



Special Social Services and Public Safety Committee

August 26, 2025

Summary and Motions

Chair Reynolds called the special committee meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. Vice Mayor Wu and Council Members J. Brown, Ellinger, Morton, Lynch, LeGris, Sheehan, Higgins-Hord, Hale, Beasley, Baxter, Sevigny, and Boone were in attendance.

I. Review of the Recovery Residences (Sober Living Homes) Ordinance

Michael Cravens, Managing Attorney, reviewed the proposed Recovery Residences (Sober Living Homes) Ordinance. This ordinance requires striking a balance between the interests of residents, vulnerable populations, and operators while regulating those who are not in compliance. The proposed ordinance requires operators to obtain a Recovery Residence License and a Proof of Certification. It also establishes an enforcement scheme that authorizes civil citations and penalties against operators in violation. Following the passage of the ordinance, a six-month grace period would be provided for operators to come into compliance.

II. Public Comment on the Recovery Residences (Sober Living Homes) Ordinance

Several members of the public were present to provide input regarding the proposed Recovery Residences Ordinance. Common concerns were occupancy, location, density, increased criminal activity, and adhering to regulations. Many requested that the ordinance require licensing, insurance, monitoring, unannounced inspections, density limits, background checks, and placement in suitable locations.

III. Committee Chair Comments

Chair Reynolds concluded the meeting by stating the ordinance would be considered at the next Social Services and Public Safety Committee meeting on October 14, 2025.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.