Agenda

Time	Agenda Item	Facilitator	Action
3:00	Welcome Land and Labor Acknowledgement Introductions	Mack Vohs	Inform
3:15	Memo for Department Leadership: *Access Recommendations Preview*	Breanna Flores	Inform, Discuss
3:30	Recommendations Prioritization Survey Results	Mack Vohs	Inform, Discuss, Vote
3:45	Wordsmith Top Recommendations	Mack Vohs	Discuss
4:30	Close	–	
4:30	**Session closes**	**Close**	

Introductions

- Name

- Pronouns (if comfortable sharing)

- Organization/community you represent

Land & Labor Acknowledgement

Multnomah County rests on the stolen lands of the Multnomah, Kathlamet, and Clackamas Bands of Chinook Indian Nation; Tualatin Kalapuya; Molalla; and many others along the Columbia River. This country is built on stolen Indigenous land and built by stolen African people. This land was not stolen and people were not enslaved by ambiguous entities and actors. The land was stolen by, and African peoples were enslaved by White settlers who had government support.

We also want to honor the members of over 400 tribal communities who live in Multnomah County. Many of these people and their cultures still survive and resist despite the intentional and ongoing attempts to destroy them. Let us please take a moment of silence to acknowledge the history of how we are here in this place and to honor the People.

Credit to: Dr. Aileen Duldulao and Heather Heater, Multnomah County

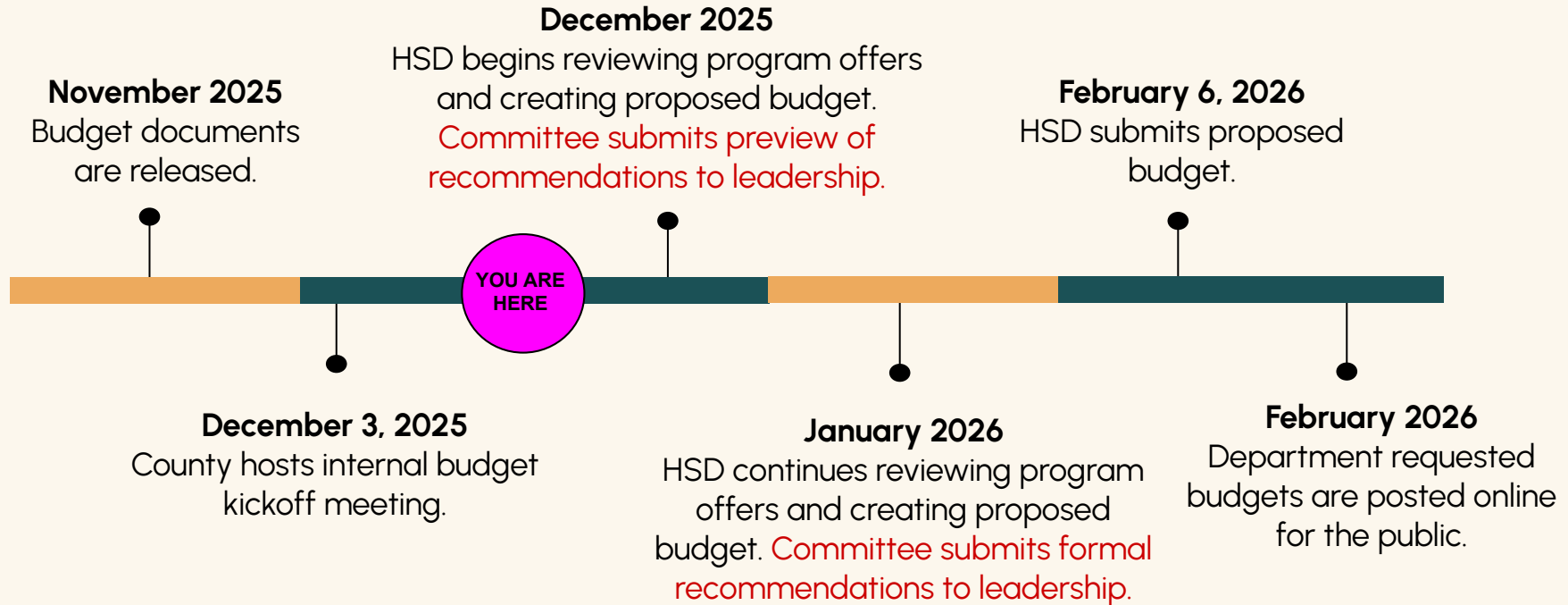# Framing the Conversation: Memo for Leadership

What are we talking about?

