



MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
Housing, Homeless and Neighborhood
Development (HHAND)
Advisory Commission
WORKSESSION SUMMARY
DECEMBER 04, 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 Valerie Madison, CSD Program Development Specialist Kyle Mielke, CSD Program Development Specialist	Darcie Montalvo, AHD Human Services Division Manager	Farina Brown, Special Assistant to the Mayor Thea Agnew Bemben, Special Assistant to the Mayor Ornella Bayigamba, MOA Constituent Relations Julie Greene-Graham, Chair of In Our Backyard Allen Kemplen, Fairview Community Council Shenee Williams, Shiloh Community Housing Inc. Laura Reijns, Choosing Our Roots Michelle Baker, Southcentral Foundation Kenny Peterson

B. Work Session Notes:

- Update from Commissioner Daniel Sager about neighborhood bear issues
 - i. Commissioner Sager has been in communication with the acting director of SWS, Kelli Toth. SWS has created a task force in relation to this subject and have recently had their first meeting. They are hoping to get some clarity around the differences in state and municipal code, and to have educational programming rolled out and followed through with by April to precede and prepare for bear season. They are also hoping for certain areas to become delegated wildlife zones, which will change requirements around the receptacles used for garbage

- and how residents store their garbage as well. New, better-quality locks for receptacles are also in the works.
- ii. Commissioners stated that a role for the HHAND commission to play in this process would be authoring and passing resolutions in support of SWS' actions or being a conduit for public comment.
- Discussion and preparation for the Annual Report on Homelessness due in June 2025
 - i. Commissioners have expressed a desire to make sure this report is useful in addition to being in line with the regulating code. When this report was written into code, HHAND Commissioners were the subject matter experts on Housing and Homelessness, but now the Assembly has a committee on the matter and are regularly hearing directly from other subject matter experts. The role that HHAND Annual reports will likely change, and commissioners would like direction from the Mayor's Office and from the Assembly about what would be useful. Commissioners noted that providing a diverse array of outside perspectives is important, even if the Assembly Committee is hearing from subject matter experts.
 - ii. Potential material to review and provide insight in for the report includes, The Mayor's Strategic Plans and Roadmaps, Anchored Home (The 10 year plan), and information about Neighborhood Development.
 - iii. Thea Agnew Bemben suggested that Commissioners could review the Mayor's strategic plans for housing abundance and homelessness and provide feedback, as well as provide a space for community members to comment on the plans.
 - Update from the Mayor's Office
 - i. An additional 132 non-congregate beds are being operated by MASH and have been filled as of yesterday. There has been great collaboration between Catholic Social Services (CSS) who provides congregate shelter, Henning, Inc. who provides 200 non-congregate beds, and MASH.
 - ii. The invitation to bid for warming spaces closes on 12/10, and will hopefully be on the agenda for the 12/17 Assembly Hearing. They are hopeful for the warming shelters to be operational by 12/20
 - iii. An RFP for HOME ARP will hopefully go live this week. Another will be coming soon for capital projects.
 - iv. The ideal timeline for having these set up in the future would be to have contracts signed by the end of September so that shelters are operational by October. There were complications with some sole source funding, as well as vendor capacity, that limited the timeliness of providing these services this year. These road blocks have helped the administration plan for how to make the process run smoother next year.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm. The next HHAND Commission meeting is scheduled for January 08, 2025, from 4:00 – 5:30 pm., at 825 L Street, Conference Room #423, and through Microsoft Teams.