



**City of Moreno Valley
Homeless Ad Hoc Subcommittee Meeting
Minutes of March 19, 2025**

1. Call to Order

Mayor Ulises Cabrera called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. The following attendees were present at the meeting:

Subcommittee Members:

Ulises Cabrera, Mayor
Cheylynda Barnard, Council Member

Staff Members:

Brian Mohan, City Manager
Launa Jimenez, Assistant City Manager (Administration Services)
Dena Heald, Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer
Angel Galache, Deputy City Manager
Natalia Lopez, Financial Resources Division Manager
Dannette Fortin, Management Assistant, Financial Resources Division
Angelica Frausto-Lupo, Community Development Director
Lanee Padilla, Community Enhancement Supervisor
Melissa Walker, Public Works Director
Jeremy Bubnick, Parks and Community Services Director
Anthony Brandyberry, Maintenance & Operations Division Manager
Deputy Thomas Ordway, Riverside County Sheriff, MVPD

Homeless Task Force Partners:

Victor Beecham, Chief Program Officer, Path of Life Ministries

Community Based Organizations & Non-Profits:

Brittany Hunter, CEO/Founder, Power Speaks Louder
James Armour, CEO/Founder, Inland Compassion
JulieAnn Pedroza, Executive Director/ Founder, Building Up Lives Foundation
David Nielson, Operations Manager, The Hole in the Wall, Inc.

2. Public Comments

Seth Cox

Shared that he volunteers for two of the organizations on the agenda, Power Speaks Louder and Building Up Lives Foundation. He expressed his concerns and expectations of the Homeless Ad Hoc Subcommittee. He expected a committee with council members, church organizations, 501(c) organizations, and a community member to discuss options and ideas to address homeless issues. He stated that the organizations present at the meeting are all working hard to assist homeless and underserved with food, medical, and hygiene needs, but he believes the assistance is just making them comfortable at this



**City of Moreno Valley
Homeless Ad Hoc Subcommittee Meeting
Minutes of March 19, 2025**

time but not solving any of their issues. He asks that the committee reconsider the structure of the committee.

3. Approval of Minutes

ACTION: Mayor Ulises Cabrera motioned to approve the meeting minutes of February 19, 2025, and Council Member Cheylynda Barnard seconded to approve the minutes.

4. Action Items

- A. City Manager to provide a Homekey+ update and seek direction on collaborations for the Homekey+ Application

Brian Mohan, City Manager, shared a brief overview of Proposition 1 (Prop 1) and Homekey+. Prop 1 was approved with specific funding for the Homekey+ Program, which is separate funding from Homekey. The Homekey+ NOFA was released in November 2024. The City had a meeting with the County Board of Supervisors and Riverside University Health System (RUHS) to discuss countywide plans for Homekey+, and any potential partnerships with the city. The two (2) county owned parcels available within the city limits will not be utilizing this funding for building. The properties that we currently have available are under contractual arrangement for affordable housing projects. A Joint Powers Authority (JPA) parcel was identified for a potential collaboration with U.S. Vets, but as of two weeks ago it was decided that they would not be moving forward. The City is still working on identifying other JPA parcels. There is a concern with the County and the City not having enough potential partners for this funding. Additionally, all proposed projects need to be approved by the County. The application guidelines indicate that the submittal deadline is May 30th. This does not allow sufficient time to engage with a potential partner, enter into contractual arrangement, and get the county's approval. Looking for directions from the subcommittee on how staff or any other partners should try and collaborate.

Mayor Ulises Cabrera thanked City Manager for the information related to the application process for Homekey+. For Prop 1, the city submitted a letter of support for Riverside County's application and is awaiting a response from the State. If funds are awarded, a significant portion will go to Cactus Campus. Mayor requested clarification of the requirement for approval or support from the County Board of Supervisors. This is a requirement for Prop 1 but it is not clear whether this is a requirement Homekey+. Additionally, are there any vacant city owned parcels for development?



