

**ORANGE COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE  
HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES COMMITTEE**

Friday, June 14, 2024  
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Location:  
**County Administration South (CAS)  
Multipurpose Rooms 103/105  
601 N Ross St, Santa Ana, CA 92701**  
[Click Here](#) for parking information.

Virtual Meeting Option\*:  
**Zoom Meeting Link: [Click here for meeting link](#)  
Join by phone: +1 669 444 9171, 91562691190#  
Webinar ID: 915 6269 1190**

*\*Listen-in option only*

**Committee Chair:** Judson Brown, City of Santa Ana

**Committee Vice-Chair:** January Johnson, Orange County Housing Authority

**Committee Members**

- Orange County Housing Authority
- Anaheim Housing Authority
- Santa Ana Housing Authority
- Garden Grove Housing Authority
- CalOptima Health
- Orange County Housing Finance Trust
- Orange County United Way
- Kennedy Commission
- Orange County Housing Advocacy Collaborative
- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funded entitlement jurisdictions

**Purpose:** The Housing Opportunities Committee will function as an advisory group to the Continuum of Care (CoC) Board and the Policies, Procedures and Standards (PPS) Committee. The Housing Opportunities Committee assists in the overall coordination of efforts and information sharing to foster the development of housing opportunities for people experiencing homelessness. The Housing Opportunities Committee will facilitate regional and systemwide collaboration in the development and implementation of affordable housing programs and opportunities that provide permanent housing solutions, such as housing choice vouchers, short-term rental assistance and/or permanent supportive housing, to reduce homelessness and to increase the supply of affordable and permanent supportive housing in Orange County. In addition to the facilitation and regional collaboration of housing opportunities in Orange County, the Housing Opportunities Committee will align its efforts with the Orange County CoC Board Vision.

## MINUTES

**Welcome and Introductions** – Judson Brown, Chair and January Johnson, Vice Chair

**Public Comments** – Members of the public may address the Housing Opportunities Committee on items listed within this agenda or matters not appearing on the agenda so long as the subject matter is within the jurisdiction of the Housing Opportunities Committee. Comments will be limited to three minutes. If there are more than five public speakers, this time will be reduced to two minutes.

To address the Housing Opportunities Committee, members of the public are to complete a Request to Address the Committee form prior to the beginning of each agenda item and submit it to CoC staff. Staff will call your name in the order received.

Members of the public may also submit public comment by emailing [CareCoordination@ocgov.com](mailto:CareCoordination@ocgov.com). All comments submitted via email at least 24 hours before the start of the meeting will be distributed to the Housing Opportunities Committee members and all comments will be added to the administrative records of the meeting. Please include “Housing Opportunities Committee Meeting Comment” in the email subject line.

### Public Comments:

- A member of the public provided public comment via email in advance of the Housing Opportunities Committee meeting. Member of the public stated concerns for the Orange County Housing Authority’s ability to ensure confidentiality of participants who have received housing vouchers. Additionally, member of the public expressed concern for Orange County Housing Authority’s leadership of the Housing and Community Development Commission and its membership.

### **1. Call To Order** – Judson Brown, Chair and January Johnson, Vice Chair

Chair Judson Brown called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

### **2. Project-Based Housing Updates**

#### **a. Project Homekey Update – Sarah Jones, Office of Care Coordination**

Sarah Jones provided the following updates for Project Homekey:

- On May 29, 2024, a grand opening event was held for the three Project Homekey motel conversions (Iluma, Clara Vista and Aurora Vista) completed in the City of Stanton. There was a great turnout and tours of Clara Vista, Aurora Vista and their shared community spaces were provided to attendees.
- HB Oasis, located in the City of Huntington Beach, a Round 2 interim to permanent project, closed on construction financing in May and is now under construction to convert the former Quality Inn and Suites to 62 units of permanent supportive housing.

- The County received a threshold letter from the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) on May 24, 2024, in response to the Round 3 application for the Travelodge on Bristol Street in the City of Costa Mesa. They have been working with American Family Housing, the developer, on addressing State HCD's threshold and feasibility comments/questions.

