

City of Corona

400 S. Vicentia Ave.
Corona, CA 92882



Minutes - Draft

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

3:30 PM

Council Chambers

Study Session

**CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF THE
CITY OF
CORONA/CORONA PUBLIC FINANCING AUTHORITY/CORONA UTILITY
AUTHORITY/CORONA
HOUSING AUTHORITY MEETING**

**Jason Scott, Mayor
Jim Steiner, Vice Mayor
Yolanda Carrillo, Council Member
Jacque Casillas, Council Member
Wes Speake, Council Member**

** Updated Agenda - Added attachments to item 2A on January 22, 2019.**

Rollcall

Present: Jacque Casillas, Yolanda Carrillo, Jason Scott, Wes Speake, Jim Steiner

1. Call To Order

Mayor Scott called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

2. Agenda Items

A. [19-0066](#) Homelessness overview and discussion.

Michele Nissen, Assistant City Manager, introduced the item and the speakers. Ms. Nissen presented a PowerPoint highlighting the following: homelessness; Housing and Urban Development (HUD); annual homeless assessment report to Congress; sheltered versus unsheltered homeless in California; homelessness across the United States; Riverside County Point in Time (PIT) count data; forms of homelessness; PIT count volunteers; and path forward and next steps.

Lieutenant Auck, Homeless Outreach and Psychology Evaluation (HOPE) Team Commander for the Corona Police Department, provided an overview on the HOPE team. He discussed the following: HOPE Team mission; success stories; 2018 achievements; creating partnership; enforcement and abatement.

Brad Fieldhouse, President/Executive Director for City Net, provided an overview on City Net. He discussed the following: current homeless efforts; Orange County Flood Control Project; City Net role; resource allocation; Housing Matrix; City Net results; and implementing best practices.

Rod Williams, Corona Norco Rescue Mission, provided an overview on the Corona Norco Rescue Mission. He discussed the following: remodeling of the Corona facility; their approach; data on the services provided; contributions received by donors; and operational cost for the Corona Norco Rescue Mission. He introduced Sabrina who lives at the Corona Norco Rescue Mission. Sabrina shared her story and gratitude for the Corona Norco Rescue Mission.

Cheryl-Marie Hansberger, City of Riverside - Office of the Mayor, provided an overview on their Housing First Initiative. She discussed the following: Housing First, Riverside's process; Homeless Veterans; Love Your Neighbor Initiative; housing units for homeless families; sample of Housing First results; and lessons learned during the Housing First project.

Damien O' Farrell, President and CEO of Path of Life, provided an overview on the homeless services provided by the Path of Life Ministries. He discussed the following: Coachella Valley Housing First; story of success; multi-faceted issues; affordable housing; and coordinated encampment response.

Mayor Scott on behalf of the entire City Council thanked the speakers for their service and presentations.

Vice Mayor Steiner thanked Ms. Nissen and the speakers for their presentations. He discussed the Homeless Task Force efforts that were in place about 15 years ago. He noted that laws have changed, and the Council needs to rethink the approach. He discussed an upcoming meeting with Riverside County Homeless Coordinator, Natalie Kamuro, scheduled for January 28, 2019. He discussed bringing other cities within Riverside County together to work on homeless issues.

Council Member Casillas thanked Ms. Nissen and the speakers for their presentations. She also thanked Sabrina for sharing her story. She noted that a second Study Session is needed to continue with the homelessness discussion. She discussed the multi-faceted issues presented by Mr. O' Farrell from the Path of Life. Council Member Casillas also commented on the Trauma Informed Care presented by Mr. Fieldhouse from City Net. She discussed collaboration with local experts and moving forward doing the best the Council can for the homeless community.

Council Member Speake echoed his colleagues comments and thanked Ms. Nissen and the speakers for their presentation. He also thanked the community members for their attendance and participation. He noted that the discussion is off to a good start and there is a lot of work to do. He noted that he agreed with Ms. Hansberger's comment that there is not a single solution and everything needs to be tried. He discussed the community and faith-based groups involvement. He noted that he has several questions and will provide them to Ms. Nissen. He reported that he and Vice Mayor Steiner toured homeless shelters in Orange County. He discussed the Homelessness Recourse Committee created by Mayor Scott.

Council Member Carrillo also thanked the speakers for their presentation. She discussed the Riverside County PIT count data presented by Ms. Nissen. She inquired about the count for the youth being set for a different date and Ms. Nissen provided clarification. She commended the Library for the grant awarded by the California State Library for the Vet Connect service. She asked Abbie Schellberg, Library and Recreation Services

Assistant Director, to connect with the Norco College President to discuss their resources for veterans. She commented about working with the Corona-Norco School District, so they can provide students with information to help them sustain themselves after high school. She inquired about community involvement with the HOPE team. Chief Johnstone reported that the Police Department is working with City Net on the engagement. She inquired about the 100plus meetings held by the City of Riverside and Ms. Hansberger provided clarification. She inquired on how families are selected for the Housing First and the partnership with First Five. Mr. O'Farrell provided clarification. She also inquired about the number of people Corona Norco Rescue Mission can serve and Mr. Carin provided the information.

