



**CITY OF COVINGTON
SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA
CITY COUNCIL JOINT STUDY SESSION WITH HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION**
Council Chambers – 16720 SE 271st Street, Suite 100, Covington
www.covingtonwa.gov

Tuesday, April 28, 2015 – 6:00 p.m.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

The study session is an informal meeting involving discussion between and among the City Council, Commissioners, and city staff regarding policy issues. Study sessions may involve presentations, feedback, brainstorming, etc., regarding further work to be done by the staff on key policy matters.

CALL CITY COUNCIL JOINT STUDY SESSION TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ITEM(S) FOR DISCUSSION

1. Review Commission Recommended Revisions to the Human Services Master Plan Assessments and Goals (Throm)

PUBLIC COMMENT Speakers will state their name, address, and organization. Comments are directed to the City Council, not the audience or staff. Comments are not intended for conversation or debate and are limited to no more than four minutes per speaker. Speakers may request additional time on a future agenda as time allows.*

ADJOURN

Americans with Disabilities Act – Reasonable Accommodations Provided Upon Request a minimum of 24 hours in advance (253-480-2400)

****Note* A Regular Council meeting will follow at approximately 7:00 p.m.***

Agenda Item 1
Covington City Council Meeting
Date: April 28, 2015

SUBJECT: REVIEW REVISIONS TO THE HUMAN SERVICES MASTER PLAN

RECOMMENDED BY: Human Services Commission

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Minutes from the April 9, 2015 Human Services Commission meeting
2. Proposed Revisions to the Assessments and Goals of the Human Services Master Plan

PREPARED BY: Victoria Thom, Personnel & Human Services Analyst

EXPLANATION:

The city staff is currently in the process of updating the Comprehensive Plan. The Human Services goals and policies are being integrated with the Housing element of the Comp Plan because housing and human service needs are often intertwined. The Human Services Master Plan provides community assessments and goals that address the social conditions to support vulnerable or at risk individuals and families.

Beginning in February of this year the Human Services Commission began to review the community assessments and goals of the Human Services Master Plan, which was adopted in 2012. The Commission made several changes to Assessment #1 Basic Needs – Food, Clothing, and Housing; Assessment #2 Personal Safety; and Assessment #5 Employment, Transportation, and Housing Development (*refer to attachment 2*). These changes address the growing need for additional affordable housing for low-income residents as well as access to housing or shelter for those who are homeless.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Modify the recommendations of the commission.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact to the city.

CITY COUNCIL ACTION: ___ Ordinance ___ Resolution X Motion ___ Other

Councilmember _____ moves, Councilmember _____ seconds, to approve the revision of the Assessments and Goals of the Human Services Master Plan as proposed.

REVIEWED BY: Regan Bolli, City Manager
Noreen Beaufre, Personnel Manager



**HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES**

April 9, 2015- 6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair McGregor called the April 9, 2015 regular meeting of the Human Services Commission to order at 6:35 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Joyce Bowling, Nihal Dhillon, Leslie Hamada, Brian Lord, Fran McGregor, and Lesley Schlesinger

MEMBERS ABSENT

Adam Wheeler

CITY STAFF PRESENT

Victoria Throm, Personnel & Human Services Analyst

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

CM HAMADA MOVED AND CM LORD SECONDED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA TO INCLUDE THE MINUTES FROM MARCH 12, 2015 AS CORRECTED. VOTE: 6-0. MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - There were no public comments.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chair McGregor opened the nominations for Chair to serve a one-year term.

CM HAMADA NOMINATED FRAN MCGREGOR AS CHAIR. CM BOWLING SECONDED THE NOMINATION. VOTE: 6:0 MOTION CARRIED.

Chair McGregor opened the nominations for Vice-Chair to serve a one-year term.

CHAIR MCGREGOR NOMINATED LESLIE HAMADA AS VICE-CHAIR. CM LORD SECONDED THE NOMINATION. VOTE: 6:0 MOTION CARRIED

ORIENTATION OF NEW COMMISSIONER

Chair McGregor welcomed new student commissioner Nihal Dhillon and asked her to share about herself. Nihal, who goes by Nia, is 17 years old and a running start student at Green River Community College. She is considering a major in Political Science but has not yet decided. She has sister and brother and her pet dog named Stupid.

Each of the commissioners introduced themselves and shared about their background and interest in human services.

Chair McGregor gave an overview of the mission and responsibilities of the Human Services Commission. She explained the funding cycle process and monitoring the agencies followed by reviewing the work calendar and introduction to the Human Services Master Plan.

OLD BUSINESS:

Item 1. Review Draft Revision of the Human Services Master Plan Assessments & Goals

Exhibit 1 was a draft of the revisions shown in track changes discussed at the March meeting for the commission's review. Chair McGregor also provided a hand-out of her notes listing the revisions from the last meeting to which they could compare. After further review, it was agreed that the changes in Chair McGregor's notes were accurate and should be approved.

