



Housing And Human Services Committee Agenda

Siskiyou Room of the Community Development Building

51 Winburn Way

Note: Anyone wishing to speak at any Housing and Human Services Advisory Committee meeting is encouraged to do so. If you wish to speak, please rise and, after you have been recognized by the Chair, give your name and complete address for the record. You will then be allowed to speak. Please note the public testimony may be limited by the Chair.

May 25, 2023

AGENDA

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** 4:00 p.m.
- II. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- III. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - A. Approval of April 27, 2023, Minutes
- IV. **PUBLIC FORUM** (4:05-4:10 p.m.)
 - A. Public Forum.
- V. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Presentation by SOU Student Liaison, Reese Rosenberg, "Housing Insecurity Amongst Ashland Youth: A Qualitative Study" (4:15-4:35 p.m.).
 - B. New Committee Member Introductions (4:35-4:45 p.m.).
 - C. New Committee Chair and Vice Chair Elections (4:45-5:05 p.m.)
 - D. Winter Shelter Debrief and Summer Shelter planning Update (5:05-5:25 p.m.)
 - E. Meeting Time Change Discussion (5:25-5:45)
- VI. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
 - A. None
- VII. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**
 - A. Liaison Reports
 - B. General Announcements
- VIII. **AGENDA BUILDING – Future Meetings**
- IX. **ADJOURNMENT:** 6:00 p.m.

Next Meeting Date: June 22, 2023



Housing And Human Services Committee Agenda

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please email linda.reid@ashland.or.us. Notification 72 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to the meeting (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title 1).



HHSA Committee Draft Minutes

April 27, 2023

4:00PM-6:00PM

I. CALL TO ORDER: 4:04 p.m.

Commissioners Present:	Council Liaison:
Echo Fields	Bob Kaplan
Kathy Kali	Staff Present:
Heidi Parker	Linda Reid; Housing Program Specialist
Rich Rohde	Joe Lessard; City Manager
Alan Ackroyd	Kendall Escuin; Admin Support
Brittney Bass	
Jason Mendoza	

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Committee member introductions

III. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of March 23, 2023, Minutes

Rhode/Ackroyd m/s Voice Vote: ALL AYES. Motion Passed

IV. PUBLIC FORUM (4:05-4:15 p.m.)

A. Public Forum.

- CJ Miller spoke to the dangers of trafficking in the warming shelters.
- Debbie N. updated the Committee on the plans for a Self-governing habitation zone. Would like community dumpsters and voiced her concerns of the lack of community showers. Meeting in the Railroad Park from 12-4pm on 4/30/23.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. HPS Update and Next Steps (4:15-4:30 p.m.).

- Reid presented updates made to the HPS and the Final document will go before City Council on May 2, 2023. [Final Ashland HPS_04172023.docx](#)

B. CDBG Action Plan Review and Recommendation (4:30-4:45 p.m.).

- Reid gave a recap on the CDBG award and recommendation process and how the CDBG Action Plan details the use of funding and how it relates to the Five Year Consolidated Plan. [CDBG.docx](#)

**Committee members Kali/Parker m/s to accept the CDBG action plan review
VOICE VOTE: ALL AYES. Motion passed.**





HHSA Committee Draft Minutes

C. Report on the Governor's E.O. related Housing Bills (4:45-5:15 p.m.)

- Rohde gave an update on HB2001. [HB2001.docx](#)
- Reid gave an update on the Governor's E.O.

D. City's Strategic Approach to Homelessness (5:15-5:45)

- Lessard's presented four points the city can probably afford to do which will tap out the city's resources.
 1. Overnight only sites with porta-potties and a dumpster.
 2. New shelter beds through new state grants.
 3. Temporary severe weather shelter with volunteers.
 4. Self-governing habitation zones.

VI. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. None

VII. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

A. Liaison Reports

- Kaplan gave us a brief update on the last two council meetings.

B. General Announcements

- None

VIII. **AGENDA BUILDING – Future Meetings**

IX. **ADJOURNMENT: 6:11 p.m.**

Next Meeting Date: May 25, 2023

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please email linda.reid@ashland.or.us. Notification 72 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to the meeting (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title 1).

Memo

DATE: 05/19/2023
TO: Housing and Human Services Commission
FROM: Linda Reid, Housing Program Manager
RE: Presentation on Housing Insecurity Amongst Ashland Youth

Student Liaison Reese Rosenberg will make a presentation to the Committee on Housing insecurity. This is Reese's capstone project. The project has four goals that coincide with the powers and duties of the HHSC.

