

COMMUNITY ACTION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Meeting held remotely. Recording at: <https://clark.wa.gov/community-services/caab-community-action-advisory-board>

September 7, 2021

PRESENT	EXCUSED	ABSENT	STAFF
County Treasurer Alishia Topper, chair		Councilor Amy Boget	Thomas Breitenbauch
David Poland, vice chair		Bridget McLeman, secretary	Beth Landry
Karyn Kameroff		Rob Perkins	
Amy Roark		Councilor Linda Glover	
Melanie Green		Lance Carter	
Jamie Spinelli		Megan Mulsoff	
Erica Hefter			

Guests: CODAs Interpreters; Peggy Sheehan (City of Vancouver); Glen Young (community member)

I. Introductions

II. Approval of July 2021 Minutes

The minutes were approved following a motion by David Poland that was seconded by Melanie Green.

III. City of Vancouver Affordable Housing Fund and Homeless Services Updates (Org Standards 5.9)

- The grand opening for the Community Roots Fruit Valley Project is 1-2pm, September 23.
- The application for the Affordable Housing Fund is available on the City website. Two years of levy, or \$12M, is available. The Fund offers up to \$75K/unit. There is only one year left of the levy. Next year, Council will decide whether to send back to voters to continue the levy.
- The CDBG and HOME RFP will be released next week.
- Funding Outsiders Inn for overnight services at St Paul Church runs out January 1, 2022.
- Contracts are being executed with service providers for safe parks campsites. City Council should hear proposal on September 20.
- First hearing by City Council of amended unlawful camping ordinance to allow for year-round camping, create buffers, and provide safety for overnight workers that sleep days is September 13.
- City Council will also vote on site selection for campsites on September 13.
- Columbia River Mental Health Street Treatment team will provide outreach services for behavioral health issues for people who are unsheltered in sanctioned and unsanctioned sites.
- Share's Talking Trash cleanup program will provide additional services throughout the City.
- Resuming Community Court to provide resources for people experiencing homelessness is being discussed.
- New sanitation sites are being added to the existing seven locations.
- Camp cleanups (not sweeps) occur every 4-6 weeks at the three largest sites.
- City is looking to hire a homeless coordinator for the site team.

IV. Legislative updates

State: No updates

Federal: There is an effort to make the 200 percent poverty level permanent. The CSBG reauthorization bill has been submitted. It sets minimum funding amounts so program cannot be eliminated. Information on county legislative sessions will be sent by email.

V. July 2020 – June 2021 Outcomes Report (Org Standards 1.3, 4.4, 5.9, 8.7)

Program spend outs were impacted due to COVID19. All unspent local funds from FY21, such as document recording fees, have been reallocated to existing contracts.

VI. Additional Funding Overview

Shelter: \$4.4M to increase shelter bed capacity and enabled purchase Betha's Place

Q&I shelter: \$1.8M for 2020 COVID-19 effort, including the non-congregate shelter at Motel 6

HCRS Services: \$1.2M CARES funding to providers to continue operations
CDBG-CV: \$543k for COVID-related programs
ERAP: \$11.9M for eviction prevention, which assisted 2,127 households
ESG CV: \$4.9M for shelter, outreach, and rapid rehousing. Grant ends September 2022
ARP: \$15.5M to support outreach, shelter, rapid rehousing, permanent supportive housing. Contracts being written for services through December 2024
Treasury Rent Assistance: \$30.5M total from Commerce T-RAP \$15.4M and Treasury TERA \$14M for prevention rent assistance, serving 1,646 households to date

VII. January Meeting Trainings

The January meeting will include training for the request for applications, including information on Homeless Crisis Response System and best practices; housing types and what makes them effective; what to look for in applications; and training on the software. Additional requests for training can be sent to Rebecca.

VIII. CAAB Application Review Committee

Three members terms expire at the end of the year. Amy, Jamie and Alishia volunteered to review applicants for these positions.

IX. Open Forum

No discussion.

X. Other Business

- The Community Needs Assessment is available in English and is being translated to Spanish, Russian, Vietnamese, and Chuukese.
- A request was made to send a survey to determine if the current meeting time is still best for all members for 2022.
- There are over 1,500 students who are homeless in Clark County. Janus Youth is a resource. Homeless Student Stability fund goes directly to providers for this effort.
- Next meeting: 8-9:30am, November 2, 2021.

Meeting adjourned.

Bridget McLeman, secretary

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