



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
FROM: Patrick Urich, City Manager *Patrick Urich*
DATE: January 18, 2013
SUBJECT: Issues Update

The following are issues related to the City for the weekly Issues Update. If there are additional items you believe should be included, please let me know.

2012 CRIME STATISTICS: Attached is the City of Peoria's 2012 Year End Crime Report which shows overall crime down (-5%) for 2012, including a 38% drop in murders, a 19% drop in shootings and a 28% drop in stabbings. A chart showing the number of murders, shootings and stabbings over the past 6 years is also attached.

2013 HOMELESS POINT-IN-TIME COUNT: The Heart of Illinois Homeless Continuum of Care (HOIHCO), which covers the four county areas of Peoria, Tazewell, Woodford and Fulton, will be conducting a one-night count of homeless persons on Thursday, January 24, 2013 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. The weather date is February 7, 2013.

This count is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for all Continuums to receive funding to assist the homeless in their service area. The homeless count data will also be used as a strategic tool to assess the extent of the problem, plan the service delivery system and to enhance both new and existing programs and services for the Continuum service area.

To complete the count, the Continuum needs volunteers in each of the four counties to conduct the survey interviews on January 24, 2013. Approximately 25 to 40 volunteers are needed in each county. Volunteers will drive or walk around designated areas looking for homeless persons and conduct a short survey with the homeless person. The survey should take about 5 minutes to complete.

The Salvation Army, in downtown Peoria, is the community volunteer headquarters for the night of the event. For more information regarding the Peoria community involvement, please contact Nicole Frederick, Grants Coordinator, at 494-8606 or nfrederick@ci.peoria.il.us.

POLITICAL SIGNS: The maximum size for political signs in residential districts is 8 square feet. The maximum size in non-residential districts is 32 square feet. There is no limit on the number of signs that can be placed on a parcel and there is no application, fee, or review required prior to the signs being placed.

Signs on non-residential properties must be removed no later than seven days after the election. There is no requirement to remove signs on residential property.

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Complaints related to sign size should be directed to the Planning Department at 494-8600 or planning@ci.peoria.il.us, or to PeoriaCARES at 494-CARE or peoriacares@ci.peoria.il.us