

Welcome

Please make yourself comfortable.
We will get started in a few minutes.



Homeless Services
Department

**SHS Advisory Committee
Meeting**

January 8, 2025

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM



**Homeless Services
Department**

Agenda

Time	Agenda Item	Facilitator	Action
3:00	Welcome Land and Labor Acknowledgement Introductions	Mack Vohs	Inform
3:15	Budget Process Refresher	Mack Vohs	Inform
3:20	Review Top 5 Access Recommendations	Mack Vohs	Inform
3:30	Discuss Final Language for Top 5 Access Recommendations	Mack Vohs	Discuss
4:20	Vote on Access Recommendations	Mack Vohs	Vote
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

Metro Listening Session

What: Lived Experience Listening Session

When: January 29th from 3 - 5 PM

Where: Albina Library in room 2A

Details: Metro is hosting an in-person listening session for members of the SHS Advisory Committee and Lived Experience Advisory Committee. The session is designed to identify strengths, gaps, and opportunities for improvement across the regional SHS system.

Who is eligible: Committee members with recent lived experience in a housing program (in the last few years). A cash stipend and meal will be provided to participants. More information to come (look for our email).

Budget Process Refresher



Homeless Services
Department

Budget Timeline

November

Central Budget Office releases the General Fund forecast

December/January

Department budget planning

February 6

Departments submit budgets to Chair for consideration

March/April

Chair develops and releases her proposed budget

April/May

Board deliberation, work sessions, community engagement

May/June

Board amends and adopts the budget by early June. Fiscal year begins July 1, 2026.

Review Top 5 Access Recommendations



Homeless Services
Department

Framing the Conversation: Top 5 Access Recommendations

What are we talking about?

Last month you decided to narrow in on 5 top recommendations.

We will review the updated top 5 together and determine if they are ready for submission to HSD leadership.

Why is it important?

HSD leadership is preparing the FY 2027 budget and your submitted recommendations will demonstrate the SHS Advisory Committee's top priorities.

Equity Lens: Addressing Historic Harms & Integrating Accommodations

Access in the homelessness services system means that all individuals are treated with respect when they ask for help, and can easily navigate and benefit from housing and the services that support housing stability.

The system must address and attempt to remedy historical harms, discrimination and disparities. To improve access within the housing services system, the committee uplifts the need for HSD to address policies that perpetuate stigma and trauma, and strengthen programs' cultural responsiveness to prevent alienating or discouraging potential participants.

- Address distrust of program staff / mistrust of services (esp. for immigrants), and hitting walls and feeling hopeless due to inaccessibility. Address chronic failures of the system leading to self de-selection.
- Address system environment leading to being "over-served and under-helped" (i.e., too many steps and/or limited services not matching needs).
- Address lack of accommodations for folks living with disabilities. Address lack of ADA spaces in general and housing programs that aren't compliant with accessibility requirements (showers, appliances, etc) and are not held accountable.
- Address how programs create barriers to services for people with mental illnesses/substance use.

Top 5 Recommendations Review

Recommendation 1: Improve system navigation through coordinated access, intake, and waitlist policies.

Recommendation 2: Prioritize homelessness prevention services and addressing housing stability.

Recommendation 3: Expand diverse housing options, especially in underserved geographic areas. Prioritize population-specific services and participant preferences.

Recommendation 4: Establish requirements for contracted providers for: A) program eligibility and termination policies, and B) livable wages and benefits for employees.

Recommendation 5: Ensure outreach is equitably distributed and strategic to reach diverse areas of the community.

Discussion: Final Language for Top 5 Access Recommendations



Homeless Services
Department

Reviewing Your Recommendations

Instructions

- Take a moment to read the recommendation.
- Begin to think about (or write down) your suggestions.

Discussion Questions

- Is it clear? Are concepts easy to understand?
- Do you have any **major concerns** that would prevent you from approving the recommendation?

Vote on Access Recommendations



Homeless Services
Department

Voting: Top Access Recommendations

Pending any key revisions we've discussed today, do you approve these recommendations to be formally shared with HSD leadership?



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

Close

