



TCC Minutes

Committee: Housing & Community Development

Date + Time: January 8th, 2026, from 10:00am-12:00pm

Location: One Government Center, Council Chambers

Attendees: Mcpherson, Dr. Jones, Melden, Driscoll, Gadus, Williams.

Absentees: Mcpherson, Melden, Driscoll

Also Present: Sarantou,

Presenters: Department of Housing and Community Development, MONSE, Code Compliance, and Human Relations Commission

Public Attendance:

Legislative Aide Facilitating: Sally Fish

Topics... 2026 Budget Proposal

Discussion... Department of Housing and Community Development

Budget Overview:

An overview of the proposed budget was presented. The General Revenue Estimate (GRE) request totals \$1,943,117, representing a 9% increase from FY 2025. Salary expenditures reflect a 12% increase over FY 2025. The programming budget request is \$586,004, which is a \$75,000 reduction compared to FY 2025.

The proposed organizational structure was reviewed, with clarification that General Fund allocations include total employee salaries. FY2025 expenditures were discussed, totaling \$19,469,925.56, consisting of \$9,756,905.42 (50%) in operating grants, \$1,345,623.85 (7%) from the General Fund, \$6,755,900.01 (35%) in CDBG funding, \$579,330.87 (3%) in ESG funding, and \$1,032,165.41 (5%) in HOME funds. FY2025 accomplishments included the merger of Family House, the start of construction on 230 affordable housing units, major citywide cleanup operations, progress on a modular housing pilot program, lead remediation efforts, and continued support for homeownership. The City funded 35 first-time homebuyers in FY2025 and plans to continue this effort in FY2026, with the stated goal of stabilizing housing by maintaining balance between renters and homeowners.

Questions/Referrals Requested...

1. Council Member Sarantou inquired about the status of the Financial Wellness Center and whether services would continue. Rosalyn responded that NeighborWorks intends to submit an application this year to continue providing tax preparation services.



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Discussion... Department of Code Compliance

Staff reported that the proposed budget reflects an 8.7% increase from FY2025, with the majority of the increase attributable to staffing costs driven by contractual obligations.

FY2025 Accomplishments

- Staff clarified that while properties with open code compliance violations cannot be transferred, a legal transfer may occur through the City of Toledo when appropriate documentation is provided to demonstrate compliance or address outstanding issues.
- Joint property inspections were conducted in coordination with the Toledo Police Department (TPD).
- Significant improvements were made in enforcement and collections, with approximately \$50,000 in fines collected in FY2025, compared to \$1,000 in FY2024. Discussion emphasized that enhanced enforcement efforts are intended to change landlord behavior and improve compliance, rather than focus solely on revenue generation.

Department Priorities

- Conduct additional polls and focus groups to identify the top ten community priorities that should guide future code compliance efforts.
- Increase transparency and public access, including making information publicly available regarding the status and process of code compliance complaints once they are reported.

Questions/Referrals Requested...

- Council Member Gadus asked Director Clemons about the reduction in full-time equivalent (FTE) positions, noting that eight positions were tied to the closure of the Rental Assistance Program. She asked whether those positions were eliminated due to the expiration of federal funding and whether the positions would be reinstated if a new funding stream were identified. Rosalyn responded that the department does not anticipate reinstating those positions.
- Council Member Gadus asked for clarification on replacement funding sources for the program. Staff explained that a significant portion of prior funding came from ARPA, with additional funding provided through CDBG. An additional allocation was included in FY2026, and moving forward the program will be fully funded through CDBG.
- Council Member Gadus inquired whether the requested software funding was the same as the previous year's request and whether it would introduce any additional portals. Staff confirmed it was the same request as last year and clarified that the software relates specifically to short-term rental management, with funding coming from Code Compliance. Rosalyn stated she would provide a detailed funding breakdown as a follow-up.



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1. **Vanice: Referral for Code Compliance**
2. **Sarantou: highlighting the “dirty dozen.”—Made referral for stats presented by Jim Molnar.**
3. **Dr. Jones asked a variety of questions---Asked for referral from code compliance/department of housing**
- 4.

Public Comment—Community Members

Community member and LAWO Executive Director Patricia Hernandez emphasized the critical role of LAWO in serving low-income residents and families across multiple areas of need, including consumer, housing, and family law. The Right to Counsel Program was highlighted as one of LAWO’s most impactful services, with the Executive Director noting its importance for residents facing eviction. The program has helped keep families in their homes while promoting fairness and equity within the local court system. Ask centered around keeping full funding for the program as a 30% cut is being proposed. –full funding is 250K

Additionally, Clifton at junction coalition discussed lead enforcement efforts—39,000 reduction in enforcement is concerning.

Discussion...Human Relations Commission

Staff provided an overview of departmental accomplishments in FY2025 and outlined FY2026 changes, noting that system development needs are anticipated, with projected costs \$34,000 lower than FY2025.

Questions/Referrals

- Council Member Gadus asked which events and initiatives are supported by the Human Relations Commission.
- Council Member Gadus inquired about the timeline for the Boards and Commissions study. Staff indicated that a meeting is anticipated within the next one to two weeks to review and discuss the study with Council.
- Council Member Sarantou asked when the Block Watch report would be released. Staff responded that the report is currently being finalized by the Marketing team and is expected to be completed within the next two weeks, with a maximum timeline of 30 days.
- Dr. Jones welcomed TLC and requested an update to ensure the program remains aligned with current community needs and continues to be offered. Staff reported that the program remains active and continues its work in partnership with the library card program. Funding has been secured through the City and County to print enhanced library cards. Current efforts are focused on building community buy-in and identifying partner organizations willing to accept the enhanced library card as a form of identification. The program is anticipated to be available to the community by the



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second quarter. Additionally, a rapid response committee has been established to proactively address emerging issues and improve information dissemination at the community level. Teen engagement meetings and board meetings are occurring regularly.

Discussion...MONSE

Program Updates and Discussion

Discussion regarding time out of school indicated that the initiative did not achieve the intended outcomes in FY2025. It was noted that the number of individuals ages 30–34 and older losing their lives to violence has increased.

Staff reported that quarterly reporting was not implemented in FY2025 but is planned to begin in FY2026.

Legislative and Staffing Updates

Staff indicated that grant-funded legislation is expected to be brought before City Council by the end of the year.

Two staff members were hired, and one position was reclassified to an outreach role.

The department reported receiving funding through the Community Foundation to support the Mobility INC program.

Fatal and Non-Fatal Shooting Data

Staff reported a strategic shift from a street-based response to a case management and supportive services approach.

- In the Junction neighborhood, there were zero homicides during the year. The Director noted this was the first year he could recall with no homicides in that area.
- The north side of the city experienced an increase in violent incidents.

Peace in Motion Program

Updates were provided on the Peace in Motion program, including a request for an administrative assistant to support program operations.

Staff also noted the completion of a study related to program outcomes.

Questions/referrals:

- Committee members asked whether there is a need for additional funding and whether any reductions in federal grant funding have been experienced.
- Referral: Dr. Brittany Jones emphasized the critical importance of the work being done. She raised concerns regarding potential Toledo Public Schools (TPS) funding cuts and



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how they may affect MONSE's operations, particularly education-based supportive services. Dr. Jones noted that time spent in school is a key protective factor and expressed concern about a potential shift to a four-day in-person school week with extended weekends, stating that such a change would likely require additional interventions and supports. She also requested a referral for further coordination.