



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

EMERGENCY RESPONSE & SHELTER OPERATIONS (ERSO) COMMITTEE

Meeting Details	Date: 23 August 2023	Time: 1 – 2:30 PM	Location: Webex
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Meeting Notes

I. WELCOME AND AGENDA REVIEW

While members of the ERSO Committee gathered, Synina Pugh (ERSO Advisor, ICH) led an icebreaker.

To officially open the meeting, co-chairs Reginald Black (PFFC) and Tony Newman (Deputy FSA Administrator – Individuals, DHS) introduced themselves. Additionally, Reggie reviewed the agenda for the meeting, and Synina provided an overview of ICH meeting conventions.

Please refer to the slides 3 – 6 for the following:

- Recording conventions,
- Meeting agenda, and
- Housekeeping items related to adopting meeting notes and managing the listserv.

II. SYSTEM CHECK-IN

System check-ins allow the ICH to track shifts in the landscape and better understand current trends. Two (2) topics were flagged for the check-in: 1) Operational Shifts regarding Tornado Warnings and Fast-Moving Thunderstorms and 2) Other Constituent Concerns.

A. OPERATIONAL SHIFTS RE TORNADO WARNING & FAST-MOVING THUNDERSTORM

Reggie framed the issue from the perspective of unsheltered constituents impacted by the emergency weather event. Synina proposed key questions to support Planning for Extreme Weather and invited Ms. Umi and Jean Badalamenti (DCPL) to provide additional context.

Comments, concerns, and questions from the discussion are captured on slide 11 – 16. Topic areas are summarized here for easy reference:

- Significant communication issues related to:
 - The evolving nature of the emergency and the resources available, as well as
 - Communication with staff responsible for enforcing the closure of the library.
- Emergency planning for unsheltered clients:
 - Concern that HSEMA is not at ERSO meetings directly hearing from constituents with lived experience.
 - Need to avoid or mitigate design decisions that create buildings susceptible to tornadoes. E.g., utilization of glass for neighborhood public libraries and the new 801 East Shelter
- Recommendations:

- Evaluate options for leveraging vacant spaces, including the DC Armory
- Leverage church and faith-based institutions

B. OTHER CONSTITUENT CONCERNS

Due to limited time and the robust discussion on operational shifts, the co-chairs shifted to the Discussion items.

III. DISCUSSION: WINTER PLANNING

Synina Pugh facilitated the discussion on FY24 Winter Planning which focused on:

- Updating the Short-Fall Estimates and
- Planning for Overflow Locations

See slides 18 – 21 for the details of the ICH presentation. Comments, concerns, and questions from the discussion are captured on slide 11 – 16. Topic areas are summarized here for easy reference:

- Demand for shelter:
 - Concern about updating the shortfall estimates given the uptick of utilization for Day Service Centers reported by Miriam’s Kitchen and Georgetown Ministries Center
- Available Shelter:
 - Concern that specialized beds from 801 East are counted as available for response to hypothermia alerts.
 - Question about how capacity at the Aston is factored into the Winter Plan
 - Concern that Blair will be undergoing renovations sooner.
 - Clarification that this is likely, not true.
- PEPV Demobilization:
 - Concern about the timeline and housing placement activities
 - Request to extend PEPV operations.
- Recommendation to change tax regime for hotels in exchange for lower rental prices.
- Question about standard/minimum specs for an overflow location
 - Contact DHS for details as this is not straightforward; DHS applies a matrix approach based on the spatial configuration and potential of each site identified as available for overflow operations.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

Due to limited time, no announcements or reminders were flagged for meeting attendees.

V. SUMMARY AND ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned with a note about the September meeting date and time.

Next Meeting	Date: 27 September 2023	Time: 1 – 2:30 pm	Location: Webex
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Participant List (64 Participants, 28 Organizations)

2026****16 (Concerned Citizen) 2026****86 (Ms. Umi) Aaron White (SHY YAB) Abby Sypek (Everyone Home DC) Andy Wassenich (Miriam's Kitchen) Anthony Newman (DHS)	Ishan Heru (Community Connections) Jakia Carroll (PFFC/CEWG) Jean Badalamenti (DCPL) Jesse Rabinowitz (Miriam's Kitchen) Joshua Drumming (Legal Clinic) Joshua Thomas (DHS)	Quin Grier (DHS) Rachelle Ellison (PFFC/CEWG) Rebecca Kellett (GMC) Reggie Black (PFFC/CEWG) Rico Harris (CCNV) Robert Warren (PFFC/CEWG)
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<p>Antwan Washington (UPO) Betty Gentle (SOME) Blair Copeland (Catholic Charities) Brandi Gainey (Community Connections) Brendan Haley (Everyone Home DC) Candyce Coates (TCP) Catherine Crosland (Unity Health Care) Chris Pitocchelli (Friendship Place) Cliff Rogers (Covenant House) Daisean Foster (ICH) Dervin Brown (UPO) Diamond (Concerned Citizen) D'Vontay Hope (SMYAL) Eileen Rosa (ICH) Emil Pauling (DHS)</p>	<p>Judy Williams (DHS) Kate Coventry (DCFPPI) Kelly Andreae (GMC) Krysta Aguilar (DHS) LaJuan Brooks (Legal Clinic) Larry Gooch (Catholic Charities) Leslie-Ann Byam (DBH) Lindsay Curtin (DHS) Marissa Oden (Friendship Place) Mcperson's displaced people Michael Ferrell (DCCFH) Ms Naomi (PFFC/CEWG) Nadia Malik (Miriam's Kitchen) Nathalia Cibotti (Joseph's House) Nechama Masliansky (SOME) Nikila Smith (PFFC/CEWG) Novella Browne White (UPO)</p>	<p>Ronnie Stanley (Central Union Mission) Russell McDowell (N Street Village) Samantha Nolet (TCP) Sangita Joshi (N Street Village) Sari Frankel (DBH) Shiri Yadlin (CSH) Synina Pugh (ICH) Ted Joseph (DHS) Theresa Silla (ICH) Tyrell McQueen (TCP) Vincent Blackson (UPO) Wes Heppler (Legal Clinic) William Kuennen (DHS) Zina Williams (DHS)</p>
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