

**HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION**  
**Minutes Commission Regular Meeting**  
**December 12, 2024**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Gabriela Lopez-Vazquez called the meeting to order at 6:37 pm.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Commissioners Kobey Sage Chew, Cristian Liu, Gildas Cheung, Jory Hamilton, Vice Chair Sriram Rajagopalan, and Chair Gaby Lopez-Vasquez

Commissioner Melantha Jenkins arrived at 6:50pm

Absent Commissioners: Chloe Sow

Staff Present: Human Services Coordinators Anny Smith and Amanda Judd Human Services Coordinator; Homeless Outreach Coordinator Meli Paulo

Meeting Recorder: Human Services Coordinator Amanda Judd

**3. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Amanda Judd, Human Services Coordinator, read the land acknowledgment.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chair Gabriela Lopez-Vazquez requested a motion to approve the October 22, 2024 minutes. Vice Chair Sriram Rajagopalan motioned for approval. Commissioner Kobey Sage Chew seconded. Motion carried (Yes: 5 No: 0 Abstain: 1).

**5. ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

None

**6. BUSINESS**

a. 2025-2026 Human Services Grant Funding Recommendations Update

Human Services Coordinator Anny Smith updated Commissioners on City Council's adoption of the 25-26 Budget at the 12/10/24 City Council meeting and highlighted the historic amount of funding allocated to Human Services programs. Human Services Coordinator Anny Smith also provided an overview of the next steps of Human Services staff developing the 25-26 contracts and incorporating advanced payments to funded agencies.

b. 2025 Human Services Commission Workplan

Human Services Coordinator Anny Smith shared information on joint Special Meeting with City of Redmond in January and reviewed tentatively planned panels for 2025 as well as

Commissioner responsibilities in the 2025 workplan.

## **7. COMMUNICATIONS**

### **a. Commissioner Reports**

- Vice Chair Sriram Rajagopalan shared his experience attending the King County Behavioral Health Legislative Forum and reviewed highlighted topics that have direct ties to the Kirkland community.
- Commissioner Melantha Jenkins shared that she recently graduated from the Kirkland Initiative and highlighted how much she enjoyed the experience and encouraged other Commissioners to participate in the future.
- Commissioner Gildas Cheung shared information about Public Charge.
- Commissioner Jory Hamilton shared a volunteer opportunity that he will send more information about to the Commissioners.
- Commissioner Kobey Sage Chew shared information about Evergreen Health Levy Lid Lift proposal.
- Commissioner Gaby Lopez-Vasquez shared experiences participating in Asylum and Immigration support services.

### **b. Staff Reports & Announcements**

- Human Services Coordinator Amanda Judd shared an after-action update on recent severe cold weather event and emergency hotel voucher activation as well as the City's response to the extended power outages.

## **8. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Gabriela Lopez-Vazquez asked for a motion to adjourn meeting. Commissioner Jori Hamilton motioned and was seconded by Commissioner Gildas Cheung. Meeting was adjourned at 7:41pm.