



## OFFICE OF MAYOR DONNA DEEGAN

### HOMELESSNESS INITIATIVES COMMISSION

#### SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Friday, March 14, 2025

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

#### **Committee Members**

##### ***PRESENT:***

Shantel Davis  
Jitan Kuverji

Council Member Jimmy Peluso (Liaison)  
Commander James Ricks (Liaison)

##### ***ABSENT:***

Isaiah M. Oliver  
Christopher Crothers (Excused)  
Capt. Jennifer Parramore (Liaison)

Rev. Kate Moorehead Carroll (Excused)  
Jolita Wainwright (Excused)  
Dr. Megan Allyse

##### **COJ Support Staff:**

Kenny Logsdon  
Shannon MacGillis

Kaylee Jones

##### **Guests Present:**

Laila Darby, JH

Erika Cooper, Downtown Vision

**Meeting called to order by Shantel Davis, Board Chair, at 9:00. a.m.** Updated the agenda to reflect accurate meeting time. Acknowledged the lack of quorum.

##### **JFRD & JSO Updates:**

###### **Commander James Ricks**

- Difficulty finding public camping in District 3 for officer training.
- Mention of the Sarasota model for homelessness response and how it is similar to the circumstances and activities of Jacksonville.
- Continued concerns over lack of shelter beds.
- Sulzbacher Center received \$100K for additional security (initial request was \$100k, then Council Member Freeman requested to change it to \$200K).
- Concerns raised about the lack of accommodations for homeless individuals with disabilities. Suggestion to add handicapped-accessible rooms as an agenda item for the next meeting to obtain information from providers.

###### **Jitan Kuverji**

- Concern that publicly addressing the accessible bed issue could expose providers to potential ADA non-compliance risks and legal challenges.



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### **Funding & Legislation:**

#### Shannon MacGillis & Council Member Peluso

- No cases filed against the City regarding the anti-camping law.
- Council Member Freeman recommended the funds allocated to Sulzbacher come from the HIC fund, stating that he has placed \$200k of his contingency funds into the HIC account.
- Ultimately, Legislation 2025-0164 – moved \$100k to Sulzbacher for security.
- An argument for using this commission's funds is that it should receive approximately \$1.8M in October.
- Suggestion to extend the one-year strategic plan deadline to December (originally due March 31).
- Suggestion for HIC to provide a presentation to the City Council and Finance Committee to clarify funding needs.

### **Consultant – RFP:**

#### Kenny Logsdon

- RFP for a consultant was published with a submission deadline of March 31.

#### Council Member Peluso

- The approval process is expected to take approximately eight weeks.

#### Jitan Kuverji

- Emphasis on the need for an updated strategic plan (last study was seven years ago).

### **Public Comments:**

- No public comments were received.

### **Unfinished Business:**

- No unfinished business.

### **New Business:**

#### Shantel Davis

- Prepare and get approval for presentations to Council and Finance Committee.
- Requested that CM Peluso assist in legislation for an extension for the one-year strategic plan deadline.

**Meeting adjourned** at 9:39 a.m.

The next Meeting (Public) is scheduled for April 14, 2025, 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m., Ed Ball Building, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room 851.



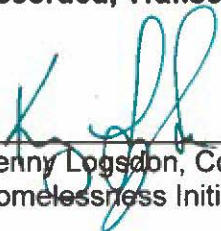
## OFFICE OF MAYOR DONNA DEEGAN

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### CERTIFICATION

#### Homelessness Initiatives Commission Special Meeting 14 March 2025

**Recorded, Transcribed and Submitted by:**

  
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Kerry Logsdon, Commission Staff  
Homelessness Initiatives Commission

**Approved by:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jitan Kuverji, Secretary  
Homelessness Initiatives Commission