

AGENDA

1. ROLL CALL: Fox, Ralston Aoki, Lee, Smith, Nailon, Kirkeeng, Murphy, Dlugose
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
3. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES
 - A. Approval of minutes from 9/25/25 HRC meeting
4. CHAIR REPORT
 - A. Vice Chair report
5. OLD BUSINESS
 - A. Camping on public property ban proposed ordinance—feedback to City Council
 - B. Feedback on immigration rights draft educational material
 - C. Annual report
6. NEW BUSINESS
7. COMMISSIONER REPORTS:
8. OTHER BUSINESS
9. ADJOURNMENT

MINUTES

ROLL CALL

Present: Ralston Aoki, Kirkeeng, Lee, Nailon, Murphy, Fox, Smith.

Absent: Dlugose

City Liaison: Brookes

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve agenda: Nailon

Second: Lee

Motion carried.

Ice breaker: favorite fall food or activity.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

A. Review minutes of meeting August 26, 2025.

Motion to approve minutes of August 26, 2025: Kirkeeng

Second: Nailon

Motion carried.

CHAIR REPORT

Ralston Aoki:

1. Federal administration is requiring certain ordinances in order to approve certain grants to cities.
2. Attended Golden Valley event on Sept 18: Building an Equitable Golden Valley. They are also putting on an immigrant awareness information session on Oct 15.
3. Would be good to have representation at the Cultural Placemaking events for the Blue Line Light Rail (October 22 and another date in November 19) at Elim Lutheran Church.
4. Today is National Indian Day.

Vice Chair Report

Kirkeeng:

Reminder that MHRA protects 13 classes, important to recognize the legal definition of discrimination and hate.

OLD BUSINESS

A. RPHC work and community engagement

- South Halifax Park event
- Lilac Parkway building meeting
- Immigration law event

- Sanborn Park renaming

1. **South Halifax Park:** Event has been tabled for now due to lack of funding.
2. **Lilac Parkway:** Smith met with manager. Learned there is security in the building. Primary issue is unauthorized entry into the building. Evidence of drug use nearby. But building is still considered quite safe. Phillip Gray will be running bingo at the building. Residents request park bench near new water tower because older residents walk the path from the highway to the lake and want to take a break along the way. Requested apartment renter's advisory council among Robbinsdale apartment complexes. Wednesdays or Thursdays, later afternoon (3-6 pm) with 2 week notice would work. Residents enjoyed the last meeting and would come to another one. Next steps: draft memo for next meeting about park bench, additional meeting with residents about renter's advisory council. Smith and Kirkeeng will arrange the meeting.
3. **Immigration Law event:** Murphy has list of potential speakers. Many resources online as well. May be easier to create handouts for distribution. Murphy will create handout.
4. **Sanborn Park renaming:** will be discussed at Parks & Forestry Commission meeting.

B. Recap of Main Street Meet & Greet event on 9/15/2025

Meet and Greet: Many people stopped by to chat and learn about our work.

C. Camping on public property ban proposed ordinance- Feedback to City Council

Ralston Aoki: Council has asked for feedback on the ordinance that did not pass in July.

Motion for Subcommittee on Unhoused Policy to discuss and draft comments for October 22: Fox
Second: Kirkeeng

Motion carried.

D. DEI Commission Forum event in Minnetonka

Reminder of this event on Sept 30 from 6-8 pm at the Minnetonka Community Center.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Process for creating annual report to City Council

Plan to start October 23 meeting at 6:00 pm to develop the report.

Topics: Community Outreach, Policy, Events, Collaborations, Public Awareness, Other

B. Planning for next year

Tentatively plan for early December. Will stand for both November and December meetings.

C. Boo Bash

Boo Bash is Friday, Oct 3 from 5-7. Ralston Aoki and Lee can attend. Use refreshments from Obergefell event.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

No updates.

Brookes: would like to write about apartment building outreach for trade publication.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ralston Aoki: MLK Breakfast sponsored by Interfaith Action in partnership with JCPP. 25th anniversary in 2026.

Motion to partner with JCPP and Elim Lutheran on 2026 event: Nailon
Second: Lee

Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

about 9:00 pm.

