



# SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

## REGULAR MEETING COMMISSION TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS

Thursday, December 11, 2025, 1:00 P.M.

**County Administration North**  
Room 101  
400 W Civic Center Drive, Santa Ana, CA 92701

**Vicente Sarmiento, Chair**  
*Supervisor, Second District*

**Janet Nguyen**  
*Supervisor, First District*  
**Susan Parks**  
*Business Representative*  
**Todd Spitzer**  
*Orange County District Attorney*  
**Veronica Kelley**  
*Behavioral Health Representative*  
**Benjamin Vazquez**  
*Central Service Planning Area Representative*  
**Benjamin Hurst**  
*Philanthropic Leader Representative*  
**Ivan Pitts**  
*Faith-Based Community Representative*  
**Kelly Bruno-Nelson**  
*Medi-Cal Managed Care Health Plan Representative*  
**Robert Morse**  
*Continuum of Care Board Representative*

**Gina Cunningham, Vice Chair**  
*Affordable Housing Development Representative*  
**Adam Hawley**  
*Chief of Police Representative*  
**Nathaniel Shinagawa**  
*Hospital Representative*  
**James Vanderpool**  
*North Service Planning Area Representative*  
**Debra Rose**  
*South Service Planning Area Representative*  
**Virgil Asuncion**  
*Orange County Sheriff-Coroner Representative*  
**Joshua Bobko**  
*At-Large Representative*  
**Maricela Rios-Faust**  
*Continuum of Care Board Representative*  
**Anthony Trejo**  
*Lived Experience Representative*

**Commission Director**  
Doug Becht, Director of Care Coordination

**Clerk of the Commission**  
Valerie Sanchez, Chief Deputy Clerk

ATTENDANCE: Commissioners: Bobko, Bruno-Nelson, Cunningham, Hawley, Hurst, Kelley, Morse, Tuchman (Proxy for Nguyen), Parks, Pitts, Rios-Faust, Rose, Sarmiento, Shinagawa, Spitzer, Trejo and Vazquez

ABSENT: Commissioners: Asuncion and Vanderpool

PRESENT: COMMISSION DIRECTOR Doug Becht, Director of Care Coordination  
CLERK OF THE COMMISSION Julie Bechtol, Office of Care Coordination

Call to Order  
**CHAIR SARMIENTO CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 1:04 P.M.**

Pledge of Allegiance  
**COMMISSIONER BRUNO-NELSON LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

## SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

Roll Call

CLERK CALLED THE ROLL AND CONFIRMED QUORUM PRESENT.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

None

### COMMISSION MEMBERS COMMENTS

Chair Sarmiento – Welcomed new and returning Commissioners and asked new Commissioners Shinagawa, Kelley and Trejo to introduce themselves.

Commissioner Vazquez – Reported that City of Santa Ana had achieved a 15% reduction in homeless population through referrals to shelter and through shelter exits into housing and rehabilitation.

Commissioner Bruno-Nelson – Announced two Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) issued by CalOptima Health, one for enrolling services and the other for capital projects for permanent, affordable and transitional housing.

Commissioner Hurst – Announced that The Salvation Army’s Annual Gala event raised over \$4 million.

Commissioner Morse – Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and extended holiday wishes for all holiday celebrations.

Commissioner Parks – Announced awareness event at the Great Park on Saturday (December 13<sup>th</sup>) to take an aerial photo of participants lined up in the shape of a house to raise awareness of homelessness and hunger in Orange County.

### DISCUSSION ITEMS

#### 1. Commission to Address Homelessness Update

##### a. Membership Update

**Commission Director Doug Becht reiterated the Chair’s welcome to the new and returning members on the Commission.**

##### b. 2025 Commission to Address Homelessness Annual Report

**Bylaw revisions approved by the Board of Supervisors (Board) were amended to include an annual report from the Commission to the Board, the Office of Care Coordination is working on the annual report and plans to bring the report to the Commission at the February 2026 meeting.**

## SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

c. State Action for Facilitation and Encampments (SAFE) Task Force

**SAFE Task Force focused on clearing encampments along the 91 Freeway in Anaheim and the Office of Care Coordination, at the direction of the Commission, drafted an after-action letter to the State and sent it to the Board for consideration.**

d. CoC Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

**Changes to the CoC Program NOFO included a new 30% cap on funding that can be allocated for permanent housing; additionally, further delays by U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in releasing its NOFO threatens housing assistance for over 1,100 households in Orange County whose current grant funding will begin to expire in January.**

