

City of Albany COVID Recovery Task Force

Meeting #4

July 1, 2021 | 12pm

Albany Capital Center/Zoom

Attendees:

* () designee attended

COVID Recovery Task Force Members			
Name	Present	Name	Present
Kaweeda Adams	X	Micky Jimenez	
Faye Andrews	X	Andrew Joyce * (Nicole Antonucci)	X
Dorcey Applyrs	X	Anna Kuwabara	X
Kate Baker	X	Eileen Larrabee	X
Alfredo Balarin	X	Angelo Maddox	X
Carm Basile * (Allison Schreffler)	X	Daniel McCoy * (Patrick Alderson)	X
Bob Belber		Dennis McKenna * (John Regan)	X
Neenah Bland		Tracy Metzger	
Tricia Brown		Matthew Peter	X
Jeff Buell	X	Dominick Purnomo	
Michael Castellana	X	Roger Ramsammy * (Louis Copelin)	X
Chiquita D'Arbeau * (Nick Thony)	X	Sarah Reginelli	X
Mark Eagan * (Jason Benitez)	X	Jahmel Robinson	
Corey Ellis		Havidán Rodríguez	
Sonia Frederick	X	Darius Shahinfar	
Anthony Gaddy	X	Kathy Sheehan	X
Peter Gannon		Noelene Smith	X
Tammis Groft	X	Georgette Steffens	X
Jahkeen Hoke	X	Raphael Tucker	
Michael Whalen	X	Giovanni Otero	X
Kevin Hicks			

Other Attendees:

Ashley Mohl, Nora Culhane Friedel, Renee McFarlin, Michael Bohne, David Galin, Erin Grace

Meeting Content:

The Co-Chairs and the Mayor began the meeting by welcoming the Task Force members and reviewing the goal of these meetings, as well as referencing the importance of the recommendations represented in the work accomplished so far.

Ashley Mohl (Director of Economic Development at Capitalize Albany Corporation, acting as Initiative Coordinator) then walked the Task Force through the prepared presentation, beginning with a review of the public survey results regarding the City's COVID-19 preliminary needs assessment. This overview highlighted the top needs identified overall, as well as provided a selection of actual survey responses across each of the Working Groups.

The Task Force discussed the public's feedback on the preliminary needs assessment and where the Task Force's findings were validated or should be amended or added to based on the survey results and engagement with Task Force members. The Task Force discussed the importance of ensuring that a wide range of community perspectives were represented as the Task Force developed the report.

The Initiative Coordinator provided a summary of each Working Group's discussion and priority recommendations from the June 21st and June 22nd sessions and then initiated a group discussion.

The Task force addressed concerns that a survey methodology is not effective at directly engaging all communities and suggested alternate means of soliciting feedback from the public to ensure all voices are heard. The members were encouraged to continue to execute alternative engagement opportunities and continue to fulfill their role as representatives of the broad cross-section of communities and constituents they each serve.

The Initiative Coordinator shared that the second public survey to help determine the Task Force's priority recommendations is under development and will be distributed to the Task Force members upon finalization. Task Force members were encouraged to disseminate the second public survey in the manner best suited to attracting the broadest response rate possible from their constituencies. Members were also advised that a link to the survey will be added to the COVID Recovery Task Force website, and all Task Force members will be sent an email notification with boilerplate language regarding dissemination. The survey will be available in printed copies and will also be available for translation as necessary.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:30 p.m.

Administrative Matters:

- Meeting Materials/Resources will continue to be posted publicly to the City's webpage as they become available

Next Steps:

Task Force Members were asked to do the following prior to the next meeting:

- Upon release of the final survey, distribute the survey widely throughout their networks (If paper copies are needed or if additional translations are needed, please request through nculhane@capitalizealbany.com)