City of Robbinsdale – Human Rights Commission (HRC)

Subcommittee Meeting Notes

Date: Saturday, October 11, 2025

Time: 11:15 AM – 1:15 PM

Location: Manor Park

Attendees: Patrick, Matt, Julie, Courtney

Meeting Purpose

To review draft language and provide feedback on the proposed *unhoused ordinance*, discuss alignment with RPD policy, and outline next steps for research, recommendations, and presentation.

Meeting Discussion

Document Review:

- Handouts provided by Julie, Matt, and Courtney.
- Began by reviewing existing materials and compiling a working draft for proposed ordinance feedback.
- Emphasized aligning recommendations with Robbinsdale Police Department (RPD) policy.

Case Discussion:

- Shared example of a veteran with available resources who still took two months to find stable housing, illustrating systemic barriers and the need for data-driven policy.

Tiered Recommendation Framework:

The subcommittee began outlining a multi-tiered approach for HRC's recommendation to the City Council:

1. Tier 1 – Data and Pilot Study

- Recommend a 1–2 year pilot study to collect local data and determine if such an ordinance is necessary.
- Focus areas: availability and accessibility of beds, police response protocols, and training related to homelessness.
- Reinforce the HRC's position that the necessity of this ordinance must be challenged until adequate data is available.

2. Tier 2 – Advisory Group

- Propose formation of an advisory group including external stakeholders (social services, housing organizations, public safety, and community representatives).

3. Tier 3 – People-Centered Social Services

- Recommend investment in social service infrastructure as a proactive alternative to punitive ordinance measures.

4. Tier 4 – Human Rights Integration

- Explore incorporating the Minnesota Human Rights Act into policy framework.
- Note: This would require case law research—may not be feasible for current HRC capacity.

Key Questions Identified

- How long does it typically take to find a shelter bed?
- Are housing resources more accessible for specific populations (veterans, women, children, etc.)?
- What are best practices for removal-day processes?
- What happens to individuals' pets during enforcement or relocation?

- What exceptions or emergency clauses exist in comparable ordinances?

Next Steps

- Julie: Will compile and format the subcommittee's draft feedback into a city-ready document.
- All Members: Review Julie's document and provide comments or edits.
- Courtney: Research open questions (bed availability, population accessibility, best practices).
- Courtney: Send recap notes to the subcommittee and Joanna.

Meeting adjourned at 1:15 PM.

Here are **examples of city laws and policies on unhoused/homeless camping on public property**, based on your attached Robbinsdale Human Rights Commission document and the *National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty's* "Encampment Principles and Practices" guide (linked in your message):

1. Robbinsdale, Minnesota (Proposed Ordinance, 2025)

Ordinance Section 930 – Camping on City Property (Proposed Amendment)

- Prohibits “any tent, lean-to, shack, temporary shelter, house trailer, or camp trailer” on **any city-owned property, street, or right-of-way**.
- Allows the city or contractors to **remove or dispose of structures and property** without notice.
- Because no penalty section is specified, a violation defaults to a **misdemeanor** under City Code §115.
- The **Human Rights Commission (HRC)** objected, stating this effectively **criminalizes homelessness**, and urged revisions including:
 - **Advance notice** (72 hours–2 weeks) before removal.
 - **Outreach/social worker contact** before displacement.
 - **Safe handling and return of belongings**.
 - **Exceptions for extreme weather**.
 - **Regular public reporting** on enforcement actions.

(See HRC Public Comment, July 9, 2025, and RPD Policy 428, Robbinsdale Police Department.)

2. Minneapolis, Minnesota

- City's **Homeless Encampment Closures Directive (2023)** requires:

- **72-hour minimum written notice** before removal, unless there is a health/safety hazard.
 - Coordination with outreach workers and service providers.
 - Storage and cataloging of personal property.
 - Source: [Homeless Encampment Closures Legislative Directive Response \(Apr 11, 2023\)](#).
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3. Washington, D.C.

