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8/25/2026

Sacramento Housing and Homelessness Ad Hoc Task Force Meeting #1 Report Out [Oral Report]

File ID: 2026-01524

Location: Citywide

Recommendation: Receive and file.

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Presenter: Ya-yin Isle, City Housing Manager, (916) 808-1869, yisle@cityofsacramento.org, Economic Development Department

Attachments:

1-Description/Analysis

2-Field Impact Report Meeting #1 Summary Notes

Description/Analysis

Issue Detail: Regional coordination for homelessness and housing is a top priority for the City of Sacramento and its partner agencies, and discussions on developing a new shared governance model have continued to progress.

In June 2026, the County of Sacramento and the cities of Sacramento, Elk Grove, Folsom, Citrus Heights, Rancho Cordova, and Galt signed a letter of intent agreeing to participate in a process through an ad hoc task force, supported by jurisdictional staff and an independent consultant to develop the details of this model. The first meeting of the ad hoc task force was held on August 6, 2026, and this item is a report out from the first meeting.

Policy Considerations: The consideration of a shared governance model overseeing housing and homelessness in Sacramento are consistent with the City's Housing Element program **H13**.

Homeless Plan which states that the City shall work with the Continuum of Care, its members, service providers, and jurisdictions, on a coordinated response plan that is updated regularly.

Economic Impacts: Not applicable.

Environmental Considerations: This report is an informational item providing an update and report out from the first ad hoc task force meeting on establishing a shared governance model for housing and homelessness. This report is an administrative activity and is not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), per CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5).

Sustainability: Not applicable.

Commission/Committee Action: Not applicable.

Rationale for Recommendation: Not applicable.

Financial Considerations: Not applicable.

Local Business Enterprise (LBE): Not applicable.

Sacramento Housing and Homelessness Ad Hoc Task Force

August 6, 2026: Meeting #1 Summary Notes

Purpose

The Task Force was convened to develop recommendations for a new regional partnership model for housing and homelessness governance, including:

- A new regional governing body
 - A revised Continuum of Care (CoC) governance structure
 - Governing documents and committee structure
 - Membership and seat allocation
 - Staffing and administrative support
 - Transition from the current CoC Board
 - Future coordination across jurisdictions and government partners
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Opening Remarks

City Manager Maraskeshia Smith and County Executive David Villanueva welcomed participants and emphasized:

- Regional collaboration is essential.
 - Homelessness requires an integrated approach across jurisdictions.
 - Success depends upon sustained partnership between cities, the county, state agencies, providers, and people with lived experience.
 - Appreciation was expressed for staff supporting the effort.
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Task Force Charge

Members discussed the role of the Task Force.

The Task Force is **not** the future governing body. Instead, it is responsible for designing recommendations for that future body for approval by the governing bodies of participating entities, including its:

- Purpose
- Structure
- Authorities
- Membership
- Governance documents
- Transition strategy

Members are expected to:

- Represent their jurisdictions throughout the process
- Keep local leadership informed
- Help secure approval of final recommendations by their governing bodies

Staff will support members between meetings and assist with communications and preparation.

Key Inputs Guiding the Work

The group agreed the Task Force should draw from multiple sources:

- Letter of Intent
 - HUD CoC requirements & HEARTH Act requirements
 - HUD Technical Assistance
 - Task Force member expertise
 - Field Impact Partners' experience from other communities
 - Existing regional experience and lessons learned
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Major Discussion Themes

SB 802

The group agreed:

- SB 802 will not stop or delay the Task Force's work.
- The legislation should be monitored because it may inform future governance expectations.
- Understanding legislative intent may strengthen recommendations.

Regional Coordination

Members discussed opportunities to improve coordination by:

- Increasing collaboration among cities
- Better integrating state agencies as appropriate
- Reducing conflicting local ordinances
- Improving Coordinated Access participation
- Creating governance capable of addressing regional issues rather than jurisdiction-specific concerns.

