



CITY OF SURPRISE
Veterans Disability and Human Services Commission Meeting
16000 N. Civic Center Plaza
Surprise, AZ 85374
Wednesday, September 9, 2026 @ 6:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

- A. Call To Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Pledge of Allegiance
- D. Current Events and Reports
- E. Staff Reports
- F. Veterans, Disability and Human Services Commission

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of the consent agenda may be by one motion and a passing vote by the City Council. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless a Councilmember requests such. The requested item for discussion will be removed from the consent agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEM - PUBLIC HEARING:

- 1. Citywide Presentation and discussion pertaining to the CDBG and HOME Needs Hearing for the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Third Year Annual Action Plan. Human Svcs and Comm Vitality

REGULAR AGENDA ITEM - NON-PUBLIC HEARING:

- 2. Citywide Consideration and action pertaining to the August 12, 2026 Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission meeting minutes. Human Svcs and Comm Vitality

- G. Call To The Public

INSTRUCTIONS:

In order to address the board, you will need to fill out a Public Comment Form available at the entrance, and turn it in to the Clerk before the meeting begins.

You may also fill out the [Public Comment Form](#). If submitting the online form the Clerk must receive the request at least one hour before the meeting start time. In accordance with A.R.S. 38-431.01(I) - During this time, members of the public may address board only on issues within the jurisdiction of the Commission. At the conclusion of the open call, board may respond to criticism, may ask staff to review the matter or may ask that the matter be put on a future agenda.

Board members may not discuss or respond to matters raised during the call to the public that are not specifically identified on the agenda.

Each speaker shall be limited to three (3) minutes per item. If several speakers desire to speak regarding a single topic, the Chair may limit the number of speakers or the time given to each group. A maximum time of 30 minutes will be given per topic. However, an equal amount of time will be given to each side of an issue.

- H. Other Business and Future Agenda Items
- I. Adjournment

KRISTI PASSARELLI, CITY CLERK

Meeting room doors will be open at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the meeting.

SPECIAL NOTE: PERSONS WITH SPECIAL ACCESSIBILITY NEEDS, INCLUDING LARGE PRINT MATERIALS OR INTERPRETER, SHOULD CONTACT THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE @ 623.222.1200 OR CLERK@SURPRISEAZ.GOV, BY NO LATER THAN 24 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING TIME.



CITY OF SURPRISE
Veterans Disability and Human Services
Commission Meeting

Council Meeting Date: September 9, 2026 Contact Person:
Submitting Department: Human Svcs and Comm District: Citywide
Vitality
Staff Recommendations:

Consent: No	Regular: No	Public Hearing: Yes	Report/Discussion: No
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Agenda Wording:

Presentation and discussion pertaining to the CDBG and HOME Needs Hearing for the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Third Year Annual Action Plan.

Motion:

Presentation and discussion only.

Background:

As a recipient of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership funds, the City of Surprise must complete a Five-Year Consolidated Plan to help the City identify needs in the community related to housing and community development. The Consolidated Plan also contains the Third Year Annual Action Plan for anticipated funding to be received from the Department of Housing & Urban Development. As part of the Consolidated Plan process, the City must conduct a minimum of two public hearings.

This hearing is being conducted in advance of the City's formation of its 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Third-Year Annual Action Plan that will begin July 1st, 2027. Although funding amounts have not been announced, based on past year allocations, the City anticipates receiving approximately \$782,957 in CDBG funding, and \$214,000 in HOME funding in Program Year 2027.

Objective Analysis:

In accordance with the City's Citizen Participation Plan, this "Needs" Public Hearing is being held to provide an opportunity for organizations and citizens to comment and provide input on any housing and/or community development needs they have identified for providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons.

Policy Compliant:

This action is compliant with City and Council policies.

Financial Impact:

None

Budget Impact:

None

FTE Impact:

None

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Needs Hearing VDHS Staff Report
 2. Surprise - 2027_AAP_Public Hearing
-



HUMAN SERVICE AND COMMUNITY VITALITY

Date: September 9, 2026

To: Veteran's, Disability & Human Services Commission Members

From: Seth Dyson, Human Service & Community Vitality Director

Re: Program Year 2027 Annual Action Plan – “Needs” Public Hearing

Introduction

As a recipient of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership funds, the City of Surprise must complete an Annual Action Plan for anticipated funding to be received from the Department of Housing & Urban Development. As part of the Action Plan process, the City must conduct a minimum of two public hearings.

