



## **Agenda Item II.**

### **Meeting Summary of October 8, 2019 Meeting**

Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council meeting July 17, 2019

#### **I. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Alexis Podesta, Council Chair and Secretary of Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency calls the meeting to order at 1:00PM.

##### *Council Members Present:*

- Alexis Podesta, Council Chair and Secretary of the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency
- Russell Atterberry, Vice Chair and Undersecretary of the Department of Veteran Affairs
- Alexis Barries, Family Partner with Placement Services and Crisis Stabilization Response Team
- Emilio Ramirez, Deputy Director of Community and Economic Development for the City of Riverside
- Alicia Sutton, Chief of Housing, Homelessness and Civil Rights Branch, Department of Social Services
- Stephanie Welch, Executive Officer, Council on Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health, Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
- Gina Buccieri – Harrington, Assistant Director, Grants Management Victim Services Program, Governor's Office of Emergency Services
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##### *Absent:*

- Donald Cavier, Chief Deputy Director, California Housing Finance Agency
- Gary McCoy, Congressional Aide, Office of House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi
- Jody Ketcheside, Deputy Regional Director, Turning Point of Central California, Inc.
- Joseph Uchishiba, Police Officer, City of Fairfield Police Department
- Amy Anderson, Executive Director, PATH Ventures
- Marianne Cantwell, Chief Deputy Director, Health Care Programs, California Department of Health Care Services
- Gail Gilman, Chief Executive Officer, Community Housing Partnership
- Jennifer Loving, Chief Executive Officer, Destination Homes

#### **Opening Remarks**

Council Chair Podesta thanked the Council members and the public for their participation and extended a special thanks to the Department of Veteran Affairs for hosting the meeting

She reported that the new 2019 Budget Act includes exciting work for the Council. In addition to providing the authority for us to bring some additional staff on board, the new budget also gives HCFC responsibility for launching a new \$650 million one-time grant program, the Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention

(HHAP) program. The new funding will be allocated to the 13 largest cities, 58 counties, and the 44 Continuums of Care.

Council Chair Podesta also announced that HCFC is currently in the process of being restructured. As part of that new process, a new Deputy Secretary of Homelessness will be coming on board and will be leading HCFC. In addition, four new staff will be joining the team to help implement HAPS, HEAP , and the Homeless Youth mandate in SB 918.

## **II. Adoption of the meeting summary from July 17, 2019 Council meeting**

The Council approved the previous [meeting summary](#) from the July 17, 2019 meeting.

*There were no public comments.*

## **III. Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council's Progress Report**

The Council's Director of Local Partnership Programs presented the Homeless Coordinating and Financing [Council's updates](#) and [presentation](#).

Council Comments:

- Councilmember Alicia Sutton inquired about whether grant recipients will be able to meet the 50% allocation of funds by January. The Council believes that the grant recipients are on target to meet the 50% obligation.
- Councilmember Stephanie Welch commented that it was nice to see a combination of innovation and evidence based practices in the new HHAP program.

*There were no public comments.*

## **IV. Departmental Updates**

The following Departments have provided an [update](#) of their relevant homeless programs:

- Department of Veteran Affairs
- Department of Housing and Community Development

*There were no public comments.*

## **V. Presentation and Discussion of Recommendations on workshop hosted by CCJBH and HCD**

Councilmember Stephanie Welch presented [recommendations](#) from the recent workshop co-hosted by the Council on Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health and Department of Housing and Community Development.

Since July 2019, CCJBH has:

- Drafted a policy brief on the Intersection of Criminal Justice, Behavioral Health and Housing Outcome
- Hosted a workshop in September to explore the intersection with local experts and vet current draft recommendations
- Sought partnership and support from HCD and HCFC

Council Comments:

- Councilmember Russell Atterberry stated that there is a current data sharing agreement between state entities coming out soon. He also inquired about whether collaborative courts were impacted by housing?
  - Councilmember Stephanie Welch stated that the courts don't have resources for data collection. There's no sense at the state level of how many people are housed due to participation in a court.
- Councilmember Emilio Ramirez stated that Riverside has 15 mainstream programs. Section 8 vouchers were intended for people existing institutions. He inquired about how people can coordinate vouchers with CDCR's navigators to connect people to the vouchers? And if that came up in a conversation.
  - Councilmember Stephanie Welch responded that the problem is people do not know how to find vouchers.
- Councilmember Alicia Sutton inquired about next steps for sharing the plan with partners.
  - Councilmember Stephanie Welch stated that the plan is to share with members of the legislature and the administrative partners. She would like to engage the Council to begin conversations but should leave it to the experts to dive into the details. She would like support in facilitating collaboration and believes it would help address the problem at a local level.
  - Councilmember Alicia Sutton asked if there has been any discussion around criminalization of homelessness?
  - Councilmember Stephanie Welch stated that the discussions did not go into this level of detail. Rather, it's important to know the role of the criminal justice system in housing. If it's not a public safety issue, then there are other priorities. It's about clarifying roles. Probation Officers want to be told what their role is and how to best fit it.

*There were no public comments.*

## **VI. Governor's Council on Regional Homelessness Advisors**

Mark Tollefson, Deputy Cabinet Secretary of the Office of Gavin Newsom gave an overview on the Governor's Council of Regional Homelessness Advisors.

Darrell Steinberg and Mark Ridley-Thomas are co-chairs alongside 13 other members who make up the task force. They have had two convenings so far. They are currently in the process of fact finding and gathering information to understand the landscape. The hope is that they will produce a report that will help inform the Governor's Budget.

In addition, the task force has short-term actions and long-term recommendations in three areas:

1. Ending street homelessness
2. Break down barriers to create more housing
3. And getting people into treatment if necessary

The task force and the Council will work together on various issues. They include:

- Impact on spending
- Coordination and leverage spending
- Regional collaboration and coordination
- Leverage the expertise of HCFC and other departments

The task force is still trying to figure out its cadence on meetings and how they plan to address the three areas. The next steps are to identify recommendations to assist in informing the budget.

Council Comments:

- Councilmember Alexis Barries asked about whether there are timelines for any of the components of the workforce report?
  - Mark Tollefson stated before January 10 when the budget is released.
- Councilmember Stephanie Welch inquired about next steps after the report is released. Will the task force continue for the ongoing future or for the duration of the Governor’s term?
  - Mark Tollefson stated that this is something the Council on Regional Homelessness is considering. It’s necessary to use evidence-based practices, but they do not want to prevent innovation and new ideas that may become evidenced- based practices.
- Councilmember Gina Buccieri-Harrington requested that the Council receive information including dates and time of the next taskforce meetings.

Public Comments:

- Sonja De La Rosa inquired when the next task force meeting is.
  - Mark Tollefson stated he was not sure when the next public meeting is, but once he knows he will share the information with HCFC.

**VII. Other matters not on the agenda for consideration at future meetings**

Council Comments:

- Councilmember Russell Atterberry inquired about whether the Council should be submitting a report to the Legislature
- Councilmember Alicia Sutton would like the Council to consider the next big project
- Councilmember Stephanie Welch would like to Council staff to include and plan more site visits

**VIII. Public comments not on the agenda**

*There were no public comments.*

**IX. Adjournment**

The meeting is adjourned at 3:30PM.