

IN CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 22-5267, FOR THE PURPOSE OF APPROVING THE SUPPORTIVE HOUSING SERVICES TRI-COUNTY PLANNING BODY CHARTER

Date: 4/26/2022
Department: Planning & Development
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Presenter: Patricia Rojas, Regional Housing Director; Kristin Dennis, Metro Council Chief of Staff
Length: 10 min.

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ISSUE STATEMENT

On May 19, 2020, greater Portland voters approved Measure 26-210, establishing Metro's regional Supportive Housing Services (SHS) program to address homelessness and help people find and keep safe, stable and affordable housing across the region. Consistent with the requirements of the measure, the SHS Work Plan requires the formation of a Tri-County Planning Body (TCPB) charged with the development of a *Regional Plan* designed to elevate and connect local county efforts into a regional system.

Consistent with the requirements of the measure, the SHS Work Plan requires the formation of a Tri-County Planning Body (TCPB) charged with the development of a *Regional Plan* designed to elevate and connect local county efforts into a regional system. Additionally, the measure and SHS Workplan require counties set aside 5% of their total allocation (Regional Investment Fund) for investments that advance the *Regional Plan*. The TCPB *Regional Plan* which will provide guidance and direction to the implementing partners on regional investments from the Regional Investment Fund (RIF) to support the counties and Metro in achieving SHS program alignment, coordination and outcomes at a regional level.

ACTIONS REQUESTED

- Approve the Metro Supportive Housing, Tri-County Planning Body Charter (attached to Resolution No. 22-5267 as Attachment A) as consistent with the requirements defined in the Supportive Housing Services measure, SHS Workplan and IGA.

IDENTIFIED POLICY OUTCOMES

The TCPB will provide guidance and direction to strengthen alignment and coordination at a regional level. Coordination and alignment of SHS implementation at the regional level will increase access to services, improve outcomes for service recipients, increase efficiency, reduce system gaps, and improve data collection and reporting across the region. Areas of regionalization include:

- *Regional capacity*: identify strategies to strengthen regional supportive housing capacity, including but not limited to, supporting the development and implementation of a regional model of long-term rental assistance program, aligning SHS resources with the regional affordable housing bond and other sources, and expanding system capacity for culturally specific housing and services;
- *Systems alignment*: identify strategies to coordinate and integrate housing and homeless service systems, as well as other systems serving people experiencing homelessness, including the healthcare, education, workforce and criminal justice systems;
- *Standards and metrics*: establishing systems to collect, report on and evaluate data at the regional level that demonstrates progress toward regional goals and metrics, the impact of specific program types, regional system indicators to measure changes in the population experiencing homelessness, consistency in program evaluation standards and procedures, standards for culturally responsive services, and standardized data definitions, data collection methods and quality control.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that Council adopt the Resolution.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT & FRAMING COUNCIL DISCUSSION

The needs experienced by homeless populations are complex and diverse. Therefore, an approach that centers the needs of individuals is required. It is for this reason that Local Implementation Plans (LIP's) were developed at the county community level; informed by the voices of those with lived experience of homelessness and housing instability, by the experiences of Black, Indigenous and People of Color, local equity and gaps analysis. While counties must respond to the needs of individuals and dynamics in their local communities, homelessness is an issue of regional concern. Regional coordination and alignment is the path to transforming how we approach homelessness across the region and ultimately reach functional zero in chronic homelessness regionally.

Programmatic and structural requirements for regional coordination and alignment have been incorporated into every foundational document of the SHS program including the SHS measure, the SHS Work Plan and most recently the SHS Intergovernmental Agreements. Each governing document provides direction that is now included in the proposed Tri-County Planning Body Charter. The TCPB Charter was developed as an extension of the IGA development process in collaboration with representatives from each jurisdiction.

The Supportive Housing Services measure established a requirement to form a Tri-County Planning Body. Section 23 of Exhibit A to Resolution No. 20-5083 states:

1. *Metro will annually allocate a portion of resources from its administrative costs to provide the staffing and logistical support to convene and maintain a tri-county*

homeless services planning body. This body will develop and implement a tri-county initiative that will be responsible for identifying regional goals, strategies, and outcome metrics related to addressing homelessness in the region.

