



## Municipality of Anchorage

Housing, Homeless and Neighborhood Development (HHAND) Commission

Order of Business

Agenda

Wednesday April 01, 2026

4:00 – 5:30 PM

825 L Street Conf. Room #423

### Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 907-519-0237](tel:+19075190237), [327412486#](tel:+1327412486) United States, Anchorage

Phone Conference ID: 327 412 486#

#### HHAND COMMISSION MEMBERS

David Rittenberg, Chair

Michelle Baker

Julie Greene-Graham

Daniel Sager

Jessica Parks, Vice Chair

D. Sheneé Williams

Laura Reijns

Dr. Marvin Johnson

#### The procedure by which the public may speak to the Commission at its meeting is:

1. After the staff presentation is completed on public hearing items, the Chair will ask for public testimony on the issue.
2. Persons who wish to testify will follow the time limits established in the Commission Rules of Procedure.
  - a. Representatives of groups (community councils, PTA's etc.) - 5 minutes.
  - b. Individuals – 3 minutes.
3. When your testimony is complete, the Commission may ask you questions. You may only testify once on any issue unless questioned by the Commission.

*NOTE: Persons planning to testify before the commission will be requested to identify themselves at the beginning of the hearing. Members of the public are asked to mute themselves except when they are testifying or answering questions from the Commission.*

## **HHAND COMMISSION PURPOSE**

Advise the mayor and the assembly on issues related to long-and short-term housing, homeless and community development needs in the municipality, and strategies to effect revitalization of lower- income and at-risk neighborhoods. The commission shall:

1. Review and make recommendations on the proposed allocation of all federal, state, and municipal revenues targeted for housing and community development programs managed by the municipality.

2. Identify and address long-and short-term housing issues in Anchorage, including strategies to stabilize and monitor the housing market, achieve a range of housing options for sale and for rent and cost effective and socially responsible strategies to preserve or increase the supply of affordable housing.

3. Advise the mayor and assembly as to policies, practices and legislation which affect housing and community development issues, neighborhood revitalization strategies, and progress related to plans and programs goals.

4. Advise the planning and zoning commission about relevant housing and community development issues and their connection with land use controls.

5. Participate in the development and implementation of the housing and community development consolidated plan by providing information and policy advice about municipality's housing and community development needs and priorities.

6. Advise the mayor and assembly as to the infrastructure, facilities, transportation, and public services needs of lower-income and at-risk neighborhoods.

7. Facilitate public participation in housing and neighborhood revitalization policies, plans, strategies, and programs.

8. Coordinate with the Anchorage Continuum of Care in the development and implementation of the Anchorage plan to address homelessness.

9. Advise the mayor, and assembly on issues related to homelessness.

10. Report to the mayor and assembly on the progress of the Anchorage plan to address homelessness. The report shall be presented on or before June 1 of each year and shall include recommendations for specific actions to implement the plan.

- A.** Roll call
- B.** Approval of Order of Business
- C.** Approval of Minutes
- D.** Disclosures
- E.** Action Items
- F.** Informational Items
  - 1. Ongoing Business
    - a. Update from Housing and Homelessness
    - b. Update from Community Safety and Development
    - c. Update from the Mayor's Office
    - d. HHAND Annual Report Preparations
  - 2. New Business
- G.** General Public Comments
- H.** Commissioners Comments
- I.** Report

Adjournment - Next scheduled meeting is June 6, 2026.



**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE**  
**Housing, Homeless and Neighborhood**  
**Development (HHAND)**  
**Advisory Commission**  
**SUMMARY MINUTES**  
**March 04, 2026**



**Call to Order**

The Housing, Homeless and Neighborhood Development (HHAND) Advisory Commission meeting reached a quorum and was opened by Vice Chair Jessica Parks at 4:05 PM. The meeting was staffed by the Anchorage Health Department (AHD), Human Services Division (HSD), Community Safety and Development (CSD).

**A. Roll Call & Introductions** (*virtual attendance italicized*):

**Commissioners**

**Present:** Vice Chair Jessica Parks, *Michelle Baker*, Julie Greene-Graham, Daniel Sager, D. Sheneé Williams, Laura Reijns, Dr. Marvin Johnson

**Absent:** Chair Dave Rittenberg

**MOA Staff**

**AHD:** Darcie Montalvo, Human Services Division Manager; Jed Drolet, CSD Program Manager; Chase Burghgrave, CSD Lead Planner; Kyle Mielke, Community Development Specialist; Frankie Dahl, Senior Office Associate; *Leila Taylor*, Housing Services Division Manager; *Kimberly White*, Housing & Homelessness Program Manager

