

Welcome

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



Homeless Services
Department

**SHS Advisory Committee
Meeting**

March 12, 2026

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM



**Homeless Services
Department**

Introductions

- Name
- Pronouns (if comfortable sharing)
- Organization/community you represent

Agenda

Time	Agenda Item	Facilitator	Action
3:00	Welcome Introductions Land & Labor Acknowledgement Update Community Agreements	Mack Vohs	Inform
3:15	Budget Update	Mack Vohs, Anna Plumb	Inform
3:30	HSD Leadership Response: Access Recommendations	Mack Vohs, Anna Plumb	Inform, Discuss
4:15	Committee Debrief & Planning for 2026	Mack Vohs	Discuss
4:30	Session closes	Close	

Land & Labor Acknowledgement

In our February meeting the committee reviewed our Land and Labor Acknowledgement, which we practice at the beginning of each meeting.

Members discussed and gave feedback on the content of the acknowledgement and how we use it in this space.

The SHS team is incorporating this feedback and will bring back a revised approach most likely in the April meeting.

Community Agreements

Self-Awareness and Presence

- Take care of yourself
- Be aware of your own space and positionality
- Be authentic and speak your truth
- Stay focused/stay present
- Be aware of time

Respectful Communication & Engagement

- Make the best effort to be engaged and ready to support one another
- Share the air and give everyone a chance to speak
- Respect and listen to each other, honor each other's perspectives and story
- Respect confidentiality and don't share other's stories without their permission
- Differentiate between opinion and informed knowledge

Community Agreements

Inclusivity, Equity, and Cultural Humility

- Practice cultural humility. Respect the validity of other's perspectives, experiences and cultures
- Interrupt oppression
- Correct with care—assume good intentions
- Respect names and pronouns (help others when they may make mistakes)

Learning, Feedback, and Embracing Growth

- Give feedback and be open to feedback
- Differentiate between safety and comfort
- Be curious and ask questions. Be patient.
- Expect and accept discomfort and ambiguity
- Be open to trying something different
- Be open to hearing something different
- Share gratitude for feedback
- Understand we are all collectively learning and growing

Community Agreements: Highlights

Self-Awareness and Presence

- Stay focused/stay present

Respectful Communication & Engagement

- Respect and listen to each other, honor each other's perspectives and story

Inclusivity, Equity, and Cultural Humility

- Correct with care—assume good intentions

Learning, Feedback, and Embracing Growth

- Be curious and ask questions. Be patient.

Budget Update



Homeless Services
Department

Framing the Conversation: Budget Update

What are we talking about?

Each year the Board of County Commissioners approve and adopt an annual budget. The budget is the roadmap for County spending for the fiscal year and lays out the services and programming that will be funded.

Why is it important?

At the request of the committee we are incorporating a regular budget update in our meetings as an opportunity for folks to stay updated on what is happening with the County budget process and identify avenues for participation.

Budget Timeline

November

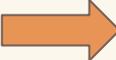
Central Budget Office releases the General Fund forecast

December/January

Department budget planning

February 13

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.

FY 2027 Department Requested Budgets

The Homeless Services Department submitted our requested budget to the Multnomah County Chair on February 13th.

What is a requested budget?

Requested budgets contain each department's financial request to County leadership.

What is in it?

Each requested budget contains a summary letter from the department director that explains how they made their decisions, as well as program offers, reductions, and additions.

Where can I find the HSD requested budget?

The HSD and all other County department requested budgets are posted online at <https://multco.us/info/fy-2027-department-requested-budgets>

HSD Requested Budget

- Funding gap of \$68 million due to reductions in federal, state, and local dollars (including SHS) and increasing service costs
- Priorities: keeping people housed, prioritizing new housing placements, and maximizing shelter effectiveness.
- Racial equity lens tool used in decision making
- No proposed reductions to units of permanent supportive housing
- Making reductions to shelter units while protecting and potentially increasing housing resources connected to shelters

Upcoming Opportunities

The Chair's office will be providing a **training** on the Executive Budget after its release in mid-April. This will be a virtual hour with Chair Vega Pederson as she talks about her budget priorities and answers your questions.

Details to come; fill out the interest form [here](#).

There will also be in-person and virtual public budget hearings that community members are welcome to attend.

They are currently scheduled for:

- **Wednesday, April 29, 6-8 p.m.**
- **Wednesday, May 13, 6-8 p.m.**
- **Wednesday, May 20, 6-8 p.m.**

Learn more at <https://multco.us/info/get-involved-countys-fy-2027-budget>

HSD Leadership Response: Access Recommendations



**Homeless Services
Department**

Framing the Conversation: Leadership Response to Access Recs

What are we talking about?

Throughout 2025 the committee developed recommendations to improve community access to SHS programs. The committee finalized and submitted these recs to HSD leadership in January of 2026.

Why is it important?

This is an opportunity to hear directly from HSD leadership about their response to the access recommendations, ask questions, and receive guidance for the recommendations process this year.

Access Recommendations Summary

Recommendation 1: Coordinated Access & Intake

Make system navigation easier by creating a centralized intake system with clear, streamlined processes and standardized waitlist policies that reduce barriers, especially for people with disabilities or behavioral health challenges.

Recommendation 2: Prioritize investments in homeless prevention

Prioritize supportive services aimed at preventing homelessness and addressing housing stability.

Recommendation 3: Prioritize investments in housing options

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

Recommendation 4: Contracted provider requirements

Establish requirements for contracted providers, including:

- A) Participant eligibility and termination processes
- B) Provision of livable wages, benefits, and development opportunities - especially for peers and people with lived experience.

Recommendation 5: Ensure outreach is equitably distributed

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

Leadership Response

Anna Plumb

Homeless Services Department Interim Director

Emily Nelson

Homeless Services Department Equity Manager

Committee Debrief & Planning for 2026



Homeless Services
Department

Debrief & Planning

What is one word or phrase that stood out to you?

What excited you, concerned you, or got your wheels turning?

What should we do with this information as a committee?

What are some decisions we will have to make?

Close

