



MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
Housing, Homeless and Neighborhood Development (HHAND)
Advisory Commission
WORKSESSION SUMMARY
NOVEMBER 06, 2024



Call to Order

The Housing, Homeless and Neighborhood Development (HHAND) Advisory Commission meeting did not reach a quorum and did not take any official action. Commissioners stayed on for a work session style discussion.

A. Roll Call & Introductions

Commissioners Present	Commissioners Absent	Presenters
David Rittenberg, Acting Chair Richard Mystrom Daniel Sager	William Scott	
AHD CSD Staff	MOA AHD Staff	Guests
Frankie Dahl, Senior Office Associate Jed Drolet, CSD Program Manager Chase Burghgrave, CSD Lead Planner Kyle Mielke, CSD Program Development Specialist		Farina Brown, Special Assistant to the Mayor Thea Agnew Bemben, Special Assistant to the Mayor Julie Greene-Graham, Chair of In Our Backyard

B. Worksession Notes:

- HHAND Meeting on 01/01/25 rescheduled for 01/08/25 due to MOA closure on New Years Day
- Review and discussion of Mayor LaFrance’s Health and Homelessness Strategy pamphlet.
 - i. Commissioners appreciated that reengaging the commission was stated explicitly as a goal for the current administration, and that the foundational focus of the mayor’s plan is to provide access to warm safe spaces and basic needs, while keeping in mind that one size fits all programs do not necessarily work.
 - ii. Farina Brown spoke to the current administration’s desire to provide quality care in smaller shelters, rather than 500 bed shelters, around Anchorage while connecting clients to services. She also spoke about abatement, and how timelines for abatement are dictated both by resource constraint and shifts due to prioritizing safety concerns. They have been prioritizing our most vulnerable unhoused neighbors in their first push to move people into non-congregate beds.
 - iii. Thea Agnew Bemben spoke about low-income rental facilities, like the Golden Lion facility. The municipality owns the building and Henning Inc. leases it. The rent from these units essentially pays for the program, and about 30 people were

able to move from the complex care shelter into this housing. CSD and the Mayor's office are working on more long term affordable and attainable housing, as well as ways to layer tenant assistance with support. She shared a link to the [Camp Actions Map](#).

Meeting adjourned at 4:55 pm. The next HHAND Commission meeting is scheduled for December 04, 2024, from 4:00 – 5:30 pm., at 825 L Street, Conference Room #423, and through Microsoft Teams.