

# Denver Initiative 300: Impacts on the Homeless and Society by Granting Unimpeded Access to Public Space

## Initiative 300 Right to Survive

### Policy Changes Unprecedented in Colorado and Across the Nation

**Grants new rights:** Rights to rest and shelter oneself on Denver public outdoor spaces. Right to remain in legally parked vehicle and to eat, share, and accept food in public spaces.

**Adds new protections:** Criminal civil rights violation to infringe on new laws.

**Repeals existing laws:** Makes unenforceable or repeals existing City and County of Denver laws.

## AREAS IMPACTED BY INITIATIVE 300 ALONG WITH ALL PUBLIC ROADS, MEDIANS, SIDEWALKS, AND STREAMS



Red Rocks Amphitheater



Denver International Airport



Sloan Lake & Other Denver City Parks



Denver Zoo



Civic Center Park

**Per city report, Denver has a sufficient number of beds to provide shelter to every homeless individual in the city.** Throughout 7-county metro there are **5,300** individuals experiencing homelessness and **6,376** shelter beds.

**The City and County of Denver spends \$50 million annually on services for the homeless.** In addition, some metro area charitable organizations spend over an additional **\$90 million annually**. For comparison, in 2017, **CDOT spent \$89.6 million** statewide on roadway expansion projects.

The combination of City and charitable expenditures equates to approximately **\$26,000 per homeless individual**. For comparison, the current spending **per-pupil in Denver Public Schools is \$17,365**.

**Making it easier to remain outside of the network of housing assistance and services will likely increase the rate of unsheltered and chronic homelessness.** The longer someone remains unsheltered the less likely they are to return to stable housing. Chronic homelessness comes at a higher cost to society and the individual.

**Solving Homelessness:** The path forward starts with preventing individuals from falling into the extreme situation of living on the streets by providing rapid rehousing services and intervention. Housing and service providers would benefit by better coordination, data collection, and transparency.

February 2019

Conducted by **IREMI**  
PARTNERSHIP



To read or download the full study please visit: [www.RemiPartnership.org](http://www.RemiPartnership.org)