



Tenderloin Community Council: Strategic Approach to Addressing Harms Related to Open Air Drug Market

PRESENTED BY

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Purpose:

- Provide a framework for an actionable plan for the short-term & long-term

TL Community Council

- Formed in Spring 2019
- In-person meetings 20-25 people
- TL residents, business owners, non-profit
- Each mtg 30% to 60% POC
- Long term residents--many in the TL for 10+ years.

TL Community Council Purpose

- Honest talk among the multiple communities of the TL
- Identify harms related to open-air drug sales and use
- Review, evaluate, and advocate for effective ways to address those harms

TL Community Council

- Participated in City Hearings April 2019
- Negotiated for broader representation on this Task Force
- Negotiated framing the issue as addressing harms and not just sales

URGENCY TODAY

- INCREASES IN VIOLENCE
- INCREASES IN OVERDOSES
- COVID HAS CHANGED WHO IS ON THE STREETS AND FOR WHAT PURPOSE
- LOSS OF LIFE, LOSS OF BUSINESS, LOSS OF STABILITY

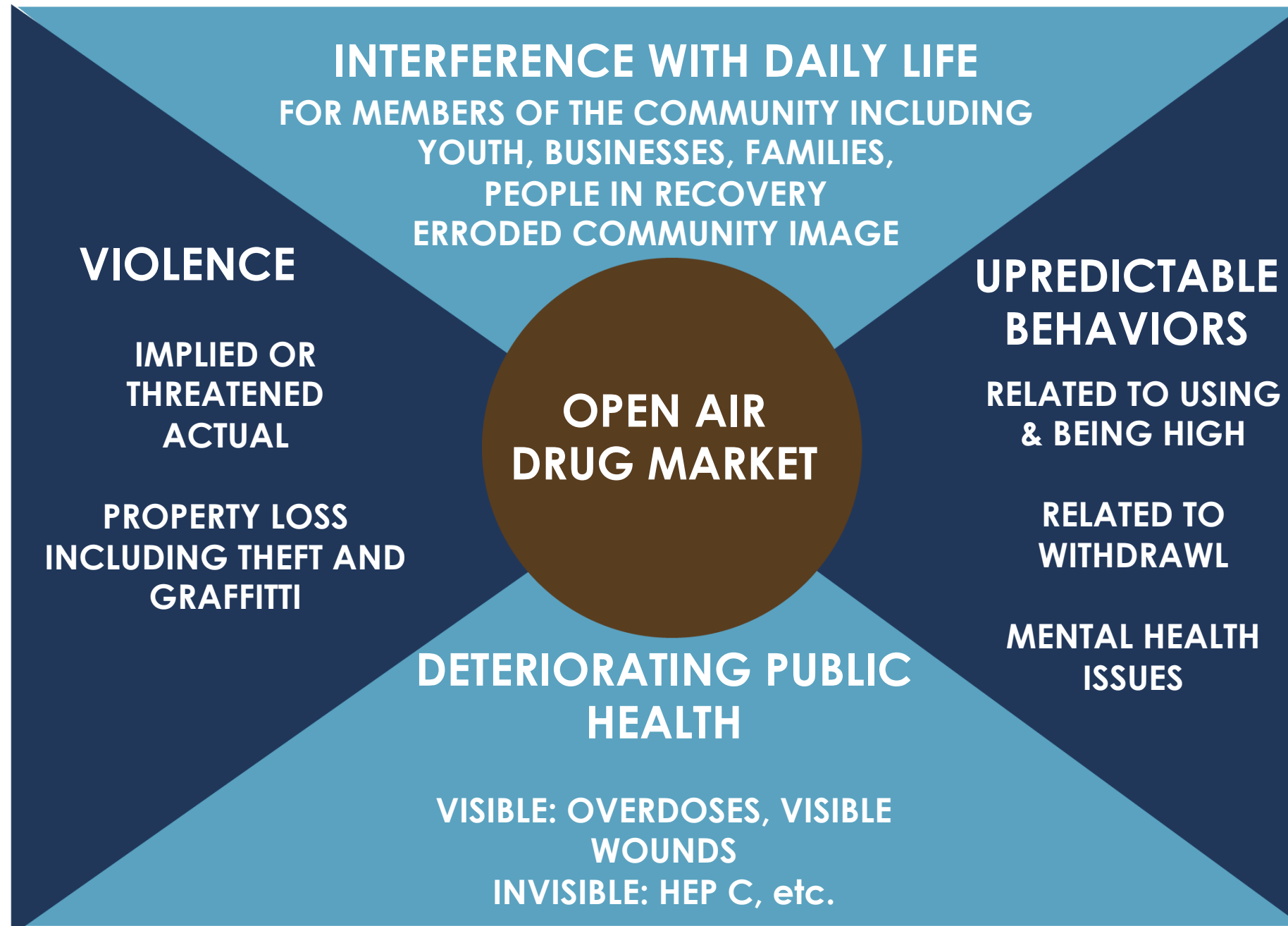
Assumptions

- The drug market has existed for decades and impact is getting worse
- The TL is a traumatized community
- These conditions didn't occur overnight, are deeply entrenched, & require a strategic approach/plan

