

Sonoma County Community Development Committee



Human Services Dept. Representative: Oscar Chavez (Chair), Tenant Representatives: Jessica Vega, *Vacant*
1st Dist: Betzy Chavez (Vice Chair) | 2nd Dist: Vacant | 3rd Dist: Susan Adams | 4th Dist: *Vacant* | 5th Dist: Linda Garcia
Dept. of Health Services Representative: Tina Rivera

Community Development Committee & Cities & Towns Advisory Committee Joint Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, May 19, 2021

10:00AM-11:30AM

Meeting Recording:

<https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/Community-Development-Committee/Calendar/Community-Development-Committee-and-Cities-and-Towns-Advisory-Committee-Joint-Meeting-May-19-2021/>
Minutes

1. Call to Order and Roll Call (10:00AM – Quorum reached)

Community Development Committee Attendees:

Betzy Chavez (1st District)
Susan Hollingsworth Adams (3rd District)
Linda Garcia (5th District)
Oscar Chavez (Human Services Department)

Absent:

Jessica Vega (Tenant Representative)

Vacant:

2nd District
4th District
2nd Tenant Representative

Cities & Towns Advisory Committee Attendees (CTAC):

Cloverdale	Kevin Thompson
Cotati	Noah Housh
Rohnert Park	Jenna Garcia
Town of Windsor	Jessica Jones

Absent:

Healdsburg	Stephen Sotomayor
Sebastopol	Kari Svanstrom
Sonoma	David Storer



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2. Public Comments for Items Not on the Agenda (10:05am)

A community member requested that the County of Sonoma to place \$1 million into a strategy for the Community Development Commission to fund transitional funding.

3. Approval of Minutes from April 17, 2021 CD Committee meeting

Susan Hollingsworth Adams motioned to approve minutes, Linda Garcia seconded.

Ayes:

Betzy Chavez (1st District)
Susan Hollingsworth Adams (3rd District)
Linda Garcia (5th District)
Oscar Chavez (Human Services Department)

Absent:

Jessica Vega (Tenant Representative)

Vacant:

2nd District
4th District
2nd Tenant Representative

4. Approval of minutes from March 17, 2021 CTAC meeting, Cities & Towns Advisory

Kevin Thompson motioned to approve minutes, Noah Housh seconded.

Ayes:

Cloverdale	Kevin Thompson
Cotati	Noah Housh
Rohnert Park	Jenna Garcia
Town of Windsor	Jessica Jones

Absent:

Healdsburg	Stephen Sotomayor
Sebastopol	Kari Svanstrom
Sonoma	David Storer

Betzy Chavez joined the meeting.



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5. Interim Director's Report

Tina Rivera briefly discussed California Governor, Gavin Newsom's plan for homelessness. The plan is the largest homeless initiative in California history and focuses on ending homelessness in five years and investing to clean California streets. \$8.7 billion will be allocated towards providing 46,000 homeless housing units. \$1.5 billion will be allocated to help transform public spaces and clean streets. \$7 billion will be allocated for Home Key and \$40 million will be allocated for government support. Tina also shared a report about staffing. The Community Development Commission (CDC) is looking for a new director and has identified someone.

Martha Cheever reported that staff was working on vouchers for rapid rehousing and adding staff for Housing Authority. Tina would like to begin offering special presentations at future meetings.

Public Comments:

None

6. Presentation: Countywide Community Engagement Report for the Assessment of Fair Housing

Ana Lugo from Equity First Consulting presented the community engagement report with feedback and input from diverse communities about the Assessment of Fair Housing process in Sonoma County.

The presentation covered:

- Systemic inequities and discrimination
- Community engagement methodology
- Measurement of well-being,
- Community engagement strategies,
- Neighborhoods targeted
- Focus groups
- Race and ethnicity-general survey
- Housing
- Neighborhood survey for home ownership
- Fear of displacement
- Neighborhood survey of places where people in sonoma county have faced



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discrimination

- Public transportation
- Health
- Access to mental health
- Community and safety
- Connection to government
- Desired community features
- Support systems
- Social networks
- Dehumanization
- Future directions and lessons learned.

CD committee members asked where they might obtain a copy of the presentation. Lori Houston responded it will be available online.

CTAC committee members asked for links to the presentation to include on their own website with the survey separated.

Public Comment:

None

Lori Houston will send the report links to both committees.

7. CDBG-CV3 Funding

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) had concerns about the direction Sonoma County received to suspend CDBG-CV 1 and 3 grants for rental assistance. All CDB-CB1 dollars have been expended except \$53,000. HUD is asking CTAC to consider reallocating funds for other COVID-related assistance programs not related to rental assistance. Additional rental assistance funding will be coming from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The CDBG-CV3 funds are eligible to be used for economic development and COVID. Public facilities, healthcare, housing, and business assistance tied to COVID are eligible expenses. Staff is encouraging CTAC to consider a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) to be released for economic development, assistance for struggling businesses, or resiliency grants.

Public Comment: None



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8. Emergency Rental Assistance Program

Staff and partnering organizations were introduced and thanked for the accelerated rollout of this program that has disbursed \$32 million in assistance to date. As of this meeting, staff have Staff has received 761 individual applications and 374 landlord applications. Information was presented about the breakdown by jurisdiction, ethnicity and race.

Staff will check if any extensions have or can be granted for disbursing funds.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30PM

**CD Committee and CTAC members and presenters will receive unique zoom links to participate in this meeting.

Next Regular CD Committee Meeting

June 16, 2021

10:00 AM

Virtual

PUBLIC COMMENT PRIOR TO THE COMMITTEE MEETING: Public Comment may be submitted via email to Shelley.Ticehurst@sonoma-county.org.

PUBLIC COMMENT DURING THE BOARD MEETING: PUBLIC COMMENT USING WEBEX: Members of the public who join the Webex meeting, either through their web browser online or by calling in, will be able to provide live public comment at specific points throughout the meeting.

One may also email public comment to Lori.Houston@sonoma-county.org throughout the meeting. All emailed public comments will be read into the record.

Any writings or documents presented to a majority of the Community Development Committee regarding any item on this agenda may be requested by email.

DISABLED ACCOMMODATION: If you have a disability which requires an accommodation, an alternative format, or requires another person to assist you while attending this meeting,



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