

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

The Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 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/ad-hoc-committees>.
Note: This meeting was conducted via videoconference to comply with a social distancing mandate during a declared state of disaster.

Meeting Date: December 17, 2020

Convened: 1:35 p.m.

Adjourned: 3:23 p.m.

Committee Members Present:

Casey Thomas, Chair
Tennell Atkins
David Blewett
Jennifer S. Gates
Cara Mendelsohn
Jaime Resendez
Omar Narvaez

Committee Members Absent:

N/A

Other Council Members Present:

DMPT Adam McGough

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER (1:35 p.m.)

1. Approval of the December 3, 2020 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 December 3, 2020 Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Recovery and Assistance meeting. The motion passed.

Motion made by: CM David Blewett

Motion seconded by: CM Omar Narvaez

BRIEFING ITEMS WITHOUT ACTION

2. COVID-19 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

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s): The region's health experts gave updates on COVID-19 testing and data efforts in the City of Dallas and Dallas County. Ad Hoc Committee members discussed and asked questions about hospitalization and fatality, the R_0 value in Dallas (i.e. how contagious the virus is), COVID-19 advisories around holiday gatherings, how school-aged children are being impacted, hospital bed capacity, working with the Latinx community for equitable vaccine distribution, working with Dallas Independent School District to get teachers vaccinated, educating the public on the vaccine, building trust among communities of color during the vaccination process, what the city can do to market vaccine distribution, and more. CM Atkins requested staff to develop a communication plan and messaging related to the vaccine for the City Council members. Information only.

3. City of Dallas' Economic Recovery in the Wake of the COVID-19 Pandemic

Presenter(s): Dr. Susan McElroy, Associate Professor of Economics, University of Texas at Dallas

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s): Dr. McElroy discussed how Dallas' economy was doing before the COVID-19 pandemic, current unemployment trends, the economic resilience of Dallas, and issues related to education, mental health, and social determinants of health. Ad Hoc Committee members asked about recommendations to close the education gap, frameworks for coalition building, and more. Information only.

BRIEFING MEMORANDUM WITH ACTION**4. Consider a Proposed Amendment to Article XI, "Credit Access Businesses," of Chapter 50, "Consumer Affairs," of the Dallas City Code**

Presenter(s): Carl Simpson, Director, Code Compliance Services

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s): There was no discussion on this item. A motion was made to recommend the amendment to the City Council for approval. The motion passed.

Motion made by: CM Cara Mendelsohn

Motion seconded by: CM David Blewett

BRIEFING MEMORANDUM WITHOUT ACTION**5. Update on COVID-19 Response Funding**

Presenter(s): Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer, City Manager's Office; Jack Ireland, Director, Office of Budget and Management Services

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s): Director Ireland stated that the City's COVID-19 Funding Dashboard on the Financial Transparency website (<http://financialtransparency.dallascityhall.com/>) gets updated every Monday and \$135 million of Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) have been spent as of December 14, 2020. The City is committed to spending all CRF by December 30, 2020. He also provided an update on the status of the Congressional legislative relief package. Chair Thomas requested the Ad Hoc Committee members to share their budget priorities for the new streams of funding the City may receive from the federal government. CM Mendelsohn and CM Blewett recommended that any new funds for COVID-19 response and recovery be spent on food security and housing. Information only.

6. Update on CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Fund Social Services Programs

Presenter(s): Jessica Galleshaw, Director, Office of Community Care

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

7. Update on CDBG and ESG Programming Dollars for Housing Stability

Presenter(s): Jessica Galleshaw, Director, Office of Community Care

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

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

Presenter(s): Carl Simpson, Director, Code Compliance Services

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s): Ad Hoc Committee members asked Director Simpson what type of citations are being issued, who are receiving citations, and what steps are being taken to educate businesses and residents on the emergency regulations and orders. Information only.

ADJOURN (3:23 p.m.)

APPROVED BY:

ATTESTED BY:

Casey Thomas, Chair
Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19
Recovery and Assistance

Sommer Iqbal, Coordinator
Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19
Recovery and Assistance