

Central CBAC

TO: Chair Deborah Kafoury and County Board of Commissioners (3) pages

FROM: Central CBAC

DATE: April 18, 2018

SUBJECT: Budget Advisory Committee (CBAC) Report & Recommendations

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Central CBAC (CCBAC) values the opportunity to provide community perspective by offering input to the County's budget. The CCBAC includes members from each of the nine department CBAC's. The Chair of the CCBAC is a member of the Community Involvement Committee, and for FY18, is Sherry Willmschen. We appreciate the members of this year's CCBAC (many are new) for their commitment to the CBAC they Chair, and for their contributions to CCBAC:

Joanne Burke | Department of Community Justice
Mary Stewart | Department of Community Services
Yesenia Gallardo | Multnomah County District Attorney
Cormac Burke | Department of County Assets and Management
Josué Peña-Juárez | Multnomah County Health Department
Mariel St Savage | Department of County Human Services
Cam Coval | Non-Departmental
Dwight Holton | Multnomah County Sheriff's Office
Jack MacNichol | Multnomah County Library

PROCESS

The CCBAC met four times from January 2018 through March 26th 2018. Due to some Department Program Offers not being available to some Department CBACs we did not have clarity for reports until our March meetings. We met with Chair Kafoury on March 5th at which time each CBAC and the chair of the CCBAC presented our thoughts for our recommendations.

All of the CBACs worked hard to complete their assignment. We acknowledge the assistance of department staff, including in some cases on site visits. Although many of the CBACs had new members, and new Chairs and Central CBAC representatives, they were able to be thorough in their review of their respective budgets. Our discussions led to the recommendations we are making of issues that intersect across departments.

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CCBAC GOALS FOR FY19

1. Homelessness and Lack of Housing

We are aware of the difficulty the county has meeting the needs of families, singles, and couples without homes. The impact is felt by the entire community who have concerns about safety of residents in the community. The concerns for the safety and care of homeless people crosses all our CBAC responsibilities. The JOHS has funded non-profit providers to provide shelter for homeless people. Homeless people served by the County include DCJ clients, families served by multiple departments, people with addictions and people with mental health issues. They include the working poor who cannot afford rent. We are concerned about the impact homelessness has on children. We encourage programs to help children who are homeless as was done for those at the Human Solutions Shelter. We acknowledge difficulties in trying to provide safety for all children and families who are homeless. The closure of the Human Solutions shelter has challenged efforts to provide much needed programming for children who are homeless, which is very important. We urge the Board of County Commissioners to continue efforts to provide safety in homeless shelters, and to try innovative programs such as Northwest Pilot Project vouchers to move people from shelters to housing. Efforts to prevent homelessness with rent assistance and an increase in housing development, including supportive housing, must be a priority.

2. Mental Health

Our concerns about Mental Health needs for our residents provided by the health department, the sheriff's office, the library, and corrections must continue to be a priority.

3. Data

We addressed the concerns about the need for good, scientific data across departments. An example is a Dashboard which is available in some departments. Members of CBACs did not see consistent measures shared by departments. We also did not see information regarding ethnicity, geography, and equity. We know from some CBACs that this information is available upon request. We believe it must be shared across departments and with the community.

4. Collaboration for Data Outcomes

We urge collaboration across departments to share the capacity on gathering outcome data. This includes outcomes that are measureable and goals that may require more than one year to complete. Common outcomes must be shared across Divisions and Departments to allow for more efficient service to the community. One example of data needs is service provision through the JOHS for transparency and communication regarding homeless program results. Possible useful data/outcome is the number of beds provided in shelters, information on the wait list, and long-term tracking of those placed in housing.

Members: Sherry Willmschen, Chair; Joanne Burke; Mary Stewart; Yesenia Gallardo; Cormac Burke; Josué Peña-Juárez; Mariel St Savage; Cam Coval; Dwight Holton; Jack MacNichol **Staff:** Dani Bernstein

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5. Contracts and Providers

Across departments, we became aware that multiple departments can contract with one provider. We urge that there be consistent evaluation of contractors across departments using state of the art tools. We advocate for financial commitment to oversight of providers. Information on common providers must be shared across departments. We also have concern that culturally specific organizations may not be fully supported to do their work.

6. Infrastructure Projects

We encourage ongoing emphasis on the infrastructure projects the county is responsible for including the Road Capital Improvement Plan and a staff position to ensure compliance with federal requirements for Columbia Levee accreditation. The Burnside Bridge Project has been identified as critical for emergency services, and we support funding to complete the NEPA study as well as pursuing sources of funding (\$500M) for the environmental review, design and construction phases of the rebuild/refurbishment of the Burnside Bridge.

7. Investment in East County

As in the past, all CBACs urge the Board of County Commissioners to continue to increase investment in East Portland unincorporated areas, Gresham, Wood Village, Troutdale, and Fairview. The population has shifted to these areas and services need to shift with the change.

8. Cyber Security

Dept. of County Assets looked at the IT innovations and cyber security that are important across departments. We support their recommendations including movement to managed or ongoing funding. All CBACs are aware that cyber security with all the people we support is extremely important.

9. Universal Representation

CCBAC would like to support universal representation by a lawyer in Multnomah County for individuals that are facing deportation (Oregon Ready). We understand that the city of Portland is considering approval of funding for this effort, and we recommend Multnomah County do so as well.

I would like to thank all the CBAC members on each CBAC, and especially the CBAC representatives that participated in our discussion of common priorities and recommendations. We all appreciate the opportunity to meet with staff and elected officials to complete our recommendations. We are available for further discussion and clarification.

Members: Sherry Willmschen, Chair; Joanne Burke; Mary Stewart; Yesenia Gallardo; Cormac Burke; Josué Peña-Juárez; Mariel St Savage; Cam Coval; Dwight Holton; Jack MacNichol **Staff:** Dani Bernstein