying that while he and his crew were picking up trash behind the Mall, a "big bulldozer came through the trees and wiped out a camp".

What's going on? I have been repeatedly assured that the City wasn't forcibly removing campers, and now this.

Please find out who did this and who at the Coastal Commission approved it?

I find John is an honest person and doubt that he made this up.

Thanks for checking.

Linda Atkins

Sent from my iPhone

## Rob Holmlund

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**From:** Rob Holmlund  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 01, 2015 2:53 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Tonight

There is an item on the agenda tonight about Homelessness. You have spoken to me numerous times about this topic. I think it would be valuable for City Council to hear your perspective regarding the impacts of homelessness. I encourage you to attend and provide input to the Council. The meeting is at City Hall at 6pm.

Best,

R

**Robert Holmlund, AICP**  
Director of Development Services  
*Economic Development*  
*Community Development*  
City of Eureka  
531 K Street, Eureka, CA 95501

[REDACTED]  
[\[REDACTED\]](#)

## Rob Holmlund

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**From:** Rob Holmlund  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 01, 2015 2:47 PM  
**To:** Shailesh Patel [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Tonight

There is an item on the agenda tonight about Homelessness. You have spoken to me numerous times about this topic. I think it would be valuable for City Council to hear your perspective regarding the impacts of homelessness. I encourage you to attend and provide input to the Council. The meeting is at City Hall at 6pm.

Best.

R

**Robert Holmlund, AICP**  
Director of Development Services  
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## Rob Holmlund

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**From:** Rob Holmlund  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 01, 2015 2:46 PM  
**To:** Rob Arkley [REDACTED] Dane Grytness [REDACTED] Holland, Allison  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Tonight

There is an item on the agenda tonight about Homelessness. You have spoken to me numerous times about this topic. I think it would be valuable for City Council to hear your perspective regarding the impacts of homelessness. I encourage you to attend and provide input to the Council. The meeting is at City Hall at 6pm.

Best.

R

**Robert Holmlund, AICP**  
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## Rob Holmlund

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**From:** Rob Holmlund  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 01, 2015 2:42 PM  
**To:** 'Bill Prescott'  
**Subject:** RE: Homeless Situation

Please come to the City Council meeting tonight and comment during public comment period.

R

**Robert Holmlund, AICP**  
Director of Development Services  
*Economic Development*  
*Community Development*  
City of Eureka  
531 K Street, Eureka, CA 95501

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**From:** Bill Prescott [mailto:[REDACTED]]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 01, 2015 12:20 PM  
**To:** Rob Holmlund  
**Subject:** FW: Homeless Situation

Rob,  
This is the letter I wrote City Council last night.

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Bill Prescott <[REDACTED]@ci.eureka.ca.gov>  
**Date:** Mon, Aug 31, 2015 at 10:40 PM  
**Subject:** Homeless Situation  
**To:** Marian Brady <[mbrady@ci.eureka.ca.gov](mailto:mbrady@ci.eureka.ca.gov)>, Linda Atkins <[latkins@ci.eureka.ca.gov](mailto:latkins@ci.eureka.ca.gov)>, [kbergel@ci.eureka.ca.gov](mailto:kbergel@ci.eureka.ca.gov), Melinda Ciarabellini <[mciarabellini@ci.eureka.ca.gov](mailto:mciarabellini@ci.eureka.ca.gov)>, [narroyo@ci.eureka.ca.gov](mailto:narroyo@ci.eureka.ca.gov)  
**Cc:** "Bass, Virginia" [REDACTED]

Dear City Council,

I would argue to contain the homeless population behind the mall, away from neighborhoods and children. I have 2 small children and when the City / Police do the occasional sweeps behind the Mall, our neighborhood and our neighborhood park, Copper Gulch, gets severely, negatively impacted.

My question is, why disperse the homeless across whole town, when they seem to have found their own niche. Lets not send them into Old Town to destroy our tourism industry and local small businesses by scaring patrons away. Lets not send them wandering to Samoa, lets not send them into areas where children ride bikes and families play. Keep them behind the mall, and deal with the issue there, provide services there.

Who is pushing to remove the homeless from the area, is it the owner of the Bayside Mall? Since that organization is the only organization that will benefit by dispersing the problem.