- **Encampment Protocol (2021)** requires:
 - **14 days' notice** before clearing encampments.
 - Posting public signage with date/time of cleanup.
 - Storage and retrieval of property for at least **60 days**.
 - Coordination with the **Office of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services** and outreach teams.
 - Source: [DMHHS Encampment Engagement FAQ \(2021\)](#).
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4. Grants Pass, Oregon (City v. Johnson, 2024, U.S. Supreme Court)

- The Court upheld the city's **ban on public camping**, ruling it regulates **conduct, not status**, and therefore does not violate the Eighth Amendment's Cruel and Unusual Punishment clause.
 - This decision has become a **legal precedent** cited by cities like Robbinsdale to justify new ordinances restricting camping on city property.
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5. Recommended Best Practices (from *Encampment Principles and Practices*, 2017)

From the *National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty* and *Housing Not Handcuffs* initiative:

- Avoid criminalization and displacement; instead focus on **housing-first, outreach, and health-based responses**.
- Ensure any closure is **coordinated, transparent**, and **minimizes harm**.
- Require:
 - **Notice periods** of 7–14 days.
 - **On-site social service engagement** before and after removal.
 - **Storage and retrieval** of property.
 - **Alternatives or shelter placements** offered before removal.

Here's a **comparison table** summarizing how different cities (and model frameworks) handle **unhoused/homeless encampments on city property**, based on your attached *Robbinsdale* document and the *Encampment Principles & Practices* guide:

City and Policy Comparison: Camping / Encampment Rules on City Property

City / Source	Notice Before Removal	Outreach & Services Required	Personal Property Handling	Penalties / Enforcement	Special Protections or Notes
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Robbinsdale, MN (Proposed Ordinance 930, 2025)	<i>None specified</i> (HRC recommends 72 hrs–2 weeks)	Not required by draft law; HRC recommends coordination with RPD social worker & outreach	No requirement s in draft; HRC recommends storage and return process	Defaults to misdemeanor under City Code §115	HRC opposes ordinance as written; recommends pause or rewrite to avoid criminalizing homelessness and to align with City's "Pro-Community Resolution."
Minneapolis, MN (Encampment Closures Directive, 2023)	≥72 hours unless immediate hazard	Required: outreach teams and service providers notified and engaged before removal	Must store, label, and allow retrieval of property	Civil enforcement; focus on health/safety, not criminal charges	Requires coordination across agencies and reporting to City Council; emphasizes "least harm" approach.
Washington, D.C. (Encampment Engagement Protocol, 2021)	14 days (2 weeks) minimum	Outreach and service offers required prior to closure	Property must be inventoried, stored, and available for 60 days	Civil enforcement	Requires signage, photo documentation , and a public-facing cleanup schedule for transparency.
Grants Pass, OR (Ordinance upheld by U.S. Supreme Court, 2024)	None required	Not required	City may remove property	Citations/fines; arrests for repeat violations	Supreme Court ruled bans on camping regulate "conduct, not status"; establishes federal precedent allowing bans.

Model Policy: <i>Encampment Principles & Practices</i> (Housing Not Handcuffs, 2017)	7–14 days recommended	Mandatory: outreach, service coordination, and shelter alternatives	Store items safely, provide clear retrieval process	Advocates non-criminal approaches	Emphasizes public health, housing-first strategies, and inclusive community planning.
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Key Takeaways

- **Robbinsdale’s proposed ordinance** mirrors Grants Pass in restricting camping broadly, but lacks the **due process protections** and **harm-reduction practices** seen in Minneapolis or D.C.
 - **Best practice cities** (Minneapolis, D.C.) require **notice, outreach, storage, and transparency**, minimizing legal risk and community harm.
 - **Federal precedent (Grants Pass)** gives cities legal cover to regulate camping—but **not to criminalize homelessness outright**.
 - **Model frameworks** (like *Encampment Principles & Practices*) encourage collaboration with outreach workers, social services, and unhoused individuals in policy design.
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Would you like me to make this into a **formatted policy brief or PDF handout** (for city council, public comment, or HRC use)? It could include a short summary of *constitutional context* and *Minnesota legislative references* (like HF 5038).

Here are **three key changes** recommended to align it with best practices from *Encampment Principles and Practices for Inclusive Public Space* (National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty, 2017):

1. Add a Notice and Outreach Requirement Before Removal

Problem: The current policy allows immediate removal of tents or shelters without notice, violating the principle of *procedural fairness* and *harm reduction*.

Proposed Revision:

“Before the City removes or clears any tent, shelter, or similar structure, the City shall provide **at least 72 hours’ written notice**, unless there is an immediate threat to health or safety. During that time, **outreach workers shall engage with affected individuals** to offer shelter, housing, and services.”

Why:

The *Encampment Principles* call for **advance notice** (typically 7–14 days where feasible) and engagement with outreach workers or social services before displacement. Minneapolis and D.C. both follow this model.

