

Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Human and Social Recovery and Assistance Meeting Record

The Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Human and Social Recovery and Assistance meetings are recorded. Agenda materials are available online at www.dallascityhall.com. Recordings may be reviewed online at <https://dallastx.swagit.com/city-council>
Note: This meeting was conducted via teleconference to comply with a social distancing mandate during a declared state of disaster.

Meeting Date: May 7, 2020

Convened: 1:02 p.m.

Adjourned: 4:23 p.m.

Committee Members Present:

DMPT Adam McGough, Chair
CM Cara Mendelsohn
CM Jennifer Gates
CM Carolyn King Arnold
CM Omar Narvaez
CM David Blewett
CM Jaime Resendez

Committee Members Absent:

N/A

Presenters:

John Wiley Price, Dallas County Commissioner District 3
U. Renée Hall, Chief of Police, Dallas Police Department
Lonzo Anderson, Assistant Chief of Police, Dallas Police Department
Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager
Chris Caso, City Attorney
Jill Haning, Executive Assistant City Attorney and Chief of Community Prosecution, City Attorney's Office
Carl Simpson, Director, Code Compliance Services
Kevin Oden, Interim Director, Office of Homeless Solutions
Dr. Timothy Bray, The Institute for Urban Policy Research, University of Texas at Dallas

Other Council Members Present:

CM Casey Thomas

AGENDA

Call to Order (1:02 p.m.)

1. Approval of the April 30, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Presenter(s): Chair Adam McGough

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s): A motion was made to approve the minutes for the April 30, 2020 Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Human and Social Recovery and Assistance meeting.

Motion made by: CM Cara Mendelsohn
Item passed unanimously: X
Item failed unanimously:

Motion seconded by: CM Omar Narvaez
Item passed on a divided vote:
Item failed on a divided vote:

BRIEFING ITEMS

2. Report from Commissioner John Wiley Price on Alternative Legal Enforcement Tools Regarding Minor Offenses During COVID

Presenter(s): John Wiley Price, Dallas County Commissioner District 3; U. Renée Hall, Chief of Police, Dallas Police Department; Lonzo Anderson, Assistant Chief of Police, Dallas Police Department

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s): Commissioner Price and Chief Hall discussed Dallas County Jail 2017-2020 book-ins for Class A or B misdemeanors and the City's cite and release policy. Committee members asked questions and made comments regarding marijuana and trespassing offenses, requirements for cite and release, fingerprinting, the City's cite and release ordinance, State law requirements for cite and release, mental health services, and more. Information only.

3. **Monitoring and Enforcement of Current City Emergency Regulations and Executive and County Orders**

Presenter(s): Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager; Chris Caso, City Attorney; Jill Haning, Executive Assistant City Attorney and Chief of Community Prosecution, City Attorney's Office; Carl Simpson, Director, Code Compliance Services

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s): Assistant City Manager Fortune provided an update on the City's coordinated efforts to monitor and enforce the City and County's emergency orders. Ms. Haning provided an update on involuntary compliance with emergency orders and recapped the Salon A La Mode case. Ms. Haning also stated that the City is coordinating with other County and State enforcement agencies to enforce the orders. CM Mendelsohn requested Director Simpson to provide information on the number of restaurant inspections conducted by Code Compliance Services. CM Arnold asked for clarification on the Governor's enforcement of emergency orders and its impact on federal reimbursements for COVID-related expenses, and Code Compliance Services' plan to address code issues in neighborhoods. CM Blewett asked for clarification on the enforcement of the emergency orders, ticketing, and the City's coordination with other enforcement agencies. Information only.

4. **Discussion on Rapid Rehousing Strategy**

Presenter(s): Kevin Oden, Interim Director, Office of Homeless Solutions

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s): Director Oden presented status updates on the Office of Homeless Solutions' Rapid Rehousing project and emergency shelter funding program. Committee members asked questions about the housing priority list, shelter placements, housing leads, emergency shelter funding, day services, the budget for the Rapid Rehousing project, case management, and more. CM Mendelsohn requested information on how many placements shelters have been made and CM Thomas requested a copy of the housing priority list. Information only.

5. **Focus Area Reports from Committee Members**

Presenter(s): CM Jennifer Gates; Dr. Timothy Bray, The Institute for Urban Policy Research, University of Texas at Dallas; CM Carolyn King Arnold; CM Omar Narvaez; CM Jaime Resendez; CM David Blewett; CM Jaime Resendez; CM Cara Mendelsohn; Chair Adam McGough

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s): The Committee members reported on their respective focus areas and projects.

- CM Gates invited Dr. Bray to provide an update on COVID data modeling efforts. He displayed a dashboard that visualizes the City of Dallas Testing Report data, which includes data on tests performed, positive cases, and negative cases. He also displayed a dashboard that visualizes regional hospitalization and COVID-related patient census data. Dr. Bray further discussed indicators for implementing COVID-19 mitigation strategies. CM Gates concluded by stating that these efforts will allow residents, hospitals, and governments to make informed decisions.
- CM Arnold did not provide an update.
- CM Narvaez did not provide an update.
- CM Blewett referred to the May 6 City Council briefing regarding the aviation budget. Regarding the arts, he stated that The Kalita Humphreys Theater refurbishment is moving forward and that larger art facilities have chosen to not open now but will eventually. Regarding parks, he stated that the Katy Trail alphabetical guidelines have seen success in mitigating overcrowding and that there has been talk about opening Turtle Creek Park. Chair McGough asked about the Quality of Life, Arts, and Culture (QOL) Committee's discussion on face masks that was held on May 5th. CM Gates stated that the QOL Committee will provide a memorandum to the City Manager to direct him on actions related to face masks.

- CM Resendez stated that one of the best ways to address inequity is by closing the digital divide. He pointed to a *D Magazine* article that discussed lack of internet access as a poverty driver. He then went over Dallas ISD’s “Operation Connectivity” plan, which aims to provide broadband connectivity to students and families. CM Resendez provided an update on the City’s efforts to expand internet access, including public library WiFi hours, WiFi range extensions at aquatic facilities, the Smart Cities pilot program, and collaboration with the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas. Chair McGough and CM Mendelsohn asked if CM Resendez could coordinate similar efforts with Richardson ISD, Plano ISD, and other ISDs. CM Resendez suggested that the Workforce, Education, and Equity Committee should be briefed on these efforts moving forward.
- CM Mendelsohn referred to Director Oden’s briefing regarding homelessness efforts and stated that the COVID-19 Information and Resource Hotline is running successfully.
- Chair McGough asked for an update on the number of first responders that are quarantined or confirmed COVID positive. Assistant City Manager Fortune stated that as of May 7th, the Dallas Police Department (DPD) had 14 positive cases, including three civilians, and four DPD members were in quarantine or isolation. Over 170 DPD members have had some level of quarantine or isolation. Dallas Fire-Rescue (DFR) had 14 positive cases and 13 who are being quarantined. 306 DFR members have had some level of quarantine or isolation. Information only.

6. Identify Ad Hoc Committee’s Strategic Next Steps

Presenter(s): Chair Adam McGough

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s): There was no discussion on this item.

Adjourn (4:23 p.m.)

APPROVED BY:

ATTESTED BY:

DMPT Adam McGough, Chair

Liz Cedillo-Pereira, Chief of Equity and Inclusion