



Agenda

1. Call to Order – 3:08pm

2. Roll Call (see attachment)

A quorum was determined.

- Chair Webb announced Mrs. Charletra Sharp's departure from the City of Dallas for an opportunity with a non-profit organization. He publicly thanked her for her service to the Office of Homeless Solutions, the Citizen Homelessness Commission and the citizens of Dallas, particularly, those experiencing homelessness. Elizebeth Loomis will assume her position until further notice.
- Chair Webb welcomed two new members to the commission, Jennifer Snow (D1) and David King (D8).

3. Approval of June 13, 2019 Minutes

- Commissioner Vance made a motion to approve the minutes of the June meeting. Commissioner Crews seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Public Comment

5. Dallas Connector Project and Landlord Subsidized Leasing Program

- Edd Eason, Vice-President of Housing at CitySquare, provided an overview of the two programs his organization in collaboration with others were awarded.
- The Dallas Connector Project which includes First Presbyterian/Stewpot, Austin Street, OurCalling and Salvation Army was awarded \$187,500. The organization originally requested \$250,000, but with the leverage of partnership, they will make up the difference.
- Program will provide regularly scheduled transportation services for persons experiencing homelessness, or at-risk of homelessness, who need access to free-of-charge transportation services necessary to secure healthcare, housing and employment.
- There will be two inter-locking loops that will travel between 8-12 predetermined locations.
- Will amend the stops and size of loops based on the ridership that justifies the need.
- Has an on-demand capability, if, for example, city staff needs one or both to be at a location due to an encampment closure or inclement weather situation.
- Projecting 35,000 rides and a minimum of 1,750 passenger surveys.
- Contacted Project Access Houston and talked to them about their 11-year program. Two things they would have done differently are not provide form cards but have passes handed out at pickup locations and have the right kind of staff aboard the bus, along with security.
- Goals are to address the 3 priorities that were mentioned in the RFP: 1) increase the number of individuals on the housing priority list, 2) increase the utilization of the shelter beds and 3) increase the number of individuals placed into housing.
- Hope to move those numbers monthly and annually by 5%.
- Each stop allots 1 ½ - 3 minutes with wheelchair access on the larger loop.
- There was a concern around the time the connector would stop at the service centers and locations.
- Vehicles will be leased during the time of the contract.
- The first review of locations and ridership will be conducted on October 10th and then done monthly. Updates can be given to the Commission as frequently as requested.
- Schedules will be posted at each pickup point and onboard the vehicles. Shelters and other service providers will also have the schedule.

- Passenger advocates will be onboard with an iPad/tablet to do 10 surveys a day to ensure those who need the service are those using the connector. This data is matched to those in the homeless management information system (HMIS).
- The second award of \$1,300,000 is for the Landlord Subsidized Leasing Program in collaboration with Family Gateway.
- The *A Way Home Program* is designed to provide stable housing and supportive services in moderate to high opportunity neighborhoods for individuals and families impacted by homelessness.
- It targets single females, or those who identify as female, and families who experience non-chronic homelessness [14 days but less than 12 months].
- Rapid re-housing serves the people in this type of profile best.
- Already identified 50 properties in Dallas based on the green zones of the Opportunity Dallas data.
- There are certain performance metrics built into the contract that are verified monthly. Office of Homeless Solutions can provide to the Commission as frequently as requested, but once the department website is finished it will be available to all.
- This program anticipates going into an area where a landlord's attention is normally not received and creating a relationship. The hope is that the focus on families with children it will create some compassion and encourage participation.
- City Square will provide the program manager for the entire program and case managers for the 25 homeless women. Family Gateway will provide the management staff for the families and childcare assistance.
- Commissioner Crews suggested working with the City Attorney's Office to make sure there are no concerns raised and that OHS staff check the stats on a longer time scale.
- For the first 3 months, all expenses are covered which includes a goal-setting plan for getting them a job and settled. The next 3 months, another evaluation is done on their income level and how much can they contribute.