The SHS team would like to share a preview of the committee's recommendations with our leadership this month as they begin to prioritize items for next year's budget.

Why is it important?

Given the earlier budget timeline this year, submitting a preview early (with the caveat that some things may change) will put your recommendations on leadership's radar early on in the budget process.

Proposed Budget Process & Recommendations Timeline

November 2025
Budget documents are released.

December 2025
HSD begins reviewing program offers and creating proposed budget.
Committee submits preview of recommendations to leadership.

February 6, 2026
HSD submits proposed budget.

YOU ARE HERE

December 3, 2025
County hosts internal budget kickoff meeting.

January 2026
HSD continues reviewing program offers and creating proposed budget. Committee submits formal recommendations to leadership.

February 2026
Department requested budgets are posted online for the public.

Recommendations Prioritization Survey (Part 2) Results

Homeless Services
Department

Framing the Conversation: Recommendations Survey Part 2

What are we talking about?

In October, committee members filled out a survey to prioritize your access recommendations. We discussed the results of this survey in November. Members then suggested a second prioritization survey, which we will discuss today.

Why is it important?

The results of the second prioritization survey will help the committee further narrow down your top recommendations and stay on track to influence our department's decision making for next year's budget.

# Frameworks for Selecting Recommendations

SHS Priorities

Budget Environment

Current or Planned Initiatives

SHS Priorities

At the beginning of the SHS measure, Multnomah County set the following overarching program commitments and investment priorities:

- Expand provider capacity through technical assistance, training, and infrastructure development
- Support and stabilize culturally specific providers and services
- Expand regional coordination, community engagement and data
- Reduce racial disparities within service outcomes
- Expand housing opportunities
- Expand behavioral health supports across outreach, shelter and housing interventions
- Expand shelter capacity and street outreach
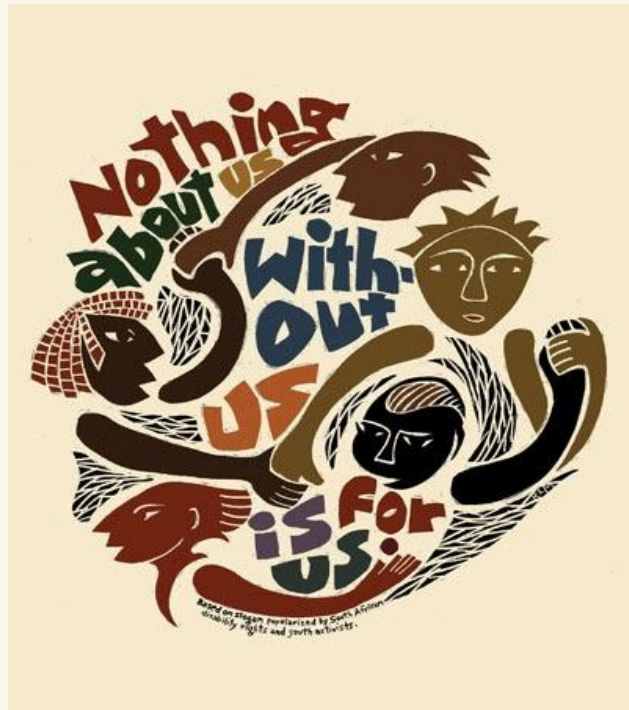
Budget Environment

SHS budget for fiscal year 2027
(July 2026 through June 2027)

Anticipating a decrease from $281 million to **$199 million**—a reduction of $83 million dollars.

Knowing that resources will be limited, your recommendations can inform HSD leadership about the types of programs and services that you believe are of utmost importance to sustain or improve.