**In accordance with Government Code section 54954.2(b)(2), on a motion by Commissioner Spitzer, seconded by Commissioner Morse, and requiring a determination by two-thirds of the members present, the Commission unanimously found the need to take immediate action exists and the need for action came to the attention of the Commission subsequent to the agenda being posted, and added an urgent item to the agenda to consider a letter supporting the immediate and full funding of HUD's CoC Program NOFO and submit to the Board.**

**On the motion of Commissioner Spitzer, seconded by Commissioner Morse, with proxy for Commissioner Nguyen abstaining, the Commission directed the Office of Care Coordination to draft a position letter supporting full funding of HUD's CoC Program NOFO to local government jurisdictions, with letter to be approved by the Chair, circulated to the Commissioners for signature (if able to sign in their capacity), and submitted to the Board for attachment with any advocacy undertaken by the Board.**

e. Weather Activated RoomMs (WARM) Program for Families

**Announced that the second year of the WARM Program will be operated and administered by Pathways of Hope and will provide hotel stays, meals and transportation for families in the Second District during inclement weather events.**

2. Office of Care Coordination Update

a. OC Same-Day Solutions Fair

**Commission Director Doug Becht informed the Commission of the cancellation of the November OC Same-Day Solutions Fair, originally scheduled to be held in Placentia in partnership with HIS-OC, due to inclement weather. The Office of Care Coordination is working to reschedule the event as well as schedule other OC Same-Day Solutions Fairs throughout Orange County in 2026.**

## SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

### b. 2026 Point in Time Count

Commission Director Doug Becht shared the requirement of HUD to complete a bi-annual unsheltered Point in Time Count. The event will take place over three days starting on January 27, 2026 (Central Service Planning Area), January 28, 2026 (North Service Planning Area), and January 29, 2026 (South Service Planning Area). Volunteers for the event are still needed and those looking to help can visit the website [everyonecountsoc.org](http://everyonecountsoc.org) to learn more and sign up.

Zulima Lundy, Director of Operations with the Office of Care Coordination, also noted the need for donations of snack kits, hygiene kits, and/or local gift cards for those who are experiencing homelessness who participate in the Point in Time Count survey. The Point in Time Count will also have special Come and Be Counted locations for families and youth experiencing unsheltered homelessness to visit.

### 3. Commissioner Spotlight – Commissioner Maricela Rios-Faust, Continuum of Care Board Representative

Commissioner Rios-Faust presented her role with the CoC Board, including her positions as Chair of the Domestic Violence Committee and member of the Policies, Procedures and Standards (PPS) Committee. Commissioner Rios-Faust also shared insight into her work as Chief Executive Officer of Human Options and the mission of the organization to ignite social change, educate Orange County to recognize relationship violence as an issue that threatens everyone, advocating for those affected by abuse, and empowering survivors on their journey of healing.

## PRESENTATIONS

### 4. Small-Scale Housing Summit presented by the Office of Supervisor Sarmiento, Second District

Yasie Goebel, Chief of Staff for the Office of Supervisor Sarmiento, provided an overview of the Small-Scale Housing Summit that was held on November 5, 2025. The summit brought together multiple stakeholders including community partners, housing developers, nonprofit providers, and municipal leaders to explore how small-scale housing has been used in other counties as a viable option to address the current housing crisis.

The Office of Supervisor Sarmiento will be continuing the momentum of the summit by spearheading a Small-Scale Housing Unit Task Force with the goal of bringing a project to Orange County.

## ACTION ITEMS

### 5. Approve launch of recruitment process and establishment of a new Membership Ad Hoc Committee to evaluate and make recommendations for appointments for expired Commission to Address Homelessness seats to be submitted to the Board of Supervisors for final approval.

On the motion of Commissioner Spitzer, seconded by Commissioner Parks, the Commission approved as recommended.

## SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

6. Bridges and Kraemer Place Community Advisory Board
  - a. Appoint Anthony Trejo to the Commission to Address Homelessness Seat on the Bridges at Kraemer Place Community Advisory Board for the term January 28, 2026, to January 27, 2027.  
**On the motion of Commissioner Cunningham, seconded by Commissioner Parks, the Commission approved as recommended.**
  
7. Approve proposed Commission to Address Homelessness 2026 Meeting Schedule Calendar  
**On the motion of Commissioner Spitzer, seconded by Commissioner Cunningham, the Commission approved as recommended.**
  
8. Approve Commission to Address Homelessness minutes from the October 15, 2025 regular meeting  
**On the motion of Commissioner Morse, seconded by Commissioner Hawley, the Commission approved as recommended.**

**ADJOURNED:** 2:49 P.M.

**NEXT MEETING:** February 18, 2026, 1:00 P.M.

  
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Valerie Sanchez, Chief Deputy Clerk of the Board  
Clerk of the Commission

  
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Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento  
Chair