

IN CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 21-5171, FOR THE PURPOSE OF FOR THE
PURPOSE OF APPROVING THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION
PLAN FOR THE REGIONAL SUPPORTIVE HOUSING SERVICES PROGRAM

Date: April 13, 2021
Department: Planning & Development
Meeting Date: April 29, 2021

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Length: 10 min.

ISSUE STATEMENT

On May 19, 2020, greater Portland voters approved Measure 26-210, establishing Metro's regional supportive housing services program to address homelessness and help people find and keep safe, stable, affordable housing across the region.

This program brings a groundbreaking level of regional coordination and scale to address this regionwide challenge. Each of the Metro area's three counties are responsible for developing a local implementation plan through engagement with community and local practitioners, analysis of local conditions and needs, and developing a framework for planned investments.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners approved its Local Implementation Plan for Metro consideration on Dec. 17, 2020. Following a unanimous recommendation from the Regional Oversight Committee, and a work session discussion on April 22, the Metro Council is asked to approve the Multnomah County Local Implementation Plan.

ACTIONS REQUESTED

- Approve the Multnomah County Local Implementation Plan (attached to Resolution No. 21-5171 as Exhibit A) as consistent with the requirements defined in the Supportive Housing Services measure and work plan.
- Direct Metro staff to incorporate the plan into an intergovernmental agreement with Multnomah County for program implementation. The agreement will return to the Metro Council and Multnomah County for adoption before funds are disbursed to the county.
- Acknowledge considerations (to be attached as Exhibit B) attached by the Oversight Committee to its recommendation of the Plan, and direct staff to work with the County to see that they are addressed.

IDENTIFIED POLICY OUTCOMES

Local Implementation Plans are described in Section 6 of the Supportive Housing Services measure referred to voters by the Metro Council in February 2020 and approved by voters that May. In referring the measure, the Metro Council recognized the unique needs of each county and stated its policy that "there be sufficient flexibility in implementation to serve the needs of residents, communities, and those receiving Supportive Housing Services."

After several months of work with the Stakeholder Advisory Committee, jurisdictional partners and other stakeholders, on December 17, 2020 the Metro Council adopted a series of resolutions and ordinances to implement the Supportive Housing Services measure, including Resolution No. 20-1548, adopting the Supportive Housing Services Program Work Plan ("Work Plan"); Ordinance No. 20-1542, codifying the programmatic aspects of the Measure in Title XI of the Metro Code; Ordinance No. 20-1543, codifying the requirements, membership, and responsibilities of the Supportive Housing Services Regional Oversight Committee in Chapter 2.19 of the Metro Code; and Ordinance No. 20-1454, codifying the enforcement, collection, and implementation of the income taxes imposed by the Measure in Chapters 7.05, 7.06, and 7.07 of the Metro Code.

The Metro Council has directed that Local Implementation Partners must have an approved Local Implementation Plan in order to receive Supportive Housing Services funds. Metro's work plan further defines Local Implementation Plans' purpose, process of development and review, and required elements, including "local housing and homeless service needs, current programming and unmet programming capacities, and proposed use of funds in accordance with the purposes of the regional Supportive Housing Services Program." (These requirements are listed in detail in the "Background" section below.)

Council's direction has established Local Implementation Plans as high-level frameworks that establish local priorities and actions based on identified gaps and regional outcomes. Recognizing how systemic racism is reflected in racial disparities in the region's homelessness and housing crisis, the plans are also required to be developed through inclusive community engagement that centers the voices of Black, Indigenous and people of color communities as well as people with lived experience of homelessness and housing instability. The plans also commit Local Implementation Partners to be accountable for tracking and reporting on regionally-identified outcomes, particularly racial equity outcomes.

POLICY OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER

By adopting the resolution, Metro Council accepts the Regional Oversight Committee's recommendation that the county's Local Implementation Plan meets regional requirements described in the measure and program work plan. If the Council approves, Metro staff would incorporate the Local Implementation Plan into an intergovernmental agreement with the county, which will be considered for adoption by Multnomah County and the Metro Council prior to the beginning disbursement of Supportive Housing Services funds to the county.

If the Metro Council does not approve the Multnomah County Local Implementation Plan, it could direct staff instead to work with Multnomah County to address the Council's concerns. If this would require a modification of the plan, it may necessitate further action by the Board of County Commissioners and review by the Regional Oversight Committee before an intergovernmental agreement can be completed. This could lead to a delay in initiating program implementation in Multnomah County.

The Metro Council may also consider approving the plan while also attaching additional considerations for Metro and Multnomah County to address, evaluate or track during implementation.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

In recognition of the extensive engagement and analysis that shaped the Multnomah County Local Implementation Plan, as well as the Oversight Committee's recommendation and considerations, staff believes the plan is consistent with the requirements set forth in the Measure, Metro Code and Metro's program work plan. Staff recognizes this is a framework that can and will continue to evolve collaboratively throughout implementation, while helping to initiate critical services to help people experiencing or at risk of homelessness find and keep safe, stable and affordable housing.

