



Housing & Human Services Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda

ASHLAND HOUSING & HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, July 23, 2026

Siskiyou Room, 51 Winburn Way

4 pm

Note: Anyone wishing to speak at any Housing and Human Services Advisory Committee meeting is encouraged to do so. If you wish to speak, please rise and, after you have been recognized by the Chair, give your name and complete address for the record. You will then be allowed to speak. Please note the public testimony may be limited by the Chair.

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/91757677924?pwd=4KckQrvVPfbpC0mYfRuIZlVCYBq0at.1>

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

III. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of June 25, 2026 Minutes

IV. PUBLIC FORUM

V. NEW BUSINESS

- A. City of Ashland Affordable Housing Program and Fee Waivers

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Strategic Goal Check-Ins
- B. Community Resource Event Updates
- C. Homeless Services Assessment Report Metrics Review and Discussion

VII. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- A. Liaison Reports
- B. General Announcements

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact Linda Reid at linda.reid@ashlandoregon.gov or 541.488.5305 (TTY phone number 1.800.735.2900). Notification at least three business days before the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to the meeting in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.





Housing And Human Services Committee Minutes

June 25, 2026 REGULAR MEETING Minutes

Committee Members Present:	Council Liaison:
Noah Werthaiser	Bob Kaplan
Montana Hauser	Derek Sherrell
Dan Ruby	
John Maher	Staff Present:
Jim Dykstra	Linda Reid, Housing Program Manager
Ro Henigson-Kahn	
Sarah Shaw	SOU Liaison:
Committee Members Absent	Vacant
Ashley Laube	Ashley Laube

I. **CALL TO ORDER:** 4:01 p.m.

II. **CONSENT AGENDA**

A. Approval of May 28, 2026, Minutes

Ruby/Laube, M/S to approve the minutes as amended. Voice Vote: Hauser, Maher, Dykstra, Kahn, Shaw, Ruby, Laube: AYE. Motion passed 7-0.

III. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Strategic Plan Goal Review and Evaluation

Committee members reviewed the goals and agreed that a couple of members would choose one goal to act as a champion for and move the goal forward and report back to the group periodically, time should be set aside for Strategic Goal check-in at each meeting.

- a. YIMBY: Henigson-Kahn & Hauser
- b. ALICE: Werthaiser & Ruby
- c. City Fees: Maher & Dykstra
- d. Homeless Goals: Werthaiser

IV. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. Grant Process Review

It was suggested that Reid reach out to the grantees to get their feedback on the current process and if they feel like the presentations are beneficial to them.

Perhaps set thresholds for optional presentations. Committee members would also like to have separate meetings for presentations and deliberations.





Housing And Human Services Committee Minutes

- B.** Equitable Housing Plan Updates: Reid and Werthaiser provided demographic information for the Committee members to review. Two Committee members, Shaw and Werthaiser, volunteered to serve with two Social Equity and Racial Justice Advisory Committee member to work on the Equitable Housing Plan
- C.** Community Resource Event Updates: Hauser reported that 24 organizations have responded that they will be attending, and 10 have not responded.
- D.** State Funding: Werthaiser provided an overview of the State funding the County will be receiving aimed at addressing homeless prevention.

V. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- A.** Liaison Reports
- B.** General Announcements

VI. AGENDA BUILDING – Future Meetings

Time for strategic Goal Check-ins should be added to every agenda.

VII. ADJOURNMENT: 6.00 p.m.

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Memo

DATE: July 23, 2026

TO: Housing and Human Services Advisory Committee

FROM: Linda Reid, Housing Program Manager

DEPT: Planning

RE: 2026 Overview of the City of Ashland Affordable Housing Program

Reid will provide an overview of the City of Ashland Affordable Housing Program with particular attention to fee waivers.

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Memo

DATE: July 23, 2026

TO: Housing and Human Services Advisory Committee

FROM: Linda Reid, Housing Program Manager

DEPT: Planning

RE: Strategic Goal Check-Ins

This is an ongoing agenda item to update the Committee on actions toward meeting identified strategic plan goals.

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Memo

DATE: July 23, 2026
TO: Housing and Human Services Advisory Committee
FROM: Linda Reid, Housing Program Manager
DEPT: Planning
RE: 2026 Community Resource Event Updates

This is an ongoing discussion item to facilitate planning for the upcoming resource event.