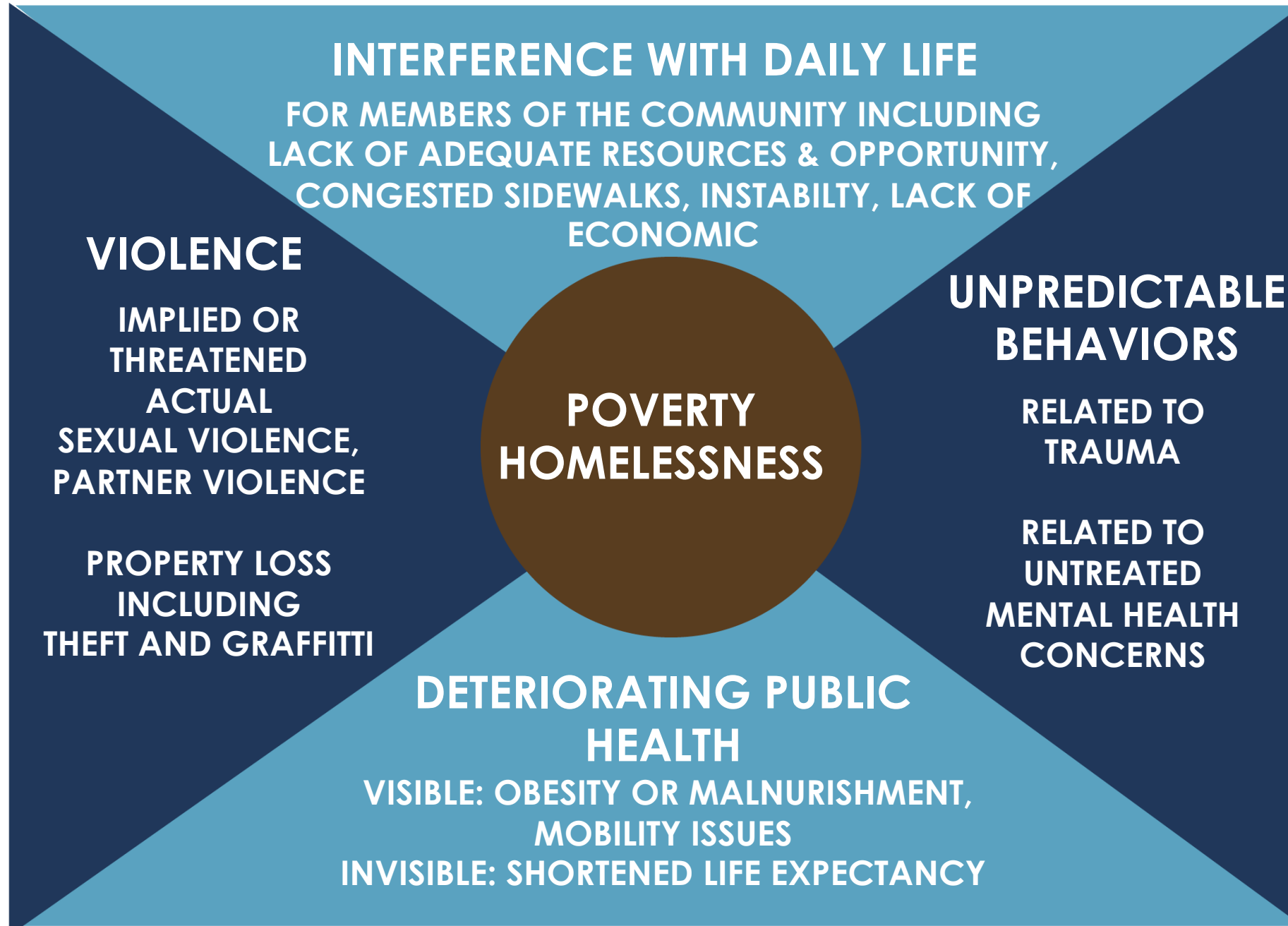
Further Assumptions

- Law enforcement & treatment are equally important
- Participants in the market must be engaged
- Success should be measured objectively and subjectively
- This problem can't be dealt with in isolation
- Chronic, wide-spread poverty is a driver

