



# City of Olympia

City Hall  
601 4th Avenue E  
Olympia, WA 98501

## Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council

Information: 360-753-8447

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Tuesday, March 5, 2013

5:30 PM

Room 207

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### Special Meeting to Hold a Study Session

#### 1. ROLL CALL

Mayor Buxbaum called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**Present:** 7 - Mayor Stephen H. Buxbaum, Mayor Pro Tem Nathaniel Jones, Councilmember Jim Cooper, Councilmember Julie Hankins, Councilmember Steve Langer, Councilmember Jeannine Roe and Councilmember Karen Rogers

#### 2. OTHERS PRESENT

Mayor Buxbaum welcomed County Commissioners Sandra Romero, Cathy Wolfe, and Karen Valenzuela, along with County Manager Don Krupp and County Health and Social Services Director Don Sloma.

#### 3. BUSINESS OF THE EVENING

##### 3.A 13-0097 Joint City / Thurston County Board of Commissioners Meeting on Countywide Homeless Issues

Mr. Sloma began by reviewing the currently funded programs to support affordable housing, homelessness, homeless housing and other services. He then reviewed the funding sources, potential new funds, and potential partners to support systems designed to reduce or end homelessness, affordable housing, infrastructure investments, and other services designed to meet the needs of low-income persons and the homeless.

Mr. Sloma stated that 15 percent of the total county households are severely burdened, paying more than 50 percent of their income for housing. Another 37 percent are paying between 37 -50 percent for their housing; .004 percent falling into the homeless category, and 47 percent not being cost burdened by the cost of housing.

After some discussion about where best to deploy resources and opportunities for collaboration, Commissioner Romero suggested we rely on the assessment already completed by Theresa Slusher and the County and let staff put together a proposed work plan for review by the Council and Commissioners. Mayor Buxbaum expressed a desire for the plan to look for

ways for providers to work in collaboration, not competition.

Councilmember Cooper stated that a Communication Plan is needed to help providers talk to each other and to the local jurisdictions.

Mayor Buxbaum thanked the Commissioners and County staff for coming and for their work in dealing with the issues of homelessness in our area. He stated that he is looking forward to continued collaboration with the County on this issue.

**The work session was discussed and closed.**

#### **4. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.