



Written materials relating to an item on this agenda that are distributed to the legislative bodies within 72 hours before the item is to be considered at the regular meeting will be made available for public inspection at the City Clerk's Office, 305 West Third Street and 435 South "D" Street during customary business hours. The agenda reports are on the City of Oxnard web site at www.ci.oxnard.ca.us.

AGENDA
Commission on Homelessness
Regular Meeting
Monday, October 7, 2013 - 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers
305 West Third Street, Oxnard, CA 93030

A. ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
September 9, 2013 (Attachment 1)

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS
A person may address the Commission only on matters within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. The presiding officer shall limit public comments to three minutes each. The Commission cannot enter into detailed discussion or take action on any item presented during public comments that is not on the agenda. Such item may only be referred to the Commission Secretary for administrative action or scheduled on a subsequent agenda for discussion.

D. HOMELESS SERVICES UPDATE
1. Public comment on Homeless Services Update: Members of the public may comment on items listed under Homeless Services Update. Comments shall be limited to three minutes.
2. Election of Vice-Chair: Commissioners
3. Continuum of Care Grant Merger: Commissioner Rivera

E. OLD BUSINESS
1. Public comment on Homeless Services Update: members of the public may comment on items listed under Old Business. Comments shall be limited to three minutes each.
2. Year Round Shelter Discussion: Commissioner Courtland
3. Update on SB2: Will Reed

F. NEW BUSINESS
1. Public comment on Homeless Services Update: members of the public may comment on items listed under New Business. Comments shall be limited to three minutes each.
2. Oxnard Police Department Update: Assistant Police Chief Jason Benites
3. Home to Home Program for At Risk and Homeless Persons: Commissioner Courtland

G. COMMISSION BUSINESS
1. Commissioners may relate recent experiences or request that matters be placed on a future agenda for discussion.
2. Commissioner Perez Leave of Absence until December
3. Possible change in meeting time of regular meetings: Commissioners

H. ADJOURNMENT
The next business meeting of the Commission on Homelessness will be November 4, 2013, at 3:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 305 West Third Street, Oxnard, CA, 93030.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in a meeting, please contact Will Reed at (805) 385-8044. Notification 72 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable accommodations to assure accessibility to the meeting.

City of Oxnard
Commission on Homelessness
Special Meeting
September 9, 2013
3:30 PM

Commissioner Rivera called to order the business meeting of the Commission on Homelessness at 3:35 PM on September 9, 2013 in the City Council Chambers at 305 West Third Street, Oxnard, CA 93030.

A. ROLL CALL

Will Reed conducts roll call. The following persons were present:

Commissioner Rivera
Commissioner Courtland
Commissioner Garcia
Commissioner Miller
Commissioner Tougas

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Commissioner Rivera made a motion to approve the minutes of August 5, 2013, second by Commissioner Courtland. Motion was approved.

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- a. Marissa Mach, Ventura County Human Services Agency, Homeless Management Information System Administrator (HMIS)– Continuum of Care Grant merger: From the perspective of HMIS, it would be more efficient to report on one Continuum rather than two. For service providers, it's a significant burden to report in both, and by merging, the process would become more efficient for them. Reports will be county-wide and more specific, and would better articulate the needs of homeless persons throughout the county. From a service provider perspective, some agencies which are submitting applications in both the County and City CoC applications, there would only be one application that needs to be done. This reduces the workload significantly as well. We have had success with merging programs with Oxnard when we did the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing grant under the America's Recovery Act (ARA) funds. We maximized access to these funds throughout the region.
- b. Christy Madden, Ventura County CEO's Office, CoC Merger: The requirement to have a CoC Oversight Board is tied to the CoC grant. The structure is in place but the seats have yet to be appointed. There are also subcommittees in place. With these structures, Oxnard has the opportunity to have representation and an active voice in the ongoing processes of the CoC. The concern, however, is that if the merger does not occur then there would need to be two separate Oversight Boards and separate subcommittees.
- c. Tim Hawkins, Director of Operations - Community Action of Ventura County, CoC Merger: By merging CoC' we would have better coordination of funding and programs, and be able to compete nationally for new funds. Apparently we've done a poor job because we haven't had too many people step up with new programs, and we've left money on the table, but I think I'm a little unique coming to the Commission today. As a service provider we've been operating since May 1, 2013, without a contract. We're \$50,000+ in the hole and can't

continue to operate much longer. We're going to have to shut our doors soon, we can't make payroll. This is becoming a fiscal liability to our agency. If the CoCs did merge and become one, and by looking at the attachment on page 2, Oxnard is getting a D while the County is getting an A, we wouldn't be in this position.

- d. Karol Schulkin - Continuum of Care Grant merger: The solution to homelessness is housing. There's been a repeated, concerted effort to have housing providers provide housing for low and very-low income families, and Many Mansions has done a recent project in Oxnard that helps. CoC funding is a small piece of the funding that can be used for new housing projects, but it, in no way, is the complete source for financing any housing project. There are several layers of financing involved and CoC funds can be a significant piece. Additionally, when other service providers have been asked to submit applications for CoC funding and realize not only are there limited funds for construction, but there are even less funds for operations and supportive services, agencies decline to submit applications.

D. HOMELESS SERVICES UPDATE

- a. 2013 Continuum of Care Grant Merger - Will Reed: With regards to the merger request sent to HUD, I would like to first of all address the scores of previous applications. The scores are reflective of the service providers APRs. In recent years we've had service providers that have had HUD Findings on monitoring visits, have not spent all of their awarded funds annually, and have yet to request and be awarded 100 percent of our allocated CoC funds. Secondly, we have only had two (2) new housing projects in six years, which were the D Street Project by Many Mansions and 2 awarded Shelter Plus Care vouchers in the 2010 application. The City also has made a conscience effort to not award any new Supportive Services Only projects as these projects do not increase or help the overall score, and with the direction HUD is going in, these projects would be in jeopardy of losing funds. We have continued to ask housing service providers to submit applications for new projects with beds and/or units of housing attached to them. However, because of the minimal amount of CoC funds actually available for new projects, and the lack of internal capacity to secure other fund to finance and support the ongoing operations, providers decline to submit.

E. OLD BUSINESS

Year Round Shelter Discussion:

- a. Commissioner Courtland opened the discussion with an update. Suggestion for the next meeting to enable the Commission to get more done and accomplish what is my goal of getting a year round shelter, can we change the time of the meeting. It would make it easier for more Commissioners to be in attendance and we would have a quorum. Additionally, I would like to get the other seats on the Commission filled.

F. NEW BUSINESS

Neighborhood Council Attendance:

- a. Commissioner Rivera: I am asking our Commission to take a good look at our positions as Commissioners and we need to go to Neighborhood Council meetings and the downtowners and work with them on how we are going the issue of homelessness. We need to educate them on homelessness as well. On next month's agenda we will take a vote on this.

G. COMMISSION BUSINESS

- a. Commissioner Rivera: This is a time for new commissioners that may not be too familiar with how the Commission works to take advantage of the time to speak out and ask questions on homelessness. This
- b. We would like an update on all service providers information on the City's website.
- c. Mayor Pro-Tem Carmen Ramirez: Just wanted to take the opportunity to thank the Commission for the commitment and dedication to homelessness in the City.

H. MEETING ADJOURNED
4:45 p.m.