



City of Tacoma

Human Services Commission

Wednesday, September 11, 2024
6:00 p.m.
Virtual and In-Person Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Members: Chair Kristi Coyne, Vice Chair Laura Badeaux, Secretary Andee Walton, Jesse Carlos, Collin Thrower, Connie Ladenburg, Kristen Marsh, Lasandra President, Sarah Roemer, Nikki Singh, and Naomi Wilson

Members Absent: Addison Atkash*, Noemi Cagatin-Porter*, Kimberly Ellefson, Carlos Lugo

*Commissioners who did not provide advanced notice of their absence.

Staff Present: Danielle Jordan and Matthew Jorgensen

1. Call to Order at 6:01

- Roll call.

2. Acknowledgement of Tribal Lands at 6:02

- Read by Chair Coyne.

3. Approval of the September Agenda at 6:04

- Motioned by Commissioner Ladenburg to approve and amend agenda, seconded by Commissioner Carlos, and approved unanimously.

4. Review/Approval of August Minutes at 6:05

- Motioned by Commissioner Ladenburg to approve and amend agenda, seconded by Commissioner Carlos, and approved unanimously.

5. Consensus Allocation Presentation to CVS at 6:05

- Presented by Jason McKenzie, Resource Manager, NCS.
- Presentation to CVS on September 26th in an open meeting to the public.
- Will be asking HSC to take a vote to approve recommendations to CVS in next agenda item.
- Approval of contracts will be in effect January 1, 2025.
- Chair Coyne reminds HSC not to discuss applications until after the approval process is complete.

6. Approval of Presentation of Subcommittee Funding Recommendations for 25-26 at 6:09

- Commissioner Roemer motions to approve, Commissioner Carlos seconds. Approved unanimously.

7. Introduction to NCS Strategy Team Managers

- Presentation of Homeless Strategies, Systems, and Services (HSSS) by Caleb Carbone, HSSS Manager.



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- i. Roles of Staff in working 600 beds more than doubled shelter capacity.
 - ii. Strategy implementation and development for sheltering.
 1. Commissioner Ladenburg asks to know about types of shelters.
 - a. Answer: Permanent shelter, temporary shelter, emergency shelter, micro-shelter, palette shelter, a mitigation site and safe parking location.
 2. Commissioner Ladenburg asks about total beds and how many have been served.
 - a. Answer: 620 permanent beds, 100 beds for emergency shelter; 112 beds at faith-based, and 1,099 total emergency shelter beds total.
 - i. Going into funding gap, however.
 3. Commissioner Ladenburg asks about hotel conversions.
 - a. Answer: They are great for permanent housing, lowering barriers for families, allows dogs, etc.,
 - i. Significant amount of money required for conversion (kitchenettes, services, etc.,)
 - ii. HB 1590 funding has really helped funding.
 4. Commissioner Ladenburg asks what services are provided at shelters.
 - a. Answer: Case management provided at emergency sites.
 5. Commissioner Ladenburg asks how long people typically stay at sites.
 - a. Answer: Often falls on operator, but City encourages extended stay and working with case management, but contracting doesn't have a specific requirement.
 - i. See 1-2 years for those with high barriers, occasionally, but are constantly monitoring.
 6. Commissioner Badeaux if the reasons people are experiencing homelessness are known.
 - a. Answer: Yes. Many reasons, including loss of family, income, housing, traumatic events, etc. Homeless management information system also tracks the reasons.
 7. Commissioner Badeaux: Are providers aware of stressful environment in many of these shelters that cause attrition.
 - a. Answer: Yes. The trick is to not make rules within shelters too restrictive to increase the problem. Ultimately more housing is the goal and the best solution.
- Presentation of Community Wellness services by Sarah Bridgeford, Community Wellness Manager.
 - i. Continue to orient towards youth and young adult education and violence reduction Building Resilience Against Youth Violence and Exploitation (BRAYVE).
 - ii. Senior Center Services.
 - iii. Equitable Food Access.



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- iv. Health and Healthcare Mental, Behavioral, Substance use, of all ages and populations.
- v. Also include co-responder programs.
 1. Secretary Walton asks if there are shelters for victims of domestic violence.
 - a. Answer: Yes (falls under HSSS). Partnership with YWCA and Asian Women's Exodus Housing.
 2. Commissioner Ladenburg asks if we have internal staff or are contracted.
 - a. Answer: Contracted with external agencies. The only thing staffed internally is coordinator for graffiti removal and Adopt-A-Spot.
 3. Secretary Walton requests an update from Community Trauma Response Team.
 4. Commissioner Wilson asks about hearing update from collaboration from HOPE Team.
 5. The City will be giving update on alternative responses to crisis this week.

8. Public Comment at 6:49

- None.

9. Review Excused Absences at 6:50

- Commissioner Ellefson gave notice, Commissioner Lugo gave notice during the meeting.
- Commissioner Wilson motions to excuse Commissioner Lugo and Ellefson, Commissioner Thrower seconds. All in favor.

10. Good of the Order at 6:52

- Chair Coyne discusses attendance guidelines for commissioners.
 - i. The Chair will follow up after two consecutive meetings are missed, by phone.
 - ii. NCS Staff will ensure dates for allocations are shared well in advance for calendar blocking.
 - iii. Vicky McLaurin and the Chair will go over the current guidelines in detail, to identify additional areas that require clarity.
 1. Commissioner Wilson asks if policy includes allocation consensus meetings.
 - a. Answer: That decision is still under discussion.
- Chair Coyne reads General Announcements.
 - i. 10/7/24 at 5pm - Committees, Boards, and Commissions (CBC) Orientation (next orientation not until March of 2025).
 - ii. 10/30/24 at 5pm – Equity Index Workshop (Hybrid).
 - iii. Danielle Jordan will send commissioners an e-mail with registration links to attend.

11. Closing Comments/Adjourn at 7:00



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- Chair Coyne thanks everyone for participating.
- Next meeting set for 10/9/2024.