Background

In accordance with the City's Citizen Participation Plan, this “Needs” Public Hearing is being held to provide an opportunity for organizations and citizens to comment and provide input on any housing and/or community development needs they have identified for providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons.

This hearing is being conducted in advance of the City's formation of its Third-Year Annual Action Plan that will begin July 1st, 2027. Although funding amounts have not been announced, based on past year allocations, the City anticipates receiving approximately \$782,957 in CDBG funding, and \$214,000 in HOME funding in Program Year 2027.

Any public comments received during the Public Hearing will be considered and included in the final version of the plan.

Recommendations

Staff recommends consideration of all public comments for inclusion in the 2027 Annual Action Plan.

Future Actions

Review and approve the draft Program Year 2027 Annual Action Plan following a 30-day public comment period, and final approval by City Council for submission to HUD.

Program Year 2027

Annual Action Plan

Public Hearing #1

September 9, 2026



Introduction

- The City of Surprise is a recipient of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) funding.
- The City receives the CDBG annual allocation as a direct entitlement community.
- The City receives an annual allocation of HOME funding as a member of the Maricopa HOME Consortium.



Purpose

- The City must complete an Annual Action Plan each year
- The Plan must address Goals identified in the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan
- Planned projects must meet a National Objective
- Projects must provide principally to low- and moderate-income persons:
 - Decent housing
 - A suitable living environment
 - Expanded economic opportunities



HUD Consolidated Plan Process

City develops
Consolidated Plan
(ConPlan)



- **Needs Assessment & Market Analysis**
- Priority needs Identification
- Strategic goals for funds
- Annual Action Plan (year 1)
- Opportunities for **Citizen Participation**

ConPlan is approved &
submitted to HUD



HUD awards grant funds to
the city to fund activities in
ConPlan and AAP



How to Participate:

1. Community Meetings
2. Public Hearing #1 – Priority Needs
3. 30-Day Public Comment Period – Draft AAP for public feedback is from February 5th – March 10th, 2027
4. Public Hearing #2 – Draft Annual Action Plan



Annual Action Plan & Allocation

Major Components

1. Annual Goals
2. Available Resources
3. Identify Projects
4. Other Needs/Actions
5. Citizen Participation

HUD 2026 Allocation

Source	Amount
CDBG	\$782,957
HOME	*\$214,823

*Via Consortium

(2027 HUD allocations TBD)



Citizen Participation

Community Survey - Top Priority Needs:

1. Affordable Housing

- New Construction of Affordable Housing
- HVAC Replacement or Repairs
- Down Payment Assistance

