

CITY OF BUENA PARK
NAVIGATION CENTER OVERSIGHT COMMISSION
July 16, 2025

1. GENERAL

- a. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair McCann called the Navigation Center Oversight Commission Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., in the Council Chamber, 6650 Beach Boulevard, Buena Park, California.

b. **ROLL CALL:**

Present: Jessup, McCann, Morrison, Ross

Absent: Innocente, McAuley

Also Present: Jim Box, Director of Community Services

Ariana Chavez, Senior Administrative Assistant

Rosemary Nielsen, Homeless Outreach Supervisor

Analisa Marquez, Homeless Outreach Coordinator

Saul Contreras, Senior Office Assistant

Timothy Huynh, Chief Program Officer Mercy House

Officer Rodriguez, Homeless Liaison Officer

Officer Beltran, Homeless Liaison Officer

- c. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by Commissioner Jessup

2. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:** Sheila Meli, resident of Ascent, informed the Commission on the issues at the Ascent Apartments which she stated was due to the lack of security at the location which results in a gathering of non-residents at the site.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES April 16, 2025:**

***M/S/P – Vice Chair Ross motioned to approve the minutes from April 16, 2025.

Commissioner Jessup seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

4. **DIRECTOR AND CITY STAFF REPORTS:**

- a. City - News and Recent Happenings

Jim Box, Director of Community Services, updated the Commission on Summer Concerts, Movies Under the Stars, Super Senior Saturday, Buena Park Culture Fest, and the Construction Career and Apprenticeship Fair. Jim Box, Director of Community Services, informed the Commission on working with Vice Mayor Trout on filling the vacant seats on the Commission. Ariana Chavez, Senior Administrative Assistant, informed the Commission on their expiration date of service being associated with the tenure of the Council Member who appointed them.

- b. Navigation Center/Mercy House - Recent Happenings

John Weber, Mercy House Shelter Manager, provided an update to the Commission regarding permanent housing, rapid rehousing opportunities, and provided a success story for the month featuring an individual who has been at the Navigation Center since 2021 and has been matched for housing and has attained full-time employment. John Weber, Mercy House Shelter Manager, updated the Commission on security and safety at the Navigation Center along with the number of incidents that have occurred and documented by Mercy House staff. John Weber, Mercy House Shelter Manager,

informed the Commission on the programs and services provided at the Navigation Center along with the status on the construction occurring in the women's restroom.

c. Homeless Outreach/Public Safety Update

Analisa Marquez, Homeless Outreach Coordinator, updated the Commission on the statistics from the Buena Park Homeless Outreach team from the months between April and June. Analisa Marquez, Homeless Outreach Coordinator, informed the Commission on services provided which included calls, providing hygiene kits, linkages, drop-in visits, shelter placements, hotel vouchers and the waitlist status for shelter beds. Analisa Marquez, Homeless Outreach Coordinator, provided an update to the Commission regarding the flood gate channel repairs and staffs repeated visits to Knott Ave. and Lincoln Ave. Officer Rodriguez informed the Commission on the proactive approach Homeless Liaison Officers take to address non-violent homeless situations and emphasized the location at Knott Ave. and Lincoln Ave. Officer Beltran, Homeless Liaison Officer, updated the Commission on past and scheduled clean ups such as Beach Blvd. and 9th St. near the railroad tracks and the flood channels.

5. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS:

a. Service Award Presented to Commissioner Sheena Innocente

No action was taken due to the absence of Commissioner Innocente.

b. Report on California Interagency Council on Homelessness

Rosemary Nielsen, Homeless Outreach Supervisor, informed the Commission on the California Interagency Council on Homelessness and updated the Commission on the State's goals and shared and compared Buena Park's numbers to California Interagency Council on Homelessness. Rosemary Nielsen, Homeless Outreach Supervisor, highlighted outcomes from her team and compared them to California Interagency Council on Homelessness standards.

c. Report on Placement into Permanent Supportive Housing

Rosemary Nielsen, Homeless Outreach Supervisor, informed the Commission on placements into permanent supporting housing and provided numbers from Buena Park's Homeless Outreach team. Rosemary Nielsen, Homeless Outreach Supervisor, informed the Commission on how the Buena Park Homeless Outreach team documents their work in placement into permanent housing and updated the Commission on how the state measures and reports on permanent supportive housing.

d. Sub-Committee to Study Inclement Weather Shelters

Rosemary Nielsen, Homeless Outreach Supervisor, informed the Commission on past inclement weather shelters in Orange County. Rosemary Nielsen, Homeless Outreach Supervisor, updated the Commission on the logistical issues in running an inclement weather shelter and that the County of Orange received zero applications to operate an inclement weather shelter resulting in no shelters being provided in recent years and for the foreseeable future. Vice Chair Ross inquired how inclement weather shelters secure funding and if there is a plan to bring one into operation.

e. 2025 Navigation Center Audit Update

Chair McCann provided the findings from the site inspection that is part of the Navigation Center Audit to the Commission. Chair McCann shared the report via

PowerPoint to the Commission and asked and accepted commissioner comments and recommendations based on the results from the findings.

f. Status of Pro-Housing Designation

Rosemary Nielsen, Homeless Outreach Supervisor, informed the Commission on a brief history for pro-housing designation and updated the Commission on the actions taken by City Council in regards to pro-housing designation.

6. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

- a. Navigation Center Monthly Report – March 2025 – May 2025.

7. **COMMISSION COMMENTS, FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS, ATENDANCE**

- a. Commissioner Morrison commented on the food pantry from second harvest being hosted at the Buena Park Middle School gym on July 17th. Vice Chair Ross asked staff how much does the federal budget impact services provided by Buena Park's Homeless Outreach team. Chair McCann commented on placing the, Management, Operations and Public Safety Plan, MOPS, on the agenda for the next Commission meeting in October.
- b. Attendance Report

8. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- a. Next City Council Meeting: Tuesday, July 22, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.
- b. Next Regular Commission Meeting: Wednesday, October 15, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

9. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, Chair McCann declared the meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

ATTEST:


Ariana Chavez, Senior Administrative Assistant


Chair, Carol McCann