

# Sonoma County Community Development Committee



Human Services Dept. Representative: Oscar Chavez (Chair), Tenant Representatives: Stephanie Hiller, Jessica Vega  
1<sup>st</sup> Dist: Betzy Chavez (Vice Chair) 2<sup>nd</sup> Dist: Michael Regan 3<sup>rd</sup> Dist: Karin Davis 4<sup>th</sup> Dist: Willie Lamberson 5<sup>th</sup> Dist: Linda Garcia  
Interim Executive Director: Geoffrey Ross

## **CD Committee Public Meeting Wednesday, August 21, 2019**

### **Minutes**

#### **1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

5:42 Linda Garcia called the meeting to order at 5:42pm and roll was called.

CD Members Present: Linda Garcia, Michael Regan, Willie Lamberson

CD Members Absent: Oscar Chavez, Betzy Chavez, Karin Davis, Stephanie Hiller

CDC Staff Present: Geoffrey Ross, Interim Executive Director; Felicity Gasser, Federal Funding Administrator; Janelle Wetzstein, Policy & Communications Liaison; Holly Kelley, Senior Community Development Specialist

Guests Present:

Devin Castles, PPSC

LaSette Sewell, CC

Tim Miller, WCCS

Elizabeth McCarthy, former CD committee and WCCS board member

Debra Johnson, Berkshire Hathaway, Board Chair of WCCS

Elise VanDyne, 5<sup>th</sup> District Office

#### **Public comments for items not on the agenda**

Elizabeth McCarthy, WCCS Board Member, wanted to say hello and express appreciation for coming out to West County.

#### **Discussion on Policies for FY19-20 CDBG and HOME Funding for Capital Projects**

Felicity Gasser, Federal Funding Administrator, presented on the Federal funding sources for Capital Projects and Fair Housing and facilitated a discussion for FY20-21 beginning of a five-year planning period to get input on overarching priorities for the next five years.

Felicity asked the Committee if there were any items missing from the summary (page 61 of the agenda packet) that should be brought before the Committee in a draft in September.

Members of the Committee suggested adding Cal Green requirements, proximity to transportation and speed of development.

#### **Public Comment**

Elise Van Dyme, 5<sup>th</sup> district, asked about opening up a smart station in Fulton.

## Sonoma County Community Development Committee



Human Services Dept. Representative: Oscar Chavez (Chair), Tenant Representatives: Stephanie Hiller, Jessica Vega  
1<sup>st</sup> Dist: Betzy Chavez (Vice Chair) 2<sup>nd</sup> Dist: Michael Regan 3<sup>rd</sup> Dist: Karin Davis 4<sup>th</sup> Dist: Willie Lamberson 5<sup>th</sup> Dist: Linda Garcia  
Interim Executive Director: Geoffrey Ross

LaSette, resident of Guerneville, asked how we get people to want to use public transportation.

Tim Miller, WCCS, suggested the repurposing of underutilized commercial properties.

Debra, WCCS, mentioned the challenges of trying to house people directly from homelessness into a home without a transitional environment.

Commission staff, members of the Committee and members of the public continued discussing potential types of projects that could be prioritized in future funding rounds and challenges to these.

### **Equity in Housing Project**

Felicity Gasser, Federal Funding Administrator, introduced the Assessment of Fair Housing project and framed the purpose of the report and the work plan and went over how funding would be used in overarching Equity in Housing project.

### **Public Comment**

No comments

Felicity Gasser, Federal Funding Administrator, led the group in a dot exercise to help participants think about what West County has access to and what needs to be improved. After the activity was completed, Linda Garcia called the meeting back to order to review the comments that were left on amenities to which West County has good access and what challenges exist for disadvantaged populations.

Felicity Gasser asked the group where the Commission could go next for outreach to West County. Groups disproportionately represented in West County are veterans, seniors, renters, and those with disabilities. Public suggestions on outreach opportunities were captured and Linda Garcia called discussion back to the Committee.

### **Swearing in Michael Regan**

Geoffrey had Michael raise his right hand and swore him in as a member of the CD Committee.

### **Update from the Interim Director**

Geoffrey Ross, Interim Executive Director, said that the Commission will be doing this Equity project in more places, not only in CD Committee meetings but across several projects. He asked members of the public to continue the conversation and provide suggestions as they

## Sonoma County Community Development Committee



Human Services Dept. Representative: Oscar Chavez (Chair), Tenant Representatives: Stephanie Hiller, Jessica Vega  
**1<sup>st</sup> Dist:** Betzy Chavez (Vice Chair) **2<sup>nd</sup> Dist:** Michael Regan **3<sup>rd</sup> Dist:** Karin Davis **4<sup>th</sup> Dist:** Willie Lamberson **5<sup>th</sup> Dist:** Linda Garcia  
Interim Executive Director: Geoffrey Ross

come up.

### **Adjournment**

Linda Garcia adjourned the meeting at 7:27p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Holly Kelley, Senior Community Development Specialist