



**CITY OF FAIRFAX  
HOMELESSNESS TASK FORCE CHARTER**

**1. PURPOSE**

This Charter identifies the purpose, composition, roles, responsibilities, and committee structure of the City of Fairfax Homelessness Task Force (COHFTF).

The City of Fairfax Homelessness Task Force is a collaborative and inclusive community forum responsible for increasing the understanding of, identifying issues related to and developing innovative strategies for addressing homelessness in the City of Fairfax.

**2. MISSION**

The mission of the City of Fairfax Homelessness Task Force is to address the impacts of homelessness within the City of Fairfax both for individuals experiencing homelessness and the greater community with the end goal of the City of Fairfax being a community that supports all people.

The mission will be accomplished through facilitated community dialogue and interface with existing systems serving individuals at risk or experiencing homelessness.

**3. GOALS**

The City of Fairfax Homeless Task Force will serve as the Local Coalition and the coordinating body for efforts to end homelessness. The Homeless Task Force will coordinate and oversee implementation of the following strategies and activities to address homelessness in the City of Fairfax:

- Seek to better understand the scope and cause of homelessness in City of Fairfax
- Identify and recommend short- and long-term action plans that our community can undertake to address the issues.
- Create opportunities for dialogue and input from City of Fairfax business owners to identify current pain points and address a path forward and viable solutions.
- Establish a forum to involve, coordinate, educate and share knowledge between local stakeholders in City of Fairfax regarding local efforts to address homelessness.
- Develop recommendations on how the City of Fairfax can engage on current issues

connected to homelessness which may include: budget, legislative matters, and the current service system in place with our partners.

- Coordinate with local and regional homelessness partners to better understand current issues, needs of the population, and potential system barriers.

#### 4. ORGANIZATION

- A. Membership:** The City of Fairfax Homelessness Task Force will be an eight-to-twelve-member task force comprised of local representatives from City of Fairfax businesses, City of Fairfax residents and human services organizations connected to the Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness service continuum. Task force members will be chosen through an application/interview process to ensure membership reflects diverse stakeholder perspectives. ***Applications will be accepted from mid-February until March 15, 2023.***

Task force membership will include three City of Fairfax residents, three City of Fairfax business representatives (which includes at least one representative from Fairfax Circle businesses) along with a representative from the Lamb Center, FACETS and the Fairfax County Community Services Board. Although not official task force members, the following entities will serve as key partners: City Police Department, City Fire Department (community paramedic), Office to Prevent and End Homelessness, City of Fairfax Regional Library, Central Fairfax Chamber of Commerce, City Parks Department, and City Economic Development.

- B. Leadership** – Councilwoman So Lim, Mayor Catherine Read and Councilwoman Kate Feingold will provide leadership for the City of Fairfax Homelessness Taskforce. Chairperson will host and facilitate meetings and be spokesperson for the city’s Homelessness Task Force. Vice Chairperson will preside over meetings if the Chairperson is not available.

The Director of Human Services will serve as an advisor and staff support for this task force. The task force will also be supported by various City Department personnel.

- C. Meetings** – The City of Fairfax Homelessness Task Force will meet quarterly with an option to meet more frequently when necessary. Meetings will be open to the public.

The Mayor and City Council Members will host monthly community listening sessions at varied locations within the City of Fairfax. Dates and duration of these listening sessions

will be determined by the taskforce. During March, those community listening sessions will occur weekly. A detailed community listening session schedule will be made available to the community. City residents can also send comments and feedback for the Homelessness Taskforce via the Engage Fairfax platform.

The target date for the initial Homelessness Task Force Meeting is mid-April 2023.