Current or Planned Initiatives at HSD

It may be helpful to review existing and planned initiatives at the Homeless Services Department when considering your recommendations:

- **New Coordinated Access assessment tool-** HSD launched this last year to improve the trauma competency and clarity of our assessment and address the inequitable prioritization of communities of color for housing resources. It pairs participants with the most suitable available housing resources and helps ensure households who do not rank high enough for prioritization are supported in finding solutions to their housing crisis.
- **Workforce stabilization grants** - Flexible grants to providers to use for compensation adjustments, employee recruitment and retention, employee bonuses, wellness programs, training opportunities and professional development.
- **Contract monitoring and technical assistance** - Continuous improvement projects to assess compliance to contractual requirements. This includes work to support providers in developing an organizational **equity plan and equity assessment** which will be used to submit reports on an annual basis.

Current or Planned Initiatives

- **Health and housing integration-** A Medicaid Health Related Social Needs Team is serving people with eviction prevention services and providing Health & Housing Case Management.
- **Incentives for landlords who rent to people with vouchers-** The Regional Long-Term Rental Assistance (RLRA) Risk Mitigation Program (RMP) provides financial incentives to landlords who rent to people who are using RLRA vouchers.
- **New outreach strategy-** Will enhance collaboration among all HSD-contracted outreach providers; ensure equitable coverage across all areas of the County; incentivize engagements and reduce duplication of efforts to better connect individuals with housing and support.
- **Pathways to Housing Study**, supported by HSD and conducted by Portland State University, uses data from HMIS and interviews with 400 people to gain a better understanding of the barriers and challenges that keep people from moving from shelter into housing, and the most effective services and supports that people need.

Current or Planned Initiatives

- **Access and accommodations for people with disabilities**:
  - Multnomah County's **Homelessness Response Action Plan** includes enforcing policies to create lower-barrier, more accessible, and self-reporting documentation requirements for program eligibility for individuals with disabilities, and aligning housing referral and placement systems to fair housing goals and practices.
  - Our **Shelter Development Team** utilizes a checklist to ensure that all new shelter sites comply with ADA requirements. The checklist includes things like walkability, proximity to transit (Tri-Met), ADA friendly sleeping areas (sleeping pod, motel room, congregate shelter bed space), and ADA accessible bathrooms, showers, washers and dryers.

Recommendations Prioritization

Program policies & practices
- P1: Establish policy requirements for providers to standardize participant eligibility and exclusion policies
- P2: Establish case management standards around check-in frequency and services provided
- P3: Establish trauma-informed training requirements, frequency, and content - especially at shelters
- P4: Require organizations to provide livable wages - especially for peers and people with lived experience

Coordinated service delivery
- C1: Make the system easier to navigate through coordinated and centralized access points
- C2: Reduce intake barriers, especially for people with disabilities and/or mental health or substance use
- C3: Standardize waitlist management policies across SHS contracts to reduce wait times

Housing options and supportive services recommendations
- H1: Expand diverse housing options, especially in underserved geographic areas. Prioritize population-specific services and participant preferences.
- H2: Expand diverse alternative shelter options (e.g. tiny houses), especially in underserved geographic areas. Prioritize population-specific services and participant preferences.
- H3: Prioritize supportive services aimed at preventing homelessness and addressing housing instability
- H4: Prioritize and incentivize investments in housing first-focused resources
- H5: Expand outreach (particularly in libraries) with investments in peer support, caseworkers, and street outreach workers

Coordinated Service Delivery: Waitlist Times

Question from November meeting:

What are the wait times currently for people to get into programming?

Referral Timeline

	System Type	
	Adult System	Family System
Avg. Days Entry to Prioritization	29.9	41.9
Avg. Days Prioritization to Referral	119.8	52.2
Avg. Days Entry to Referral	138.0	85.8