**b. Project-Based Voucher Pipeline – Public Housing Authority (PHA) Representatives**

- Chair Judson Brown provided background on the PBV program
- Vice Chair January Johnson provided PBV Pipeline updates for Orange County Housing Authority (OCHA)
- Miriam Zepeda provided PBV Pipeline updates for Anaheim Housing Authority (AHA)
- Chair Judson Brown provided PBV Pipeline updates for Santa Ana Housing Authority (SAHA)
- Chair Judson Brown provided PBV Pipeline updates for Garden Grove Housing Authority (GGHA)

Committee Discussion:

- Chair Judson Brown expressed concerns about the adequacy of our data collection methods. Chair Judson Brown noted that Santa Ana saw a 19% decrease in homelessness attributed to project-based housing. Chair Judson Brown emphasized the need for improved methods to demonstrate progress through tenant-based housing.

**3. Tenant-Based Housing Updates**

**a. Special Purpose Voucher Updates – PHA Representatives**

- Chair Judson Brown provided background on the special purpose vouchers.
- Chair Judson Brown provided updates on the voucher summary for all housing authorities.
- Vice Chair January Johnson provided updates for OCHA.
- Miriam provided updates for AHA.
- Chair Judson Brown provided updates for SAHA.
- Chair Judson Brown provided updates for GGHA.

Committee Discussion:

- Becks Heyhoe highlighted the significant impact of Orange County's voucher utilization, with focus on SAHA as the highest user. Becks Heyhoe also pointed out that 150 youth leave the foster care system each year, many of whom experience chronic homelessness at the age of 18. Becks Heyhoe shared on resources available shared through CalAIM, along with a list of available trainings.
- Vice Chair January Johnson presented on the Family Unification Program (FUP) MOU. Vice Chair January Johnson stated that the MOU allows Orange County to compete for both competitive and non-competitive vouchers, giving Orange County a strategic advantage.
- Elizabeth Hansburg inquired about obtaining a special voucher for a Garden Grove resident when one is not available from GGHA. Elizabeth Hansburg inquired about the criteria for determining a child's residency.

- Chair Judson Brown inquired about OCUW gathering data on the number of youths exiting the foster care system at risk for homelessness. Chair Judson Brown shared an overview of the number of vouchers that housing authorities can apply for.

Public Comments:

- Tony DeVeres, a housing navigator at Radiant Health Centers, requested assistance in obtaining housing vouchers for current clients.

**4. Funding, Program, and Policy Updates**

**a. Federal and State Legislation Updates – Cesar Covarrubias, The Kennedy Commission**

- Cesar Covarrubias presented updates on Federal and State Legislations

Committee Discussion:

- Elizabeth Hansburg had an inquiry regarding Proposition 1.
- Chair Judson Brown emphasized the significance of AB 653 in Orange County’s efforts. Chair Judson Brown highlighted the importance of approving a housing bond.
- Becks Heyhoe inquired about the allocation of the \$1 million for veterans housing and who would be accountable for managing the funds.

**5. Orange County 2024 Point In Time Count – Sarah Jones, Office of Care Coordination; Chair Judson Brown and Vice Chair January Johnson**

- Sarah Jones provided an overview of the Orange County 2024 Point In Time Count and a presentation on the results.

Committee Discussion:

- Cesar Covarrubias inquired about whether the questions regarding first-time homelessness in the past 12 months were previously surveyed during the last Point in Time count.
- Becks Heyhoe had a question regarding an agency's capability to deliver preventive measures.
- Elizabeth Hansburg inquired if COVID-19 assistance contributed to the reduction in 2022 Point In Time count numbers.

**6. CoC and Coordinated Entry System (CES) Updates – Sarah Jones, Office of Care Coordination**

- *Due to time restrictions this item was not presented.*

**Next Meeting:** Friday, August 9, 2024, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. In-person with location to be determined.