2. The counties must present to the regional services oversight committee for its approval a proposal to implement the tri-county planning requirement.

3. Each county must annually contribute no less than five percent of each of the counties' share of the Supportive Housing Services Revenue to a regional strategy implementation fund.

4. The proposed governance structure of the tri-county planning body must be inclusive of people representing at least the perspectives required in Section 6(4).

5. Within one year of the adoption of the tri-county initiative plan, and as needed thereafter, each county will bring forward amendments to its Local Implementation Plan that incorporate relevant regional goals, strategies, and outcomes measures.

Additionally, by approving and codifying the SHS Work Plan, Metro Council provided additional guidance on the implementation of a Tri-County Planning Body. SHS Work Plan Section 6.2 states:

The tri-county advisory body will lead a planning process to develop recommendations for regional coordination related to these and other issue areas as identified:

Regional capacity: strategies to strengthen regional supportive housing capacity, including but not limited to: coordination of capital investments funded by the regional affordable housing bond and other sources, development of a regional model of long-term rent assistance, and expanded system capacity for culturally specific housing and services;

Systems alignment: coordination and integration between the housing and homeless service systems, as well as other systems serving people experiencing homelessness, including the healthcare, education, workforce and criminal justice systems; and

Standards and metrics: regional performance metrics to measure the impact of specific program types, regional system indicators to measure changes in the population experiencing homelessness, consistency in program evaluation standards and procedures, standards for culturally responsive services, and standardized data definitions, data collection methods and quality control.

Most recently, Metro Council adopted Resolution No. 22-5238, which established intergovernmental agreements with SHS implementation partners. Sections 8.3 of the SHS Intergovernmental Agreements states the following about the Tri-County Planning Body:

8.3.1 PURPOSE. Metro will convene the TCPB to strengthen coordination among the Counties and Metro in addressing homelessness in the Region. The TCPB will identify Regional goals, strategies, and outcome metrics that support Regional SHS coordination and alignment. The TCPB will approve and incorporate strategies developed and investments made by each County that reasonably accomplish the Regional goals, strategies, and outcome metrics identified by the TCPB for the Tri-

County Plan, and that the Tri-County Plan's purpose will be to support the successful implementation of each County's locally developed Plan.

8.3.2. TCPB CHARTER. Within 120 days of the Effective Date, Metro and the Counties will finalize the TCPB Charter which will describe a proposed structure, roles, and procedures for the TCPB, to be presented to the Parties' governing bodies for approval.

8.3.3. REGIONAL STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION FUND. Each County must contribute not less than 5% of its share of Program Funds each Fiscal Year to a Regional Strategy Implementation Fund to achieve regional investment strategies. Partner may use the 5% for expenses that are consistent with the "measurable goals" described in the Metro SHS Work Plan at Section 5.2 until such time as the TCPB has developed new or different regional goals and provided the Parties with the TriCounty Plan detailing those goals. Each Fiscal Year, Partner must describe in its Annual Program Budget its investments in regional strategies during the reporting year. Partner may reimburse itself from its Regional Strategy Implementation Fund for its investments in regional strategies. Partner may collaborate with and pay other Counties from its Regional Strategy Implementation Fund to implement regional investment strategies in the Tri-County Plan.

The proposed Tri-County Planning Body Charter incorporates language from each of the governing documents. The charter incorporates the following key points:

- 17 voting member committee
 - Among the 17 members will be one elected official from each participating jurisdiction
- Term limits
- Co-Chairs
- SHS regional metrics established by Metro Council
- Focus areas as outlined in the SHS Work Plan
- Committee responsibilities
- Roles and responsibilities
- Accountability
- Conflicts of interest

BACKGROUND

The Supportive Housing Services program brings a groundbreaking level of regional coordination and scale to address the region wide challenge of homelessness. The Metro Council approved county-specific Local Implementation Plans (LIP's) which provide a high-level framework for strategies and investments to guide implementation. LIP's were developed by each of the Metro area's three counties through inclusive engagement with community and local practitioners, a systems gaps analysis, and an equity analysis.

The Supportive Housing Services (SHS) Workplan adopted by Metro Council in December of 2020, establishes programmatic values and principles, a governance structure, funding

structures & processes, accountability structures and requirements for regional coordination.