2. Public Improvements

- Street Improvements
- Water Quality Improvements
- Neighborhood Cleanup

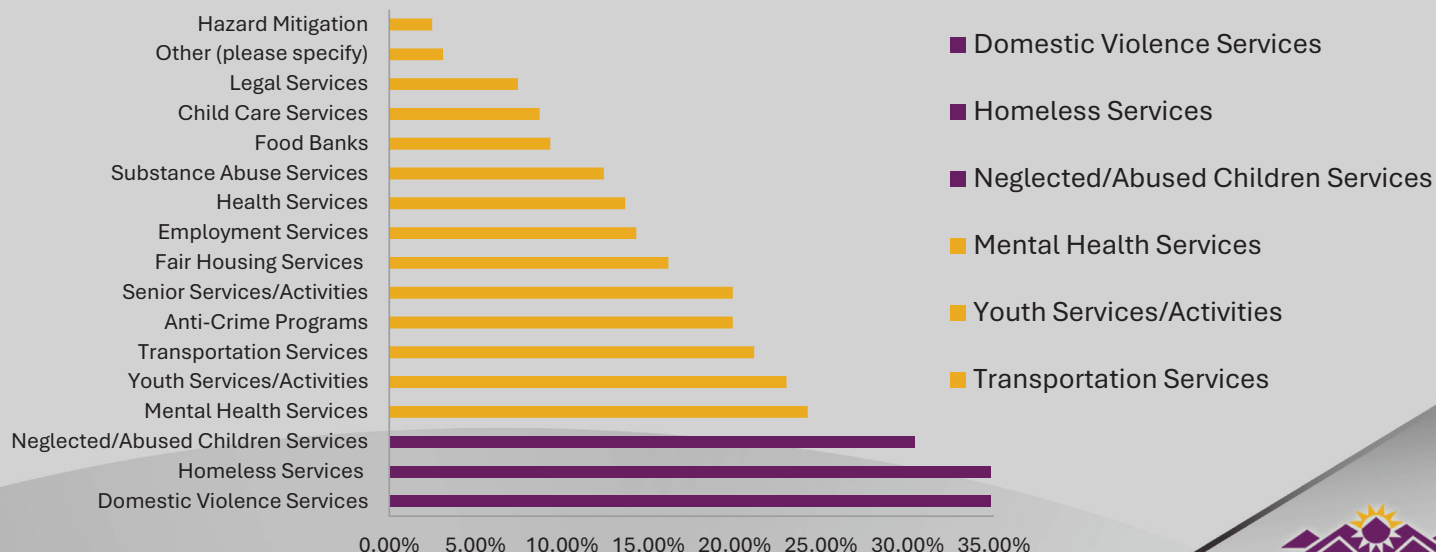
3. Public Facilities

- Multi-Purpose/Community Center
- Parks & Recreational Facilities
- Homeless Shelters



Citizen Participation – Survey Highlights

Public Services - Priorities



2025-2029 ConPlan - Priority Needs

Priority Needs	Goals
Affordable Housing	1A Affordable Housing 1B Housing Services
Public Facility Improvements	2A Public Facility Improvements
Public Services	3A Public Services
Planning and Administration	4A Administration & Planning



Proposed 2027 AAP Projects - CDBG

Project Name	Funding
CDBG Affordable Housing & Housing Services (37%)	\$392,529
CDBG Public Facility Improvements (28%)	\$116,394
CDBG Public Services (15%)	\$117,443
CDBG Administration (20%)	\$156,591
TOTAL 2026 Program Year Funds	\$782,957

(Pending federal action)

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2027 Action Plan Projects - HOME

Project Name	Funding
Acquisition/Rehabilitation of Housing	\$214,823
TOTAL 2026 Program Year Funds	\$214,823

(Pending federal action)

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2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Progress

#	Consolidated Plan Goals	Associated Need	Total Goal	PY2025	PY2026*	PY2027	PY2028	PY2029	Total Con Plan*
1	Affordable Housing	1	25 Units	2	1	0	0	0	3
2	Housing Services	1	75 Households	15	1	0	0	0	16
3	Public Facility Improvements	2	2,500 Persons	0	300	0	0	0	300
4	Public Services	3	400 Persons	67	125	0	0	0	192

* Projected



Phases and Processes



(TBD based on HUD allocation release dates)



Questions or Comments?





CITY OF SURPRISE
Veterans Disability and Human Services
Commission Meeting

Council Meeting Date: September 9, 2026 Contact Person:
Submitting Department: Human Svcs and Comm District: Citywide
Vitality
Staff Recommendations:

Consent: No Regular: No Public Hearing: No Report/Discussion: No

Agenda Wording:

Consideration and action pertaining to the August 12, 2026 Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission meeting minutes.

Motion:

I move to approve the August 12, 2026 Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission meeting minutes.

Background:

N/A

Objective Analysis:

N/A

Policy Compliant:

This item is compliant with City and Council policies.

Financial Impact:

None

Budget Impact:

None

FTE Impact:

None

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 8.12.26 VDHS Commission Minutes - DRAFT
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**CITY OF SURPRISE
VETERANS, DISABILITY, AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**August 12 | 6:00 PM
City Council Chambers
16000 N. Civic Center Plaza
Surprise, AZ 85374**

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Tree called the Veterans, Disability, and Human Services Commission meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at Surprise City Hall, 16000 North Civic Center Plaza, Surprise, Arizona 85374, on August 12, 2026.

ROLL CALL

In attendance were Chair Michael Tree, Vice-Chair Julie Kent-Partridge, Commissioners John Billcheck, Olivia Fryer, Charles Manuel, Dr. Gwen Maxfield, and Allison Wisniewski.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

STAFF PRESENT:

Human Services and Community Vitality Director, Seth Dyson, Community Initiatives Supervisor, Kara Poling, and Administrative Specialist, Victoria Simmons.

