

REVISED

RESOLUTION 2025-0000

A RESOLUTION establishing an Opioid Advisory Subcommittee of the City Council Public Safety and Community Health Committee to recommend use of Opioid Funds received by the City of Spokane and make recommendations on current and proposed policies and procedures related to opioid use by the City of Spokane.

WHEREAS, the overdose crisis has directly or indirectly affected every person in Spokane County; and,

WHEREAS, the primary substances causing overdoses are a group of substances called opioids; and

WHEREAS, the response to overdose deaths from all levels of government should be evidenced, humane and recognize the humanity and diversity of people who use drugs, and the complexity of their needs; and

WHEREAS, Spokane has comparatively fewer treatment clinics, sobering centers, and resources available for those suffering opioid use disorder as commonly cited peers like King, Pierce, and Multnomah Counties; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Attorney General's Office settled litigation with opioid distributors that recovered \$518 million for Washingtonians; and

WHEREAS, as part of the class action settlement of opioid related claims, the City of Spokane is a Participating Local Government pursuant to the One Washington Memorandum of Understanding (hereafter the "WA MOU") with municipalities and counties within the State of Washington; and

WHEREAS, the City of Spokane anticipates to receive a total of \$13.3 million by 2038 from the settlement with opioid distributors; and

WHEREAS, the City of Spokane is one of the "Participating Local Governments" in Spokane County, pursuant to the WA MOU; and

WHEREAS, all of the Participating Local Governments are also participants in the "Allocation Agreement Governing the Allocation of Funds Paid by the Settling Opioid Distributors in Washington State" (hereafter "Allocation Agreement"); which funds from the settlement have been distributed directly to the Participating Local Governments commencing in 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Allocation Agreement requires that funds be spent on "Approved Purposes" as found in Exhibit A of the WA MOU and included in this resolution as ____; and

WHEREAS, the Spokane City Council seeks to align policies with evidence-based practices by collaborating with individuals who have academic, professional, and/or lived experience in opioid prevention, treatment, recovery, harm reduction, and training specific to Opioid Use Disorder;

WHEREAS, the City Council further desires to maximize the effectiveness, efficiency and accessibility of prevention programs, harm reduction measures, stabilization programs, substance use treatment, and recovery support services, and:

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to implement city policies that are evidence-based, reduce the harm caused by opioid use, and achieve positive outcomes for people who use opioids; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to identify potential service providers and programs eligible for funding under the Settlement Agreement in accordance with the Approved Purposes; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 9 of the City Charter, the City Council may, by resolution, create a subcommittee with power to determine membership, qualifications, and appointment process;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Spokane City Council hereby forms an Opioid Advisory Subcommittee (herein 'the Subcommittee') of the Public Safety and Community Health Committee, with the following Rules, Duties, and Responsibilities:

Section 1. Membership

- A. The Opioid Advisory Subcommittee shall consist of no more than 13 members.
- B. The membership shall be multidisciplinary and include individuals with academic, professional, and/or lived experience in opioid prevention, harm reduction, treatment, recovery, and education. Members shall represent diverse perspectives, including first response, behavioral health, peer support professionals, and those with direct lived experience with opioid use disorder., and _____ appointed by the mayor and approved by city council.
- C. A majority of members must be from the fields of Addiction Studies, Substance Use Treatment, Medicine, Overdose Response, Toxicology, and Peer Counseling and Navigation in the area of Substance Use Disorders;
- D. All members of the subcommittee shall be residents of the City of Spokane.

Section 2. Term of Office

- A. The term of office shall be two years.

- B. The terms of half (or nearly half) of the members shall expire in odd-numbered years.
- C. The terms of the remaining members shall expire in even-numbered years.
- D. Initial terms of members shall commence in 2025, with half (or nearly half) of the members expiring in 2026 and the remaining members expiring in 2027.
- E. No member shall serve more than two full term(s), without the process of reapplication.
- F. No member other than the Chair and Secretary shall be employed by a City or County government.

Section 4. Liaison Membership

- A. Representatives of the following agencies with opioid use interests within the city of Spokane may join the Subcommittee in liaison roles: _____
- B. The council member who has been appointed as chair of the Public Safety and Community Health Committee shall preside as chair of the Subcommittee.
- C. The Subcommittee may accept any additional liaison members as seen fit by the affirmative vote of at least 2/3 members.
- D. Any agency with a representative serving as a liaison to the Opioid Advisory Subcommittee may identify an alternate member of the agency to serve in the absence of the designated liaison.

