



06-25-2025 Town Council Meeting Responses to Council Questions

General Budget Question

Council Question:

There is a critical miscommunication about the funding for the Partnership to End Homelessness (PEH) that I want to help correct.

- If we do not fund the full (expansion budget), the County will be forced to cut one SOHRAD position from their FY26 budget and also reduce the housing access staff who focus on linking unhoused individuals to shelter (rapid rehousing).
- As you know, we have received many comments from members of the public and business owners who are concerned about the wellbeing of our unhoused population. Money spent on the partnership is the most effective way to address these concerns. They help unhoused people find housing, complete paperwork to connect to resources, address substance use issues, access behavioral health and medical care, and more--all of which, as you can imagine, is extremely hard to do without help when you are poor, sick, tired, and unsheltered.

(If you'd like more details on the current services, please review pp 163-168 of the [County Commission Packet](#) from last week that includes the most recent PEH monthly report, including numbers reached by each of the five main service areas)

- The current funding situation:
 - For FY25 (current year), Chapel Hill's portion of the Partnership budget was \$317,048
 - For FY26, Chapel Hill's portion of the executive team-endorsed budget would be \$378,157
 - For FY 26, Chapel Hill's portion of the continuation budget would be \$342,824
 - The FY26 Town budget approved last week included \$317,048.

Therefore, to fully fund the Partnership for FY26, Chapel Hill would need to allocate an additional \$61,109.

Because we have \$100,000 earmarked for homelessness services, I hope you will consider committing \$61,000 of that to fully funding the Partnership on Wednesday night. This is time-sensitive because of the implications for the other governments' budgets and staffing decisions.

Staff Response:

Staff reviewed the information above and had further conversation on Monday with the County's Housing Director to seek clarification on the Partnership Request. They shared new information summarized below. The numbers above are accurate.

(Continued below.)



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Staff Response: (Cont'd)

Based on updated information from the Orange County Housing Department, if the County does not receive full funding of their expansion request, the Partnership would reduce the operating budget for the SOHRAD program and would not fill one vacant SOHRAD position. No other portions of the Partnership budget would be impacted. Over the last several months, the Partnership has considered a variety of different options, which they have continued to change and update over time based on input from the Partnership Executive and Leadership Teams, federal funding shifts, and other factors.