**City of Moreno Valley
Homeless Ad Hoc Subcommittee Meeting
Minutes of March 19, 2025**

Brian Mohan, City Manager, clarified that there are currently no city owned assets available for Homekey+ projects. Regarding the application requirements, the city is required to have the counties' behavioral health department's approval and/or support due to the changes in allocation, and mental health funding that is no longer allocated to the county.

Mayor Ulises Cabrera requested we release a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) or a Request for Proposal (RFP) for any interested parties that may have their own property or private property in the city or unincorporated Riverside County. We can also reach out to Supervisor Gutierrez, and/or surrounding cities like Perris and Riverside.

Council Member Cheylynda Barnard supports the release of an RFP for the private landowners, and suggested we meet with our neighboring cities and county supervisors to discuss their interest in partnering with the city.

Mayor Ulises Cabrera added that he has been contacted by churches and places of worship in the city that have expressed interest.

Brian Mohan, City Manager, stated that he will reach out to his counterparts for City of Perris, City of Riverside, and follow up with County of Riverside on their plan that was discussed in late 2024. The RFP will include the Homekey+ requirement of a minimum of three years of operating match, although priority will be given to projects that demonstrate operating sustainability over 15 years. With the May 30th deadline, the RFP can be released on April 1st and will possibly remain open for 3 weeks. If this timeline works and we receive county support for any potential projects, we anticipate going to the city council at the second meeting in May for approval to apply. With such a short timeline there is a concern with applicants not understanding the requirements and commitment, this can be a liability to the city.

Council Member Cheylynda Barnard expressed support for the RFP and the timeline.

5. Advisory Item

A. Staff Updates

I. City Manager's Office

- i. Proposition 1 – Behavioral Health Services Act and the Behavioral Health Bond**



**City of Moreno Valley
Homeless Ad Hoc Subcommittee Meeting
Minutes of March 19, 2025**

Brian Mohan, City Manager, shared the Prop 1 criteria and provided a breakdown of the bond. We anticipate the release of future NOFAs related to Homekey+ funding.

ii. Proposition 36 – Drug and Theft Crime Penalties and Treatment-Mandated Felonies Initiative

Brian Mohan, City Manager, shared that Prop 36 is a voter approved initiative. It increased sentences for crimes and drug related offenses and offered a clean record for people who complete treatments in lieu of going to jail or being incarcerated. The concern with the proposition is that there is no funding available for the initiative. Cal Cities has met with the Public Safety Committee of the Senate and the Assembly to propose funding.

Mayor Ulises Cabrera mentioned that he is on the Board of Directors for the League of Cities and clarified that they have discussed the lack of funding at their recent board meeting. The board has decided not to add policy priorities but instead focus on advocating to the legislature that Prop 36 be implemented quickly and appropriately.

B. Community Based Organizations & Non-Profits

I. Power Speaks Louder

Brittany Hunter, the Founder and CEO, Power Speaks Louder (PSL), presented an overview of the organization and program. Their mission is to educate, empower, and transform the lives of underserved communities through the power of words and actions. The program was initially a youth empowerment organization from 2016 to 2020. During the pandemic they accepted a grant from the Inland Empire Community Foundation to distribute food boxes to the community. The organization now has four ongoing programs within the community. (1) Food Drive Thru Program – Every second and fourth Thursday of the month at the Moreno Valley Mall. This program serves low-income families. For 2024, they gave out 18,270 food boxes to individuals or families. (2) Street Outreach Prep – A youth after school program with students from various high schools and the Youth Advisory Council from District 5. The students gather at the Grace Episcopal Church to put together 156 food bags. (3) The PSL Bus – the bus fits 6-7 people and several food containers. The team drives around handing food bags to the unhoused community. Additionally, they have a concept called Powerpaws where they provide dog food for those that have pets. For 2024,



**City of Moreno Valley
Homeless Ad Hoc Subcommittee Meeting
Minutes of March 19, 2025**

they have served food boxes to over 18,287 individuals, totaling about 3,573 families. (4) PSL Walk/Run Club – A group of 40 to 45 community members come out every first and third Saturday of the month to walk and run together. The sponsorship of \$5,000 from the city has impacted over 3,700 individuals through the street outreach programs. To collect data, they have conducted surveys and tracked all the individuals. At this time, they do not have a building and are asking for support from the city in leasing or finding a building. Right now, they are gathering and storing food at mall warehouse.

