

# 419 Emancipation:

# Expanding Houston's Homeless Response System

**February 2026**

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1.2.14.25

# **419 Emancipation is a critical piece of Houston's broader homelessness response designed to reinforce clear, coordinated pathways to housing.**

It complements the City's existing investments in outreach, behavioral health, shelter, and permanent housing by serving as a centralized access point focused on stabilization, connection, and transition.



## VISION

The City of Houston, in partnership with our homeless response system, seeks to establish a unique '*front door*' under the **End Street Homelessness Action Plan**. Equipped with up to 240 beds for people experiencing homelessness who are sleeping in public spaces. (*80 rooms w/ maximum 4 people per room*)

## PURPOSE

This location will be where **safety meets connection to lasting housing solutions for a full sustainable life**. Centrally located, functioning as a 'citation diversion' and emergency room alternative - a place of refuge and services for those with no other place to go. Offering clear exit strategies for everyone and subacute services such as healthcare, psychiatric support and substance use programs.

# A Resource Center for the Homeless



419 will have engagement and intervention **24/7**



## Who it's for?

### The newly homeless:

Those sleeping on the streets of downtown who want help but who are only eligible for rapid response or short-term support. Monitored and appropriate supported short-term stays paired with rapid resolution services will help get them back on their feet, a “**fresh start.**”

### Longtime unsheltered:

People who have been on the streets for a long time and previously have not been willing to accept services because of lack of easy entry and are not eligible for PSH. With supportive services, we expect they will stabilize, a “**restart.**”



# Public Safety, Protecting Residents and the Community

- **24/7 On-Site Security & Monitoring**

Continuous security presence supported by technology and trained staff.

- **Coordinated Operations**

Safety protocols developed in partnership with **Law Enforcement**

- **Controlled Access Design**

Facility layout ensures secure entry points, creating a safe environment for residents, staff, and neighbors.

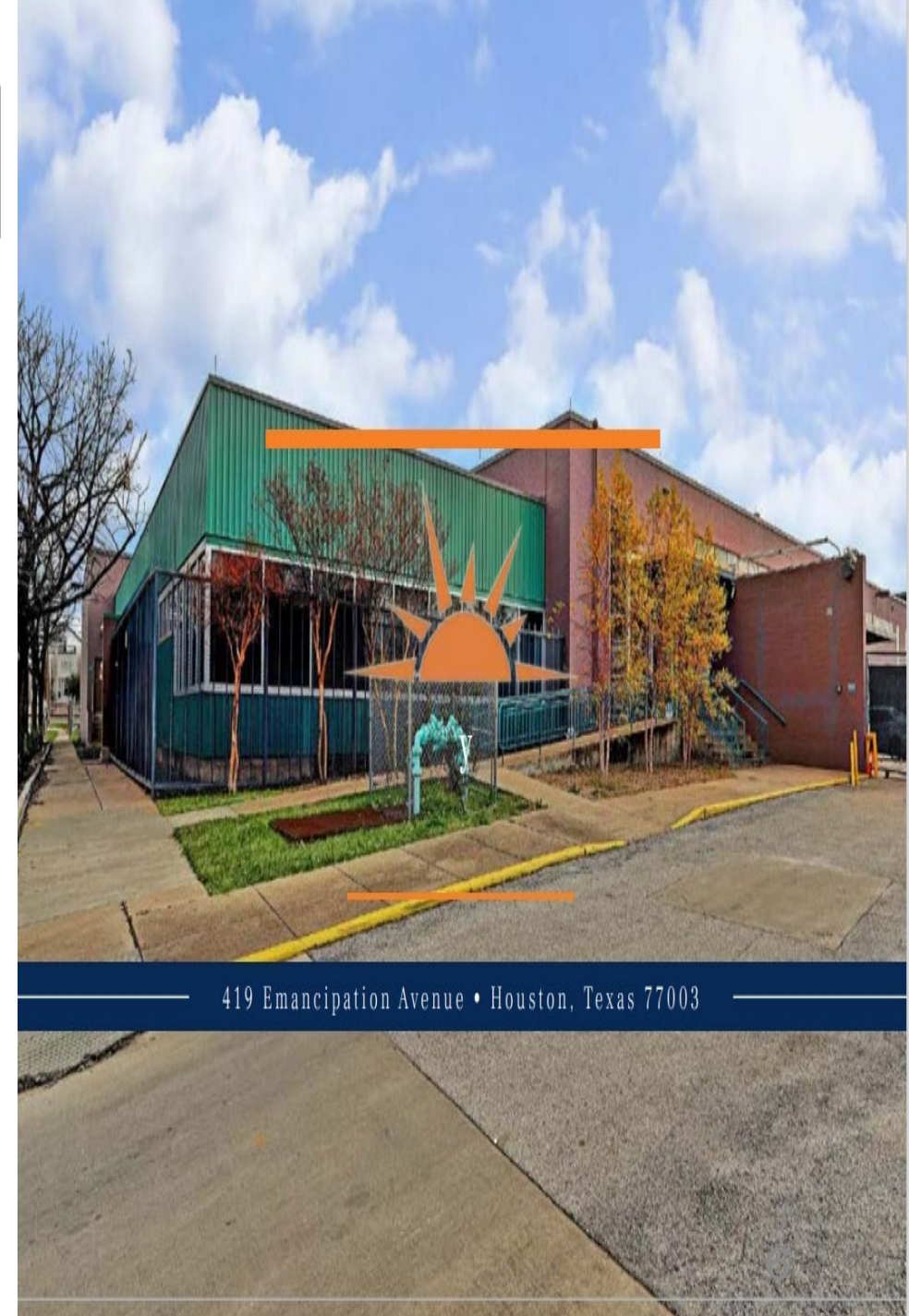


419 Emancipation Avenue • Houston, Texas 77003

# PROJECT UPDATES

## The City remains on track to advance 419 Emancipation this year

- Closing on the property is anticipated within the next 45 days
- The City plans to leverage CDBG-DR24 funding
- On track with HUD to complete review and approval of the DR24 Action Plan
- Anticipating receipt of DR24 Grant Agreement in early March



# 419 Emancipation Operator Selection | In Progress

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- **Desired Expertise:** Proven success in case management and housing individuals with severe mental and physical health needs, and substance use disorder who are experiencing homelessness.
- The Operator NOFA closed on January 23, 2026
- Following the close, the City has initiated a structured evaluation process to review proposals
- HCD anticipates submitting an Operator Selection Recommendation to the Administration by mid-February
- Upon submission, a 30-day public notice period will be issued
- The selected operator will be presented to the Quality-of-Life Committee on March 2, 2026
- Anticipated opening of 419 operations: prior to June 2026

# Funding Operations Overview

**Total annual operation funding estimated  
\$12 -\$14M**

**Years 1-3:** DR24 will fund \$10M annually for operations and some longer term (physical + mental) health support

## **Other Potential Funding:**

- TIRZ & Management Districts/RDAs
- CDBG
- City of Houston General Fund
- State and Federal Mental Health Care Funding
- Additional Federal Funding
- **\*Philanthropy & Corporate Donations**