- To bridge younger people with local politics.
- To learn more about the housing discrimination
- To learn more about coping strategies
- To explore possible solutions to ameliorate the problem of housing insecurity in Ashland, if not throughout the Rogue Valley.



Memo

DATE: 05/25/2023
TO: Housing and Human Services Commission
FROM: Linda Reid, Housing Program Manager
RE: New Member Welcome and Introductions

There have been new members appointed to the Committee since the last regular meeting. This is the opportunity for new members and existing members to learn a little more about each other.



Memo

DATE: 05/25/2022
TO: Housing and Human Services Commission
FROM: Linda Reid, Housing Program Manager
RE: Nominations for the Election of Commission Officers

2.10.050-Election of Officers, Secretary, and Subcommittees:

At its first meeting following the appointment or reappointment of members each year, the advisory commission or board shall elect a chair and a vice-chair who shall hold office at the pleasure of the advisory body. Neither the chair nor vice-chair shall serve as an officer for more than three consecutive annual terms. Without the need for an appointment, the head of the City Department staffing the commission, committee or board shall be the Secretary and shall be responsible for keeping an accurate record of all proceedings. The Department head may delegate such tasks to a staff liaison.

Subcommittees may be formed for the purpose of gathering information and forming a recommendation to be brought forward to the full advisory body. Only the full body can make recommendations to the City Council. Subcommittees must comply fully with the requirements of Oregon Public Meetings law. (Ord. 3100, amended, 2014; Ord. 3003, added, 02/18/2010)



Memo

DATE: 05/25/2023
TO: Housing and Human Services Commission
FROM: Linda Reid, Housing Program Manager
RE: Emergency Winter Shelter and Summer Shelter Update

The Shelter providers met on Monday to discuss lessons learned from the most recent winter shelter season and to discuss plans for how the City and Community organizations will address summer sheltering.



Memo

DATE: 05/25/2023
TO: Housing and Human Services Commission
FROM: Linda Reid, Housing Program Manager
RE: Meeting Time Change Discussion

There have been several new members appointed to the Committee in recent months. This is a good time to check in with the new members to see if the current meeting time still works for everyone or if there should be a shift in the meeting time to better accommodate everyone's busy schedules.



Memo

DATE: 05/25/2023
TO: Housing and Human Services Commission
FROM: Echo Fields, HHSAC Vice Chair
RE: Liaison Report-Update on the Rogue Reimagined Project

Committee Vice Chair Fields will provide the Committee members with an update on the Rogue Reimagined Project.



RECOVERY PROJECTS

Rogue Reimagined | Regional Long-Term Recovery Plan



POST-FIRE RECOVERY



LONG-TERM ADAPTATION



REGIONAL RESILIENCY

- 1 **Focus on Below Market-Rate Ownership Housing** ●
Support below market-rate (low-income, moderate-income, attainable and workforce) ownership housing for former and current homeowners who are fire survivors.
- 2 **Accelerate Development of Affordable Housing** ●
Speed up the creation of affordable housing both within the Almeda Fire footprint and other developed areas of Jackson County.
- 3 **Support First-Time Homebuyers** ●
Create options to allow renters who are fire survivors to own a home.
- 4 **Reduce Insurance Premiums** ●
Promote wildfire risk reduction standards as a potential approach to reducing residential insurance premiums.
- 5 **Build Back Brick-and-Mortar Businesses** ●●●
Support infill commercial development along the Highway 99 corridor and Talent's downtown area.
- 6 **Leverage the Cities' Ability to Boost Redevelopment** ●●
Utilize urban revitalization tools to create conditions likely to produce or hasten favorable future commercial development.
- 7 **Provide for Long-Term Behavioral Health Services** ●●
Provide for long-term behavioral health services for wildfire survivors.
- 8 **Create Firebreaks** ●
Implement and maintain fuel breaks between urbanized areas and the wildlands to reduce fire risk.
- 9 **Improve Fire Safety on Evacuation Routes** ●●
Commission a traffic study that would provide the verifiable data needed to seek funding for improvements along main evacuation routes.
- 10 **Strengthen Emergency Notification Systems** ●●●
Create a multi-layered/redundant Emergency Notification System.
- 11 **Encourage Connected Streets** ●●●
Promote connected streets with a minimum of two ways in and out for all developed areas.
- 12 **Set Standards for Firesafe Landscaping** ●●●
Establish uniform defensible space standards.
- 13 **Promote Fire-Resistant Homes** ●●●
Implement the wildfire construction provisions in the Oregon Residential Specialty Code.
- 14 **Support Firesafe Education** ●
Establish more robust and better-funded education programs to train residents about firesafe construction, fire-resistant landscaping, and defensible space.
- 15 **Be Prepared for the Next Disaster** ●
Institutionalize and align the efforts of the Jackson County Community Long-Term Recovery Group (JCC LTRG) and Rogue Valley Community Organizations Active in Disaster (RV COAD).
- 16 **Make the Bear Creek Greenway Safe** ●●●
Leverage the Envision Bear Creek Plan to secure long-term funding for fuel reduction, maintenance, security, and enhancements.
- 17 **Encourage Multilingual Communications** ●
Encourage multilingual communications in all notifications, literature, and meetings related to recovery, adaptation, and resiliency.
- 18 **Address Food Insecurity Funding** ●
Secure a sustainable funding source(s) to help reduce systemic food insecurity.
- 19 **Expand Transportation Options** ●●
Improve mobility options and headways between residential neighborhoods, employment centers, and commercial areas.
- 20 **Embrace Sustainable Development** ●
Sustainable development strategies would minimize the negative impact of rebuilding and continuing growth on the natural systems of Jackson County.
- 21 **Improve Local Social Determinants of Health** ●●
Work to upgrade the non-medical factors that influence health outcomes.



