

# Memorandum



DATE December 9, 2025

CITY OF DALLAS

Honorable Members of the Housing and Homelessness Solutions Committee: Cara Mendelsohn (Chair), Lorie Blair (Vice Chair), Adam Bazaldua, Zarin Gracey, Jesse Moreno, Jaime Resendez, Gay Donnell Willis

SUBJECT **Citizen Homelessness Commission (CHC) Update**

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an update to the Housing and Homelessness Solutions Committee (HHSC) on the Citizens Homeless Commission (CHC), an advisory body established by City Council in 2017, to align City and regional services through stakeholder input, including lived experience, to strengthen the homelessness response. The CHC was created by City Code, Sec. 2-147, 148, and 149 on April 12, 2017, attached as Exhibit A.

## Commission Body

The CHC is a fifteen-member body appointed by the Mayor and City Council, including a Chair, Vice-Chair, and members with lived experience of homelessness and faith-based representation, the full list of criteria can be found in the attached Exhibit A. The following is a list of current commission members:

District Commissioner	and	Term	District Commissioner	and	Term
District 1 – Wesley Keyes		10/18/2023 – 9/30/2025	District 9 – Rev. Mitchell Boone ( <i>Faith based</i> )		10/18/2023 – 9/30/2025
District 2 – Elizabeth Gifford		10/1/2025 – 9/30/2027	District 10 – Daniel Roby ( <i>Faith based</i> )		11/6/2025 - 9/30/2027
District 3 – Natasha Gerald		9/15/2025 – 9/30/2027	District 11 – Dr. Marshal Goldberg		10/28/2025 - 9/30/2027
District 4 – James Hauck		9/6/2023 – 9/30/2025	District 12 – Matt Jacob		9/27/2023 – 9/30/2025
District 5 – Soraya Santos		8/7/2024 – 9/30/2025	District 13 – Diana Einstein		2/21/2024 – 9/30/2027
District 6 – Jasmin Flores		10/25/2023 – 9/30/2027	District 14 – Gailya Silhan		9/6/2023 – 9/30/2027
District 7 – Tramonica Brown, Vice Chair		10/25/2023 – 9/30/2027	District 15 – Mark Nunneley, Chair		10/8/2025 – 9/30/2027
District 8 – Vacant					

## Commission Annual Reports

From 2020 through 2024 the CHC annual reports show consistent engagement around (1) reducing unsheltered homelessness via rapid rehousing and partnership programs,

(2) efforts to strengthen data transparency and system performance measures, and (3) an increasing emphasis on localized, district-level engagement and advising City leadership on coordinated responses. The CHC documents reflect both progress and ongoing system challenges.

#### Key CHC Areas of Focus Over the Years

- **Rapid Rehousing and Funding Utilization:** Ongoing focus on rapid rehousing initiatives leveraging ARPA and other one-time funding to expedite housing placements.
- **Data and Accountability:** Previously examined OHS Street Outreach outcomes tracking and performance reporting, with greater emphasis on transparency and measurable results.
- **District-Level Engagement:** Prioritization of localized, district-based strategies promoting collaboration between City Council offices and community providers.
- **System Capacity Needs:** Examination of limited outreach resources, persistent encampments, and rising chronic homelessness as priority challenges.
- **Governance and Coordination:** Examination of alignment among City departments, regional partners, and commissions with focus on streamlining efforts and enhancing accountability.

Annual Reports, Citizens Homelessness Commission (CHC), 2020 through 2024:

- **CHC — 2024 Annual Report**
  - [Dallas City Hall](#)
- **CHC — 2023 Annual Report**
  - [Dallas City Hall](#)
- **CHC — 2022 Annual Report**
  - [Dallas City Hall](#)
- **CHC — 2021 Annual Report**
  - [Dallas City Hall](#)
- **CHC — 2020 Annual Report**
  - [Dallas City Hall](#)

#### Next Steps

Staff continue to work with the Chair and Commissioners to build on the Commission's established foundation of prioritizing alignment, accountability, and action. Strengthening collaboration across City departments and partner agencies, advancing the use of data to guide decision-making, and maintaining focus on equitable, district-level engagement will be critical to sustaining progress. With continued leadership and coordination, the

DATE December 9, 2025  
SUBJECT Citizen Homelessness Commission (CHC) Update  
PAGE 3 of 3

Commission is well positioned to translate strategic goals into measurable outcomes and further the City's commitment to making homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact myself or Thor Erickson, Director, Office of Housing and Community Empowerment at 214-670-3632 or [thor.erickson@dallas.gov](mailto:thor.erickson@dallas.gov).

Service First, Now!



M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira  
Assistant City Manager

c: Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, City Manager  
Tammy Palomino, City Attorney  
Mark Swann, City Auditor  
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary  
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge  
Baron Eliason, Inspector General (I)  
Dominique Artis, Chief of Public Safety

Dev Rastogi, Assistant City Manager  
Alina Ciocan, Assistant City Manager  
Donzell Gipson, Assistant City Manager  
Robin Bentley, Assistant City Manager  
Jack Ireland, Chief Financial Officer  
Ahmad Goree, Chief of Staff to the City Manager  
Directors and Assistant Directors

## ARTICLE XX.

### CITIZEN HOMELESSNESS COMMISSION.

#### **SEC. 2-147. PURPOSE.**

The purpose of this commission is to assure participation from, and inclusion of, all stakeholders, including those with past or present experience with homelessness, in order to develop policy recommendations to ensure alignment of city services with regional services to enhance efficiency, quality, and effectiveness of the community-wide response to homelessness. (Ord. [30431](#))

#### **SEC. 2-148. CREATED; MEMBERSHIP; TERMS; MEETINGS.**

(a) There is hereby created the citizen homelessness commission, which shall be an advisory body of 15 members. Each city council member shall appoint one member to the commission. The mayor shall appoint the chair, and the full city council shall appoint the vice-chair.

(b) Members of the commission must meet the following qualifications:

(1) two members must have past or present experience as a homeless person, and the city council may, after a review of the specific circumstances, waive disqualification under Section 8-1.4 of this code for these members;

(2) one member must be a representative from a faith-based organization; and

(3) the remaining members must be chosen from the general public.

(c) All members shall be appointed for an initial term to expire on September 30, 2019. Subsequent appointments will be made in September of each odd-numbered year for a two-year term beginning on October 1.

(d) The commission must meet at least once each month and may hold additional meetings at the call of the chair. (Ord. [30431](#))

#### **SEC. 2-149. DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS.**

(a) The commission, in carrying out its purpose, shall act as an advisory body to the city manager and the city council and shall:

(1) advise the city manager and the city council on issues affecting homelessness;

(2) assist the city in evaluating new and existing programs;

(3) coordinate with other local and regional bodies addressing homelessness; and

(4) perform such other duties assigned by the city manager or city council.

(b) The city manager shall provide information and assistance to the commission in the performance of its duties and functions. (Ord. [30431](#))