Therefore, staff recommends adoption of the resolution.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT & FRAMING COUNCIL DISCUSSION

The Metro Council established the requirements and processes for Local Implementation Plans in its measure referral (Ordinance No. 20-1442), work plan adoption (Resolution No. 20-5148), and Metro Code adoption (Ordinance No. 20-1542).

Multnomah County is the first of the three counties to bring its Local Implementation Plan for Metro approval, owing in part to its existing infrastructure for supportive housing and the successful engagement of local advisory bodies, service providers, community partners and residents to develop the plan.

The plan describes the extensive engagement the county conducted in its development, including but not limited to:

- approximately 70 facilitated stakeholder discussions, with a particular focus on engaging Black, Indigenous and People of Color
- an online community survey with a total of 578 responses disaggregated by racial/ethnic identity and lived experience
- a bilingual on-the-street paper survey conducted with more than 380 people currently experiencing unsheltered homelessness, with intentional efforts to reach people of color
- coordination with Metro, Washington County and Clackamas County
- review by the A Home For Everyone Coordinating Board and executive committee.

Metro's work plan and Code describes a process for review whereby a local advisory body, after inclusive community engagement and extensive analysis, makes a recommendation for the county board of commissioners to approve a local implementation plan for review by the Regional Oversight Committee, which in turn considers recommending the plan for approval by the Metro Council. Each county's plan is then incorporated into an intergovernmental agreement between its county and Metro.

Following the A Home for Everyone executive committee's recommendation of Multnomah County Local Implementation Plan, the plan was approved by the Multnomah County Board of County Commissioners on December 17, 2020, and submitted for review by the Regional Oversight Committee.

The Regional Oversight Committee took up the county's plan at its meeting on January 25, hearing from Multnomah County leaders, community members and staff. The committee continued discussion and voted on the plan at its February 22 meeting, unanimously recommending the plan for approval by the Metro Council.

The Regional Oversight Committee has also attached considerations to its recommendation. These are issues the committee recognized were beyond the scope of the LIP requirements, but which nevertheless they seek to monitor and evaluate during implementation and annual review. The Metro Council may acknowledge these considerations and provide direction to staff to work with the county to ensure they are addressed. Draft language for the considerations is attached to this worksheet as Attachment 1. Although the committee largely agreed to these considerations at its February 22, meeting, they requested a few minor revisions to be made to the language, as noted in the attachment. The committee will be asked for final approval of this language in the considerations at its meeting on Monday, April 26. Once approved, the considerations will be attached to Resolution No. 21-5171 as Exhibit B.

BACKGROUND

The Supportive Housing Services Program Work Plan, section 5.1, lists required elements in the Local Implementation Plans, with greater detail provided in Appendix D.

The required elements include:

- A. *Analysis of inequitable outcomes*: An articulation of racial inequities in housing stability and access to current services;
- B. *Racial equity strategies*: A description of mitigation strategies and how the key objectives of Metro's Strategic Plan to Advance Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion have been incorporated;
- C. *Inclusive community engagement*: An articulation of how perspectives of Black, Indigenous and people of color and culturally specific groups were considered and incorporated into the development of the plan and will continue to be engaged through implementation and evaluation;

- D. *Priority population investment distribution*: A commitment that funding will be allocated as specified in Section 4.2;
- E. *Current investments*: A review of current system investments or capacity serving priority populations, an analysis of the nature and extent of gaps in services to meet the needs of the priority population, and a commitment to prohibit displacement of current local funding commitments for such services;
- F. *Distribution*: A strategy for equitable geographic distribution of services with partnering jurisdictions and service providers across the region;
- G. *Access coordination*: A plan for coordinating access to services with partnering jurisdictions and service providers across the region;
- H. *Procurement and partners*: A description of how funds will be allocated to public and nonprofit service providers;
- I. *Planned investments*: An articulation of programmatic investments planned, including the types of services to be funded to address the gap analysis;
- J. *Outcomes, reporting and evaluation*: An agreement to track and report on program outcomes annually as defined through regional coordination and with regional metrics.

Pertaining to item J, the SHS program work plan also describes several regional outcome metrics in Section 5.2; these will be further developed in partnership with the counties, regional oversight committee and the Tri-County Advisory Body.

Following months of community engagement and analysis, the Washington County Board of Commissioners approved its Local Implementation Plan for oversight committee review on April 6. Regional Oversight Committee discussion of that plan begins April 26. The Clackamas County Board of Commissioners approved its plan for Oversight Committee review on April 13. The Regional Oversight Committee is expected to begin discussion of that plan in late May. If the oversight committee recommends the plans, the Metro Council is expected to consider approval in May and June.

Also in June, the Metro Council is expected to consider adoption of intergovernmental agreements incorporating approved local implementation plans with the counties, which would allow for fund disbursement and program implementation to begin this summer.

ATTACHMENTS

- Resolution No. 21-5171
- Exhibit A to Resolution No. 21-5171 (Multnomah County Local Implementation Plan as recommended by the Oversight Committee)
- Staff Report Attachment 1: Draft revised Oversight Committee considerations for the Multnomah County Local Implementation Plan (upon confirmation by Oversight Committee meeting on April 26, 2021, these will attached to Resolution No. 21-5171 as Exhibit B)