2. Include Safe Handling and Storage of Personal Property

Problem: The existing language authorizes disposal of property without distinction between trash and personal belongings, violating the *right to personal property* and undermining stability.

Proposed Revision:

“Personal belongings shall be **collected, stored, and made available for retrieval** for no less than 30 days. The City shall use reasonable care to avoid loss or destruction of property and shall post clear information on how to reclaim items.”

Why:

The *Encampment Principles* specify that confiscating or destroying essential items (ID, medication, bedding) without due process is both harmful and constitutionally risky. A retrieval process protects residents’ rights and builds community trust.

3. Replace a Blanket Ban with a Balanced, Human-Centered Approach

Problem: A total ban criminalizes survival behavior when no alternative shelter exists, conflicting with both *Encampment Principles* and emerging Eighth Amendment interpretations.

Proposed Revision:

“Camping or temporary shelter on City property shall be **prohibited only in locations designated as unsafe or environmentally sensitive**, and only when **adequate shelter or housing alternatives are available**. The City shall coordinate with social service agencies to identify and offer such alternatives before enforcement.”

Why:

The *Encampment Principles* advocate that **enforcement should never occur when people have nowhere else to go**. Cities like Seattle and D.C. apply this by prioritizing voluntary relocation and support over punitive measures.

 Summary of Effect

These changes would:

- Transform the policy from a **criminalization model** to a **harm-reduction and service-first model**.
 - Provide **legal safeguards** (due process, property rights).
 - Align Robbinsdale's ordinance with **national best practices** and **human rights–based encampment management** frameworks.
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Here's a **redlined revision** of the ordinance clause that incorporates best practices from *Encampment Principles and Practices for Inclusive Public Space (2017)* — adding notice, outreach, property protection, and proportional enforcement language while preserving the city's regulatory intent.

 Original Text

“No person shall set up, or remain in, any tent, lean-to, shack or temporary shelter or any house trailer, camp trailer, camp wagon, or the like, upon any City-owned property, street, or public right-of-way. Any such items or personal property related

to those items may be removed or cleaned up by the City or its designated contractors.”

Proposed Revised Language (Redlined Style)

Section 930.01. Camping on City Property.

(a) No person shall set up, or remain in, any tent, lean-to, shack or temporary shelter or any house trailer, camp trailer, camp wagon, or the like, upon any City-owned property, street, or public right-of-way. Any such items or personal property related to those items may be removed or cleaned up by the City or its designated contractors.

No person shall establish or remain in a tent, lean-to, shack, or other temporary shelter, or in a house trailer, camp trailer, or similar structure, on City-owned property, streets, or public rights-of-way, except as otherwise authorized by permit or in locations designated for temporary shelter.

(b) **Prior to any removal or cleanup of such structures or belongings, the City shall provide at least seventy-two (72) hours’ written notice, except in cases of immediate threat to health or safety.** During the notice period, the City shall **coordinate with social service agencies or outreach workers** to engage affected individuals, offer available shelter or housing options, and assist with relocation.

(c) **Personal belongings shall not be discarded as refuse.** The City or its contractors shall use reasonable care to **collect, label, and store items for no less than thirty (30) days**, and shall provide information on how individuals may reclaim their possessions.

(d) **Enforcement under this section shall not apply when no adequate alternative shelter is available.** The City shall prioritize voluntary compliance and social service engagement before any enforcement action is taken.

Explanation of Revisions

Added Section	Purpose (from Encampment Principles & Practices)
(b) Notice & outreach requirement	Ensures humane process, due process, and service connection.

(c) Property handling & retrieval

Prevents unlawful destruction of belongings.

(d) Enforcement limits

Prevents criminalization when no alternatives exist; aligns with constitutional guidance.

This version would make Robbinsdale’s ordinance **consistent with national human rights standards** while still allowing the City to regulate unsafe or unsanitary encampments.

Would you like me to create a **formatted City Code amendment draft (in legislative or council memo format)** so it’s ready for presentation to the Robbinsdale City Council or HRC?

Here’s a **formatted City Code amendment draft** ready for **submission to the Robbinsdale City Council or the Human Rights Commission**.

It follows the City’s legislative memo format and integrates the three key changes based on *Encampment Principles and Practices (2017)*.