**Other Departments:** *Thea Agnew Bemben*, Special Assistant to the Mayor

**Guests or Presenters**

**B. Approval of Order of Business – Vice Chair entertained a motion to approve the agenda as presented.**

<b>MOTION:</b> Laura Reijns
<b>SECOND:</b> D. Sheneé Williams
<b>DISCUSSION:</b> None
<b>VOTE:</b> No Opposition

**C. Approval of January 2026 Minutes and February 2026 Informational Session Notes**

<b>MOTION:</b> Julie Greene-Graham
<b>SECOND:</b> Laura Reijns
<b>DISCUSSION:</b> None
<b>VOTE:</b> No Opposition

**D. Disclosures**

None

**E. Action Items**

**1. Review and approve a resolution in regard to sanctioned camping 2026:**

<b>MOTION:</b> Laura Reijns
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<b>SECOND:</b> D. Sheneé Williams
<b>DISCUSSION:</b>
<b>SUBSIDIARY MOTION to amend the resolution:</b> D. Sheneé Williams
<b>SECOND:</b> Dr. Marvin Johnson
<b>DISCUSSION:</b> The commission added a final whereas clause, stating: “WHEREAS, the HHAND Commission recognizes that sanctioned camping is not a permanent solution to address homelessness.”
<b>VOTE:</b> No Opposition
<b>VOTE:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vice Chair Jessica Parks: Yes</li> <li>• Commissioner Baker: Yes</li> <li>• Commissioner Greene-Graham: No</li> <li>• Commissioner Sager: Yes</li> <li>• Commissioner Williams: Yes</li> <li>• Commissioner Reijns: Yes</li> <li>• Commissioner Johnson: Yes</li> </ul>

**F. Informational Items**

1. Ongoing Business

- a. **Update from Housing and Homelessness:** Housing Services Division Manager Leila Taylor gave updates about the Microunits Program (Willow Commons), as well as cold weather surge beds at both the Linda’s Place and E 56<sup>th</sup> shelters.
- b. **Update from Community Safety and Development:** Program Manager Jed Drolet gave updates about a supportive housing services RFGP opening soon, the AHFC voucher program, and the public hearing for the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) and the 2026 Action plan on 3/18/2026.

<b>MOTION to amend the order of business, moving agenda item 1.d before item 1.c:</b> Dr. Marvin Johnson
<b>SECOND:</b> Daniel Sager
<b>DISCUSSION:</b> None
<b>VOTE:</b> No Opposition

- c. **Update from the Mayor’s Office:** Thea Agnew Bemben gave updates about the Anchorage Safety Center, efforts to support Typhoon Halong evacuees, a shelter book drive, and evaluating the feasibility of permanent residences using construction methods similar to those used for the Microunits project.

<b>MOTION to extend the meeting until 5:45 PM:</b> Dr. Marvin Johnson
<b>SECOND:</b> Daniel Sager
<b>DISCUSSION:</b> None
<b>VOTE:</b> No Opposition

- d. **Public Hearing for CSD’s Housing Repair and Rehabilitation Program:** Program Manager Jed Drolet presented on CSD’s upcoming Housing Repair and Rehabilitation Program. The program is currently in the appropriations stage, and they are looking for direct feedback from the community to shape the program.
1. Sam Longacre provided public comment
  2. Jamie Lopez provided public comment
  3. Loren Wilson provided public comment

**G. General Public Comments —**

None

**H. Commissioner Comments —**

1. Vice Chair Parks provided comment.

**I. Reports—**

None

**Vice Chair Parks entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:36 PM**

<b>MOTION to adjourn the meeting:</b> Dr. Marvin Johnson
<b>SECOND:</b> Julie Greene-Graham
<b>VOTE:</b> No Opposition

Meeting adjourned at 5:36 PM. The next HHAND Commission meeting is scheduled for April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026, from 4:00 – 5:30 pm., at 825 L Street, Conference Room #423, and through Microsoft Teams.

# Housing, Homeless and Neighborhood Development (HHAND) Commission

## 2024 Annual Report

Submitted: June 05, 2025

### Executive Summary

In 2024, the HHAND Commission navigated through a period of significant transition and rebuilding. Following substantial turnover in 2023 and 2024, the Commission was reconstituted with a diverse group of new and returning members, bringing renewed energy and a commitment to public service. Despite the challenges of onboarding and reestablishing regular operations, the Commission remained focused on its mission to advise the Mayor and Assembly on housing, homelessness, and neighborhood development priorities.

In alignment with the Anchored Home Plan, the Mayor's 2025 Homelessness and Health Strategy, and the 10K Housing Strategy, HHAND looks forward to prioritizing community engagement, strategic collaboration, and policy development to advance solutions for Anchorage's most urgent housing challenges.

