

Neighborhood and Family Services Commission

11/05/2025

Meeting Date

03/25/2026

Date Minutes Were Approved



Natosha Edmonds (Apr 1, 2026 13:59:23 PDT)

Chair

CERTIFICATION AND ATTESTATION

I hereby certify that the accompanying document is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the aforementioned meeting. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that the quorum was present.

Mayra Garibo-Davila

Mayra Garibo-Davila (Mar 30, 2026 09:25:16 PDT)

Staff Liaison





Neighborhood and Family Services Commission Meeting

Special Meeting - Wednesday, November 5, 2025, 6:00 p.m.

AZ Complete Health Avondale Resource Center, 995 E. Riley Drive

Aravaipa Conference Room

Avondale, AZ 85323

Physical Access to the Aravaipa Conference Room will be available 30 minutes prior to the meeting.

MEETING MINUTES

Commission Members in Attendance: Eddie James Jr., Fabian Prado, Louis Matamoros

Commission Members Absent: Natosha Edmonds, Jerome Brownlee Jr., Dawn Gerundo, Pearlette Ramos, Michelle McMullen

City Staff and Guests in Attendance: Neighborhood & Family Services Assistant Director Edith Baltierrez, Housing & Community Development Manager Regina Marettte, Administrative Assistant Mayra Garibodavila, Administrative Assistant Yvonne Bravo

NOTE FROM THE CLERK: A QUORUM OF THE COMMISSION WAS NOT PRESENT; THEREFORE, NO ACTION WAS TAKEN. A PUBLIC HEARING WAS HELD AND NO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WERE PRESENT.

1. Call to Order

The Neighborhood and Family Services Commission meeting was called to order by Fabian Prado at 6:28PM.

2. Review and Approval of September 24, 2025, Meeting Minutes

ITEM NOT VOTED ON - LACK OF QUORUM

3. FY2025-2029 Five-Year Consolidated Plan

Mr. Prado stated: This agenda item is a public hearing opened at 6:32 p.m. on November 5, 2025. To submit a public comment please email cityclerk@avondaleaz.gov.

Ms. Marettte provided an overview of the Five-Year Consolidated Plan, highlighting key focus areas including preserving and expanding housing inventory, strengthening infrastructure and vital community services, and supporting the Home Repair Program, which prioritizes health and safety repairs.

Mr. James inquired about income qualifications and project funding limits. Ms. Marette explained that qualifications depend on both property and household income, and that liens are filed on all properties receiving assistance.

Ms. Marette clarified that “vital community services” refers to programs such as AvITEMP (Avondale Teen Employment & Mentorship Program), which serves residents at or below 80% of area median income. She also noted that the workforce development program is a cost-share initiative with Maricopa County that focuses on building job skills and providing employment assistance.

Mr. James also asked about the community need for these programs. Ms. Marette responded that the Home Repair Program currently operates with a waitlist, and the AvITEMP program consistently receives a high number of applications.

Mr. James asked what percentage of applicants receive HUD grants. Ms. Marette stated that HUD determines these allocations based on factors such as poverty levels and population.

Mr. Matamoros asked about Parks and Recreation funding recommendations. Ms. Marette clarified that the recommendations are separate from the bond measure currently on the ballot and that the document shared is only a draft.

Mr. Matamoros inquired whether any home repair funding is directed toward veterans. He noted that Veteran Affairs offers similar services, including ADA-related improvements.

Ms. Marette reviewed recent improvements and accomplishments made possible through HUD grant funding.

Mr. Matamoros asked whether any AvITEMP participants had been hired by the City of Avondale. Staff did not believe that information was tracked but agreed it would be valuable to have.

Mr. Matamoros also asked how infill homes are allocated. Ms. Marette explained that homes are awarded to qualifying applicants through partner agencies, including Habitat for Humanity, Newtown, and Trellis.

Mr. James asked whether tenants are required to pay real estate taxes if they are not the property owners. Ms. Marette stated she would follow up to confirm.

Mr. Prado closed the public hearing at 7:01 p.m. November 5, 2025. To submit a public comment please email cityclerk@avondaleaz.gov.

4. Avondale Leading Edge Non-Profit Community Impact Award

Ms. Baltierrez shared information about the upcoming Avondale Leading Edge Non-Profit Impact Award and advised staff would be reaching out for volunteers from the commission to help review applications and select a nonprofit to receive the award.

5. Future Agenda Items

- Strategic Plan for the NFS Commission
- Presentation from the Senior Services Division

6. Announcements

Ms. Baltierrez provided updates on the following projects and events:

- Mercados & Melodies event on Friday, November 14 from 6:00–9:00 PM at the Avondale Civic Center Amphitheater: An event offering youth an opportunity to showcase and sell their handmade crafts, treats, and talents.
- Health & Resource Fair scheduled for Saturday, February 21 from 10:00 AM–1:00 PM, Capes and Connections: A free community event designed to connect residents with available human and housing services offered through the Resource Center.
- Seniors Winter Gala taking place on Thursday, January 22, 2026, beginning at 4:30 PM: An evening event featuring elegant attire, music, socializing, and photo opportunities for senior participants.

8. Call to the Public

None

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:12 PM.

Next meeting, 6:00 p.m. – AZ Complete Health Avondale Resource Center – March 25, 2026.