CITY OF ROBBINSDALE, MINNESOTA

ORDINANCE NO. XXXX

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 930 OF THE ROBBINSDALE CITY CODE RELATING TO CAMPING ON PUBLIC PROPERTY

WHEREAS, the City Council of Robbinsdale seeks to promote the health, safety, and welfare of all residents, including individuals experiencing homelessness; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes the need to balance community safety, access to public spaces, and the dignity and rights of unhoused residents; and

WHEREAS, the City affirms its commitment to evidence-based, compassionate, and lawful public policy consistent with the principles outlined in *Encampment Principles and Practices for Inclusive Public Space* (National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty, 2017);

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF ROBBINSDALE DOES ORDAIN:

Section 1. Amendment to Robbinsdale City Code §930.01 – Camping on City Property

(a) General Prohibition.

No person shall establish or remain in a tent, lean-to, shack, or other temporary shelter, or in a house trailer, camp trailer, camp wagon, or similar structure, on City-owned property, streets, or public rights-of-way, except as otherwise authorized by permit or in locations designated for temporary shelter.

(b) Notice and Outreach Prior to Removal.

Before any structure or personal belongings are removed or cleaned up by the City or its designated contractors, the City shall provide at least seventy-two (72) hours' written notice to affected individuals, unless an immediate health or safety threat exists.

During the notice period, the City shall coordinate with outreach workers, social service agencies, or other partners to engage affected individuals, offer available shelter or housing options, and provide assistance with relocation.

(c) Handling and Storage of Personal Property.

Personal belongings shall not be discarded as refuse. The City or its contractors shall use reasonable care to collect, label, and store such property for a minimum of thirty (30) days. Clear information on how to retrieve stored items shall be made publicly available.

(d) Enforcement Limitations.

Enforcement of this section shall not apply when adequate alternative shelter or housing is unavailable. The City shall prioritize voluntary compliance, outreach engagement, and service coordination before any enforcement action.

Section 2. Effective Date

This Ordinance shall be effective upon passage and publication according to law.

Section 3. Summary for Publication

The purpose of this ordinance is to amend Section 930 of the Robbinsdale City Code to ensure that City policies concerning camping on public property are consistent with best practices for humane, lawful, and effective management of encampments. The amendment adds provisions for notice, outreach, property protection, and enforcement limitations.

Notes for Council Review

- This language retains the City’s regulatory authority while integrating due process, outreach, and humane standards.
- It aligns with Minneapolis (2023) and Washington D.C. (2021) encampment protocols.
- It supports collaboration with Hennepin County’s **Embedded Social Worker** program under RPD Policy 428.
- It ensures consistency with the City’s “Pro-Community Resolution” adopted June 2025.

HRC Annual Report

Contributions —January - February 2025

#HRC

Community Engagement

RPHC Outreach Program: Conducted visits to Robbins Landing and Lilac Parkway apartment communities. Secured partnership with Parker Station Flats for April event with refreshments.

Multi-housing Safety Initiative: Coordinated with Robbinsdale Fire Department for fire safety education at Robbins Landing (January 30).

Business Community Connection: Identified Chamber of Commerce monthly luncheons as opportunity for HRC presentations.

Policy

Pro-Community Resolution: Drafted resolution affirming Robbinsdale's commitment to being a welcoming and inclusive city with continued DEI focus.

Religious Neutrality Guidelines: Examined distinction between endorsement and partnership for public events.

Obergefell Contingency Planning: Motion passed to research and develop response plan for potential Supreme Court decision reversal.

Human Rights Monitoring: Tracked U.S. placement on human rights watchlist.

Events

MLK Breakfast: Successfully hosted annual event.

Black History Month: Screened Hidden Figures at Elim Lutheran Church (February 26) with community discussion.

Women's History Month: Created exhibit with Robbinsdale Historical Society. Held reception March 18 with city officials and nominees.

Collaboration (Internal and External)

Law Enforcement Partnership: Hosted Robbinsdale Police Captain John Elder for presentation on POST training program.

Restorative Justice Initiative: Philip Gray offered to train HRC members as restorative justice facilitators.

Historical Society Partnership: Joint Women's History Month celebration.

Faith Community Partnership: Co-sponsored events with Elim Lutheran Church and JCPP.

Public Awareness

Women's History Month Exhibit: Public display highlighting local women's contributions, viewed by community members and city leadership.

Film Screenings: Implemented proper public screening licensing for educational events.

