

Ventura Social Services Task Force - Agenda April 1, 2026

- I. Welcome and Introductions -John Jones/ Chair; Judy Alexandre/Asst Chair, Housing Coalition; Leann Mastrella/VC Health Services (replaced Chris Russell), Andrea Palmer Vent City & Housing Ops Made easier Housing; Cathy Nye VCOE/Homelessness Ed Program, Housing Trust Fund Board – retiring Nov12; Sue Brinkmeyer, VHP chair; Espy Durazo – Ven CO Homelessness Services (covering for Javier Solois); Claire Triplett ACC/ Indy Living TO, Emily Bridges – ACC/ Housing & Resource – Ventura; Kappy Paulson – LUYV, & One Stop mailroom
- II. Approval of or changes to the minutes of 3/4/26 Move – Alexandre; 2nd - Palmer
- III. Approval of or changes to the agenda of 4/1/26 Move – Alexandre; 2nd- Jones
- IV. Updates from City of Ventura: grants, housing, advocacy needs, actions taken (Andrea Palmer)
 - Housing Element Item – Prog 19 to expand on the Zone text amendment to expand emergency shelter, Tx shelter, single room occupancy, supportive housing, city group facilities. Now only one zone in the industrial area where The Arch is located is approved now. Our Place (14 units) has a conditional use permit. Want to create larger overlays over the city. Allows for new developments permit process streamlining; Goes to Planning 4/22. Also, in-lieu fees will be discussed at that meeting. Please speak at the meeting. City Center is not an emergency shelter & it is Tx housing but is private for a specific population. Hoping to change Tx to go up to 24 months. Requested talking points but Andrea may not be permitted
 - Pro housing designation – State designation program to gain extra points for grants. Drafting HCD doc and it will go through several iterations, then to council Pro Housing Incentive Program (PIP) Grant funds has millions in the grant for future housing development
 - Fair Housing Workshop 2/22 lunchtime at VC Museum through VCCR – Forum, Fair Housing Workshop VCCR 4/16 City Hall. Send into to Judy to distribute to list
 - Planning Thompson Court – Market Rate housing with some incl housing.
 - Rental assistance -HUD funded, remaining COVID funds. Must have some connection to COVID, e.g. rental housing, utilities. Deposit w/income requirements through 30 June
 - Fair Housing Assistance @ Housing Rights Center – Tues & Thurs.
 - Encampment resolution \$ - relocating folks to permanent housing. Santa Clara → Motel 6 → permanent housing; 28 people & 2 in pipeline.
 - No HHS in April, May is next meeting
 - College Comm Court is receiving HOME funds changing the year for transparency need council approval
 - Safe sleep on hold. Cost to manage
- V. Updates from the COC: grants, Point In Time count, others
 - Press release sent about PiT count. There was a reduction. Possible undercount because people don't want to be found.
 - Federal HUD broke law when impose restrictions on groups seeking CoC funds. Another one Seems like more recent court rulings are pushing back
- VI. Final approval of tenant protections (Andrea or Kristian Nunez) – No updates
 - New antiharassment ordinance went into effect 3/19/2027
- VII. Council Housing and Homeless Subcommittee (Judy Alexandre, Andrea)

- Meeting was changed from normal
- CDBG funds – short March meeting
- Safe Sleep - no updates – POC is Maruha –
- Leona’s job reopened

VIII. Strategy Planning for goal implementation (Judy and John Jones)

- Listed below and expecting a super El Nino next year
- Did not seem that people wanted to prioritize any over another. John wants to whittle down to 3: 1- Expand Winter shelter to full time; 2 – if can do first, expand activation criteria for foul weather shelter; 3. RV w/ dumping
 - .i. Judy will talk to Homes for all on the housing advocacy piece.
 - .ii. Brenda Lopez replaced Emilio Ramirez in Oxnard as Dir of Housing
 - .iii. Consider 2 smaller faith-based orgs to provide housing season-round shelter. Judy will check with Grace Church to see if they can offer their site
- How does ACC Claire & Emily find housing? – Difficult Many clients can’t afford the available. Cathy; Does staying in a hotel exempt people from staying in a hotel. Espe responded – Depending on how they got placed into the hotel, they can keep “literally” or “chronically” homeless status also depends on the funding for the stay. If they are paying for the hotel then they lose status.
 - .i. Suggest that we advocate for One Stop Homeless Services to encourage people to connect with a housing advocate/Case Manger to have a better chance of being considered for housing. The person needs to call the Case managers because their case load is huge. Squeaky wheel get access. Tell then the next step, many don’t know HOW to advocate for self. Clients lose phones
 - .ii. Get Data for city Council - # people on waiting lists, # who get housed, can we quantify those who gave up.
 - .iii. Judy invited Claire & Emily to join the group meeting about every 6 weeks. Judy will send the info.
 - .iv. Tell City Council stories about people. But also can we get data from HMIS?
 - .v. Emily recommended people ask Housing Authority contact if there are other options not available to public. Apply to other resources.

IX. "There's No Place Like Home" - Saturday April 18 = 1:00 to 3:00 PM - UU Church of Ventura- 5654 Ralston St (Sue Brinkmeyer) – Paying rent once to hold over so they can stay in housing. They help ~ 8 households /month, ~ 14 How to support: Buy ticket, donate, auction

- NOTE This is where my internet feed failed & I got booted off. It is also approx. where the recording failed to load

X. Housing updates, bond measure (Karen Flock, Kyler Carlson, other)

- 119 leased, 134 expected when full, 100% occupancy by end of April

XI. Report from agencies....we want and need to hear from you. 4/10/2026 Gold Coast – PiT and health care

Motion to adjourn until 5/6/26 at 3:15 via zoom (John Jones)