CM LORD MOVED AND SCHLESINGER SECONDED TO APPROVE THE REVISIONS TO THE HUMAN SERVICES MASTER PLAN ASSESSMENTS AND GOALS. VOTE: 6:0 MOTION CARRIED.

The next step is to present the changes to the City Council at the joint Council-Commission meeting on Tuesday, April 28, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. CM Lord mentioned that when the commission presents their goals to the Council they should word it carefully to encourage more low-income rental and housing in Covington. Chair McGregor will present the changes and CM Hamada will speak to the need for low-income housing and to be a community of acceptance for all people. Since most of the changes primarily focus on housing, the Community Development Director will provide these goals to the consultant conducting the Comp Plan Updates, incorporating these goals into the housing element.

NEW BUSINESS:

Item 2. Video Presentation of Global to Local Health Initiative

Victoria showed two videos; the first on the *Global to Local Health Initiative* which began in SeaTac and Tukwila and the positive changes that are being made to people's health; secondly she showed a National Public Radio segment on the *Family Housing Connection* program for homeless families and the barriers that need to be addressed to make this a more successful program.

COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION OF COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF

CM SCHLESINGER MOVED AND CM LORD SECONDED TO ADJOURN THE APRIL 9, 2015 MEETING AT 8:03 P.M. VOTE 6:0. MOTION CARRIED.

Submitted by:



Victoria Throm Personnel & Human Services Analyst

COMMUNITY ASSESSMENTS

In 2004 the Human Services Commission initiated a community needs assessment as a source of input to develop funding priorities for future services. The assessment process involved collecting information through interviews, group discussions, focus groups, and surveys. Based on the results of the needs assessment, the Human Services Commission established five assessments in order to develop community goals that achieve the desired outcomes. These goals and outcomes were incorporated as a directive for the Human Services Master Plan as they guide strategies and funding recommendations.

Assessment #1 Basic Needs - Food, Clothing, and Housing

Community Goal 1: Individuals and families have affordable housing options and resources.

Desired Outcomes:

1. Homeless individuals and families will have access to transitional housing and emergency shelter.
2. Provider agencies are financially supported as resources for emergency assistance to pay rent, mortgage, or utility bills.
2. Families or individuals have access to affordable low-income housing.
3. Life skills guidance and education are provided for long-term sustainability.
4. Provider agencies are financially supported as resources to the elderly and the disabled to sustain independent living.

Community Goal 2: Covington citizens will have access to food

Desired Outcomes:

1. Families or individuals have access to food and clothing banks.
2. Local food banks are financially supported as a resource for those in need.

Assessment #2 Personal Safety

Community Goal 1: Family safety is a right for all children and adults within the community

Desired Outcomes:

1. Families have access to domestic violence services and safe housing options.
2. Domestic violence agencies are financially supported as resources to victims and their families.
3. A consistent collaboration between the city and the Covington Domestic Violence Task Force is maintained to provide support and safe housing for victims of domestic violence.
4. The youth, students, and the community have a greater awareness of dating violence and domestic violence issues.

Community Goal 2: Reduction of Crime in Covington

Desired Outcomes:

1. Increased presence of community service officers in our neighborhoods.
2. Increased public awareness of city support for community crime prevention programs.

Assessment #3 Health Care

Community Goal 1: Healthy Children and Adults

Desired Outcomes:

1. Residents have access to affordable health care including mental health services.
2. Residents have access to affordable dental care services.
3. Residents have access to substance abuse treatment services for all income levels resulting in a decline in substance abuse.
4. Health care agencies are financially supported as resources for those in need.
5. Residents have accessible suicide prevention support.

Assessment #4 Services for Youth

Community Goal 1: Youth sports and recreational activities will be available to all

Desired Outcomes:

1. Family-focused youth activities are available in the community.
2. Recreational sports activities are available for youth.
3. Support the development of a youth center.
4. Provider agencies are financially supported as resources for at-risk teen programs.

Assessment #5 Employment, Transportation, and Housing Development

Community Goal 1: Greater Employment Opportunities within the City

Desired Outcomes:

1. An increase in manufacturing and technology opportunities.
2. An increase in the professional job market.
3. Increased support of home-based and small business community.

Community Goal 2: Additional Transportation Services to Covington

Desired Outcomes:

1. Increased public transit opportunities to each high school.
2. Increased direct transportation to mass transit stations.
3. Increased direct transportation to Seattle and SeaTac Airport.
4. Encourage flexibility in transit schedules.

Community Goal 3: Affordable Housing Will Be Available

Desired Outcomes:

1. Development of planned communities with access to services.
2. Development of mixed use housing.
3. Promote energy efficient housing.
4. Encourage development of additional rental units for low-income households.

Assessment #6 Services for Veterans

Community Goal 1: Support all services for veterans and their families

Desired Outcomes:

1. Veterans have access to housing assistance services.
2. Veterans have access to affordable health care including mental health care.
3. Children of military personnel are supported in school through development of curriculum.
4. Provide support for the King County Human Services Levy.