Recommendations Survey Parts 1 & 2

#	Recommendation	Part 1 Rank out of 12
P1	Establish policy requirements for providers to standardize participant eligibility and exclusion policies	2
P2	Establish case management standards around check-in frequency and services provided	3
P3	Establish trauma-informed training requirements, frequency, and content - especially at shelters	10
P4	Require organizations to provide livable wages - especially for peers and people with lived experience	11
C1	Make the system easier to navigate through coordinated and centralized access points	1
C2	Reduce intake barriers, especially for people with disabilities and/or mental health or substance use	5
C3	Standardize waitlist management policies across SHS contracts to reduce wait times	5
H1	Expand diverse <u>housing options</u>, especially in underserved geographic areas. Prioritize population-specific services and participant preferences.	3
H2	Expand diverse <u>alternative shelter options</u> (e.g. tiny houses), especially in underserved geographic areas. Prioritize population-specific services and participant preferences.	N/A
H3	Prioritize supportive services aimed at preventing homelessness and addressing housing instability	7
H4	Prioritize and incentivize investments in housing first-focused resources	8
H5	Expand outreach (particularly in libraries) with investments in peer support, caseworkers, and street outreach workers	9

Recommendations Survey Parts 1 & 2

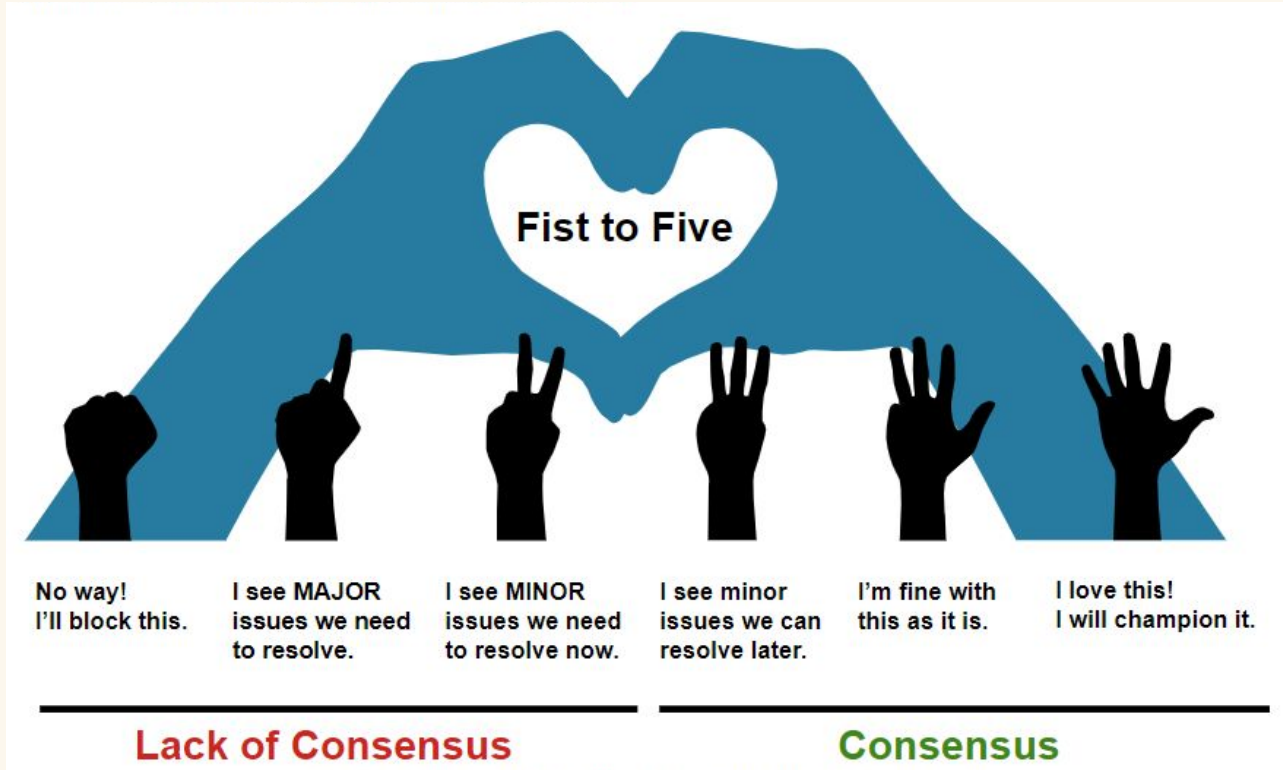| #	Recommendation	Part 1 Rank out of 12	Part 2 Rank out of 12
P1	Establish policy requirements for providers to standardize participant eligibility and exclusion policies	2	11
P2	Establish case management standards around check-in frequency and services provided	3	11
P3	Establish trauma-informed training requirements, frequency, and content - especially at shelters	10	7
P4	Require organizations to provide livable wages - especially for peers and people with lived experience	11	3
C1	Make the system easier to navigate through coordinated and centralized access points	1	1
C2	Reduce intake barriers, especially for people with disabilities and/or mental health or substance use	5	4
C3	Standardize waitlist management policies across SHS contracts to reduce wait times	5	9
H1	Expand diverse housing options, especially in underserved geographic areas. Prioritize population-specific services and participant preferences.	3	6
H2	Expand diverse alternative shelter options (e.g. tiny houses), especially in underserved geographic areas. Prioritize population-specific services and participant preferences.	N/A	10
H3	Prioritize supportive services aimed at preventing homelessness and addressing housing instability	7	2
H4	Prioritize and incentivize investments in housing first-focused resources	8	8
H5	Expand outreach (particularly in libraries) with investments in peer support, caseworkers, and street outreach workers	9	5

