



Richmond City Council

The Voice of the People

Richmond, Virginia

Office of the Council Chief of Staff

Education & Human Services Standing Committee

July 10, 2025

Prep Document for Committee Members

Previous Meeting: June 12, 2025

Next Meeting: September 11, 2025

July Meeting Agenda Overview:

- [Ord. 2025-163](#) (Avula; \$309,000 to CARITAS for Surge Shelter Operations)
- Discussion Item: DCAO HS on Follow-up from March 2025 Homeless Services Stakeholder Meeting

September Meeting Preview (Thu, 9/11)

- DSS on Metrics for Customer Service
- OC&F and DNCS on OST and Positive Youth Development Fund

Ordinances & Resolutions for Consideration

1. Ordinance No. 2025-163

Patron Mayor Avula

Title: To amend Ord. No. 2025-057, adopted May 12, 2025, which adopted the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 General Fund Budget and made appropriations thereto, by (i) transferring \$200,000.00 from the Outside Agencies and Central Appropriations agency Heart of Richmond line item in the Outside Agencies and Central Appropriations agency, (ii) transferring \$109,000.00 from the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services, (iii) creating a new line item in the Outside Agencies and Central Appropriations agency called "CARITAS (Surge Shelter Operations)" and (iv) appropriating such transferred funds in the amount of \$309,000.00 to such new line item in the Outside Agencies and Central Appropriations agency for the purpose of providing surge overflow shelter operations during inclement winter weather season.

Notes:

- Reappropriates \$309,000 in FY25-26 budget into a new CARITAS (Surge Shelter Operations) line item in the non-departmental agency budget.
- 106-bed inclement weather shelter (IWS) is operated by Salvation Army at 1900 Chamberlayne Avenue (3rd District).
- Temporary overflow shelter was activated four times in January/February 2025 for a total of 28 nights. Space was at DSS building (900 E. Marshall St.) and staffed by City employees and non-profit Daily Planet.
- Funding provided here ensures staffing and plans in place along with coordination with surrounding counties via CARITAS, which operates two year-round emergency shelters for men and women.
- CARITAS will add three FTEs: (1) shelter and surge director; (2) a housing navigator, and (3) a case manager to serve and place 50 more people.
- Funding will also support temporary 60-bed overflow at a CARITAS building to be open an additional thirty, 24-hour periods between December & March 2026.

Potential Questions:

- The overflow shelter will be at 2220 Stockton Street. How accessible is this location? What is the communication plan for promoting when it's open?
- Can you explain the % cost breakdown by locality and how that was determined? How do we know that Richmond = 50% of area unsheltered?
- Can you elaborate on the \$100,000 available to "help shelter guests resolve financial difficulties that prevent them from finding or returning to more stable housing arrangements?"

DCAO HS on Follow-up from March 2025 Homeless Services Stakeholder Meeting

Four Goals from March Meeting

1. Have a plan (budget allocation, location(s), and plan for additional bed capacity) in place for both single adults and families by July of this year.
2. Create a roster of volunteers and stakeholders that are willing to support Inclement Weather Shelter activities (via Salvation Army or otherwise).
3. Clearly identify roles, titles and responsibilities for city officials and departments working in the homeless services space (org chart mapping across various departments) and post on public website.
4. Better leverage partnerships and expand collaboration with outside stakeholder groups, nonprofits, faith-based organizations, and other providers interested in supporting the Community Resource Center (the City of Richmond services hub co-located with the Salvation Army).

Potential Questions:

- What is the plan for inclement weather shelter this year?
- Will we offer the same number of beds for single adults and families?
- What is the plan for emergency sheltering?
- Is there money set aside in the budget for emergency sheltering?
- How will you leverage volunteers & non-profits to expand our reach?
- Have we hired a full-time homeless services manager within DNCS?
- What else needs to be thought through prior to November?