HARMS & CONCERNS RELATED TO OPEN AIR DRUG MARKET



HARMS & CONCERNS RELATED HIGH RATES OF POVERTY



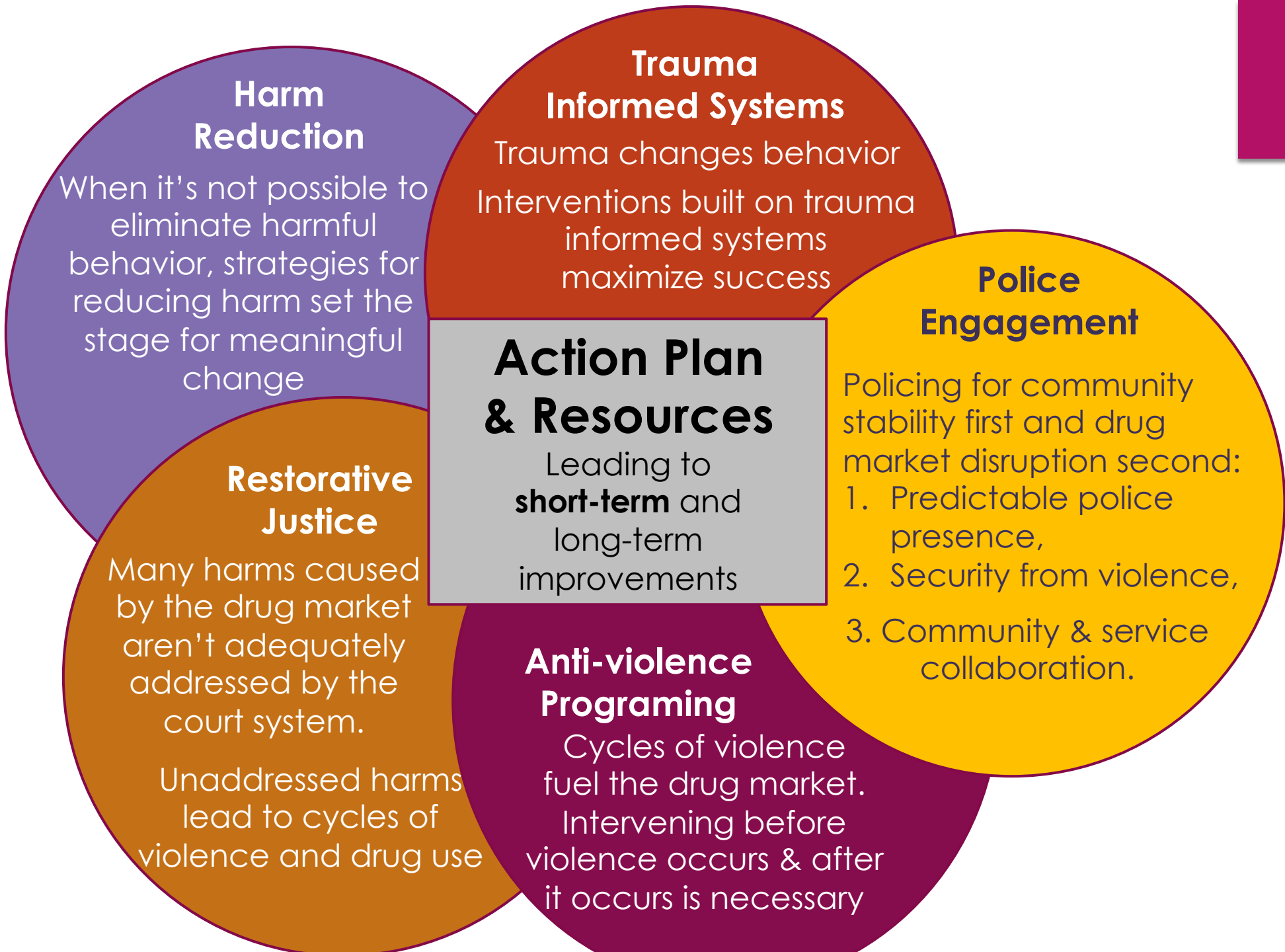
Race and Racism

- Chronic under investment and over enforcement have created on-going, chaotic conditions in the Tenderloin. These conditions are, in large part, the result of historical racism and on-going structural racism. All Tenderloin residents feel the impact of under-resourcing, but Black and Latinx people are most deeply impacted by generational poverty and disproportionate arrest and incarceration.
- Any initiative to address the open-air drug market will be much more effective if it is accompanied by a public process that accounts for the impact of racism on access to housing, employment, healthcare, family stability, and human dignity. Such a process must include and be driven by the people who have been most harmed by historical racism.
- If we want a process of accountability and repair to be effective in changing conditions in the neighborhood, it will have to include a commitment to economic repair and investment for addressing the historical harms of racism. Without economic investment in the people who are most engaged/impacted by the drug market, reduction or elimination of the open-air market will remain very difficult.