Recommendations Survey Parts 1 & 2

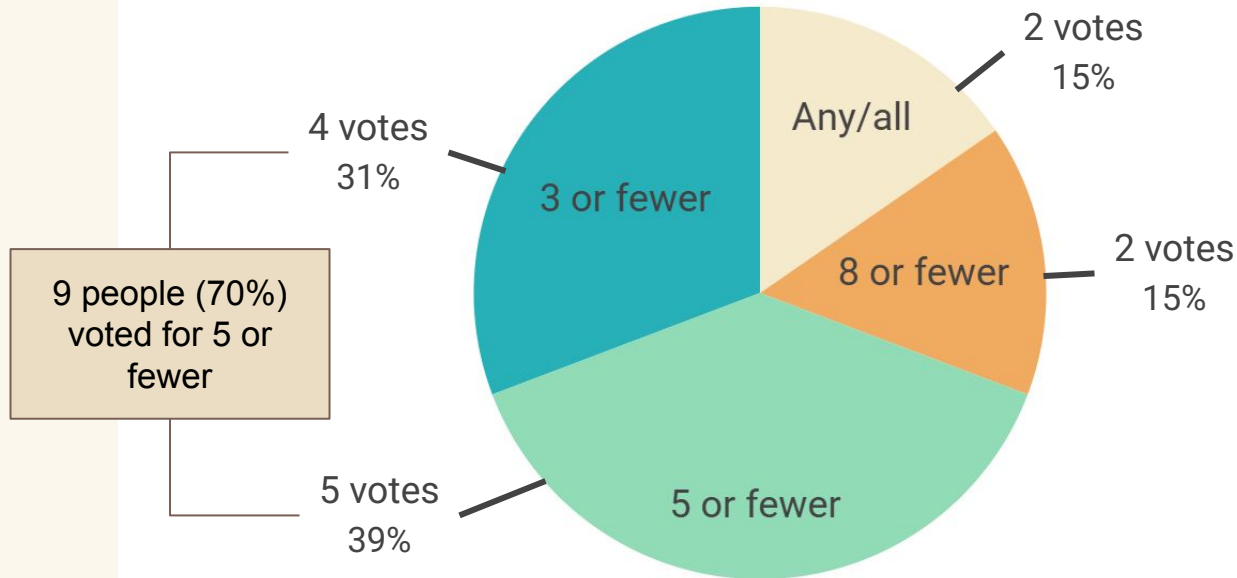| #	Recommendation	Part 1 Rank out of 12	Part 2 Rank out of 12	Act Now Rank out of 12
P1	Establish policy requirements for providers to standardize participant eligibility and exclusion policies	2	11	5
P2	Establish case management standards around check-in frequency and services provided	3	11	9
P3	Establish trauma-informed training requirements, frequency, and content - especially at shelters	10	7	9
P4	Require organizations to provide livable wages - especially for peers and people with lived experience	11	3	7
C1	Make the system easier to navigate through coordinated and centralized access points	1	1	1
C2	Reduce intake barriers, especially for people with disabilities and/or mental health or substance use	5	4	3
C3	Standardize waitlist management policies across SHS contracts to reduce wait times	5	9	5
H1	Expand diverse housing options, especially in underserved geographic areas. Prioritize population-specific services and participant preferences.	3	6	3
H2	Expand diverse alternative shelter options (e.g. tiny houses), especially in underserved geographic areas. Prioritize population-specific services and participant preferences.	N/A	10	12
H3	Prioritize supportive services aimed at preventing homelessness and addressing housing instability	7	2	2
H4	Prioritize and incentivize investments in housing first-focused resources	8	8	11
H5	Expand outreach (particularly in libraries) with investments in peer support, caseworkers, and street outreach workers	9	5	7