6. Office of Homeless Solutions Report

Director Hardman welcomed Commissioners Snow and King to their first Commission meeting.

- Inclement Weather Update
 - After the May 15th City Council briefing, Council instructed OHS to move forward with the creation of a new use in Chapter 51A for temporary inclement weather shelters.
 - Staff started the process of working with Department of Sustainable Development and Construction. The recommendations were taken to the Zoning Ordinance Advisory Committee (ZOAC) on June 20th. The process can take anywhere between 4 and 6 months. Next meeting is on Thursday, August 15th. Director Hardman thanked Chair Webb, Commissioner Fischer-Taylor, Commissioner Merten, and Commissioner Garner for their comments and support at the last ZOAC meeting.
 - OHS is also working with the City Attorney's Office on a new chapter in Dallas City Code that would codify the Temporary Shelter Program.
 - On August 15th, there will be a presentation that answers the questions from the ZOAC's previous meeting. Any feedback from the commissioners can be given to staff and it will be relayed.
 - After it is passed by ZOAC, then it will go to the City Planning Commission (CPC), and on to full Council.
 - Sent out Inclement Weather Shelter Operator Request For Interest (RFI) on July 18th. Proposals due on August 29th. Pre-proposal conference will be held next Tuesday, August 13th, at 9am in the L1FN Room C.
 - Both RFIs were advertised through the Office of Procurement's system, Bonfire, through the Office of Homeless Solutions, anyone on the distribution list and social service providers.
 - During the first phase, staff is asking for interest of operators that would like to operate these inclement weather shelters. In the future, an RFP will award any funding, pending the budget allocation. Currently, there is no funding for the operation of inclement weather shelters.
 - Commissioner McManemin wants all briefing materials to reflect either temporary Certificate of Occupancy or put in big red letters that it is permanent.
- Track 4: Bond development Update
 - Request for Developer Interest (RDI) released on June 13th to implement the Proposition J Bond funds.
 - With the \$20,000,000, OHS will attempt to leverage 1,000 units over the next 3-5 years. They anticipate having additional RDIs that are specific to just land.
 - Provided three specific sites and went into closed executive session about other sites to Council on May 15th.

- Proposals are due on Thursday, August 15th. A decision was made to extend the date to September 19th to allow additional community outreach.
- CoC Leasing Program Update
 - Beginning in 2018 all four CoC programs were outsourced; two were transitioned successfully.
 - Shelter Plus Care and Shelter Plus Veterans has not received any proposals. Originally there was a match requirement for rental assistance. Since then, staff has worked diligently with HUD to convert from rental assistance to leasing, but still no proposals.
- ESG & HOPWA Renewal Updates
 - RFCSPs renewals for both ESG for \$882,000 and HOPWA for \$3,810,000 both closed on July 18th. They are currently in the process of being evaluated. Staff plans to brief the Commission in September, then looking for City Council's approval in October.
- Criminal Trespass & Jail Diversion Updates
 - Director Hardman recognized Commissioner Crews for all his work in his subcommittee in this area.
 - Met on July 8th with the DA's Office and a larger planning team to talk about criminal trespass/jail diversion, what are some options, what should be the focus, who should be the focus, and if there are any potential locations where there can be a center.
 - The need for collaboration was stressed, but more importantly, for the City to be a partner and the County to take the lead.
 - North Texas Behavioral Health Authority is taking the lead and working on some grants to be able to have funding for a jail diversion center.
- Budget Town Hall Meetings (schedule attached)
 - It is officially budget season. The best way outside of the Commission for the commissioners' voices to be heard around funding is to attend the meetings.
 - Director Hardman listed a number of items to suggest during the budget town hall meetings that will help enhance the Office of Homeless Solutions Department and the work they are doing.

7. Upcoming Events

8. Adjourn – 4:57pm