



**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**  
**DRAFT MEETING MINUTES**  
**JUNE 10th, 2025**

**The COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION convened in a REGULAR MEETING on JUNE 10, 2025, at City Hall Boards and Commissions Room 1101, 301 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, in Austin, Texas. Some members of the commission participated by video conference.**

**Board Members/Commissioners in Attendance:**

Cynthia Jaso  
Jose Noe Elias (Chair)  
Lyric Wardlow  
Raul Longoria  
Valerie Menard

**Board Members/Commissioners in Attendance Remotely:**

Cassandra Medrano  
Ebonie Trice  
Jenny Achilles (Vice Chair)  
Jo Anne Ortiz  
Nyeka Arnold  
Taniquewa Brewster  
Tisha-Vonique Hood

**Board Members/Commissioners Absent:**

Sonia Martinez

**Staff Members in Attendance**

Lorena Lopez Chavarin (remotely)  
Jill Smith  
Mandy DeMayo  
Nefertitti Jackmon  
Veronica Samo

## **CALL TO ORDER**

**Chair Elias called the meeting to order at 6:45 PM, with 9 members present. Commissioner Brewster joined the dais at 6:53 PM, Vice Chair Achilles joined the dais at 6:55 PM, and Commissioner Arnold joined the dais at 6:57, bringing the total to 12 commissioners present.**

## **PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**

The first 10 speakers signed up prior to the meeting being called to order will each be allowed a three-minute allotment to address their concerns regarding items not posted on the agenda.

**Zenobia Joseph signed up to speak.**

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Approve the May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Community Development Commission meeting minutes.

**On Commissioner Lyric's motion, Commissioner Ortiz seconded, the May 13th, 2025, minutes were approved on a 9-0-0 vote. Commissioners Brewster, Achilles, and Arnold were off the dais.**

## **DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS**

2. Discussion and action to select a new representative to the South-Central Waterfront Advisory Board (Chair Elias).

**Chair Elias nominates Commissioner Ortiz to the South-Central Waterfront Advisory Board. Commissioner Ortiz accepts the nomination.**

## **BRIEFING**

3. Briefing on the CDC Annual Internal Review (Ed Blake, Program Manager, Housing Department).

**Chair Elias and Nefertitti Jackmon presented.**

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## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

4. Presentation regarding the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) activities and outcomes (Jill Smith, Program Manager, Neighborhood Services Unit, Austin Public Health).

**Jill Smith presented.**

5. Discussion regarding the FY 2025-2026 Action Plan (Rocio Peña-Martinez, Program Manager, Housing Department).

**Mandy DeMayo and Veronica Samo presented.**

6. Discussion of the CDC retreat (Chair Elias).

**Chair Elias presented.**

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

7. Conduct a public hearing to receive comments on community needs for the City's Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Action Plan that will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development as part of the City's application for federal funding.

**Zenobia Joseph signed up to speak.**

## **WORKING GROUP/COMMITTEE UPDATES**

8. Update from the Working Group on Elections and Onboarding (Vice Chair Achilles).

**Vice Chair Achilles presented.**

## **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- **Potential presentation from Cap Metro by Peter Breton; reviewing and understanding goals and objectives, as well as how community engagement works.**
- **Presentation on the Cap Metro expansion plan and its impact on vulnerable populations, including an overview of the communication strategies for updates to metro users and the community regarding the expansion plans.**
- **Updates on the Housing Committee.**
- **Updates on the results of an online community outreach survey that was shared on social media. Interested in learning about its origins and which department conducted it within the City of Austin. The survey aimed to gather information on**

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**best practices for efficiency, particularly concerning social media and community engagement.**

- **Discussion and review of DB90 policy.**
- **Request for updates and additional information from speaker Zenobia Joseph regarding childcare priorities for potential discussion.**
- **Updates and potential presentations from volunteers at ATX Free Fridge, along with queries about the monthly number of people served.**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**Commissioner Elias adjourned the meeting at 8:24 PM without objections.**

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