

CLACKAMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Policy Session Worksheet

Presentation Date: July 7, 2020

Approximate Start Time: 2:30 p.m.

Approximate Length: 60 minutes

Presentation Title: Protest Response - DIVEST & INVEST Policy Prognoses

Department: H3S, County Administration

Presenters: Rich Swift, Jill Smith, Drenda Howatt

Other Invitees:

WHAT ACTION ARE YOU REQUESTING FROM THE BOARD?

The purpose of today's discussion is to provide Commissioner Savas and Commissioner Fischer general guidance on the policy questions in Attachment A. Depending on the policy issue, Clackamas County may or may not have influence on the policy. Today's discussion will assist the Commissioners at the next regional meeting on July 10th.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

JOIN, a local non-profit that assists those facing or experiencing houselessness, has, in conjunction with Black Community Leaders, convened regional meetings with local government representatives in the Tri-County area regarding local government responses to issues surrounding the recent protests denouncing racism.

Elected representatives from the State of Oregon, Multnomah County, Washington County, Metro, and the city of Portland, along with Commissioner Savas and Commissioner Fischer have attended the meetings.

The Community Leaders have suggested a number of actions that local governments can take, and are asking for feedback on those suggestions. The suggested actions fall into the following categories:

- Health & Wellbeing
- Education Policy
- Housing & Homelessness
- Economic Development
- Legislative Process
- Criminal Justice

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (current year and ongoing): N/A

Is this item in your current budget?

YES

NO

What is the cost? Depending on the action items, there may be a fiscal impact to the County that is not currently budgeted.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

- How does this item align with your Department’s Strategic Business Plan goals?
N/A

- How does this item align with the County’s Performance Clackamas goals?
 - This aligns with the County’s Performance Clackamas goal of Ensure Safe, Healthy and Secure Communities by addressing ways that the County may be able to influence policies that increase access to programs and services for under-served communities. It also completely aligns with the Policy Perspective by using an Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion lens to review county policies and procedures.

LEGAL/POLICY REQUIREMENTS: N/A

PUBLIC/GOVERNMENTAL PARTICIPATION: N/A

OPTIONS: N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A, Policy Suggestions

SUBMITTED BY:

Division Director/Head Approval _____

Department Director/Head Approval _____

County Administrator Approval _____

For information on this issue or copies of attachments, please contact Drenda Howatt, Commission Staff Manager@ 503-742-5938, or by email at: drendahowatt@clackamas.us

Attachment A Policy Suggestions

Health & Wellbeing:

COVID-19 Black Recovery & Relief Fund; culturally specific populations have access to the same.

Invest in culturally specific mental health care healing centers Support centers like the Avel Gordly Center for Healing with significant funding, from public health agencies at the city and state level

Fund culturally appropriate maternal health programs - Black community health workers and doula programs that are critical to Black wellness. These programs should include pregnancy health and prenatal care, birthing assistance, and family supports for new parents learning to care for infants.

Education:

Mandate Restorative Justice practices and trainings for educators and students. When a student or student's family has identified a racist or incidence of prejudice, require restorative justice process with school official involved, the student, school administrative official/supervisor and family.

Housing & Homelessness:

Fair Housing: Hold the counties and Metro accountable for the HUD mandate to Affirmatively Further Fair Housing by ending racial segregation from opportunity, providing community development and investment without displacement (State of Black Oregon 2015, 155); end discrimination and fair housing violations through robust testing and enforcement by Oregon BOLI; ban the box for housing applications including drug distribution records (state legislature).

Invest in stronger Fair Housing Testing in the private market and invest in enforcement mechanisms when fair housing laws are violated.

Cancel rent for renters affected by COVID; develop fund that LLs can access to be made whole, not pay for profit.

Actively seek to build community-based safety and housing/homelessness infrastructure united to internal county staffing to build deeper trust and expand service networks.

Stop all sweeps of camps that shelter houseless people and the expansion of sit-lie regulations, and support a Right to Rest agenda that decriminalizes houselessness.

Evaluate Coordinated Access disparities among services received and services waiting for receipt among BIPOC communities. Hold contractors and the County accountable to a service standard with strong implementation accountability mechanisms.

Economic Development:

Public Benefits programs on all publicly funded or subsidized projects should include First Source hiring, and jobs on publicly funded projects must meet "high road" standards and provide a living wage.

Legislative Process:

Require community advisory boards that participate in rulemaking processes.

Establish equity advisors in all offices and departments, similar to financial advisors.

Require racial impact statements from chief sponsors of all legislative bills to analyze potential impacts to BIPOC communities. Consult with community-based organizations and/or experts for input. Require a re-write and consultation with BIPOC communities of any policy that indicates negative impacts on BIPOC communities that could exacerbate racial disparities.

Criminal Justice:

Establish a workgroup that will develop alternative community safety methods to develop policy proposals for deliberation and enactment given divestment from Clackamas County Sheriff.