



Homeless Services  
Panel of Experts

CONSENT CALENDAR  
September 12, 2023

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
 From: Homeless Services Panel of Experts  
 Submitted by: Carole Marasovic, Acting Chair, Homeless Services Panel of Experts  
 Subject: Authorization for an Additional Homeless Services Panel of Experts meeting in October 2023

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing one additional meeting of the Homeless Services Panel of Experts in October 2023, which would restore one general meeting given that 3 special meetings were otherwise used to address Measure P allocations.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

The only fiscal impacts are the cost of the room rental for commission meetings and commission stipends for those commissioners who financially qualify.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The ordinance mandating the number of commission meetings allotted each year provides for only 10 meetings per calendar year without returning to Council for approval for additional meetings.

In order for the Homeless Services Panel of Experts (HSPE) to review and make Measure P recommendations to meet Council's deadlines, three special meetings were held.

In January, 2024, HSPE will be conducting an intensive review of funding proposals under the community agency allocation funding process. Due to the three special meetings that had to be called, without the restoration of one regular monthly meeting, HSPE would not have an opportunity to meet between August-December to discuss homeless policy and make recommendations to Council. As such, HSPE would not have any meetings for the last five months in 2023. Without the granting of one additional meeting, HSPE would not meet until January, 2024 when they will be involved in the community agency allocation process reviewing and scoring funding proposals.

During the current funding process, HSPE believes that they need additional information brought to them by staff and to have fact-gathering and exploratory discussions

Restore one monthly meeting of HSPE

CONSENT CALENDAR  
September 12, 2023

between funding cycles. This cannot be done without the addition of an eleventh meeting this October.

#### BACKGROUND

On June 7, 2023, the Homeless Services Panel of Experts passed the following motion:

**Action:** M/S/C Meany/Marasovic move to restore 1 monthly meeting of Homeless Services Panel of Experts in order to conduct regular monthly meetings in October.

**Vote:** Ayes: Meany, Kealoha-Blake, Bookstein, and Marasovic.  
Noes: Hynes. Abstain: None. Absent: Feller, Jones, Wachspres (Leave of absence).

#### ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

There are no significant environmental effects.

#### RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Homeless Services Panel of Experts is entrusted with not only making recommendations for funding but also to know the full landscape of homeless services in Berkeley and to recognize gaps that need to be addressed. The Homeless Services Panel of Experts is also entrusted with making policy recommendations even more under its mandate since the Homeless Commission was folded into HSPE. In order to do so, HSPE needs Council's approval to be able to conduct one additional monthly meeting in October 2023, if granted it will be the only meeting during the last five months of 2023.

#### ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

To not have 1 meeting restored so that HSPE cannot secure information needed to fulfill their mandated responsibilities and not make any policy recommendations to Council.

#### CITY MANAGER

The City Manager takes no position on the content and recommendations of the Commission's report.

#### CONTACT PERSON

Josh Jacobs, Homeless Services Coordinator, Neighborhood Services, (510) 225-5435

Attachments:

1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

AUTHORIZING (1) ADDITIONAL MEETING FOR  
THE HOMELESS SERVICES PANEL OF EXPERTS

Whereas, Resolution No. 68,258-N.S. stipulates how many annual meetings are allowed for Berkeley's commissions and places the Homeless Commission in Category B, with a maximum of 10 meetings per year; and

Whereas, the Homeless Services Panel of Experts was created to continue the ongoing function previously performed by the Homeless Commission pursuant to BMC 7.52.190(J), and no updated resolution has been passed giving authority to the Homeless Services Panel of Experts to hold more than 10 meetings; and

Whereas, the Homeless Services Panel of Experts plans to hold an additional meeting in October for the purpose of conducting fact finding, discussing policy, and making recommendations to City Council.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the Council authorizes one additional meeting in 2023 for the Homeless Services Panel of Experts.