Commissioner Expertise: Developed framework for HRC communications content creation and approval process.

Other

Leadership Transition: Elected Julie Ralston Aoki as Chair and Courtney Kirkeeng as Vice Chair for 2025.

Community Concerns: Monitored resident financial challenges related to waste disposal fees.

Detailed Information

Community Engagement

The Human Rights Commission (HRC) has been actively involved in community engagement, often through the RPHC (Robbinsdale Police and Human Rights Commission) work.

Specific activities and updates include:

A commissioner met with **Anton from Parker Station Flats**, who expressed interest in partnering with the HRC to host an event, possibly in April, and contribute refreshments.

The HRC is considering a presentation at the **Chamber of Commerce Luncheon**, which occurs every second Tuesday of the month. This possibility can be discussed further at a future subcommittee meeting.

Robbins Landing, Lilac Pkwy requested repeat visits from the HRC. A prior meeting with Lilac Parkway residents had gone well.

The Robbinsdale Fire Department was scheduled to meet with **Robbins Landing tenants** on January 30 to discuss fire safety. This was part of the updates on RPHC work.

A subsequent RPHC Subcommittee meeting was scheduled for February 1 at 11:00 AM in the Sanborn Park building.

Policy

Several policy discussions, resolutions, and structural requirements were addressed:

Pro-Community Resolution: A draft resolution was shared with the Commission to gather feedback, affirming past commitments to make Robbinsdale a welcoming and inclusive city and committing to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). Examples of this type of resolution were found from other cities. Commissioners were asked to send feedback by March 21. The importance of having a public statement was noted, and one commissioner wondered if the resolution could include visitors to Robbinsdale as part of the community.

Upholding Religious Neutrality: A discussion was held regarding upholding religious neutrality in public HRC events. One commissioner expressed concern about potential issues related to endorsement versus partnership and favoring one religion or church, emphasizing the need to be strategic and intentional.

Film Licensing: It was noted that the HRC must pay for a public screening license whenever they show a movie.

Future Planning (Obergefell Decision): Due to the quickly changing environment, the Commission discussed connecting with other organizations regarding the possibility of a reversal of the *Obergefell* decision. A motion was carried for research to develop an idea relating to the *Obergefell* decision and create a plan for its possible removal.

Events

The HRC planned, hosted, or discussed several specific events:

Women's History Month Exhibit: The HRC approved a proposal in January to partner with the Robbinsdale Historical Society and other stakeholders on a celebration of women in Robbinsdale history. Copies of submissions for the Women's History Month exhibit were shared, and nominees were invited to a reception scheduled for Tuesday, March 18, prior to the City Council meeting. The City Manager and Council members shared their appreciation for the exhibit.

Black History Month Event: A Black History Month event was hosted on February 26, 2025, which included a screening of the film *Hidden Figures* and refreshments at Elim Lutheran Church.

Police Presentation: Captain John Elder of the Robbinsdale Police Department gave a report, presented on the Police online training program through POST (Peace Officers Standards & Training), and answered questions from commissioners. Commissioners had prepared questions for him in advance of this meeting.

Cosponsored Movie: A motion was carried to cosponsor a movie with Elim Lutheran and the JCPP.

HRC Presentation to Council: The agenda included an HRC Presentation to the Council in April, but this was tabled for discussion at the meeting scheduled for March 26.

Collaboration (Internal and External)

The HRC engaged in various forms of collaboration:

Internal Collaboration

Police Department: The HRC hosted Captain John Elder for a report and Q&A session. Commissioners prepared questions to send to Captain Elder prior to his visit. HRC work also includes updates on RPHC (Robbinsdale Police Human Rights Commission) activities.

City Council/Staff:

The HRC planned for a presentation to the Council in April.

The Pro-Community Resolution draft was shared to get feedback from the Commission before being brought to the Council.

The Women's History Month exhibit received appreciation from the City Manager and Council members.

The City liaison noted that a **State demographer representative** is coming in April to present to City staff, and this information will be shared with the commissioners.

External Collaboration

Religious Organizations: The HRC cosponsored a movie with **Elim Lutheran and the JCPP** (presumably the Jewish Community Political Program, although the full name is not given). Elim Lutheran Church also hosted the Black History Month event (screening of *Hidden Figures*).

Community Groups/Businesses:

An individual from **Parker Station Flats** expressed interest in partnering on an event.