Ironically, my spouse works for the Forest Service and she literally has to work from home many days because of the staggering violence and crime in that area. She can certainly not go to work or leave work before or after daylight, however, I can still walk in my neighborhood at night, except Cooper Gulch, that would be asking to be assaulted.

I only have a couple ideas, and they are not solutions, but I think they would be worth investigating.

1. Do a direct mailing to all of Humboldt County educating the public not to give money to any one asking for it on the street. We shut off the money flow the people will go elsewhere.

2. In the same mailing, we send business sized cards which explain where facilities and support services are located, when someone asks me for money, I will give them this card. It is a humane way to point them to the right place for help, and not enable their situation.

3. Signs placed by Costco, 101, Broadway and other hot spots explaining this situation, in big bold letters. "Do Not Give Money To People Asking For it on the Street, if you want to contribute to a persons well being, go here:www....) About 30 signs like this would show that our community has had enough. I see the new traffic safety campaign signs on every corner, which is great! ...How about one about dealing with the homeless? this would cost basically nothing.

4. Eureka is unfairly burdened with homelessness. We need to establish homeless facilities in Garberville, Fortuna, Willow Creek, McKinleyville, Arcata, Sunny Brae, Trinidad, etc, etc. Many folks come here for the false promise of easy money in the marijuana industry, and after that doesn't work out in the hills, they are left begging in Eureka, since this is where the services are. How about a homeless shelter in Blocksburg and Petrolia and Shelter Cove, these communities benefit from the trimming labor, but will not take responsibility for the effects of the black market economy on the human capital.

I understand this all takes money. Perhaps City staff can work on more grant applications, perhaps, there could be an entire class at Humboldt State and CR dedicating to dealing with our homeless problem, or maybe a grant writing class, that we could actually use the grant applications these students write.

Lastly, the Federal Government needs to help as does the State government, what about a political action of busing all our homeless to the Statehouse lawn or to the federal Building in SF. We couldn't leave them there, but we could get some headlines for our plight. Remember when Mike Thompson dumped all the dead salmon in DC after the epic fish kill. You look at politics right now, and that river is getting the water it needs...lawsuit after lawsuit, because no one wants that dead fish pile on their doorstep.

The other end of this story, is I move my family to a different community, that doesn't have this issue in such a dire way. My wife and I don't grow pot, we pay our taxes, we go to fundraisers, we support local businesses, we take care of our elderly neighbors, we absolutely love our home and our neighborhood. ...we do all that stuff that need to happen for a community to be successful. But honestly, I am losing hope in a big way, I am past mad, well into sad.

You have a very hard job, I don't envy you, but please consider keep the majority homeless all in one place.

Bill Prescott

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Bill Prescott



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Bill Prescott



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## Rob Holmlund

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**From:** Rob Holmlund  
**Sent:** Monday, September 28, 2015 2:41 PM  
**To:** Greg Sparks  
**Cc:** Andrew Mills  
**Subject:** Rapid Housing Flow Chart  
**Attachments:** RRHIP\_FlowChart.pdf

Greg,

See attached. No one has seen this but Andy. This is a revised version based on Andy's feedback.

In making this, it became evident to me that the City has no resources to solve homelessness and we never will. Everything in the flow chart is exclusively under the control of the County, except where EPD gets involved. And EPD only gets involved where people break the law.

The City could approve a tiny house village, but we cannot afford to construct or operate one. The City could sanction a tent city, but we cannot afford to operate one. The City can move people and their possessions out of City-owned property, but we cannot house the people or their stuff. The resources and staff to solve homeless is exclusively in the hands of the County. The City can (and will continue to) apply for CDBG funds for housing project, but so can the County. And when the City applies for such funds, we will also need to acquire funds for an operator.

I think our next major step in the homeless challenge is to emphasize to Council, the community, and to the County that the City can no longer invest in trying to find a "solution to homelessness." The responsibility for this problem needs to fall exclusively into the hands of the County. Accordingly, I recommend that we make an official City policy that the County is responsible for addressing homelessness. I know this will not be a satisfying answer, but when you look at the attached flow chart it becomes obvious that the City has nothing to offer other than handcuffs for criminals.

I will be setting up a meeting late next week to discuss the plan with Focus Strategies and with the County. I'd like your feedback on the flow chart and the thoughts above before that meeting.

Thanks.

