



Homeless Services Department
 Community Budget Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
 March 4, 2026
 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

[These minutes are subject to adjustment and approval by the CBAC]

Attendance:

Committee Members: Amanda Garren, Katrina Malachowiski, Nicki Dardinger, [online:] Cameron Foster, Elizabeth Gillingham, Anisa Ali, Darius Mani Yaw, William Hodsoll
HSD & County Staff: Antoinette Payne, Bill Boyd, Malka Geffen

Agenda Item	Discussion Points	
Welcome	Brief welcomes and introductions	
Approve the 2/11/26 & 2/18/2026 CBAC Meeting Minutes	Committee approved the 2/11/26 & 2/18/2026 meeting minutes using Fist to 5 consensus decision making tool: Amanda Garren - 5/5, Katrina Malachowiski - 5/5, Nicki Dardinger - 5/5, Darius Mani Yaw - 5/5, Cameron Foster - 5/5, William Hodsoll - 5/5, Wendy Lear - abstain/5, Anisa Ali - 5/5, Elizabeth Gillingham - 5/5	
Completion of CBAC Recommendations Letter	CBAC Chair expressed that she wants the committee's voices to be heard; the committee will aim for consensus when deciding the letter's content and will vote to approve the final letter by the end of the meeting. The letter is due 5pm on Friday, March 6, 2026. CBAC members shared ideas for the letter: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CBAC and BOCC cannot contribute to the increase in homelessness, even with an \$87M deficit and the closing of shelters and rent assistance programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Be clear that we do not support people ending up back on the street - CBAC need to tell the County they need to be dedicating a lot of resources in the next 120 days so folks do not return to homelessness/unsheltered homelessness 	Transmittal Letter

- HSD Senior Finance Manager: the true deficit is \$68M – After adjusting for one-time-only funding, a gap of \$56 million remained. When \$12 million in increased cost of services for FY 2027 is factored in, the actual gap is \$68 million. The complete list of reductions necessary to address this gap begins on page 23 of the transmittal letter.
- Not clear how the County plans to do more with less money, considering homelessness is increasing
- Include what is happening that we agree with and what is happening we do not agree with/what is not happening
- See survey question #7 for CBAC's priorities
- CBAC is siloed, unaware of what City is doing, and it's tough to make recommendations without all of the knowledge
- Not the responsibility of CBAC to suggest how budget recommendations are implemented
- Name a program and statistic for each bulleted item of what is working when CBAC says what is working
 - If not a program name, name the desired elements of each priority
- CBAC member shared draft letter for committee to work off of
- Sustainability and effectiveness of funding should be addressed (maybe in second letter) because next year's budget will on be worse
 - Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV) example of a program that disappeared
 - and Metro's Regional Longterm Rent Assistance (RLRA)
- We need to say we don't accept this system that inherently creates instability; shouldn't have to do this year after year
- Include impact on community based organizations when so many HSD staff are cut, and the impact on shelter staff from shelters that are closed in second letter
- Support for current community based organizations, rather than new ones (more expensive and needs more TA support from HSD)
- I'd suggest that the County Chair, like HSD, listen to feedback from CBACs, tax payers, and front line workers,

	<p>and those currently experiencing homelessness - weighted heavier than the capitalistic driven input from our business owner community. Hear from all, but weighted differently.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remind them about the crisis that occurs when people lose housing - Is there a County plan to communicate to people affected by cut programs, or is it up to provider organizations (i.e., frontline workers)? The County has to take responsibility and share the best information possible and transparency with the public - Tell micro-stories in the supplemental letter - Restoring money to closing shelters is not included; okay so long as there are avenues to housing - I appreciate Interim Director Anna Plumb's leadership during these trying times. She was decisive in gathering feedback - and adjusting HSD priorities accordingly. That is strong leadership that we're all leveraging, in one way or another. And what we should all weigh in on in the hiring process of a new Director of HSD. - Include resource navigation in second letter - The letter is adult system heavy, which is where most of the cuts are landing; should name the multiple systems the recommendations are aimed at <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Add harm reduction and recovery language <p>CBAC members voted to approve the draft letter, understanding there might be light editing prior to submission: Amanda Garren - yes, Katrina Malachowiski - yes, Nicki Dardinger - yes, Darius Mani Yaw - yes, Cameron Foster - yes, William Hodsoll - yes, Wendy Lear - yes, Anisa Ali - yes, Elizabeth Gillingham - yes</p>	
Next Steps	Next meeting is March 18th	