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Memo

DATE: July 23, 2026

TO: Housing and Human Services Advisory Committee

FROM: Linda Reid, Housing Program Manager

DEPT: Planning

RE: Homeless Services Masterplan Metrics Review and Discussion

The Committee discussed adding metrics for reporting outcomes based on Homeless Management Information Systems Data and the actions Identified in the Homeless Services Assessment Report, to the City Council at the annual Commission/Committee update in December. Attached to this memo is the list of actions suggested by the [Homeless Services Assessment Report](#) for review and discussion. The Committee expressed an interest in identifying a static set of metrics that could be used year over year to show progress on issues related to homelessness.

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Attachment 1

Homeless Services Assessment Report Suggested Actions

A.) Suggested Action: *Respond to community livability concerns, particularly in south Ashland; clean up unsightly areas, provide more trash receptacles and weed abatement.*

- **Existing Situation/Reason for Action:** This request is more about livability, beautification, and weed abatement rather than about addressing homelessness. Though the instance of homelessness and homeless individuals may contribute to unsightliness, due to a lack of public restrooms that are open 24 hours a day, and specifically a lack of public restrooms on the South side of the City, as well as having fewer trash receptacles on the South side of the City.
- **What the City is already Doing:** APD substation Albertson's shopping complex, development of ELEA on Ashland Street in progress, new trash cans have been deployed on Ashland Street. Weed abatement process in revisions for next season, deploying customer response module on the City's website. Beautification grants are offered city wide. The City recently acquired a property on which to build a park on the South end of the City. The plans for the park include a bathroom facility.
- **Other Actions the City might Consider:** The City might consider the addition of public restrooms, on the South Side of town specifically. RVTD assisted the City of Medford with the installation of a "Portland loo" type of bathroom at the transfer station. The City could utilize CDBG funding to install a "Portland loo" type of bathroom on City owned land (like the 2200 Ashland street property) or in a public park. There may also be an opportunity to partner with RVTD to install a bathroom on a highly utilized bus stop.

Timeline for Potential Actions: Short Term: This is currently taking place and will have some ongoing actions as well. Bathrooms are a mid and long-range option, but this is detailed elsewhere.

B.) Suggested Action: *Provide multiple locations for electronics charging and Wi-Fi access.*

- **Existing Situation/Reason for Action:** Through a community engagement process, access to outlets for charging for cell phones and access to the internet were identified as needs by people experiencing homelessness.

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- **What the City is already Doing:** There are a few locations that offer free access to wi-fi throughout the City, and some electrical outlets that are accessible to the public, some of these are provided by the City and some are provided by other institutions, such as OHRA, and SOU and some commercial enterprises such as Starbucks.
- **Other Actions/Considerations:** SOU has some wi-fi and outlets that are accessible by the public, though they are most likely intended for students. The public library has internet access and some outlets, as does Starbucks. If the City would need to consider the costs and unintended consequences of offering additional access to outlets (or just phone charging ports) in public areas throughout the City. The City could utilize the 2200 Ashland street center as a charging station and offer wi-fi access to those utilizing laundry, shower, and/or navigation services. If the City allowed regular community meals at that location it could also serve as a regular wi-fi, charging resources for people experiencing homelessness in the community.
- **Timeline for Potential Actions: Short Term:** Some resources for wi-fi and phone charging already exists in the community and is supported by the City and other entities, any additional resources either offered directly by the City or by a community partner but supported city funding could be implemented quickly and easily.

C.) Suggested Action: *Develop a daytime lockable storage program where unhoused people can store their belongings while navigating other resources, employment, etc.*

- **Existing Situation/Reason for Action:** Through the community outreach process, storage lockers for securing belongings were identified as a needed resource for peoples experiencing homelessness. Storage locker programs for people experiencing homelessness can help keep belongings safe and reduce the risk of theft or loss. Some benefits of these programs include:
 - o Reduced risk of loss: Storage lockers can help protect belongings from being stolen or damaged
 - o Reduced burden: With less to carry, people can attend appointments, work, and get around more easily
 - o Peace of mind: Storage lockers can provide a sense of security and care
 - o Community building: Community-based programs can help people build relationships with others
- **What the City is already Doing:** The City does not offer these resources currently, however, the City is currently in conversations with the Southern Oregon Housing for All (SOFA) group to operate a storage program near the Dusk to Dawn site.

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- **Other Actions/Considerations:** Storage could be offered directly by the City at a number of locations including 2200 Ashland street. Storage could be offered by community partners. There are several examples of storage programs, many of which are paired with outreach resource referral services, navigation and case management, and the Coordinated Entry list.
- **Timeline for Potential Actions: Short-Term** supporting a partner agency with the funding to provide storage would be a short-term activity. Adding storage to the 2200 Ashland Street shelter would also be a short-term activity.