The HRC is considering a presentation to the **Chamber of Commerce Luncheon**.

The HRC proposed partnering with the **Robbinsdale Historical Society** for the Women's History Month celebration.

Training/Facilitation: **Phillip Gray** is interested in training HRC members to be **restorative justice facilitators** following the MLK breakfast.

Advocacy/Planning: It was suggested that the HRC connect with **other organizations** to plan for the possibility of a reversal of the *Obergefell* decision.

Public Awareness

Several items relate to increasing public awareness and outreach:

Public Statements: The draft Pro-Community Resolution was shared with the goal of creating a public statement regarding the commitment to DEI and inclusion. The Chair noted that the **USA is currently on the human rights watchlist**, which provides context for the HRC's work.

Exhibits: The **Women's History Month Exhibit** was a form of public awareness, with submissions being shared and a reception held.

HRC Communications: Discussion was held regarding how to use the commissioners' areas of expertise in HRC communications. The Commission needs to establish a process for who creates content, brings it back for a vote, and how that content will be utilized.

Presentations: The HRC is considering doing a presentation at the Chamber of Commerce Luncheon.

Other

This section covers internal structure, specific community concerns, and organizational processes:

Internal Leadership Change: New commission officers for 2025 were voted on. A motion carried for **Julie Ralston Aoki (JRA) to serve as Chair and Courtney Kirkeeng (CK) to serve as Vice Chair**.

Financial Concerns: One commissioner expressed concern about the **financial struggles of residents**, specifically noting that fees for waste disposal have increased. There was worry about garbage potentially piling up in the city if residents cannot afford disposal, and this issue was added to the discussion agenda for the next meeting.

Commissioner Expertise: There was a discussion about the areas of expertise for HRC commissioners. This was tied to determining how to create content for HRC communications and establishing a process for its creation, approval, and use.

Camping Ordinance Feedback

- Added comment to Section 640.01 (Purpose and Findings) emphasizing data-driven and humane intent, specifically linking the ordinance's purpose to regional progress in Hennepin County (a 33 % drop in unsheltered homelessness since 2020 and 14 % since 2024).
- Support keeping the draft's trauma-informed, non-criminal framework while adding transparency and collaboration language.
- On board with public data reporting mentioned in the ordinance

May 2025: Subcommittee Summary

(No full HRC meeting recorded per the cities website; May reflects subcommittee notes. It looks like there were likely two April sessions???)

- Focused on refining ordinance language to align with public-health and trauma-informed standards.
- Emphasized due process, clear notice, and civil, not criminal and enforcement.
- Proposed pairing ordinance rollout with a public-education campaign explaining its purpose and community benefits.

June 2025: Full HRC Meeting Summary

- Reviewed Matt's simplified ordinance draft introducing 72-hour notice, accessible communication, respectful property handling, and annual HRC oversight.
- Discussed how the short version complements the detailed draft under review.
- Continued coordination with Lilac Parkway Apartments and community partners for proactive engagement.
- Supported advancing Matt's "Know Your Rights" document for community distribution.

May/June Notes Summary

Category	Key Actions	Outcomes
Policy	Added data-driven framing to ordinance; supported humane, transparent enforcement standards.	Strengthened ordinance intent and accountability.
Collaboration	Partnered with MACV, Lilac Parkway, and public-health partners.	Expanded regional cooperation.
Public Awareness	Advanced “Know Your Rights” educational piece for translation and print.	Improved accessibility and trust with residents.
Engagement	Shared policy context and local progress data for public education.	Reinforced HRC's role as community connector.

Matt's “Know Your Rights” Educational Document

- Recommendation: pair with ordinance outreach- print and digital versions with QR codes linking to legal aid, MACV, and housing resources.

FYI – Local Context (from my research)

I wanted to share a few quick data points that help frame why the HRC's emphasis on humane, data-informed approaches is so important.

- Hennepin County's 2025 Point-in-Time count shows unsheltered homelessness down 33 % since 2020 and 14 % since 2024, largely due to expanded shelter options and service coordination.
Source: [Hennepin County Housing & Homelessness Data](#)
- Minneapolis quarterly reports indicate a positive trend as well: encampment closures dropped from 17 to 13, total costs fell from \$333 K to \$63 K, and more people accepted shelter placements (53 vs 9).
Source: [City of Minneapolis Encampment Report \(Q1 2025\)](#)