

**Collective Impact on Homelessness Steering Committee
Minutes from the Meeting of Thursday
January 7, 2016 8:30 – 10:30 am
Salt Lake County Government Center, North Building Suite N2-800**

Steering Committee members or alternates in attendance: Mayor Ben McAdams, Janice Kimball, Jennifer Godfrey, Jennifer Steele, Laura Michalski, Tamera Kohler, Don Przybyla, Kathy Bray, James Morgese, Mayor Jackie Biskupski, Tony Milner, Tiffany Provost, Michelle Flynn, Mayor Joann Seghini, Mikelle Moore.

Steering Committee Facilitators in attendance: Shaleane Gee, Patrick Reimherr, Janell Fluckiger

Members of the public in attendance: Clair Baldwin, Andrew Johnston, Josh Schseman, Sean Murphy, Becky Kapp, Pauline Zvonkovic, Tony Mastracci, Daniel Shipp, Janida Emerson, Karen Wiley, Derek Kitchen, Elizabeth Garla, Seth Teague, Mike Harmon, Kerry Steadman, Greg Paras, Connie Crosby, David Litvak, Mary Schafer, Kalani Medford, Tim Stray, Eric Maloof, Michael Akerlow, Sam Klemm, Ashley Hoopes, Matt Melville, Erika Fihaki, Mike Gallegos, Carlton Christensen, Valerie Walton, Carly Harris, Elizabeth Buehler, Ashley Tolman, Glenn Bailey.

I. Welcome & Introductions – Mayor McAdams welcomed everyone and introductions were made around the room. Mayor McAdams gave a special introduction to the new Salt Lake City Mayor, Jackie Biskupski.

III. Recent Committee Activity Summary & Goals for Today's Meeting – Shaleane Gee gave a brief overview of the last meeting. She advised us that 2 hours after the last meeting the governor's budget was released. There is a line in the budget amendment asking us to apply for \$6 Million from existing Olene Walker Housing Loan funds for new homeless shelter. The Mayor believes this is a strong sign of support from the State Governor. He believes the \$27 Million legislative ask will pass. The Legislative request is being prepared. We have received good feedback for housing solutions. There is an ongoing conversation with the Gardner Policy Institute from the University of Utah. We will send out their report this week for feedback/review. Our goal today is to walk through in more detail the legislative request, and how to organize our efforts going forward. After today's discussion we will distribute paperwork.

IV. Legislative Ask Discussion – This coordinated request is a comprehensive plan to minimize homelessness. We want to invest in affordable housing and homelessness prevention, while recognizing shelter needs are important. We are proposing that we call this the HOMES Initiative in order to help us focus our proposal. The Mayor feels we are well placed to succeed

in our request. There will be weekly HOMES meetings to discuss what is happening in the legislative session, what we would like to happen, and how we can form a rapid response. Patrick Reimherr believes that the work we have done coupled with the nature of the legislative session opens a significant policy window. He would like to remind us that the primary goal is to do something significant as a community. We want to put ourselves in a position to be better equipped to address homelessness. The following proposal reflects our initial attempt at crafting the HOMES Initiative, and all related supporting legislation. Discussion of current legislation being considered:

Appropriations is asking for a total of \$27 million.

\$20 million will be appropriated as one-time funding for capital costs to build 2 new facilities. One will be for families with children, the other will be for single men and women.

\$4 million will be appropriated for our ongoing Operations & Maintenance.

\$3 million will be appropriated for ongoing shelter diversion which will serve as an alternative to federal housing programs.

Another piece of legislation will be used to make adjustments to the intent language on the Olene Walker Housing Loan fund. We would like to clarify the wording of the OWHLF so that the funds would prioritize grants over loans. We would like to target grant money to very low income populations (30% AMI).