D.) Suggested Action: Strengthen partnerships between law enforcement, social service agencies, and volunteers to connect people with help and support.

- **Existing Situation/Reason for Action:** The City of Medford Has a livability team model that is proving to be very effective at moving people out of homelessness. The livability team coordinates with community partners, including social service agencies, VA outreach staff, Drug and Alcohol addiction outreach workers, and physical and behavioral health outreach workers to build relationships of trust and to connect unhoused people with services. It is a model that other communities are recreating to address those on the streets with the greatest needs. A lack of street outreach services has been identified as a gap in services. In Ashland, the Police Department has the most interaction with those on the streets. With the opening of the Night Lawn, the police are having regular interactions with unhoused individuals who are staying at the night lawn and the volunteer community members who are engaging with them. There is no formal mechanism or structure for these entities to communicate regularly, or coordinate. This is seen as a barrier to moving people out of homelessness. Street outreach is regarded as a critical component for successful transition from homelessness to housing.
- **What the City is already Doing:** Housing program staff, City Council liaison are already engaging in regional collaboration through the Jackson County Continuum of Care.
- **Other Actions the City might Consider:** With the passing of HB 4002-deflection program, the City may consider becoming part of the deflection program model. The City may consider implementing a livability team model.
- **Timeline for Potential Actions: Short-Term/Mid-Term**-APD could have, host, or

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have a representative attend regular meetings to coordinate and communicate with community partners who are serving people experiencing homelessness- this could be accomplished quickly. The establishment of a livability team model in Ashland would require consideration for impacts and costs to staff and could be accomplished in a medium-term timeframe.

E.) Suggested Action: Increase the number of public restrooms and access to drinking water.

- **Existing Situation/Reason for Action:** The need for public restrooms that are open 24 hours a day, and more specifically, which are available on the South end of the City was identified more than any other resource need or gap by all segments of the community through the community engagement process. The Parks Dept. is unable to keep public restrooms in public spaces open 24 hours a day due to vandalism.
- **What the City is already Doing:** The City has a porta potty behind the plaza and one at the Dusk to Dawn site behind City Hall. There is a handwashing station at the Dusk to Dawn site, but it does not provide potable water. Garfield park has potable water resources including a water bottle filling station.
- **Other Actions/Considerations:** The City might consider the addition of public restrooms available on the South Side of town specifically. RVTD assisted the City of Medford with the installation of a "Portland loo" type of bathroom at the transfer station. There may also be an opportunity to partner with RVTD to install a bathroom on a highly utilized bus stop.
The City could utilize CDBG funding to install a "Portland loo" type of bathroom on City owned land (like the 2200 Ashland street property) or in a public park. The City could add bathroom facilities to the 2200 Ashland street property and make them available to individuals utilizing laundry, and shower services, and/or navigation services, or in support of a short- or long-term sheltering/housing activity, as well as in instances of inclement weather, or emergency shelters due to the closure of I-5 or in other emergency situations.
- **Timeline for Potential Actions: Short Term, Mid-Term,** the addition of a Portland Loo type of bathroom on City owned could happen in a short timeline, additional bathrooms at the 2200 Ashland Street property, or the building out of bathroom facilities in public parks would most likely take a little longer.

F.) Suggested Action: Expand access to showers and laundry facilities.

- **Existing Situation/Reason for Action:** Through the community outreach process, shower and laundry facilities were identified as a needed resource for peoples

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experiencing homelessness. Community volunteers who operate a program called laundry love, have been donated the purchase of commercial washers and dryers, but have been looking for a place to locate them and operate their program.

- **What the City is already Doing:** Since the beginning of the pandemic, the City has supported the OHRA laundry/shower trailer with funding and sometimes a location for operations. For many years Laundry Love operated out of a commercial laundromat, and most recently laundry love has been operating out of the OHRA laundry shower trailer. The City has not traditionally provided funding or other resources to Laundry Love.
- **Other Actions/Considerations:** The City could look for funding/utilize CDBG funding to remodel the 2200 Ashland street shelter building to include laundry and shower facilities. These facilities could be utilized to provide showers to shelter occupants, as well as to provide showers and laundry services on a weekly basis as a part of a broader outreach approach that may or may not include services to connect people experiencing homelessness to resources to move them out of homelessness.
- **Timeline for Potential Actions: Short Term/Mid-Term** Continuing to support the OHRA laundry shower trailer with funding and/or a host location to offer services is a short-term activity. Remodeling the 2200 Ashland street location to include shower and laundry facilities would take a little longer.

