

Regular Council Meeting

RECEIVED

September 14, 2023

2023 SEP 15 A 10:30

FRESNO CITY COUNCIL

CITY OF FRESNO
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE



Public Comment Packet

ITEM(S)

10:10 A.M. (ID 23-1247)

Actions pertaining to the Program Year (PY) 2022 Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER) for U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Planning and Development (CPD) programs:

Contents of Supplement: Public Comment emails

Supplemental Information:

Any agenda related public documents received and distributed to a majority of the City Council after the Agenda Packet is printed are included in Supplemental Packets. Supplemental Packets are produced as needed. The Supplemental Packet is available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office, 2600 Fresno Street, during normal business hours (main location pursuant to the Brown Act, G.C. 54957.5(2)). In addition, Supplemental Packets are available for public review at the City Council meeting in the City Council Chambers, 2600 Fresno Street. Supplemental Packets are also available on-line on the City Clerk's website.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA):

The meeting room is accessible to the physically disabled, and the services of a translator can be made available. Requests for additional accommodations for the disabled, sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or translators should be made one week prior to the meeting. Please call City Clerk's Office at 621-7650. Please keep the doorways, aisles and wheelchair seating areas open and accessible. If you need assistance with seating because of a disability, please see Security.

From: [Clerk](#)
To: [Clerk Agendas](#)
Subject: FW: Public comment: Public hearing item ID 23-1247
Date: Thursday, September 14, 2023 8:14:59 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Mary Quinn

Deputy City Clerk
Office of the City Clerk
City of



2600 Fresno St.
Fresno, Ca 93721

[REDACTED]

From: Brandi Nuse-Villegas <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 13, 2023 5:46 PM
To: Clerk <Clerk@fresno.gov>
Subject: Public comment: Public hearing item ID 23-1247

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments

I think that beyond the numbers, we need quantitative information regarding the effectiveness of the programs funded. There is much that looks really good, but I am concerned that I do know that looks better on paper than reality. Among this is the number of those who have utilized shelters and those served by outreach services. The CAPER shows that they exceed the goals in both areas by way of numbers. In reality, both services have helped people to escape homelessness and are an important part of the process. This is the goal of that funding. However, The numbers of those who have been in shelters reveals a concerning and problematic reality. There is no fair protocol for being exited from shelters and many people who have been wanting shelters are back on the streets for reasons that could have been mitigated, or at least there is no oversight to ensure that it is reasonable. A month ago, I came across a lovely woman who was absolutely distraught. She was crying because she didn't know what to do. She finally got into a shelter. She left on personal business for a few days and told a staff member before hand and had assurance she was okay. When she got back, that staff member wasn't there and she lost her bed. Another man told me that he was exited out while he was in the hospital. A student I knew who was still going to school while homeless was exited for having a dog, and while I don't understand the details why this was a problem, he wasn't allowed to go back in for his school materials. Those who question the validity of their

concerns should consider that having a system whereby concerns before exiting can be fairly reviewed would help.

As well, regarding the number of those helped by outreach. Services usually are simply getting their name into a system. Important, but for many, that is the only service they have received. Some have held hope that they will get into a shelter and are still waiting, some for years. Meanwhile, they are being displaced by the rest of the HART team. We need to be realistic about these services to see the real number of what those seeking services are getting, because there is often an overinflated concept of the help our unhoused has received and when the numbers of those unhoused remain high, they are often blamed for this number and the lack of success exited homelessness. Not being realistic also impedes addressing the challenges and areas of improvement needed to more effectively address homelessness and be more realistic about where we are, our capacity, and what can be accomplished with what we have.