

Defund SET Key Points

- Every single contact/attempted contact - **the entire SET workload - is related to pushing houseless people and their property to move.**
- Currently, **over 70% of SET's work is to patrol 'permanently closed areas'** - aka public areas the Mayor declared 'closed' after sweeps - and keep houseless people out of these areas.
- SET notes show the real nature of their job. For example, "Three people sitting on grass covered, informed had to be uncovered," "One male sleeping, full compliance, area clear," "Five males, two females asked to leave the alleys."
- In 2023, of the 2,134 contacts/attempted contacts, **only 41 noted a resource being offered or provided.** SET is simply not connecting people to resources or even trying to connect people to resources.
- A survey with houseless people about their experience with SET shows the **top thing they were contacted about was sitting or sleeping/resting.** It also shows that half the time SET does not tell what law they are breaking and when they do most common is trespassing or camping. This also shows that only 20% of the time they were offered resources, and only 13% of those times was the resource actually helpful.

Sample Basic letter:

We are writing today to urge you to amend the City budget to defund the Street Enforcement Team and instead fund an actual outreach team with connection to resources under HOST.

The City website describes SET as "an unarmed civilian team that conducts outreach, facilitates service connection, and offers quality-of-life resources to Denver's unhoused population." However, SET work logs show that their whole job is to use the threat of enforcement to push houseless people 'away' - which is really just to another block.

Moving from enforcement to outreach will enable this team to do what they are supposed to be doing - connecting people to services - rather than simply pushing people from block to block with nowhere to go.

Please vote YES to defund SET and fund real outreach through HOST instead.

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