



ECHO convened at the Clark County Public Service Center, 6th Floor, Hearing Conference Room, also via WebEx Online.

Clark County ECHO

(Ending Community Homelessness Organization)

Meeting Minutes – March 11, 2025.

***IMPORTANT NOTE* PLEASE *STATE YOUR NAME* AND SPEAK DIRECTLY INTO THE MICROPHONE WHEN MAKING A MOTION OR SECONDING A MOTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE MINUTES.**

ECHO Chair, Clark County Councilor, Glen Yung, called the ECHO meeting to-order.

Welcome and Introductions

Lead by Chair, Councilor Glen Yung

- **Minutes from February 11, 2025 – TABLED; NO QUORUM**
- Review of Agenda
 - Jordan Boege requested an amendment to the agenda to correct the place of the ECHO Meeting.

Updates & Report back on action items

- Severe Weather – *ECHO Membership*
 - Sunny Wonder stated she is transitioning into severe hot weather. They will be shifting on how they respond to fires, how the homeless response system coordinates with CRESA and continuing to focus on expanding resources and locations for cooling centers.
 - There was discussion about a winter weather summary report. Gather specific data on who, what, where, why and cost for a winter shelter. Mayor Ann would like an email sent to her with the information gathered about the data on the winter shelter activities.
- Subcommittee Interest – ECHO
 - Jordan Boege stated:
 - There are individuals interested in supporting the Homeless Action Plan.
 - Andy, Victoria, and Katie have volunteered to be on the Housing Affordability and Production Subcommittee.
 - He has not heard from anyone regarding the State and Federal Advocacy Priority Committee.
 - If people are interested in serving on subcommittees, please send an email to Jordan expressing their interest (Jordan.boege@clark.wa.gov).

Legislative Updates

- Jordan reviewed several HB & SB with ECHO, after an in-depth discussion; Jordan will do the following:
 - Determine which bills ECHO will support and draft letters of support to be sent to the legislative bodies.
 - Send a list of bills to representatives for them to bring back to their jurisdictions.
 - Draft a sample letter for bill 5696 and attach it to the group's email.
 - Reach out to legislators about proposed cuts to Medicaid assisted living rates.



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- State budget deficit / Governor's budget proposals
 - Governor Gerguson released his draft budget cuts last week, identifying almost \$4 billion of budget reductions.
 - Proposed budget cuts may impact Medicaid assisted living rates, potentially putting facilities at risk.
 - ECHO Support facilities providing assisted living in all cities and unincorporated areas.

City of Vancouver Homeless Emergency Situation Report Overview

Presented by Jamie Spinelli – City of Vancouver

- The homeless situation reports for January shows efforts in cleanups, shelter services, and housing initiatives.
- The city has not calculated the full dollar costs of the homeless situation but estimated that it spent around \$300,000 a year on officer time.
- The safe stays have led to a 30-40% reduction in police and fire calls around the sites, indicating their effectiveness.
- Vancouver City Council is interested in understanding the impact and cost of individuals coming from outside Vancouver for services.
- Small cities lack resources such as domestic violence shelters, leading individuals to seek help in larger cities.
- Coordinate efforts with bigger cities to address the issue and focus on collaboration.

Takeaways, Recommendations, Next Steps, and Closing

- Anything for the good of the order

NEXT MEETING

- *May 13, 2025; 9:30- 11:00am*

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