



HOMELESS SERVICES ADHOC COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 2025

The Homeless Services Adhoc Committee will conduct a meeting on Tuesday, April 8, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. at City Hall (Mayor's Conference Room), 1737 Main Street, Second Floor, Columbia, SC 29201. Members of the public may view the meeting online at www.columbiasc.gov. Please contact the City Clerk's Office at (803)545-3045 or cityclerk@columbiasc.gov if you have questions regarding this meeting.

The Honorable William Brennan, District III, Chair
The Honorable Aditi Bussells, At-Large ▪ The Honorable Tyler D. Bailey, At-Large

Prior to entering the meeting please silence all electronic communication devices. All presenters are asked to speak directly into the microphone for recording purposes.

CALL TO ORDER

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. January 7, 2025 Committee Meeting Minutes

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

2. Update on Recommendations from the Taskforce to Prevent and End Homelessness Report - The Honorable Aditi Bussells
3. Point-in-Time Count Summary – Ms. Kameisha Heppard, LMSW, Director of Homeless Services
4. Operational Update and Recommendations – Ms. Kameisha Heppard, LMSW, Director of Homeless Services
5. Homeless Services Blueprint and Next Steps - The Honorable Will Brennan

EXECUTIVE SESSION

6. Receipt of legal advice relating to matters covered by attorney-client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code §30-4-70(a)(2)
 - *Homeless Services*

ADJOURNMENT



MEETING DATE: April 8, 2025
DEPARTMENT: City Clerk
FROM: *Erika Hammond, City Clerk*
SUBJECT: January 7, 2025 Committee Meeting Minutes
**FUNDING SOURCE &
ORIGINAL BUDGET:**

ATTACHMENTS:

- **#a:** HSAC_MN_010725 (DOCX)



HOMELESS SERVICES ADHOC COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

The Columbia Homeless Services Adhoc Committee conducted a meeting on Tuesday, January 7, 2025 at City Hall (Mayor's Conference Room), 1737 Main Street, Second Floor, Columbia, South Carolina 29201. The Honorable Will Brennan, Chair called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m. and the following members were present:

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Will Brennan	Chair	Present
Aditi Bussells	Member	Present
Tyler D. Bailey	Member	Present

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

1. Homeless Services Update - Ms. Kameisha Heppard, LMSW, Director of Homeless Services – *The information was received. No action was taken.*

Councilor Brennan highlighted the importance of evaluating past successes in homeless services and identifying opportunities for future improvements. He emphasized the need for strong partnerships with service providers.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager thanked Mr. Brennan and Mr. Bailey for their leadership, noting that the opening of Rapid Shelter two years ago was uncharted territory. She emphasized the importance of the ad hoc committee in addressing immediate needs with local providers' support.

Ms. Kameisha Heppard, LMSW, Director of Homeless Services provided an update on key achievements and initiatives. Since the 2022 launch of Rapid Shelter, 79 chronically unsheltered individuals have been permanently housed. The department has also partnered with non-traditional providers to assist those with dual diagnoses. Since June 2023, 27 residents have received aftercare services, totaling 115 engagements. As of December 31, 2024, 46 individuals remain at Rapid Shelter, with 827 community referrals.

There was discussion about defining resistance to service; last permanent address reflected in the data; the number of individuals serviced; referral placement; donations and tax deductible status; and the Adopt a Pallet and Rapid Shelter mentorship programs.



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2. Point In Time Count - Ms. Kameisha Heppard, LMSW, Director of Homeless Services – *The information was received. No action was taken.*

Ms. Kameisha Heppard, LMSW, Director of Homeless Services explained the Point in Time (PIT) Count, an event organized by HUD as a designated evening where both sheltered and unsheltered individuals are surveyed and counted. This year, the PIT Count will take place on January 22, 2025. It is typically scheduled by the end of the month to align with the depletion of resources available to these individuals. The PIT Count is carried out by teams gathering data on the needs of those experiencing homelessness. She presented a visual aid illustrating the Midland Area Consortium for the Homeless (MACH) while emphasizing the challenges posed by the large geographic area covered. It is important for the City of Columbia to show strong support for the event, given the investments made in addressing homelessness. She also extended a call for help to the surrounding counties.

There was discussion about how the date is selected; homeless service providers within surrounding counties and municipalities; staff volunteers; how the PIT count is conducted; data points for the homeless population; distribution of funding; and the city's involvement with MACH.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon a motion made by Dr. Bussells and seconded by Mr. Bailey, the Committee entered into Executive Session at 1:52 p.m. for the discussion of **Item 3**.

3. Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements pursuant to S.C. Code §30-4-70(a)(2)
- Homeless Services

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Erika D. Moore Hammond, CMC
City Clerk



MEETING DATE: April 8, 2025

DEPARTMENT: City Clerk

FROM: *Erika Hammond, City Clerk*

SUBJECT: **Update on Recommendations from the Taskforce to Prevent and End Homelessness Report - The Honorable Aditi Bussells**

FUNDING SOURCE & ORIGINAL BUDGET:



MEETING DATE: April 8, 2025

DEPARTMENT: City Clerk

FROM: *Erika Hammond, City Clerk*

SUBJECT: Point-in-Time Count Summary – Ms. Kameisha Heppard, LMSW, Director of Homeless Services

FUNDING SOURCE & ORIGINAL BUDGET:



MEETING DATE: April 8, 2025

DEPARTMENT: City Clerk

FROM: *Erika Hammond, City Clerk*

SUBJECT: **Operational Update and Recommendations – Ms. Kameisha Heppard, LMSW, Director of Homeless Services**

FUNDING SOURCE & ORIGINAL BUDGET:



MEETING DATE: April 8, 2025

DEPARTMENT: City Clerk

FROM: *Erika Hammond, City Clerk*

SUBJECT: Homeless Services Blueprint and Next Steps - The Honorable Will Brennan

FUNDING SOURCE & ORIGINAL BUDGET:



MEETING DATE: April 8, 2025

DEPARTMENT: City Clerk

FROM: *Erika Hammond, City Clerk*

SUBJECT: Receipt of legal advice relating to matters covered by attorney-client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code §30-4-70(a)(2)

FUNDING SOURCE & ORIGINAL BUDGET:

PURPOSE:
Homeless Services