



City of Richmond

900 East Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219
www.rva.gov/office-city-clerk

Draft Meeting Minutes Education and Human Services Standing Committee

Thursday, November 13, 2025

2:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall

Committee and Other Council Members In Attendance

The Honorable Stephanie Lynch - Chair
The Honorable Andrew Breton - Vice Chair
The Honorable Nicole Jones - Member

Staff in Attendance

Kiley Kesecker, Deputy City Clerk
Kimberly Morris, Assistant City Clerk
Pamela Nichols, Council Management Analyst
Janet Palmer, Deputy City Attorney
Will Perkins, Senior Council Legislative Services Manager
Candice Reid, City Clerk

Call to Order

Chair Stephanie Lynch called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m., and presided.

Chamber Emergency Evacuation Plan Announcement and Public Speaker Guidelines

Upon the Chair's request, Assistant City Clerk Kimberly Morris provided information on the appropriate way to evacuate the Council Chamber in an emergency along with public speaker guidelines.

Public Comment Period

There were no public comment speakers.

Discussion Item(s)

Richmond Public Schools (RPS) Updates

Jason Kamras, RPS Superintendent, provided the committee with an update regarding the Virginia Department of Education's accountability system, the master facilities plan, collective bargaining, and a summary of academic success.

Chair Stephanie Lynch asked when the facilities master plan would be completed, and if Superintendent Kamras could provide an update in early 2026.

Superintendent Kamras stated the plan would take about a year from now, and he would provide the committee with updates as the master plan progresses.

Update from the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer (DCAO) for Human Services

Amy Popovich, DCAO for Human Services, provided the committee with updates regarding food distribution efforts during the federal government shutdown.

Chair Stephanie Lynch suggested discussing the city's contract with the Salvation Army for its operation of the inclement weather shelter, at the December committee meeting.

DCAO Popovich stated she had been in contact with Home Again and the Salvation Army regarding the city's contracts with the respective organizations.

Presentation(s)

Gun Violence Prevention Efforts

Greg Hopkins, Interim Director of the Department of Justice Services, provided the committee with a presentation regarding gun violence prevention efforts, crime analysis, and current initiatives.

[CD.2025.339](#) Gun Violence Prevention Efforts

Attachments: [OGVP Nov EHS Export 2](#)

Chair Stephanie Lynch asked how many youth were in both foster care and juvenile systems. She stated her concerns regarding the discontinuation of state services that were critical to gun violence intervention.

Interim Director Greg Hopkins stated he would provide that information to the committee.

Vice Chair Nicole Jones stated time would be needed to see results from the work put into gun violence prevention efforts. She asked if efforts were aimed at intervention or prevention.

Interim Director Hopkins stated the goal of the steering committee was to implement the work as stated, and also prevention.

Member Andrew Breton suggested a dashboard to measure the success of gun violence prevention efforts. He asked why there weren't enough programs for adults, and if the city has an advocacy program like other cities.

Interim Director Hopkins stated there were programs for adults; however, that there were not as many as there are for juveniles. He stated they would look into implementing a gun violence dashboard, and that the city had multiple drivers which would make an advocacy program difficult.

Member Breton praised the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Program.

Paper(s) for Consideration

The following ordinance was considered:

1. [RES. 2025-R041](#) To approve the City of Richmond Plan of Services under the Virginia Juvenile Community Crime Control Act.

Patrons: Mayor Avula

Attachments: [Res. No. 2025-R041](#)

Forwarded to the December 8, 2025 Council meeting with recommendation to approve

Greg Hopkins, Interim Director of the Department of Justice Services, provided an introduction and additional background information regarding the proposed resolution. He stated the resolution consists of a host of programs implemented to support juveniles in the city of Richmond.

Public Hearing

Craig Jones addressed the committee and spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to the proposed resolution.

Chair Stephanie Lynch asked how justice services providers were being compensated.

Interim Director Hopkins stated providers were contracted and compensated through the state and the city.

Vice Chair Nicole Jones asked if youth were integrated into existing programs or if new programs were created. She also asked how partners were funded.

Interim Director Hopkins stated individual service plans were based on youths' risk and needs. He stated extra resources were used in other areas, such as group homes or assessments.

Member Andrew Breton asked if this was the right plan according to the budget level, and if there was a better plan with a larger fund amount.

Interim Director Hopkins stated the plan was already approved by the state, and a second approval will need to be made by local government.

Chair Lynch stated the importance of having programming in place in the community.

There were no further comments or discussions and Vice Chair Nicole Jones moved to forward RES. 2025-041 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and approved: Ayes 3, Breton, Jones and Lynch. Noes, 0.

Board Vacancies

There were no board vacancies.

Approval of Minutes

There were no amendments or corrections to the meeting minutes of October 9, 2025, and the committee approved the minutes as presented.

[CD.2025.349](#) October 9, 2025 - Education & Human Services Standing Committee Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [20251009 EHS Minutes](#)

Staff Report

Council staff provided the committee with the November Education and Human Services Standing Committee staff report.

[CD.2025.360](#) Education & Human Services Standing Committee Staff Report November 13, 2025

Attachments: [November 2025 EHS Committee Mtg Prep](#)

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.