Council Member Cheylynda Barnard requested additional details on the data collection and any subsequent analysis. A good tracking system helps with grant writing and/or other funding opportunities.

Brittany Hunter confirmed that they have a database to track all the information and surveys are collected on a quarterly basis. The data is used for grant writing and presenting.

Mayor Ulises Cabrera asked if there were any grants they could have applied for but didn't due to resources or partnerships. He would like to see how the city can provide the necessary tools or funding to apply for these grants.

Brittany Hunter expressed the challenges with reimbursement-based grants and not having the appropriate funding reserved. Also, there are times where they do not have the funds needed to pay for a grant writer.

II. Inland Compassion

James Armour, CEO/Founder, started Inland Compassion during a summer break from his graduate program at Cal Baptist University for Social Work. He initially took donations and redistributed them to the homeless population. In Moreno Valley, Inland Compassion provides homeless outreach, case management, community resource events, and referrals to essential services. During outreach, wellness kits are distributed as an incentive for individuals to complete an intake form. All contact information gathered during outreach is logged in the case management tracking system, where Community Health Worker (CHW) interns and volunteers reach out to participants to initiate support. Phone encounters are documented in their system to ensure follow-ups. The Moval Free Market events serve as community resource hubs, providing essential items such as food, clothing, and hygiene products. Housing & support services are



**City of Moreno Valley
Homeless Ad Hoc Subcommittee Meeting
Minutes of March 19, 2025**

provided by connecting individuals to room and board facilities, referring individuals to sober living homes, facilitating placements in homeless shelters, connecting participants to rental assistance programs, referring individuals to substance use treatment centers, assisting individuals in finding affordable rental rooms, and referrals to recuperative care such as the Illumination Foundation through the IEHP referral process. The 2024 data demonstrates 1,730 total individuals served, 80 individuals successfully housed, 659 homeless individuals served through outreach, and 108 documented unduplicated individuals for case management intakes. Additionally, they referred 42 individuals to drug or substance abuse treatment facilities such as The Salvation Army, Menifee Global Detox, and the SU CARES line, and 85 individuals to mental health services through Renewing Hope Family Counseling Center, RUHS-BH, and other providers. Lastly the Moval Free Market served 701 individuals, of which 84 of them were homeless. For 2025, 199 individuals have been served to date. Of those, 190 were homeless. This year Inland Compassion will be expanding their intern program and case management. They were also approved for five market dates and will be receiving a 12-person vehicle from RTA within the next few weeks. They are seeing improvements in the city and continue to collaborate with other local partners.

Mayor Ulises Cabrera inquired about data collection and familiarity with CARE Court.

James stated that they collect data through intake forms and sign-in sheets and use Google and Excel as their database. For CARE Court referrals, they most likely need to be processed through Home Connect, the coordinated entry system (CES). Inland Compassion is not a part of the CES and would like to see how he and other non-profits can get access to the system.

Brian Mohan, City Manager, stated that the Financial Resources Division Manager will reach out to CoC and get an update on how to obtain access to the database. Also mentioned that the official Point in Time Count typically comes out in Mid-April.

Council Member Cheylynda Barnard inquired about the short term versus long term case management. She recommended that they reach out to the local colleges for interns who may need hours for statistical work and research.



City of Moreno Valley
Homeless Ad Hoc Subcommittee Meeting
Minutes of March 19, 2025

James mentioned that they currently have short term case management and are using interns to make the follow-up phone calls and track the data.

