

CITY OF WORCESTER
PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Monday, June 8, 2026
Esther Howland (South) Chamber
Convened: 5:15 P.M.
Adjourned: 5:43 P.M.

MAYOR

Joseph M. Petty

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairperson Gary Rosen

Vice Chairperson Khrystian E King

Councilor Kathleen M Toomey



CLERK OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Nikolin Vangjeli

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City Hall - 455 Main Street Worcester, Massachusetts

Present Were:

Chairperson Councilor Gary Rosen

Councilor Khrystian E. King

Councilor Kathleen M. Toomey

Also:

Director of Housing Development James Brooks

Director of Neighborhood Development Gregory Baker

Deputy City Clerk Stephen A.J. Pottle, clerk

1. Virtual Attendee Call-In Information

- a. Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021 and in order to ensure active, public engagement, the City of Worcester currently allows for both in-person and remote participation at all City Council and Standing Committee meetings. To partake in the meeting, you may attend the meeting in-person within the meeting location, follow the below link to join via Zoom or dial the direct line as indicated. If you join a Zoom meeting by dialing in with a phone number, you can raise your hand by dialing *9.

Public Health and Human Services Committee Zoom Link:
<https://worcesterma.zoomgov.com/j/1610140100>

Public Health and Human Services Committee Zoom Phone Number: +1 646 828 7666

Public Health and Human Services Committee Zoom Access Code: 161 014 0100

2. Approval of the Minutes

- a. Order - That the City Council Standing Committee of Public Health and Human Services hereby approves the minutes of the Public Health and Human Services Committee meeting on April 6, 2026.

Chairperson Councilor Rosen read the item and moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item. Order adopted on a roll call vote of 3 Yeas and 0 Nays

3. Community Development Block Grant Item

- a. Communication of the City Manager recommend adoption of resolutions to file and accept entitlement funding under the City of Worcester's Fiscal Year 2027/Program Year 52 Community Development Block Grant, Emergency Solutions Grant, and HOME Investment Partnership Program, funded through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

9.4A CM May 19, 2026

Chairperson Councilor Rosen read the item and recognized the Director of Neighborhood Development and Director of Housing Development, who provided overviews relative to the recommended Fiscal Year 2027 (FY27) U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) entitlement program allocations for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME).

Chairperson Councilor Rosen recognized the following Speakers:

1. Trish Appert, Executive Director of Friendly House, spoke in favor of the item
2. Olga Valdman, Executive Director of Worcester Rise for Health, spoke in favor of the item
3. Anthony Bizzotto, President/Co-Founder of Revive the USA, spoke in favor of the item

Chairperson Councilor Rosen discussed the process relative to monitoring budget spending and grant compliance and the department hiring a long-term housing monitor position as it relates to HOME with the director of Neighborhood Development and Director of Housing Development.

Chairperson Councilor Rosen recognized Councilor Toomey, who spoke concerning the role relative to the long-term housing monitor position and the position's partnership with the Department of Inspectional Services with the Director of Housing Development.

Chairperson Councilor Rosen recognized Councilor King, who spoke concerning the process relative for the department to track unapproved agencies that applied for HUD funding opportunities, efforts made to provide potential additional resources for said unapproved agencies, eligible Worcester Public School facility improvement projects, and the city's Health and Human Services (HHS) Street Outreach position with the Director of Neighborhood Development and Director of Housing Development.

Chairperson Councilor Rosen moved for a roll call vote to recommend approval of the item.

Recommend Approval on a roll call vote of 3 Yeas and 0 Nays