### 1. Commission Purpose and Mandate

As outlined in Municipal Code AMC 4.60.265 and informed by its 2014 foundational goals, HHAND is charged with:

- Recommending long- and short-term strategies to increase access to affordable housing.
- Supporting the development of the HUD-required Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan.
- Encouraging community participation in neighborhood revitalization efforts.
- Partnering with the Continuum of Care (CoC) to address homelessness.
- Advising the Mayor and Assembly on progress toward Anchorage's housing and homelessness goals.

### 2. 2024 Activities and Highlights

#### A. Commission Rebuilding and Reengagement

2024 marked a transformative period for the HHAND Commission. Due to multiple member resignations and term expirations in 2023, the Commission operated with limited quorum for several months. By the end of 2024, recruitment efforts led to the appointment of new members with professional and lived experience across housing development, service provision, planning, and community organizing and a renewed commitment to active governance and public accountability was established.

## B. Site Visits and Learning Exchanges

- Conducted tours of Brother Francis Shelter and the 3rd Avenue Navigation Center along with other shelter programs.
- Met with providers to discuss barriers to housing navigation and data tracking.
- Heard presentations from housing projects like the Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness's Next Step rapid rehousing project.

## C. Public Hearings and Plan Review

- Participated in the public review and comment process for the 2024 Annual Action Plan.
- Provided comments on CDBG and HOME priorities.

## D. Engagement with Community Stakeholders

- Heard presentations from neighborhood organizations and community councils.
- Facilitated a conversation with Solid Waste Services regarding bear activity and trash collection services in neighborhoods.

## E. Collaboration with the Continuum of Care (CoC)

- Received a presentation on the Anchored Home 2023-2028 implementation.
- Received data presentations and discussion with CoC Lead Agency/Collaborative Applicant.

# 3. 2025 Recommendations and Goals with Actions

## Goal 1: Enhanced Data Analysis and Use

- Monitor and discuss public dashboards showing inflow and outflow of our community's Homeless Prevention and Response System (HPRS).
- Request regular reports from ACEH and MOA staff on strategy outcomes.

## Goal 2: Support Affordable Housing Development

- Make recommendations of strategic direction and allocations under the HUD Action Plan to develop affordable housing.
- Provide input on implementation of 10K Homes strategy.
- Request updates on zoning reform and Title 21 changes.

## Goal 3: Strengthen Partnerships with Community Councils and Stakeholders

- Establish regular feedback from Community Councils.
- Include Community Council Federation reps in any established advisory groups.
- Provide regular feedback and recommendations to the Assembly via the Housing and Homelessness Committee.

## Goal 4: Provide Feedback and Recommendations on HUD Action Plan

- Formalize review of Consolidated and Annual Action Plans.

- Submit written feedback aligned with Commission goals.
- Collaborate with AHD to reflect HHAND priorities in submissions.

## Goal 5: Coordinate Implementation of Anchored Home with the CoC

- Receive regular reports from CoC Governance Board.
- Align priorities with Anchored Home's prevention and housing goals.
- And create clarity and alignment with all providers participating in the continuum of care.

## 4. Policy Alignment

- Anchored Home: 2023–2028 — HHAND's system-building focus aligns with Anchored Home.
- Mayor's 2025 Homelessness and Health Strategy — HHAND supports expanded shelter and housing resources.
- 10K Homes Strategy — HHAND supports policy tools to meet 10,000-unit housing goal by 2035.

## 5. Conclusion

The HHAND Commission emerged from a challenging transition period in 2024 as a more engaged, diverse, and effective advisory body. With strong leadership, renewed structure, and a strong alignment with municipal strategies, the Commission has reestablished itself as a vital partner in Anchorage's housing and homelessness response.

This report was adopted unanimously at the HHAND Commission meeting June 4, 2025. We respectfully submit this report in service to our community and in support of a just, safe, and housed Anchorage.



David Rittenberg

HHAND Commission Chair

## Additional Resources:

- HHAND Commission Webpage:  
<https://www.muni.org/Departments/health/PHIP/CSD/pages/hand.aspx>
- Anchored Home Plan: <https://aceh.org/anchored-home>
- Mayor's Homelessness and Health Strategy 2025:  
<https://www.muni.org/Departments/Mayor/Documents/Priorities/Homelessness%20and%20Health%20Strategy%202025.pdf>
- Mayor's 10K Homes Strategy:  
<https://www.muni.org/Departments/Mayor/Documents/Priorities/10K%20Homes%20IV.pdf>