Lessons from Existing Governance

Several observations informed the discussion:

- CoC funding decisions often require extensive recusals.
 - Not all jurisdictions participate equally in Coordinated Access.
 - Lived experience voices must remain central.
 - Existing governance structures can create fragmentation.
 - Governance should prioritize measurable results and accountability rather than process alone.
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Ways of Working

The Task Force agreed to:

- Decide and move rather than wait for perfect information.
 - Come prepared.
 - Listen to understand.
 - Focus on issues rather than individuals.
 - Maintain confidentiality during deliberations.
 - Remember that the Task Force is designing—not operating—the future governance body.
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Timeline

The anticipated schedule is:

Launch Phase - July to August 2026

Phase One - August to October

Phase Two - October to November

Final Recommendations - January 2027

Between meetings:

- Staff will prepare materials.

- Members will engage stakeholders.
 - Jurisdictions should begin coordinating with Staff to prepare for January approvals.
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Decision-Making

The Task Force discussed how formal decisions should be made.

The group agreed that a majority vote will be the formal method for approving Task Force deliverables, while also expressing a strong preference for reaching consensus whenever possible.

Some members raised concerns that a simple majority could result in significant disagreement on recommendations intended to establish a regional governance structure.

To help identify and explore disagreement, the group discussed using a Gradients of Agreement tool, using a scale of 1–8:

- 1 represents full agreement.
- 8 represents a firm disagreement or “veto” position.

When a member expresses significant disagreement, the gradient can be used to better understand the concerns underlying their position and determine whether additional discussion is needed.

A rating above approximately 5 may indicate that the group should reconsider its direction or explore whether an important issue has not yet been fully addressed.

Members noted that consensus should be achievable for many of the Task Force’s high-level governance decisions, while more difficult operational decisions may appropriately be left to the future governing body.

The group also discussed whether the future governing structure should consider the relative resources or investments of participating jurisdictions, including whether some form of weighted representation or decision-making model should be explored.

Ongoing staff engagement between Task Force meetings will be important for resolving issues, maintaining alignment, and ensuring jurisdictions feel informed and engaged throughout the process.

Supporting Tools

FIP with support of Staff will maintain:

- Decision Log
- Open Question/Parking Lot
- Deliverables tracker
- Meeting summaries
- Communication cadence
- Supporting presentations and documentation

National Context

Key lessons from other communities included:

- Governance structures have not kept pace with increased complexity.
 - Funding has expanded.
 - Coordination requirements have grown.
 - Governance must become more nimble.
 - Successful governance depends upon:
 - clarity
 - accountability
 - cross-sector alignment
 - measurable outcomes.
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Defining Success

Members identified characteristics of a successful future governing body:

- Clear goals and measurable outcomes
 - Better quality of life for people experiencing homelessness
 - Authority to make meaningful decisions
 - Accountability across participating agencies
 - Joint regional decision-making
 - Learning from successful governance models elsewhere
 - Strong partnership with the State
 - Respect for local authority
 - Cities retain control of funding specific to their local jurisdiction
 - Sustained regional commitment
 - Long-term aspiration of reducing homelessness and ultimately reducing dependence on the homelessness response system
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Communications

Members emphasized:

- Ongoing communication with jurisdictions between meetings.
- Updates to City and County governing bodies throughout the process.

- Staff to develop a communications plan describing how their specific jurisdiction will engage electeds and governing bodies. For situational awareness, FIP will consolidate each jurisdiction's communications plan.
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Formal Decisions

The following formal decisions were made:

1. Adopted the Task Force Ways of Working (with additions regarding confidentiality and clarifying the Task Force's advisory role).
 2. Approved majority vote as the formal decision-making process.
 3. Agreed to use Gradients of Agreement to inform discussion before formal votes.
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Open Question Parking Log

Items deferred for future discussion include:

- Detailed review of SB 802
- Grand Jury Report
- Role of State agencies
- Lessons from CoC governance
- Governance models focused on measurable results, and performance metrics used by other communities
- Baseline information on current investments, governance, and outcomes
- Regional ordinance alignment

Project Timeline

- Review content in between meetings
- Be ready to make decisions
- Engage stakeholders
- Be prepared to adjust as needed

Note Schedule Change:

We will be scheduling a Task Force Meeting for early December to allow for more time staff and elected review of materials. Please continue to hold the November date until after the October Task Force Meeting.

