



**City of Moreno Valley
Homeless AD HOC Subcommittee
Minutes of November 19, 2025**

1. Call to Order

Mayor Ulises Cabrera called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. The following attendees were present at the meeting:

Subcommittee Members:

Ulises Cabrera, Mayor

Cheylynda Barnard, Council Member

Staff Members:

Brian Mohan, City Manager

Launa Jimenez, Assistant City Manager (Administration)

Angel Galache, Deputy City Manager

Sandra Brieno, Deputy Compliance Director

Anthony Brandyberry, Maintenance & Operations Division Manager

Robert Alvarez, Community Enhancement & Neighborhood Services Division Manager

Homeless Task Force Partners:

Benjamin Schuler, Founder, The Hole in Wall, Inc.

2. Public Comments

No Public Comment

3. Approval of Minutes

ACTION: Mayor Ulises Cabrera motioned to approve the meeting minutes of September 17, 2025, and Council Member Cheylynda Barnard seconded to approve the minutes.

4. Action Items

A. NONE

5. Advisory Items

A. Quality of Life Program Update and Presentation (Verbal Updates)

Robert Alvarez, Community Enhancement & Neighborhood Services Division Manager provided the Quality of Life Program update. He reported that operations continue twice a week with the City's partners and resources. He announced that The Salvation Army added two new members, Carlos Aguilar and Faith Cervera, who both have extensive experience working with homeless encampments, enforcement, and connecting individuals to services such as housing and rehabilitation. In addition to working with key partners the Community Enhancement & Neighborhood Services Division, also conducts outreach outside of scheduled operations and provides individuals with resources.



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A Quality of Life Operation was conducted on November 18th, and a night parks operation took place on November 12th with support from the Park Rangers and the Moreno Valley Police Department. During the park's operation, 20 individuals were contacted, though no one accepted services. Mr. Alvarez shared that there is an increase in park activity during winter months, as individuals avoid shelters and seek secluded areas. Park Rangers maintain responsibilities for safety and park enforcement, while partner agencies such as The Salvation Army offer service-related support.

Mr. Alvarez shared two success stories. The first involved a woman, who had been living in an encampment in Box Springs Canyon for months. After repeated contacts, she accepted services earlier this year, moved in with her mother, regained custody of her three children, and is now housed. The second story involved a married couple, who previously lived on Postal Avenue in an alleyway. After multiple contacts and initially refusing services, they both accepted placement in sober living and outpatient programs, reunited with their children, and are now working toward purchasing a home.

Mayor Ulises Cabrera acknowledged the success stories and thanked Mr. Alvarez for the detailed information. He stated that Waste Management representatives recently expressed interest in reviving the Homeless-to-Work Program and encouraged staff to explore reestablishing that partnership. He also asked if data collection during Quality of Life Operations could be improved by tracking the number of individuals contacted, the number accepting services, and the number referred to law enforcement or medical care. He stated that this information would help the city better understand its overall impact. Mayor Cabrera also asked what trends staff are seeing in terms of increases or decreases in homelessness within the city.

Mr. Alvarez explained that the City cannot track homeless individuals by name due to Fourth Amendment restrictions, but staff internally tracks activity through numerical counts and known hotspot locations. As a result of the City increasing its presence in commercial areas, individuals experiencing homelessness often relocate to overgrown vegetation areas, freeway-adjacent parcels, and Caltrans properties. Although counts fluctuate as individuals move between jurisdictions and available spaces, Mr. Alvarez stated that he sees fewer people overall compared to previous years. The city continues off-schedule operations and works closely with two dedicated police officers to monitor shifting locations. Based on field observations, Mr. Alvarez believes the number of individuals in visible locations is decreasing.

Mr. Alvarez also explained that drone technology is used to safely review areas that are unsafe for staff to enter without prior assessment, and that the information is shared with the Police Department to support coordinated responses.



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City Manager, Brian Mohan, added that after each Quality of Life Operation, Robert Alvarez sends an internal email to staff documenting the number of locations visited, the number of individuals contacted, how many accepted services, and how many were arrested for unrelated warrants. He clarified that, unlike the County, which tracks individuals directly, the city only uses non-descriptive numerical data and does not track people by name. Mr. Mohan stated that this documentation allows the city to monitor how many contacts occur, how many individuals accept services, and how many require law enforcement involvement.

City Manager, Brian Mohan also noted that since the Quality of Life Program began five years ago, the number of individuals accepting services has increased, whereas previously the acceptance rate was nearly zero. He added that acceptance levels now average about 25–30%, though the number can vary depending on conditions. Mr. Mohan further explained that The Salvation Army conducts a monthly count similar to the County's annual Point-In-Time Count, using GIS-enabled tools to map hotspots and track the number of individuals, genders, and encampments. He stated that this information supports and informs the City's Quality of Life Operations.

Mayor Cabrera also wanted to discuss the potential role of AI-powered cameras in identifying issues such as illegal dumping or encampments but emphasized the importance of ensuring privacy protections, data retention controls, and compliance with established policies. He expressed support for expanding the use of technology in a careful and responsible manner.

