

# 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](http://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 21, 2020

**Convened:** 1:02 p.m.

**Adjourned:** 3:55 p.m.

**Committee Members Present:**

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

**Committee Members Absent:**

CM Carolyn King Arnold

**Presenters:**

Dr. Trish Perl, Chief, Division of Infectious Diseases, UT Southwestern Medical Center  
Dr. Philip Huang, Director, Dallas County Health and Human Services  
Dr. Timothy Bray, The Institute for Urban Policy Research, University of Texas at Dallas  
Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager  
Chris Caso, City Attorney  
Connie Tankersley, Executive Assistant City Attorney, City Attorney's Office  
Carl Simpson, Director, Code Compliance Services  
Kevin Oden, Interim Director, Office of Homeless Solutions

**Other Council Members Present:**

CM Casey Thomas

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2020 JULY 22 PM 5: 50  
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## **AGENDA**

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

### **1. Approval of the May 14, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

**Presenter(s):** Chair Adam McGough

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):** A motion was made to approve the minutes for the May 14, 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. COVID-19 Summer Surge Projections and Preventative Measures**

**Presenter(s):** Dr. Trish Perl, Chief, Division of Infectious Diseases, UT Southwestern Medical Center

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):** Dr. Perl briefed the Ad Hoc Committee on several topics related to COVID-19, including its mortality and fatality rates, key principles for prevention, non-pharmaceutical interventions (community mitigation strategies), the contagiousness of the disease, the impact of Dallas County's stay-at-home order on mitigating spread, future forecasting, and methods to improve outcomes moving forward.

Committee members asked questions about how to reduce the contagiousness of the disease, how Collin and Denton Counties leveled out their case numbers, whether the heat in the summer will decrease the transmission rate, and what interventions have worked the best globally. Information only.

### 3. Understanding COVID-19 Health Disparity Data

**Presenter(s):** Dr. Philip Huang, Director, Dallas County Health and Human Services

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):** Dr. Huang briefed the Ad Hoc Committee on Dallas County's testing and contact tracing efforts and COVID racial and ethnic disparities. Committee members asked questions about how contact tracing is being implemented by the County, the status on testing supplies, the County's plan for testing when the community based testing sites located at the American Airlines Center and Ellis Davis Field House cease operations, the COVID mortality rate, the need for widespread random sample testing, how this viral outbreak is different from past outbreaks, testing for the homeless population, and what the County is doing to address racial disparities. The Committee agreed to direct City staff to move forward with random sample testing operations. Information only.

### 4. Understanding COVID-19 in Dallas Through Data Modeling

**Presenter(s):** Dr. Timothy Bray, The Institute for Urban Policy Research, University of Texas at Dallas

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):** Dr. Bray stated that he is working with Denton County to present their COVID data in an interactive dashboard format and will report on these efforts at the next Ad Hoc Committee meeting. He also stated that the Institute has entered into a data sharing agreement with a vendor called SafeGraph, which will provide daily mobility data by Census tract to determine compliance trends with emergency orders. In addition, he is working with Parkland Hospital to put together analytics regarding residents' responsiveness to outbreaks. This information will help with tailoring the City's testing and messaging efforts. He also displayed and discussed a regional hospital capacity dashboard and a North Texas COVID data reporting center that is made available to the media. Information only.

### 5. Monitoring and Enforcement of Current City Emergency Regulations and Executive and County Orders

**Presenter(s):** Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager; Chris Caso, City Attorney; Connie Tankersley, Executive Assistant City Attorney, 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, the 311 call center COVID operations, and the Governor's executive orders related to COVID-19 that were issued on May 18<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Tankersley provided an update on federal, state, and county COVID-19 eviction moratoria and implementation of the City's eviction ordinance. She also provided information on other North Texas counties' eviction moratoria and policies. Committee members asked questions about Code Compliance Services' evening operations, plans for enforcing the orders in entertainment districts, and key messaging for compliance. Information only.

### 6. Focus Area Reports from Committee Members

**Presenter(s):** CM Jennifer Gates; CM Cara Mendelsohn; Kevin Oden, Interim Director, Office of Homeless Solutions; CM Jaime Resendez; Chair Adam McGough; CM Omar Narvaez; CM David Blewett

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

- CM Gates stated that testing at nursing homes will begin throughout all of Dallas County and the City is participating in those efforts. The City is expanding opportunities to increase testing through an executive interlocal agreement with Dallas County. Regarding domestic violence, CM Gates stated that domestic violence and aggravated assault cases are increasing since victims are staying at home with their abusers. The Domestic Violence Taskforce will meet in the upcoming weeks to discuss prevention and safety methods.
- CM Mendelsohn invited Director Oden to give an update on the Office of Homeless Solutions' (OHS) operations. Director Oden stated that OHS operations continue to be smooth. The Dallas Love Field Airport area hotel is at full capacity, which is concerning for isolating homeless individuals who are COVID positive. OHS is working with Parkland Hospital to secure additional isolation spaces. On May 19<sup>th</sup>, there were 1,000

unduplicated stays at the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center overnight shelter since it opened nearly 60 days ago.  
Information only.

**7. 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 (3:55 p.m.)

**APPROVED BY:**



DMPT Adam McGough, Chair

**ATTESTED BY:**



Liz Cedillo-Pereira, Chief of Equity and Inclusion