CURRENT EVENTS REPORT

Chair Tree reported on the following:

- The City of Surprise is expanding its partnership with West Valley Community Center to offer one of the Valley's most affordable before- and after-school programs for local families. The program provides transportation to and from the following locations: Surprise Elementary School, West Point Elementary School, and Thompson Ranch Elementary School. Families can also apply for full and partial scholarships to help keep before- and after-school care affordable. For rates, scholarship information and enrollment, contact West Valley Community Center at 623.583.0016 or email info@westvalleycommunitycenter.org.
- To encourage community engagement and further build strong relationships with communities, the Surprise City Council approved funding for the Neighborhood Grant Program, providing eligible neighborhoods with small grants to fund neighborhood events, functions or community improvements. To be considered, projects must meet the certain program criteria. Nonprofit 501(c)3 organizations are ineligible. Interested communities can find more information about the grant at surpriseaz.gov/NGP. The deadline to apply is 5 p.m. on Friday, August 28, 2026.

- In observance of the Labor Day holiday, City of Surprise administrative offices will be closed on Monday, September 7.
- Excitement is building as the new Surprise Community and Resource Center (SCRC), located at 12641 W. Santa Fe Dr., prepares to open its doors. The 35,000-square-foot, multigenerational facility will bring the Surprise Resource Center, Surprise Senior Center and Hollyhock Library together in one location, creating expanded opportunities for learning, wellness, recreation and access to community resources for residents. A Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony is scheduled for September 3. Programs currently offered at the Surprise Resource Center, Surprise Senior Center and Hollyhock Library will transition to the new facility in phases throughout the end of August. As construction and move preparations continue, the program transition dates are subject to change. Please visit surpriseaz.gov/HSCV for the latest updates and current information.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

- Commissioner Manuel
 - June – attended Soldiers Best Friend event to honor service animals
 - August 5 – attended Mayor's Veterans Roundtable meeting
 - Attended several American Legion meetings
- Commissioner Fryer
 - July 8 – attended Mayor's Roundtable on Disabilities meeting
 - Dysart Special Education PTSA is hosting Fall Festival on October 10 at the Support Services building
 - October - Special Olympics Competition here in Surprise
 - July 27 – Community Legend Awards Sub-Committee meeting
- Commissioner Maxfield
 - Attended Veteran Caravan Celebration for Corporal John Morgan's 100th birthday
 - Attended Silence the Violence
 - August 11 - attended Faith and Community meeting
- Commissioner Wisniewski
 - July 8 – attended Mayor's Roundtable on Disabilities meeting
 - July 23 – attended the Surprise Area Homeless Collaborative meeting
 - Attended Veteran Caravan birthday celebration for Corporal John Morgan for 100th birthday
 - August 5 – attended Mayor's Veterans Roundtable meeting
 - August 11 - Faith and Community Connection meeting
- Commissioner Billcheck
 - July 21 – attended meeting with Chair Tree and Mayor Sartor to discuss a Hometown Heroes Banner Project
 - Attended Caravan for Corporal Morgan's 100th birthday
 - August 5 – attended Mayor's Veterans Roundtable meeting
- Vice-Chair Kent-Partridge
 - June – met with Michelle Cleveland, with Project 24Seven
 - June – connected Luke Fadell with Seth Dyson to provide suicide prevention training here in Surprise
 - July 8 – attended Mayor's Roundtable on Disabilities meeting
 - July 9 – attended Legislative Breakfast

- Attended retirement ceremony for Connie Phillips of Lutheran Social Services
- August 3 – attended meeting with Seth Dyson and the Surprise Police Department
- August 5 – attended Mayor’s Veterans Roundtable meeting
- Chair Tree
 - August 5 – attended Mayor’s Veterans Roundtable meeting
 - July 27 – Attended Community Legend Sub-Committee meeting
 - July 21 – attended meeting with Mayor Sartor to discuss a Hometown Heroes Banner Project

STAFF REPORT

None.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

None.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS - PUBLIC HEARING:

None.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS - NON-PUBLIC HEARING:

Item 1 – Citywide – Consideration and action pertaining to the selection of the Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission Chair.