City Manager, Brian Mohan explained that the City uses a camera-enabled software called RoadAI, originally acquired to assess pavement conditions and maintain the pavement condition index. Discussions with the vendor have expanded the system's capabilities so it can eventually identify infrastructure assets such as streetlights, signs, trees, and fire hydrants captured within the camera's view. As development continues, the system may also be capable of detecting tents on sidewalks. In addition, the Maintain Mobile app allows staff to stop, record an issue using GIS-enabled reporting, and submit it as long as they are logged into the system.

Council Member Cheylynda Barnard raised concerns about the use of AI, surveillance issues, and the need to understand what information is stored, how it is used, and what potential biases or impacts that may result. She acknowledged that AI could be beneficial but emphasized that the City must evaluate privacy and civil rights considerations before using technology to identify encampments or other issues.

City Manager, Brian Mohan noted that the City already has established policies and procedures in place governing the use of technology, including AI-related tools, due to its



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long-standing success with the City's expanding camera system and related infrastructure, but understands that there is a need to ensure compliance.

6. Public Comments

Seth Cox, Resident

Mr. Cox requested that the city improve communication when meetings are canceled by posting a notice on the door, noting that several members of the public were unaware of the previous cancellation. He emphasized the importance of strong AI governance and stated that any use of AI should be overseen by an established governance board due to the rapidly changing nature of the technology. He also thanked the city for the recent emergency food pantry funding, expressing that organizations he works with were very grateful. However, he suggested adding clearer spending guidelines in the future, explaining that one organization purchased \$100 gift cards, which he felt exceeded the intended purpose of supplemental food assistance. He recommended placing limits on gift card amounts so funds can be distributed more equitably among more people.

Mr. Benjamin Schuler, Founder, The Hole in Wall, Inc.

Mr. Benjamin Schuler, shared that his organization serves approximately 120 unhoused individuals each month, providing daily support such as food, ID vouchers, and bus passes. He stated that he works directly with the homeless community every week and has participated in Point-in-Time Counts. Drawing from this experience, he expressed concern about increasing homelessness and the possibility of displacements from Los Angeles during the Olympics. He suggested the city consider placing secure trash containers in areas where homeless individuals frequently gather, explaining that this could help reduce litter when people relocate.

Mr. Schuler described seeing people dropped off from outside the area and highlighted the need for long-term solutions. He noted that without a local shelter or wellness center, individuals are often reluctant to go to existing regional facilities due to safety and cleanliness concerns. He proposed exploring a temporary housing program and pointed out the importance of planning ahead, as he frequently sees individuals moving from one vacant lot to another. He recommended considering ways to minimize trash, possibly by employing homeless individuals to maintain container sites. He concluded by expressing his love for the city, his long-standing connection to the community, and his hope that the committee will continue discussing solutions that address both safety and cleanliness.

He also announced that their organization will be holding its annual Thanksgiving Community Event on the 29th of the month. He explained that the event provides meals to the community by preparing food offsite, bringing it in, setting up a buffet line, and serving from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.



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7. Financial Resources Division Comments

Launa Jimenez, Assistant City Manager (Administration) provided an update that the pilot program with the four nonprofit organizations is moving forward, and that funds will be released once the agreements are fully executed.

- A. Next Homeless Ad Hoc Subcommittee Meeting: December 17, 2025
- B. Future meetings on the third (3rd) Wednesday of each month at 4:00 p.m.

8. Subcommittee Member Comments

Council Member Cheylynda Barnard stated that she did not have additional comments but acknowledged the concerns raised regarding temporary housing. She explained that previous temporary housing efforts—such as the program in Banning—were not renewed because they created additional problems and did not provide the long-term stability individuals need, as most programs only offer 60–90-day stays. She noted that while the city has explored these options, progress is often limited by strong community resistance (NIMBYism), with residents objecting when shelters or services are proposed near their neighborhoods.

Council Member Barnard emphasized that the Mayor, Council, and staff continually work to find a balanced approach that serves the entire community, even if only partial solutions are possible. She added that ideas such as providing trash containers have merit but also raise practical concerns, including fire risks, runoff, and the added burden on staff when issues arise. She reiterated that she hears and understands the suggestions but that the city must consider all related impacts when determining whether and how to act on them.

Mayor Ulises Cabrera emphasized the importance of considering unintended consequences when evaluating new ideas and stated that pilot programs can help test concepts before broader implementation. He explained that he and several council members strongly support pursuing housing solutions for the homeless and have consistently advocated for programs such as Homekey and Roomkey despite criticism. He highlighted the City's success in securing 184 million dollars for the future Wellness Center at the hospital, which will take several years to complete but represents meaningful progress.

Mayor Cabrera noted that funding challenges at all levels of government have strained budgets and reduced the availability of grants. He explained that Moreno Valley is in a stronger financial position than many jurisdictions because of its diversified economy and healthy reserves. Despite limited federal and statewide funding, the city will continue seeking opportunities to support housing and homelessness programs. He expressed appreciation for the ongoing work of City staff and nonprofit partners and acknowledged



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the City's progress in providing tangible support to local organizations, which he said was not happening a few years ago.

9. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:51 P.M., by Mayor Ulises Cabrera.



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Prior Meeting Attendance

Board Member	2/19/25	3/19/25	4/16/25	5/21/25	9/17/25	11/19/25	
Mayor Ulises Cabrera	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Council Member Cheylynda Barnard	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Council Member Erlan Gonzalez (Alternate)							