





Homeless Coordinating Council: Gateway/Facilities Committee Meeting

Virtual Meeting Via Zoom Video Conference Friday, August 28, 2020, 10:00am-10:30am

City Councilor Isaac Benton, City of Albuquerque
County Commissioner Debbie O'Malley, Bernalillo County
Director Thomas Neale, The University of New Mexico
Chief Operations Officer Lawrence Rael, City of Albuquerque
BHI Steering Committee Member Robert Baade, Bernalillo County

Zoom Information:

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

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MEETING MINUTES

I. Introductions and Announcements

1. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was to order at 10:01 am.

The following members were present: Councilor Isaac Benton (CABQ), Director Thomas Neale (UNM), Commissioner Debbie O'Malley (BernCo), and COO Lawrence Rael (CABQ).

Other individuals present (on Zoom): David Parkinson (CABQ)

The introductory discussion began by each member providing an overview of their concerns regarding homelessness and other related issues in their respective districts. The committee discussed its overall role as an advisory body to the HCC with the means to strengthen partnerships and relationships between the entities.

II. New and Ongoing Activities

1. Discussion – Facilities Updates

The committee began the discussion by focusing on areas currently impacted by individuals experiencing homelessness, including the Coronado Park area, 2nd & 3rd Street corridors, and old Lovelace hospital. This discussion focused on the potential opportunities to help consolidate surrounding provider services and possibly seeking appraisals of properties that maybe available for lease and or sale. The example discussed by the committee referenced the City's recent purchase of the Bischoff Building with the intent of maintaining a daily City presence to help ensure the safety of Coronado Park and foster engagement with COAST teams. The committee stressed the importance of ensuring security, especially for local businesses and the vulnerable populations. Other potential interim ideas discussed were how to face the challenges of a shortage of facilities and providers that service the diverse populations in need of potential triage services.

The committee's focus shifted to the Lovelace facility on Gibson Ave. The committee discussed all members visiting the Lovelace facility within the near future. The City has received appraisals for the facility but no decisions have been reached. Multiple agencies and providers are currently leasing the complex generating revenue for the owners. Additionally, these agencies and providers are already offering services and are in proximity to veteran services. There are potentially different tracks for each location such as serving as a short term or long-term facilities that will help to share the challenge. Next, they reviewed the recent history of public meetings and surveys that assisted with the develop of the Gateway Center model. They concluded the discussion by reviewing redevelopment & revitalization opportunities and mitigation of the potential impact on local businesses.

III. To Confirm:

1. Meeting Schedule – Next Meeting: Friday, September 11, 10:00am-11:00am The meeting adjourned at 11:36am