We are also looking at establishing a Metro-Area Housing Trust Fund. Senator Harper is working to streamline the redevelopment code in his RDA bill. This bill would work along with that. We are asking that an incentive be included for municipalities who give their mandated 20% affordable housing funds over to the Metro Housing Authority. It is proposed, if municipalities do so, that they are able to retain 5% of those funds as discretionary, and then the Metro HA would use the 15% remaining for affordable housing throughout the region.

Coordination of efforts going forward: An attendee asked “What is our strategy to reach out to 60% of legislators that don’t reside in Salt Lake County”? Mayor McAdams stated that we need the committee’s help to do that. Patrick stated that that even though we only have 40% of legislators, we have 70 – 80% homeless. The Mayor asks that cities and towns help to bring affordable housing throughout state to keep families and homeless in the communities they come from (ie provide services in those communities to prevent them from migrating to Salt Lake County to get services). Mayor Jackie Biskupski pointed out that the RDA Proposal will allow for other communities to not build shelters. We want other cities to be held to the same standards and to ensure they are participating in fulfilling their community’s needs. These funds are intended to bridge the gap between federal housing programs with strict regulations, and emergency shelter options.

Discussion to request funding in relation to priority subpopulations, particularly families, children and youth. We are working toward prevention and diversion solutions which integrate wrap-around services. No child should experience homelessness. We need to coordinate efforts to attain shared outcomes. We are using a “No Wrong Door” approach, all suggestions will be looked at. We want to ensure we are providing emergency services AND housing options. Our immediate priorities, in terms of the current legislative strategy, are families with

children, as well as individuals and heads-of-household who are working. Our secondary priority is single men and women. One of the major known gaps is between school system and homeless/housing system. Different definitions of homelessness from the Department of Education and HUD are not aligned. Funding for each program is dependent on their specific definitions of homelessness. We want to bridge that gap by adhering to the definitions where necessary, but also expanding beyond them to define the outcomes we want to see in our community for kids and youth tied directly to educational outcomes. We are using the broadest definition we want to propose new ideas that achieve our outcomes (kids/youth do not experience homelessness), and keep kids in homes in communities across state. HACSL would like to see specific number of units we anticipate building/creating.

An attendee asked “What is the timeline for the 2 new facilities?” We will stagger construction over a 2 – 3 year period. The family facility should be completed in 1 – 2 years. Housing pilot program will begin immediately. If our legislative ask is approved, funds will be available July 1, 2016. We will need criteria for shelter siting by that time. Construction should begin in spring 2017. There is currently a deficit of 43,000 affordable housing units, but we recognize that those numbers will change over time. We would like to come up with a formula so that the numbers can be dynamic over time as circumstances change.

V. Discussion: Scattered Site Scenario – Our starting point is to look at different subpopulations so that we can determine what their needs are. We then need to look at our site map, and you’ll receive prompts to consider sites in relation to shared outcomes. We can flesh this out with service needs. We intend to create a “wish list” based on what would you **want** to have, not just what we currently have. Our outcomes and goals should be tied in with Medicaid expansion. David Litvack asked if we should have 3 facilities (men, women, families). The Mayor responded with focusing on outcomes and what is preventing us from reaching those outcomes. Should men and women be in same building, or completely separate buildings? What does social science research say about this? What size is manageable? What about husband and wife that are homeless together. These are all questions we need to determine the answers to and ensure that they align with our outcome goals.

VI. Next Steps and Closing Remarks – Patrick Reimherr stated that the first HOMES meeting will be next Friday for a legislative check in, hosted at chamber. Ongoing HOMES meetings will be up at the Hill. We can address questions and proposals at that time. We are actively seeking other legislation people want to see and support. Shaleane asked that anyone contact her with questions, complaints, ideas, frustrations...etc. Mayor McAdams will send out information on the first HOMES meeting. We need to make sure legislature knows we have achievable outcomes. We would like to see a task force working on criteria for sites. Shaleane will send out draft copies of the slides we discussed, tools to provide feedback, invitation to next meeting, and briefing materials for review & feedback. Once feedback is received, Shaleane will send everything back out to the committee to make sure their needs are met.

Time ended: 10:05 am