Section 5. Officers

- A. The Chair shall preside over meetings of the subcommittee. The chair shall only vote to break a tie.
- B. The Subcommittee shall select a Vice Chair from those members. The Vice Chair shall preside over meetings in the absence of the Chair.
- C. The relevant city staffer or their designee shall serve as Secretary. The Secretary is a non-voting member who shall assist in keeping documentation of the minutes of each meeting and any public record as defined by state law produced by the Subcommittee.
- D. The Subcommittee may appoint other officers as deemed necessary and by the affirmative vote of 2/3 members.

Section 6. Ancillary Powers

The Subcommittee shall have the power to:

- A. Adopt internal rules of procedure not herein prescribed to accomplish its duties.
- B. Use administrative support and staff as well as technical support from appropriate City departments and offices as necessary to assist the Subcommittee in the performance of its functions, maintenance of its records, and preparation of official correspondence.
- C. Access all relevant City data and records to develop productive analysis.
- D. Organize itself, establish workgroups, committees, or subcommittees, and delegate duties to such subordinate groups for the performance of its work.
- E. Host joint meetings with the City Council or other relevant boards, subcommittees, and commissions.

Section 7. Duties and Responsibilities

The Subcommittee shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- A. The Subcommittee shall study significant issues related to opioid use disorder, and make recommendations to the Council including, but not limited to, the following considerations and following the Approved Purposes set forth in the WA MOU:
 - i. Build capacity in the areas of prevention, outreach, harm reduction, medical detoxification, access to Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD), access to culturally relevant and evidence-based treatment at all levels of care, and support for those in recovery across the lifespan
 - ii. By reducing negative impacts to all residents of the City of Spokane by implementing evidence-based prevention, harm reduction and treatment practices proven to reduce public health risk, decrease strain on emergency departments and first responders and increase access to treatment;
 - iii. Find opportunities for the city to study, promote, and adopt advancements in relevant fields that improve outcomes, reduce costs without impacting service levels, and encourage treatment;
 - iv. Consider and balance the safety and rights of all community members;
 - v. Ensuring that current and proposed policies related to opioid use disorder are evidence-based and follow professional guidance on overdose prevention, substance use harm reduction and treatment;

B. Issue an annual report on the state of opioid use disorder and addiction in the city of Spokane. The report shall include the status of recommendations made by the subcommittee, a work plan with goals for the following year, and include metrics on the efficacy of recommendations that have been implemented to date.

C. The subcommittee shall meet no less than once per month and may meet more frequently as needed or cancel regular meetings as circumstances may dictate.

Section 8. Equity Considerations

In making and approving appointments to the Subcommittee, the mayor and council shall make a good faith effort to seek proportional representation of community members from marginalized communities, including but not limited to those with disabilities, communities of color, and underrepresented geographic areas of the City.

In pursuit of its duties, the Subcommittee shall consider the effects of each of its recommendations on marginalized and impacted communities and include those considerations within any recommendations.

Section 9. Removal of Subcommittee Members

Subcommittee members shall not be removed from office by the council before the expiration of their terms except for cause based upon a determination of incapacity, incompetence, the presence of irreconcilable conflicts of interest, neglect of duty, malfeasance, or failure to attend three regularly scheduled meetings and upon the affirmative vote of five council members.

Subcommittee members may also be subject to removal from office by the members of the Subcommittee based upon on a determination of incapacity, incompetence, the presence of irreconcilable conflicts of interest, neglect of duty, malfeasance, or failure to attend three regularly scheduled meetings and upon the affirmative vote of _____ Subcommittee members.

No Subcommittee member shall be removed from office without written notice of the intent to remove and the opportunity to provide a written response to such notice.

Section 10. Dissolvement

The Subcommittee shall be dissolved by the affirmative vote of five council members.

Section 11. Clerical Errors.

Upon approval by the city attorney, the city clerk is authorized to make necessary corrections to this ordinance, including scrivener's errors or clerical mistakes; references to other local state or federal laws, rules, or regulations; or numbering or referencing of ordinances or their sections and subsections.

ADOPTED by the City Council this ____ day of _____, 2025.

City Clerk

Approved as to form:

Assistant City Attorney