G.) Suggested Action: *Create a day center/respice from outdoors, with access to water, bathrooms, and resources. Establish a winter shelter for seniors and other vulnerable populations that is open 24/7 from mid-November through mid-April; explore healthcare partnerships to address chronic, acute, and emergent needs.*

- **Existing Situation/Reason for Action:** A day center/respice center/drop-in center, for homeless populations is an indoor location where homeless populations can congregate indoors and have relief from outside conditions and have a place to sit. Day center/respice/centers/drop-in centers, also generally offer some amenities, such as restrooms, phone charging, and meals, as well as resources and referrals. Currently there are no homeless day centers in Ashland. Seniors and families with children have been identified by the Jackson County Continuum of Care and the Point in Time Count as a disproportionate and underserved subpopulations of peoples experiencing homelessness. OHRA operates a navigation center, but it is limited to accessing resources and meeting with community partners, the library is the closest resource in the community that often acts as a day center/respice center for people

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experiencing homelessness, and various meal programs offered periodically throughout the week might also acts as a short-term respite center. Lastly, the senior center could also act as an unofficial day center/respite center for seniors.

- **What the City is already Doing:** The City continues to support the opening of inclement weather shelters and smoke and cooling respite centers. The City dedicates funding, staff time, and now a city owned building to this effort.
- **Other Actions/Considerations:** The City could consider offering the 2200 location to community partners to be used for day center/respite center/drop-in center, either with or without some amenities, such as restrooms, phone charging, and meals, as well as resources and referrals and/or office space for community partners. Similarly, resources targeted to navigation to shelter and housing options (including on-site shelter and housing) for unhoused and/or precariously housed seniors and families with children could be offered at the 2200 Ashland street location. The City could also provide funding to support community partners to open a day center/respite center/drop-in center at the 2200 location or another location.
- **Timeline for Potential Actions: Short Term/Mid-Term** Opening a day center/respite/centers/drop-in center or providing funding and/or a location for opening a day center/respite centers/drop-in center at the 2200 location or another location would be a short-term activity. Retrofitting or adding shelter and/or transitional housing units to serve vulnerable populations at the 2200 location or another location would be a mid-term to long-term activity depending on the action.

A.) Suggested Action: Establish a housing-focused transitional shelter with case management and access to health services, employment resources, ready-to-rent courses, and other assistance.

- **Existing Situation/Reason for Action:** In Ashland this service is currently provided primarily by OHRA, but that shelter cannot accept families with children or unaccompanied youth and currently has a waitlist consisting of 80+ households. Maslow Project also provides permanent supportive housing (long term housing with case management) for families with children, and lastly, Parker House provides transitional housing (short-term housing with case management) for single mothers with children. Ultimately, there is an estimated 230-300 unhoused individuals in Ashland, while the total number of beds available (according to the housing inventory count, which includes the facilities mentioned in Ashland is 117).

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- **What the City is already Doing:** The City has provided funding to both OHRA and Maslow Project, though not always specifically for shelter beds.
- **Other Actions/Considerations:** The City could fund the creation/development of additional shelter beds. The City could provide a location for a partner organization to set up and manage additional shelter beds.
- **Timeline for Potential Actions: Short Term/Mid-Term** funding the creation/development of additional shelter beds would be a short-term activity (though the creation/development of those beds would be a mid-term activity). Providing a location for a partner organization to set up and manage additional shelter beds would be a short-term activity, thought as above, there will be a longer timeframe for the shelter or transitional housing beds come on-line.

B.) Suggested Action: Expand street outreach services; ensure seamless connections to resources.

- **Existing Situation/Reason for Action:** The HSAR identified a lack of street outreach as a barrier to addressing issues of homelessness and connecting people experiencing homelessness to resources.
- **What the City is already Doing:** For many years the City has supported the OHRA Center, the OHRA laundry shower trailer and providers of community meals. APD currently conducts the most robust street outreach in the City.
- **Other Actions/Considerations:** In prior years, the City has provided funding to social service organizations to conduct targeted street outreach. The City could continue to support street outreach services through grant funds or directly for specific activities. The livability team model could also be considered.
- **Timeline for Potential Actions: Short-Term/Long-Term:** The City can easily provide funding to support partner agencies conduct outreach. Should the City move forward with any new outreach programming utilizing existing or new City staff, a program like that would be a longer-term project.

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