

CITY-COUNTY HOMELESSNESS RESPONSE SYSTEM: WORKING TOGETHER TO ADDRESS THE HOMELESSNESS CRISIS

Date: 1/28/2025
Department: COUNCIL OFFICE
Meeting Date: 2/4/2025
Prepared by: Victor Sin, Policy Advisor

Presenter(s) (if applicable): Jillian Schoene, Director, Homelessness Response System; Portland Mayor Keith Wilson
Length: 2 hours

ISSUE STATEMENT

To ensure strong regional coordination across jurisdictions in addressing our region's homelessness crisis, two regional partners will share with Council their strategies for reducing the number of residents experiencing homelessness and improving service delivery in Multnomah County and the City of Portland.

Jillian Schoene, Homelessness Response System Director, will provide programmatic updates about joint efforts between Multnomah County and partner jurisdictions, including the City of Portland. Newly elected Mayor Keith Wilson will also present his blueprint for ending unsheltered homelessness within the City of Portland.

ACTION REQUESTED

No Council action is requested at this time.

IDENTIFIED POLICY OUTCOMES

Councilors have the opportunity to hear updates from and offer comments to jurisdictional partners directly.

POLICY QUESTION(S)

N/A

POLICY OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

N/A

STRATEGIC CONTEXT & FRAMING COUNCIL DISCUSSION

N/A

BACKGROUND

On January 22, 2025, the Portland City Council heard a joint presentation from Mayor Wilson and Jillian Schoene on regional coordination to end unsheltered homelessness, including an overview of Mayor Wilson's blueprint, focused on two key initiatives: more overnight shelters and more day centers.

The blueprint emphasizes success being dependent on partnership among many government agencies, nonprofits, religious groups, advocates, and community leaders who champion fundamental issues like affordable housing, recovery from drug and alcohol addiction, social work, disability rights, community health, and mental health.

To ensure strong communication across regional governments, the presenters offer a similar presentation to Metro Council, as the Council continues conversations about integrated and expanded regional supportive housing services and affordable housing.

ATTACHMENTS

- Is legislation required for Council action? Yes No
- If yes, is draft legislation attached? Yes No
- What other materials are you presenting today?
- There are no attachments. Guests will deliver a PowerPoint presentation during the work session.