Recommendation:

A plan that is

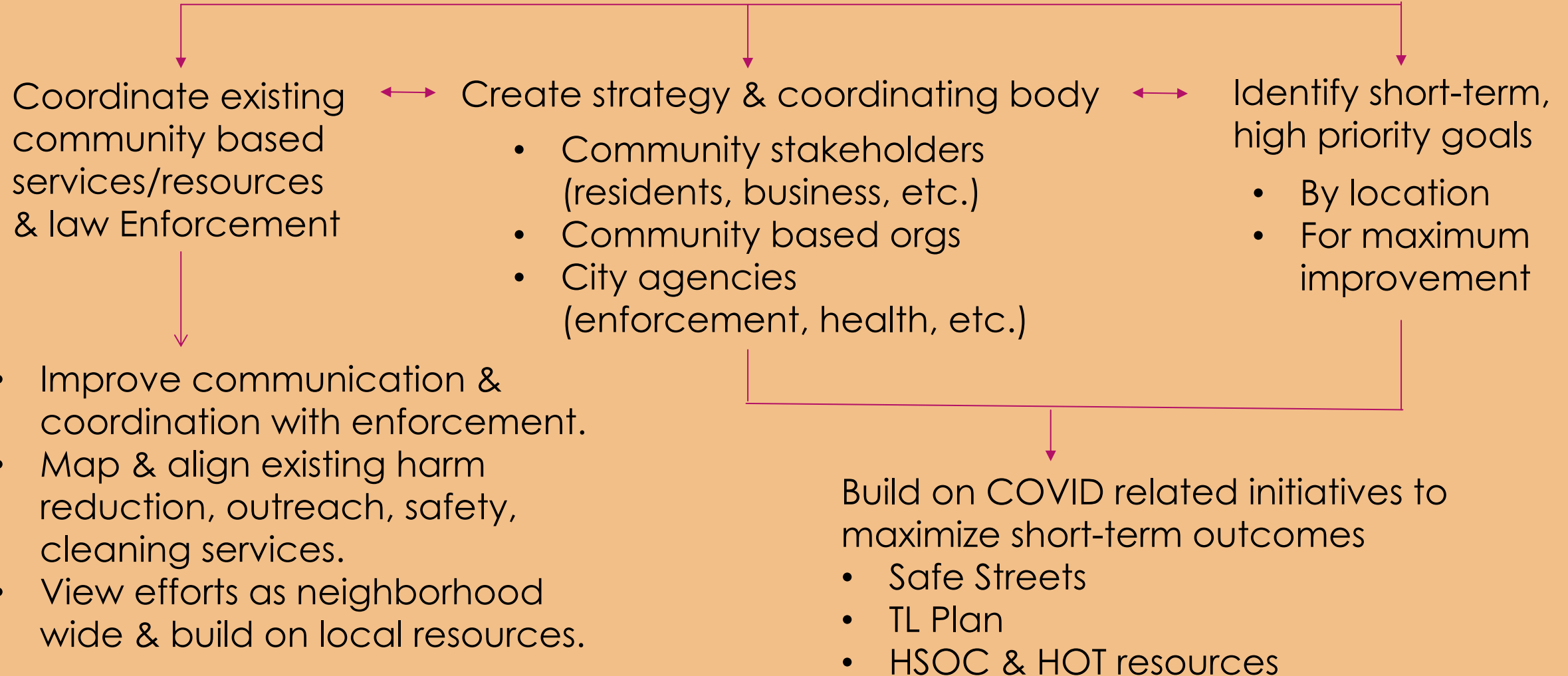
- Actionable & Effective
- Multifaceted
- Builds on existing resources
- Accountable to diverse communities within the TL



Next Steps

Coordinating Existing Resources

SHORT TERM 3 TO 6 MONTHS



Next Steps

What Does Short-term action look like?

Coordinated Efforts

- Support existing calming activities (police, HSOC, HOT, etc.)
- Prepare other resources for immediate activation to maintain calm through presence and services to follow on calming activities
- Monitor the area for upticks in activity
- Respond to upticks with appropriate resources (enforcement, HSOC, etc.)

Supporting Existing Successes

- At safe sleeping sites and existing encampments focus efforts on maintaining and enhancing safety and calm
- Use outreach teams with credibility to monitor and address problems
- Enhance harm reduction, street medicine and other services

Next Steps

Build Community Based/Supported Long-term Plan

SHORT TERM 6 TO 12 MONTHS

