

## **RESOLUTION NO. 2025-01**

### **RESOLUTION URGING THE METROPOLITAN OFFICE OF HOMELESS SERVICES, AS THE CONTINUUM OF CARE COLLABORATIVE APPLICANT, TO PURSUE A PUBLIC HOUSING PREFERENCE FOR LITERALLY HOMELESS HOUSEHOLDS AND INDIVIDUALS IN COLLABORATION WITH THE METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING AGENCY**

Introduced by: Planning Council Member Jamie Villegas, Co-Chair Housing Opportunities Committee

Upon Recommendation of: Housing Opportunities Committee

Date: December 10, 2025

**WHEREAS**, the Metropolitan Development and Housing Agency (MDHA) is an independent governmental agency responsible for administering public housing programs and Housing Choice Vouchers in Nashville-Davidson County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Metropolitan Office of Homeless Services (OHS) serves as both the administrative entity for Nashville-Davidson County's homelessness response system and the Continuum of Care (CoC) Collaborative Applicant, with primary responsibility under 24 CFR § 578.9 and § 578.15 for submitting the community's CoC Program application to HUD and coordinating community-wide efforts to prevent and end homelessness; and

**WHEREAS**, as the Collaborative Applicant, OHS is authorized and expected to coordinate with partner agencies—including MDHA—to ensure federal, state, and local housing resources are prioritized efficiently and equitably to serve households and individuals experiencing homelessness; and

**WHEREAS**, the Nashville-Davidson County Continuum of Care Homelessness Planning Council (HPC), as the governance board recognized under 24 CFR § 578.7 and Metropolitan Code of Laws § 2.144.020, provides policy guidance and establishes priorities to reduce homelessness, working in alignment with the Office of Homeless Services as the Collaborative Applicant; and

**WHEREAS**, MDHA already demonstrates its commitment by setting aside a portion of its Housing Choice Vouchers for households and individuals prioritized through Coordinated Entry; and

**WHEREAS**, despite collaborative efforts, no formal preference currently exists within MDHA's public housing program specifically for literally homeless households and individuals under HUD's definition (24 CFR § 576.2); and

**WHEREAS**, the 2025 Nashville-Davidson County Point-in-Time Count identified 1,931 households and individuals experiencing literal homelessness, with 38% meeting the federal chronic homelessness definition, reflecting progress yet underscoring ongoing needs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Metropolitan Mayor's Unified Housing Strategy—Strategy E: Create permanent housing options for persons experiencing or at-risk of homelessness—calls for advancing formal agreements such as MOUs between OHS and MDHA to expand housing access; and

**WHEREAS**, establishing a formal homeless preference within MDHA's public housing would enhance Nashville's system of care and housing pathways; and

**WHEREAS**, the OHS, as Collaborative Applicant, and its Executive Director are positioned to negotiate, execute, and implement such a preference through an MOU with MDHA; **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED BY THE NASHVILLE-DAVIDSON COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE HOMELESSNESS**

**PLANNING COUNCIL**, that the Continuum of Care Homelessness Planning Council respectfully urges the Metropolitan Office of Homeless Services, as the CoC Collaborative Applicant, to pursue incorporation of a homeless preference for unhoused households and individuals who have been classified as category 1 or category 4 by the definitions of homelessness set forth by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development into MDHA's public housing program via the next Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the agencies; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the HPC encourages OHS and its Executive Director to collaborate with MDHA and the Metropolitan Mayor's Office of Housing to establish eligibility, verification, and prioritization protocols consistent with HUD guidance and Strategy E of the Unified Housing Strategy; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this resolution expresses HPC's strong support for interagency partnerships expanding equitable public housing access and housing stability; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that upon adoption, the Executive Director of OHS is authorized to transmit this resolution to MDHA, the Metropolitan Mayor's Office, the Metropolitan Council, and the General Membership of the Continuum of Care to demonstrate unified community support.

**SIGNATURES OF COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS:**

This resolution was recommended for passage by the Housing Opportunities Committee on November 20th, 2025, by a vote of:

Ayes: \_\_\_\_\_

Nays: \_\_\_\_\_

Abstentions: \_\_\_\_\_

Jamie Villegas, Co-Chair

David Langle-Martin, Co-Chair

**ADOPTED BY THE FULL COUNCIL:**

This resolution was adopted by the Nashville-Davidson County Continuum of Care Homelessness Planning Council on December 10, 2025, by a vote of:

Ayes: \_\_\_\_\_

Nays: \_\_\_\_\_

Abstentions: \_\_\_\_\_

**ATTESTATION:**

Rico X, Chair

Nashville-Davidson County Continuum of Care Homelessness Planning Council