# Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Recovery and Assistance Meeting Record RECEIVED

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

Meeting Date: May 6, 2021

Convened: 1:32 p.m.

CITY SECRETARY

Adjourned: 9:13 p.I.E.XAS

**Committee Members Present:** 

Casey Thomas, Chair Tennell Atkins Jennifer S. Gates Cara Mendelsohn David Blewett Jaime Resendez **Committee Members Absent:** 

Omar Narvaez

Other Council Members Present:

N/A

# **AGENDA**

CALL TO ORDER (1:32 p.m.)

1. Approval of the April 1, 2021 Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Recovery and Assistance Meeting Minutes Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s): A motion was made to approve the minutes for the April 1, 2021 Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Recovery and Assistance meeting. The motion passed.

Motion made by: CM Cara Mendelsohn

Motion seconded by: CM Jaime Resendez

## **BRIEFING ITEMS WITHOUT ACTION**

#### A. COVID-19 Vaccine, Testing, and Data Update

**Presenter(s):** Dr. Phil Huang, Director, Dallas County Health and Human Services; Dr. Timothy Bray, Director, Institute for Urban Policy Research, University of Texas at Dallas; Travis Houston, Senior Emergency Management Specialist, Office of Emergency Management

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s): The region's health experts gave updates on COVID-19 vaccine, testing, and data efforts in the City of Dallas and Dallas County. Ad Hoc Committee members discussed and asked questions about vaccinations for children and teenagers, the death rate among those who are fully vaccinated, the death and hospitalization rates due to COVID-19 variants, if Dallas County is continuing to use demographic and geographic data in its efforts to vaccinate residents, and more. Information only.

## B. City of Dallas Return to Work Plan Update

**Presenter(s):** Kimberly Bizor Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager, City Manager's Office; Errick Thompson, Director, Building Services Department

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s): Chief Tolbert and Director Thompson provided an update on the Phase III protocols for City employees returning to City facilities as well as efforts to retrofit City facilities with protective measures, such as installing air filters, Plexiglass dividers, and touchless faucets. Ad Hoc Committee members asked questions about the timing of the June 9, 2021 City Council meeting and the status of the City's emergency orders. CM Gates recommended that staff resume evening City Council agenda meetings with the new City Council and hold the June 9, 2021 City Council meeting at 9:00 a.m. instead of the afternoon. Chair Thomas agreed with the recommendation. Information only.

## C. Eviction Assistance Initiative Update and Dallas County Eviction Dashboard

**Presenter(s):** Liz Cedillo-Pereira, Chief of Equity and Inclusion, City Manager's Office; Dr. Priscylla Bento, Policy Manager, Office of Equity and Inclusion; Trerod Hall, Staff Attorney, Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas; Ashley Flores, Senior Director, Child Poverty Action Lab

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s): Dr. Bento provided an overview of the Office of Equity and Inclusion's various efforts to mitigate evictions that occur due to COVID-19, including the COVID Notice of

Possible Eviction Ordinance and the Eviction Assistance Initiative. Mr. Hall provided an update on Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas' (LANWT) partnership with the Office of Equity and Inclusion on the Eviction Assistance Imitative, which is a program that provides legal services to residents facing eviction. Ms. Flores provided a walkthrough of the Dallas County Eviction Filing Dashboard Prototype, which can be accessed at <a href="https://childpovertyactionlab.org/eviction-dashboard">https://childpovertyactionlab.org/eviction-dashboard</a>. CM Mendelsohn asked why the dashboard does not include Collin and Denton County data. Ms. Flores stated that the Child Poverty Action Lab (CPAL) is working to incorporate Collin and Denton Counties' eviction filing data into the dashboard. CM Atkins requested CPAL to provide a timeline of when the dashboard will be updated to filter data by individual Council districts. Information only.

# **BRIEFING MEMOS WITHOUT ACTION**

D. Rental Assistance Programs Update

**Presenter(s):** Jessica Galleshaw, Director, Office of Community Care **Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):** CM Mendelsohn and Director Galleshaw discussed the new web-based application system that the Office of Community Care will launch for the Rental Assistance Program. Information only.

E. Update on City of Dallas Ongoing Efforts to Address COVID-19 Health Access Disparities
Presenter(s): Liz Cedillo-Pereira, Chief of Equity and Inclusion, City Manager's Office
Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s): There was not any discussion on this item. Information only.

ADJOURN (3:13 p.m.)

**APPROVED BY:** 

Casey Thomas, Chair

Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Recovery and Assistance

ATTESTED BY:

Sommer Iqbal, Coordinator Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19

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Recovery and Assistance