

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.