Chair Tree opened the floor to nominations.

Chair Tree nominated Michael Tree. Commissioner Wisniewski nominated Charles Manuel. Commissioner Maxfield nominated Allison Wisniewski. Commissioner Manuel nominated Michael Tree.

Seeing no other nominees, Chair Tree closed the floor to nominations.

The Commissioners submitted their votes. Michael Tree received five votes (Tree, Manuel, Fryer, Kent-Partridge, and Billcheck). Allison Wisniewski received one vote (Dr. Maxfield). Charles Manuel received one vote (Wisniewski). Michael Tree was selected as the

Veterans, Disability, and Human Services Commission Chair.

Chair Tree moved to accept Michael Tree as Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission Chair. Commissioner Billcheck seconded the motion. The motion passed with 7 Yes votes.

Item 2 – Citywide – Consideration and action pertaining to the selection of the Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission Chair.

Chair Tree opened the floor to nominations.

Commissioner Fryer nominated Julie Kent-Partridge. Chair Tree nominated Julie Kent-Partridge. Commissioner Manuel nominated Julie Kent-Partridge. Commissioner Maxfield nominated Allison Wisniewski. Commissioner Wisniewski nominated Charles Manuel.

Seeing no other nominees, Chair Tree closed the floor to nominations.

The Commissioners submitted their votes. Charles Manuel received two votes (Wisniewski and Maxfield). Julie Kent-Partridge received five votes (Tree, Billcheck, Kent-Partridge, Manuel, Fryer). Julie Kent-Partridge was selected as the Veterans, Disability, and Human Services Commission Chair.

Commissioner Billcheck moved to accept Commissioner Julie Kent-Partridge as Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission Vice-Chair. Commissioner Wisniewski seconded the motion. The motion passed with 7 Yes votes

Item 3 – Citywide – Consideration and action pertaining to the June 10, 2026 Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission meeting minutes.

Commissioner Manuel moved to approve the June 10, 2026, Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Wisniewski seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with 7 Yes votes.

Item 4 – Citywide – Presentation and discussion pertaining to Project 24 Seven.

Michelle Cleveland gave a presentation on Project 24 Seven.

Item 5 – Citywide – Discussion and action pertaining to the Community Legend Awards.

The commission discussed details about the selection of the 2026 Community Legend Awards. The Community Legend Awards Subcommittee made recommendations to nominate Hadley Gray for Outstanding Youth of the Year, Veterans Affinity for Organization of the Year, Louis O'Brien, a Home Service Volunteer with Benevilla for Volunteer of the Year, and Debbie Lee, CEO and Founder of America's Mighty Warriors for Individual Legend Award.

Vice-Chair Kent-Partridge moved to approve the Community Legend Awards as presented.

Commissioner Maxfield seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with 7 Yes votes.

Item 6 – Citywide – Consideration and action pertaining to the 2026 Veterans Day Parade Grand Marshal.

The Commission discussed details about the selection of the 2026 Grand Marshal. The Grand Marshal Subcommittee made the recommendation to nominate Rick Kreiberg, founder of Veterans Affinity.

Commissioner Maxfield moved to approve Rick Kreiberg as the 2026 Veteran’s Day Parade Grand Marshal. Commissioner Wisniewski seconded the motion. Motion passed with 7 Yes votes.

OTHER BUSINESS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- Future presentation by NAMI Valley of the Sun
- Future presentation by Veterans 5-9
- Annual Military Retiree Appreciation Day on September 26 at 8:00 a.m. in the Navy Reserve Center on Luke Air Force Base
- Review applicants from Community Legend Awards for future presentations, to learn from organizations that were nominated

ADJOURNMENT:

Vice-Chair Kent-Partridge moved to adjourn the meeting of the Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission on August 12, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. Commissioner Wisniewski seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with 7 Yes votes.

Kara Poling
Community Initiatives Supervisor

Kent-Partridge

Veterans, Disability and Human Services Commission Vice-Chair

The foregoing instrument is a full, true, and correct copy of the original document on file in the office of the City Clerk, City of Surprise, Arizona.

ATTEST BY:

Victoria Simmons
Administrative Specialist

DATE:

DRAFT