III. Building Up Lives Foundation

JulieAnn Pedroza, Executive Director/ Founder, shared her personal testimony and how Building Up Lives Foundation started in 2018 from feeding individuals at her home. They then found a location, and during COVID they were able to feed up to 1,550 people a day. They are now located on Hemlock and are by appointment only due to the busy commercial area. At this location they provide clothing, hygienic kits, and food. They have served over 70,000 people with various resources. They are fortunate to receive food donations from many restaurants and grocery stores. This has helped develop programs for homeless individuals and seniors. They also have a mobile shower that they share with other organizations to ensure it is accessible to the community. Other services/programs provided include a special needs prom, an identification card printer, PTSD assistance, grieving classes, and housing assistance. Building Up Lives Foundation shared with the committee the non-cloth blankets that are distributed to the homeless community.

Council Member Cheylynda Barnard inquired about the intake process for those with disabilities or special needs to ensure they are getting benefits and in-home support care.

JulieAnn Pedroza stated that they typically receive direct calls and shared a few scenarios when they provided special assistance.

IV. The Hole In Wall Inc

David Nielson, Operations Manager, The Hole in the Wall, Inc. gave an overview of the organization. He thanked the City and the Homeless Taskforce for their sweeps and allowing them to participate in those outreach programs. On May 24th they will be having the Homeless Awareness Day Health Fair at the location on Postal Ave. They will be providing food, mobile showers, and hygiene rooms. They are hoping to have vendors join to provide services. Their program is open daily at their location on Postal Ave and they do not require appointments. At this location they offer resources like mailing services, ID vouchers, and clothing. They complete intake forms to learn more about individuals and avoid duplication of services. They are currently at about a 33% acceptance rate. Since they received a grant from the city in December 2023, they have enlisted



**City of Moreno Valley
Homeless Ad Hoc Subcommittee Meeting
Minutes of March 19, 2025**

approximately 305 individuals to various programs/resources. Of those individuals, 24 were entered into a drug or alcohol treatment program, 8 into sober living, 12 with The Salvation Army, 11 in the recuperative care facilities, 21 into transitional living, 3 into board and care facilities, 5 women and children into shelter or housing programs, 11 elderly into shelters via inter agency intervention such as DPSS - Adult Protective Services, 9 into housing voucher programs, and 11 in rapid rehousing. Additionally, they have provided 3,530 services, distributed 282 ID vouchers, 447 bus passes, and about 1,667 lunches. Their goal is to prepare individuals for housing and finding them the tools needed to sustain housing. This year they saw an influx of domestic violence cases, elderly homeless, and recuperative care cases. Through hard work and persistence there are many success stories.

6. Public comment

Seth Cox

Thanked all of the organizations for coming out and presenting. Expressed concerns with action items, and referenced the resolution stating that the Subcommittee should take action items discussed to city council for approval.

7. Financial Resources Division Comments

A. Next Homeless Ad Hoc Subcommittee Meeting: April 16, 2025

B. Future meetings on the third (3rd) Wednesday of each month at 4:00 p.m.

8. Subcommittee Member Comments

Mayor Ulises Cabrera thanked the staff and commented on the lack of space available for non-profits, and the possibility of using city space. Also, would like to find funding opportunities to assist the non-profits with grant applications.

Council Member Cheylynda Barnard thanked the staff and stated that she understands Mr. Cox comments and concerns regarding the structure of the subcommittee and reassured him that they are still thinking of ideas to improve the subcommittee. She too is in support of assisting with the location and facility needs of the non-profits.

9. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 P.M., by Mayor Ulises Cabrera.



**City of Moreno Valley
Homeless Ad Hoc Subcommittee Meeting
Minutes of March 19, 2025**

Prior Meeting Attendance

Board Member	2/19/25	3/19/25					
Mayor Ulises Cabrera	X	X					
Council Member Cheylynda Bernard	X	X					
Council Member Erlan Gonzalez (Alternate)							