Council Member Speake inquired about the Corona Norco Rescue Mission's switch from women and children to families and Mr. Cain provided an update. Vice Mayor inquired about the number of residents living at the shelter that are from Corona and Mr. Cain provided the information.

Vice Mayor Steiner discussed the previous Homeless Task Force and their efforts in keeping God's Kitchen open. He also discussed the PIT count data and noted that he participated in the PIT count last year. He asked Lieutenant Auck for clarification regarding tents at City parks and Lieutenant Auck provided clarification. Vice Mayor Steiner noted that he participated on a ride-a-long with the HOPE team and discussed the contacts made during that time. He inquired about having Fire staff distribute the Homeless Information card and Chief Young responded that the Fire Department has partnered with the Police Department in joint efforts to provide the resource information. He inquired about the report from City Net regarding street exists. Ms. Nissen provided clarification and noted the information will be covered during the monthly updates to the Committee. Vice Mayor Steiner discussed having our community advocates merging with City Net. He inquired about the next steps and how to move forward.

Council Member Carrillo asked staff to identify City property that is available that can be used for possible homeless projects. She also announced that the Corona Chamber of Commerce will be hosting a Homeless meeting on January 24, 2019.

Mayor Scott inquired about the most common assistance provided by the HOPE team and the discussion regarding homeless pitching a tent at the park. Lieutenant Auck provided clarification. He thanked Ms. Nissen and the speakers again for their service and the information shared. He asked that City Net provide information on street exits during their future reports.

Council Member Speake commented on the discussion regarding the endangered species and clean up at the Prado Dam. He discussed the numerous organizations such as Regional Water Quality Control Board working on the issues in the Prado Dam area.

3. Public Comments

Joe Giehm, resident, addressed the Council regarding funding received by the City and homeless contacts. He thanked the Council and speakers for the Study Session and the information provided.

Virginia Coriddi, resident, addressed the Council and reported that she has been an advocate for five years. She thanked the Council for the Study Session. She noted that she looks forward to working with City Net.

Joe Morgan, resident, thanked Ms. Nissen for the presentation and expressed concern with comments made during her presentation. He discussed his concern with comments made regarding the Corona Norco Rescue Mission. He discussed and made inquiries regarding City Net. He commended Mayor Scott for establishing the Homelessness Resource Committee.

Karen Long, resident, addressed the Council and thanked the speakers for the information shared during the presentations. She expressed concerns with homeless with mental issues and homeless issues near her neighborhood. She expressed safety concerns.

Jacque Clanton, resident, addressed the Council and commended them for the Study Session. She expressed concerns with homeless issues near her neighborhood. She also discussed fire hazardous near her neighborhood caused by the homeless setting fires.

Vonya Quarks, resident, addressed the Council and thanked them for the Study Session. She provided an overview on her organization "Starting Over". She reported that she has been working with the homeless community since 2002. She discussed examining the policy that creates the condition for the unsheltered. She also expressed concerns with residents who have experience with working with the homeless and not being invited to the table.

Creiselda Terpoorten, resident, addressed the Council and discussed "Building a Beloved Corona" and their mission. She reported that they meet the first and third Tuesday of each month. She also discussed a resource fair that was held for the homeless community.

Tom Richins, resident, addressed the Council and stated that he is humbled to be a part of this Study Session. He thanked the Council for their service. He commended the City of Riverside representative for her service. He also commended the local advocates for their service.

Henna Jalal, resident, addressed the Council and thanked them for the Study Session. She stated that she has been feeding the homeless community for several years. She discussed the needs of the homeless community.

Yousue Bhahani, resident, addressed the Council and thanked them for the Study Session. He expressed his concerns with the PIT count data and how the count is conducted. He discussed resources to help people before they become homeless.

Ms. Nissen thanked the guest speakers for their participation. She addressed comments and concerns shared during Public Comment. Lieutenant Auck also provided clarification on comments made during Public Comment.

Council Member Speake encouraged community members to participate in the Homelessness Resource Committee meetings. Mayor Scott discussed two paths to move forward: host another Study Session or let the Committee meeting begin hosting meetings and bring the information back to the Council.

The Council discussed the next steps to move forward. The consensus was to move forward with the Homelessness Resource Committee meetings and bring updates back to a Study Session.

4. Adjournment

Mayor Scott adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.