



City Council
Health & Human Services Meeting

36 Court Street
Springfield, MA 01103
<http://www.springfieldcityhall.com>
Brian Santaniello (Chair)

~Final~

June 2, 2026

2:00 PM

City Hall - Room 200

Roll Call

In Person:

Vice President, Dan Keanan (Trinity)
Dr. Edna Rodriguez (Trinity)
Councilor Santaniello (Chair)

Remote:

Health Commissioner Helen Caulton
Councilor Govan
WWLP
Council President Whitfield *L

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Brian Santaniello	City Councilor At Large	Present	
Gerry Martin	City Councilor — Ward 7	Excused	
Maria Perez	City Councilor — Ward 1	Excused	
Malo Brown	City Councilor — Ward 4	Excused	
Zaida Govan	City Councilor — Ward 8	Remote	
Kateri Walsh	City Councilor At Large	Excused	
Justin Hurst	City Councilor At Large	Excused	
Victor Davila	City Councilor — Ward 6	Excused	
Michael Fenton	City Councilor — Ward 2	Excused	
Jose Delgado	City Councilor At Large	Excused	
Lavar Click-Bruce	City Councilor — Ward 5	Excused	

Melvin Edwards	City Councilor — Ward 3	Absent	
Tracye Whitfield	City Councilor At Large	Remote *L	2:15 PM

Call To Order

2:00 PM Meeting called to order on June 2, 2026, in Hybrid Room 200, 36 Court Street, Springfield, MA 01103.

Public Portion

Discussion on mental health and resources available.

Minutes:

On June 2, 2026, the Health and Human Services Committee, chaired by Councilor Brian Santaniello, met to discuss behavioral health, substance-use treatment, homelessness, and community health coordination efforts with representatives from Trinity Health of New England, Mercy Medical Center, and the Springfield Department of Health and Human Services. Dr. Rodriguez of Mercy Medical Center provided an overview of emergency behavioral health services, addiction treatment programs, community health worker services, care coordination efforts, and partnerships with organizations including Gandara, Tapestry, and BHN.

The discussion focused on alcohol use disorder trends, housing instability, homelessness, workforce recruitment and retention, sustainable funding for behavioral health services, and the importance of collaboration between healthcare providers and community organizations. Commissioner Helen Caulton-Harris highlighted the City's Health Services for the Homeless program and ongoing partnerships supporting unhoused residents experiencing mental health and substance use challenges. The committee also discussed outpatient detox services, recovery support programs, and future collaboration opportunities. The meeting adjourned at 2:41 PM.

[MIN_SIGNATURES]