Recommendations Survey Parts 1 & 2

#	Recommendation	Part 1 Rank out of 12	Part 2 Rank out of 12	Act Now Rank out of 12	Combined Rank
P1	Establish policy requirements for providers to standardize participant eligibility and exclusion policies	2	11	5	5
P2	Establish case management standards around check-in frequency and services provided	3	11	9	9
P3	Establish trauma-informed training requirements, frequency, and content - especially at shelters	10	7	9	10
P4	Require organizations to provide livable wages - especially for peers and people with lived experience	11	3	7	8
C1	Make the system easier to navigate through coordinated and centralized access points	1	1	1	1
C2	Reduce intake barriers, especially for people with disabilities and/or mental health or substance use	5	4	3	3
C3	Standardize waitlist management policies across SHS contracts to reduce wait times	5	9	5	6
H1	Expand diverse housing options, especially in underserved geographic areas. Prioritize population-specific services and participant preferences.	3	6	3	3
H2	Expand diverse alternative shelter options (e.g. tiny houses), especially in underserved geographic areas. Prioritize population-specific services and participant preferences.	N/A	10	12	12
H3	Prioritize supportive services aimed at preventing homelessness and addressing housing instability	7	2	2	2
H4	Prioritize and incentivize investments in housing first-focused resources	8	8	11	11
H5	Expand outreach (particularly in libraries) with investments in peer support, caseworkers, and street outreach workers	9	5	7	7

Voting: Top Access Recommendations

Fist to Five

| No way! I'll block this. | I see MAJOR issues we need to resolve. | I see MINOR issues we need to resolve now. | I see minor issues we can resolve later. | I'm fine with this as it is. | I love this! I will champion it. |

Lack of Consensus **Consensus**

Recommendations Survey Part 2

There are 12 recommendations under consideration. How many final recommendations would you like the committee to propose to HSD leadership (in this round)?

2 votes
15%

Any/all

4 votes
31%

3 or fewer

2 votes
15%

8 or fewer

9 people (70%) voted for 5 or fewer

5 or fewer

5 votes
39%

Prioritized Recommendations Top 8

#	Recommendation	Part 1 Top 8	Part 2 Top 8	Act Now	Combined
C1	Make the system easier to navigate through coordinated and centralized access points	1	1	1	1
H3	Prioritize supportive services aimed at preventing homelessness and addressing housing instability	7	2	2	2
H1	Expand diverse housing options, especially in underserved geographic areas, and prioritize population-specific services and participant preferences	3	6	3	3
C2	Reduce intake barriers, especially for people with disabilities and/or mental health or substance use	5	4	3	3
P1	Establish policy requirements for providers to standardize participant eligibility and exclusion policies	2	11	5	5
C3	Standardize waitlist management policies across SHS contracts to reduce wait times	5	9	5	6
H5	Expand outreach (particularly in libraries) with investments in peer support, caseworkers, and street outreach workers	9	5	7	7
P4	Require organizations to provide livable wages - especially for peers and people with lived experience	12	3	7	8

Building Out Your Top Recommendations

Homeless Services
Department

Building Out Your Top Recommendations

Instructions

- Read the full recommendation and take 1 minute to write down your thoughts
- Take 5 minutes sharing and making suggestions

Discussion questions

- Is the language clear and easy to understand?
- Is additional specificity needed?
- Do you have any red flags to approving this recommendation?

Close