



Quality of Life Committee April 9, 2026

Michael Nichols, Director



CITY OF HOUSTON ★ HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT



Agenda

- I. Welcome/Introductions
- II. Public Services
- III. Director's Comments
- IV. Public Comments
- V. Adjourn

II. Public Services

Melody Barr, Assistant Director

II.a. DR-2024 Public Services Guidelines (All Districts)

An Ordinance adopting the 2024 Derecho and Hurricane Beryl Disaster Recovery Public Services – Homeless Services Program (Program) Guidelines.

The Program will provide services to prevent or address homelessness by providing financial support to selected sub-recipients that are non-profits and/or units of local government.

Selected sub-recipients will provide shelter operations, case management services, and other services to meet the needs of homeless individuals directly or indirectly impacted by the 2024 Derecho and Hurricane Beryl storms in obtaining stable housing.



II.a. DR-2024 Public Services Guidelines (All Districts)

The 2024 Derecho and Hurricane Beryl storms had significant impacts throughout much of Texas, particularly in the City of Houston.

The intense winds from the Derecho windstorm on May 16, 2024 caused widespread destruction and left a significant portion of the city without electricity, resulting in substantial property damage.

Hurricane Beryl made landfall on July 8, 2024, as a Category 1 hurricane, producing life-threatening floods. Both catastrophic weather events resulted in extensive damage to homes, infrastructure, and businesses.

II.a. DR-2024 Public Services Guidelines (All Districts)

The President of the United States approved Major Disaster Declarations for Texas following the storms on April 26, 2024, and July 9, 2024, respectively.

The Program budget is approximately \$41,040,600.00 funded with Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery 2024 (CDBG-DR24) funds to support long-term recovery efforts.

The City will administer its 2024 Derecho and Hurricane Beryl Disaster Recovery Public Services – Homeless Services Program per the guidelines and HUD CDBG-DR24 regulations and guidance.

II.b. Lease Agreement, 419 Emancipation (District I)

An Ordinance authorizing a Lease Agreement between the City of Houston and The Harris Center for Mental Health and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (The Harris Center) to occupy and lease 419 Emancipation, Houston, Texas 77003, a City-owned facility in accordance with the Permitted Use.

The Harris Center will lease the facility to operate an easy entry, 24/7 triage and resource center for unhoused individuals. As the leaseholder, The Harris Center will develop occupancy agreements with partners, who will occupy space on the premises.

II.b. Lease Agreement, 419 Emancipation (District I)

The Harris Center will work with partners to provide services on-site and place individuals into available housing units or other facilities that best address each person's unique needs with the ultimate goal to become stably housed.

This Lease is a critical component of Mayor Whitmire's program to end street homelessness in the City of Houston and is part of the broader Houston/Harris County Homeless Response Strategy.

II.b. Lease Agreement, 419 Emancipation (District I)

HCD conducted a Notice of Funding Availability soliciting applications for a facility operator located at 419 Emancipation in December 2025. The Harris Center was the agency selected.

The Lease term will be thirty-six (36) months from the first day the facility is open to services.

The Harris Center has received funding for various projects from the City since 2008.

II.c. Operations Contract for 419 Emancipation (District I)

An Ordinance authorizing a Subrecipient Agreement (Agreement) between the City of Houston (City) and The Harris Center for Mental Health and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (The Harris Center),

Providing up to \$39,000,000.00 of funding comprised of Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery 2024 (CDBG-DR24) funds and End Street Homelessness (Fund 2012) funds,

To operate and provide services for unhoused persons at 419 Emancipation, Houston, Texas 77003, a City-owned facility.

II.c. Operations Contract for 419 Emancipation (District I)

The Harris Center will operate an easy-entry, 24/7 facility providing triage, treatment, and transition for individuals currently unhoused and living on the streets.

Onsite staff and partner agencies, including but not limited to Harris Health and the Houston Police Department, will work to place individuals into available housing units or other facilities that best address each client's unique needs.

The goal for all clients is to ultimately become stably housed.

II.c. Operations Contract for 419 Emancipation (District I)

This funding will support the operation of a facility providing up to 222 beds, serving 750 individuals annually as a safe alternative to remaining on the street.

Resources will fund comprehensive facility operations, including utilities, meal preparation and service, supplies, security, pet care, maintenance, staffing, and on-site case management services and supportive services.

This Agreement represents a key investment in Mayor Whitmire's initiative to end street homelessness in Houston and part of the broader Houston/Harris County Homeless Response Strategy.

II.c. Operations Contract for 419 Emancipation (District I)

HCD conducted a Notice of Funding Availability soliciting applications for a facility operator located at 419 Emancipation in December 2025. The Harris Center was the agency selected.

The Agreement term will be thirty-six (36) months from the date of Controller's countersignature.

II.c. Operations Contract for 419 Emancipation (District I)

Category	CDBG-DR24	Fund 2012	Total	Percent
Program	\$26,100,000.00	\$9,000,000.00	\$35,100,000.00	90.0%
Indirect Cost (Admin)	\$3,900,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,900,000.00	10.0%
Total	\$30,000,000.00	\$9,000,000.00	\$39,000,000.00	100.0%

The Harris Center has received funding for various projects from the City since 2008.

III. DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Michael Nichols, Director

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Council Member Julian Ramirez, Chair