LEAD OR SUPPORTING ORGANIZATION/JURISDICTION(S)

- Jackson County
- Phoenix
- Talent
- Other

Top 21 Recovery Projects

Post-Fire Recovery

1. Focus on Below Market-Rate Ownership Housing

a. Description

- i. Support below market rate (*low-income, moderate-income, attainable and workforce*) ownership housing for former and current homeowners who are fire survivors. Before the Almeda Fire, the fire boundary was filled with relatively affordable housing for working families and residents on fixed incomes. The re-creation of these options has been impeded by relatively high stick-build home prices, hurdles to redeveloping manufactured home parks, inflation, increased material/labor costs, skyrocketing mortgage rates, as well as other factors.

2. Accelerate Development of Affordable Housing

a. Description

- i. Speed up the creation of affordable housing both within the Almeda Fire footprint and other developed areas of Jackson County. The need was amplified by the Almeda Fire. The demand is from permanent supportive housing to moderate-income rental.

3. Support First-Time Homebuyers

a. Description

- i. Create options to allow renters who are fire survivors to own a home. Traditional first-time homebuyer programs are limited to acquisition of an existing unit that meets health and safety code standards and to households earning 120% or less of local AMI. Most available units in proximity to the Almeda Fire boundary are newly built and priced above 120% of Jackson County AMI. This mismatch generally precludes income-qualifying renters from purchasing a home.

4. Reduce Insurance Premiums

a. Description

- i. Promote wildfire risk reduction standards as a potential approach to reducing residential insurance premiums. Approximately half of wildfire survivors that participated in the survey indicated increased insurance premiums are a major concern. Rising insurance premiums and in some cases reduced insurance alternatives are consistent with other areas that have experienced major wildfire-related property losses.

5. Build Back Brick-and-Mortar Businesses

a. Description

- i. Support infill commercial development along the Highway 99 corridor and Talent's downtown area. In most cases the cost of replacing commercial structures lost in the Almeda Fire far exceeds insurance proceeds, making stick-built new construction cost prohibitive. Local businesses often rely on owned or leased older buildings to be competitive. Innovative solutions must be developed if more displaced local businesses are to return or be replaced.

6. Leverage the Cities' Ability to Boost Revitalization

a. Description

- i. Utilize urban revitalization tools to create conditions likely to produce or hasten future commercial development.

7. Provide for Long-Term Behavioral Health Services

a. Description

- i. Provide for long-term behavioral health services for wildfire survivors. The psychological harm associated with major disasters often lives on after the community damage is repaired. Supporting residents' mental health beyond securing permanent housing is critical for full community recovery.

Long-Term Adaptation

8. Create Firebreaks

a. Description

- i. Implement and maintain fuel breaks between urbanized areas and the wildlands to reduce fire risk. Firebreaks can also double as areas for trails and recreation. Identify a lead for funding, property or easement acquisition, and maintenance.

9. Improve Fire Safety on Evacuation Routes

a. Description

- i. Commission a traffic study that would provide the verifiable data needed to seek funding for improvements along main evacuation routes.

