



Human Services Commission Minutes

Thursday, June 5, 2025

Council Chambers and Online

1. Call to Order

Chair Stephens called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Brandon Stephens, Chair; Angelina Goldwell, Vice Chair (remote); Commissioners Dalia Martinez, Nancy Dihle (remote), Evette Temple, and Lester Dickson; and Elhadj Toure, Youth Council Representative

COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED: Commissioner Tiffany Walker

STAFF PRESENT: Michelle Chavez, Human Services Coordinator, and Paul J. White, Deputy City Clerk

3. Land Acknowledgement

Chair Stephens presented the Abbreviated Land Acknowledgement.

4. Approval of Agenda, Previous Meeting Minutes, and Consent Items

A. Approval of Agenda

B. Approval of April 3, 2025, meeting minutes

Commissioner Dickson moved to approve the agenda, as amended to remove item 6(b)(2), and to approve the meeting minutes of April 3, 2025. Councilmember Temple seconded. Motion carried.

5. Public Comment

No one signed up to speak in person or remotely, and no written comments were received.

6. Business Items

A. Public Hearing: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Fund Allocation

Michelle Chavez, Human Services Coordinator

At 5:35 p.m., Chair Stephens opened the Public Hearing on the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Fund Allocation. Chavez presented an update on the CDBG program and summarized the program's alignment with City goals and national objectives. The City's estimated 2025 allocation is \$348,393. Chavez described eligible and ineligible activities for CDBG funding and outlined the funding process, which includes two public hearings and a 30-day public comment period. Potential capital projects and capital project examples from other jurisdictions were presented. Two public hearings and a 30-day public comment period will be followed by City Council final action, expected to be taken in August.

No one signed up to provide testimony during the public hearing remotely or in person, and no written testimony was received.

Chair Stephens closed the public hearing at 5:43 p.m.

B. 2025 Human Services Grant Program (HSGP) Update and Applicant Presentations

Michelle Chavez, Human Services Coordinator

Chavez provided an update on the 2025 program, which has a 2025 budget of \$300,000. A total of 20 applications are under consideration, with funding requests exceeding \$800,000. Presentations were received from the following organizations:

- Oly Camp Kitties (Spay/Neuter Program)
- 4 the Love Foundation (Basic Needs Support Services)
- Rebuilding Together Thurston County (Critical Home Repair)
- YWCA Olympia (Kathleen's Closet)
- North Thurston Education Foundation (Student Assistance Grant Program)
- Senior Services for South Sound (Home Share Program)
- Garden-Raised Bounty (GRuB) (Youth Build Free Backyard Gardens)
- All Kids Win (Weekend Food Bags)
- Strophy Foundation (Gratitude and Grace Sober Living Home)
- Community Action Council of Lewis, Mason, and Thurston Counties (Lacey Housing Services)

Recessed and Reconvened

The Human Services Commission recessed at 7:09 p.m. and reconvened at 7:16 p.m. to continue receiving presentations from the following organizations:

- Homes First (Increasing the Pace of Affordable Housing Development)

Recusal

Commissioner Temple announced that, due to serving on the Board of Directors for Homes First, she would recuse herself from consideration of the Homes First application. Temple left the meeting from 7:22 to 7:33 p.m., after which the Human Services Commission continued receiving presentations from the following organizations:

- Interfaith Works (Sergio's Service Center)
- Community Youth Services (Haven House)
- World Relief Western Washington (Refugee and Immigrant Housing Stability Program)
- South Puget Sound Habitat for Humanity (Home Repair Program)
- Thurston County Inclusion (Summer Program)
- Our Ark (Place of Safety and Home)
- TOGETHER! (Host Homes)
- CIELO (Centro Integral Educativo Latino de Olympia) (Lacey Housing Stability and Advocacy Initiative)
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Thurston County (Scholarships for North Thurston Public School Students Experiencing Homelessness)

7. Adjourn

Chair Stephens adjourned the meeting at 8:47 p.m.