R

**Robert Holmlund, AICP**  
Director of Development Services  
*Economic Development*  
*Community Development*  
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531 K Street, Eureka, CA 95501

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## Rob Holmlund

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**From:** Rob Holmlund  
**Sent:** Friday, January 22, 2016 4:02 PM  
**To:** Marian Brady  
**Cc:** Greg Sparks; Cyndy Day-Wilson; Brian Gerving  
**Subject:** RE: shelter crisis going forward

If AHHA wants to build a shelter or a tiny house village or an emergency shelter or a trailer park or anything else, then they will have to come into City Hall and fill out a permit application. Until then, they are just talking. To my knowledge, they do not own or control any property in Eureka. To my knowledge, they do not have any money. So, unless they come into my office with a viable project, there isn't anything to discuss with them except ideas. If they ask for help with their ideas, I will help them understand the Municipal Code and I will help them understand the legally viable options to accomplish their goals.

Cyndy would have to answer questions about the shelter crisis and what it allows. For now, it is my understanding that the shelter crisis declaration does not "allow" anything specific. To my knowledge, the emergency shelter declaration does not allow tent cities or car parking.

R

Robert Holmlund, AICP  
Director of Development Services  
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-----Original Message-----

**From:** Marian Brady  
**Sent:** Friday, January 22, 2016 3:58 PM  
**To:** Rob Holmlund <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Greg Sparks <[gsnarks@ci.eureka.ca.gov](mailto:gsnarks@ci.eureka.ca.gov)>; Cyndy Day-Wilson <[REDACTED]>; Brian Gerving  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** shelter crisis going forward

Thank you! So is there anything that can happen as a result of the "crisis" declaration? I keep mentioning what you said about tiny houses in a trailer park and no one seems to address this. Nezzie told me you said they'd need to be on wheels and that would cost too much. Sounded like she wasn't looking at this.

Is the only thing that can happen is for a church to let campers use their parking lots for tents? Am I missing other options?

Again, thank you all.

Marian

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Marian Brady  
Ward 1, Councilmember  
City of Eureka

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Sent from my iPad

> On Jan 22, 2016, at 3:50 PM, Rob Holmlund <[REDACTED]> wrote:

>

> Marion,

>

> I've CCed Greg so he is aware of our conversation. I've CCed Cyndy as well. If Cyndy disagrees with any of my interpretations, her opinion on this would override mine. However, from past conversations I am confident that Cyndy and I are on the same page on this. I've CCed Brian Gerving as this is largely a building issue and he should be on the same page as us.

>

> You asked about SB2 and its relationship to emergency shelters. Here is the answer:

>

> SB2 required the City to allow for Emergency Shelters as a principally permitted use in at least one zone district within the City. In order to be in compliance with SB2, the City created Chapter 155 of the City of Eureka Municipal Code, which is called "Emergency Shelters." In § 155.006, Emergency Shelters are defined as: "A structure providing housing with minimal supportive services for homeless persons that is limited to occupancy of six months or less." This definition clearly states that an Emergency Shelter must be a "structure." Accordingly, a tent city or car camping area do not apply.

>

> Per § 155.040(B), emergency shelters (as defined above) are principally permitted within the Service Commercial Zoning District (CS), the Light Industrial Zoning District (ML), and the General Industrial Zoning District (MG) with the issuance of a shelter permit. However, Chapter 155 was never certified by the Coastal Commission. Accordingly, emergency shelters are principally permitted in the above zones, but only outside of the Coastal Zone. Despite the exclusion of the Coastal Zone, we are still in compliance with SB2.

>

> So, to answer your question... Where can an interested party create an emergency shelter? They can create a shelter in the inland CS, inland ML, or inland MG zone districts as a principally-permitted use. However, the emergency shelter must meet the definition above (i.e. must be a structure). If they are constructing a new building, then they will need a building permit. If they are converting an existing building, then they may need a change of occupancy permit. SB2 does not "suspend" any rules. SB2 is not a magic solution. It simply requires the City to have a zone in which emergency shelters are principally permitted, which we now do thanks to Chapter 155.

>

> Let me know if you have further questions.

>

> R

>

> Robert Holmlund, AICP

> Director of Development Services

> Economic Development

> Community Development

> City of Eureka

> 531 K Street, Eureka, CA 95501

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