Implementation projects could include:

1. Making improvements to roadway widths
2. Addressing choke points
3. Undergrounding wooden pole utilities
4. Creating a setback to tall trees
5. Adding direction and message signs

10. Strengthen Emergency Notification Systems

a. Description

- i. Create a multi-layered/redundant Emergency Notification System that could include:

1. Promoting use of the upgraded Everbridge system
2. Providing multilingual options
3. Creating an audible notification system (siren) in urbanized areas
4. Publicizing the best source for disaster updates and evacuation orders

11. Encourage Connected Streets

a. Description

- i. Promote connected streets with a minimum of two ways in and out for all developed areas. Requiring two means of ingress and egress would increase safety by doubling the evacuation options. Each jurisdiction in Jackson County should establish standards based on density and street length.

12. Set Standards for Firesafe Landscaping

a. Description

- i. Establish uniform defensible space standards. Defensible space is one of the most important elements in combating the spread of wildfires. The Office of the State Fire Marshal has developed minimum defensible space standards modeled after the International Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) Code. Local jurisdictions should consider recommending these standards regardless of requirements or wildfire risk.

13. Promote Fire-Resistant Homes

a. Descriptions

- i. Implement the wildfire construction provisions in the Oregon Residential Specialty Code. Oregon Building Code Division has adopted an amendment to the Oregon Residential Specialty Code that allows local jurisdictions to adopt wildfire hazard mitigation provisions for residential structures. The provisions are based on the International Code Council's Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) Code. The amendment gives cities and counties a new, effective tool for improving wildfire resiliency. Jurisdictions in Jackson County should consider adopting this code for all new structures.

14. Support Firesafe Education

a. Description

- i. Establish more robust and better-funded education programs to train residents about firesafe construction, fire-resistant landscaping, and defensible space. The education sessions that are currently being facilitated by the Oregon Department of Forestry, Fire Districts, Oregon State Extension are excellent; however, limited in reach by the availability of funding and number of experts. Jackson County should aspire to be the most firewise region in Oregon.

Regional Resiliency

15. Be Prepared for the Next Disaster

a. Description

- i. Institutionalize and align the efforts of the Jackson County Community Long-Term Recovery Group (JCC LTRG) and Rogue Valley Community Organizations Active in Disaster (RV COAD) to:
 1. Learn from the 2020 fires to facilitate a faster and even better response to future disasters.
 2. Shepherd long-term recovery projects.
 3. Optimize faith-based, non-profit, government, business, and other organizations' recovery initiatives.

16. Make the Bear Creek Greenway Safe

a. Description

- ii. Leverage the Envision Bear Creek Plan to secure long-term funding for fuel reduction, maintenance, security, and enhancements. Responsibility for the greenway is shared by multiple communities and the Alameda Fire jumped community boundaries. Residents expressed their strong desire for increased safety above all else.

17. Encourage Multilingual Communications

a. Description

- iii. Encourage multilingual communications in all notifications, literature, and meetings related to recovery, adaptation, and resiliency.

18. Address Food Insecurity Funding

a. Description

- iv. Secure a sustainable funding source(s) to help reduce systemic food insecurity. Local providers have done a remarkable job before and during disaster recovery. A primary challenge remains adequate long-term funding as the need is not expected to subside.

19. Expand Transportation Options

a. Description

- v. Improve mobility options and headways between residential neighborhoods, employment centers, and commercial areas. As with communities nationwide, infrastructure throughout Jackson County was planned for personal vehicle use. Today, as highlighted by the State's Climate-Friendly and Equitable Communities program, jurisdictions are faced with retrofitting existing networks to accommodate pedestrians, bikes, and evolving public transit options. Designs for new modes should be incorporated as streets are rebuilt over time.

20. Embrace Sustainable Development

a. Description

- vi. Sustainable development strategies would minimize the negative impact of rebuilding and continuing growth on the natural systems of Jackson County. To advance sustainable land development strategies, organizations could:
 - 1. Provide incentives for low-impact and resilient design and land management.
 - 2. Develop and adopt sustainable development standards and guidelines.
 - 3. Partner to educate residents about low-impact models and options.

21. Improve Local Social Determinants of Health

a. Description

- vii. Work to further upgrade the non-medical factors that influence health outcomes.
 - 1. Education access and quality
 - 2. Health care access and quality
 - 3. Neighborhood and built environment
 - 4. Social and community context
 - 5. Economic stability