

Office of the Mayor  
City of Tulsa, Oklahoma

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2025-05

**ESTABLISHING PRIORITIES RELATED TO HOMELESSNESS**

**WHEREAS**, in 2022, more than 5,000 individuals accessed emergency shelters, safe havens, transitional housing, and street outreach programs;

**WHEREAS** 73% of homeless individuals report first experiencing homelessness within Tulsa, reinforcing the necessity for local solutions to a community issue;

**WHEREAS**, since 2022, over 2,400 students in Tulsa Public Schools qualify as homeless and 3,000 students have had their families evicted in Tulsa;

**WHEREAS**, in 2023, the Mayor and Council created the Housing, Homelessness & Mental Health Task Force to understand the needs of the community;

**WHEREAS**, their determination was that homelessness is the result of both a shortage of transitional housing and a severe lack of accessible mental healthcare;

**WHEREAS**, in 2024, on a given night 1,400 individuals experienced homelessness;

**WHEREAS**, currently, there is a 100% utilization of emergency shelter beds; and

**WHEREAS**, the number one cause of homelessness is the lack of affordable housing;

**NOW THEREFORE, BY VIRTUE OF THE POWER VESTED IN ME AS THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TULSA, OKLAHOMA, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

**SECTION 1. PURPOSE.** The purpose of this Executive Order is to establish homelessness as a priority for the City of Tulsa, set forth goals to address the greatest issues related to homelessness, and foster collaboration among residents, City departments, and community partners.

**SECTION 2. GOALS.** The Mayor has set goals to (a) achieve functional zero homelessness by 2030, (b) ensure Tulsa has adequate low-barrier shelter capacity, (c) reduce Tulsa's eviction rate, and (d) create a citywide system of coordination.

**SECTION 3. CREATION OF ENCAMPMENT DECOMMISSIONING TEAM.**

To better support people living in homeless encampments across our community, in the next 30 days the Mayor will:

1. Create an Encampment Decommissioning Team from within existing departments in City Hall. The team will prioritize specific needs to safely and efficiently relocate unhoused individuals from their encampment to partner shelters, provide encampment cleanup, and monitor the site to ensure it remains unused as encampments.

2. Work in coordination with A Way Home for Tulsa service providers and tribal nations to effectively support our most vulnerable community members as they move to a path of permanent housing and provide a sustainable and cost-effective alternative to living unhoused.

**SECTION 4. WINTER WEATHER SHELTER.**

In the next 90 days, the Mayor will present a plan for the establishment of a Winter Weather Shelter to serve individuals in need of a safe and warm place to sleep during the months of November through March. This will be Tulsa’s first winter weather shelter open for extended use. The shelter will provide protection for our homeless population and housing-insecure community members through the winter months.

**SECTION 5. INCREASE SHELTER CAPACITY.**

In the next 90 days, the Mayor will present a plan for the expansion of shelter capacity to meet the needs of an increased unsheltered population. The increased shelter space will provide access to social services and housing navigation assistance through coordination of a citywide partnership. The goal is to provide additional space for individuals and families who have recently fallen into homelessness, those experiencing chronic homelessness, and those leaving encampments.

**SECTION 6. ESTABLISH A MAYOR’S COALITION ON EVICTION MITIGATION.**


In the next 90 days, a Mayor’s Coalition on Eviction Mitigation will be created to regularly review strategies and implement changes based on real-time data. City of Tulsa staff will work directly with the Landlord Tenant Resource Center, the Eviction Strategy Group, and the Eviction Data Working Group to identify opportunities to strengthen the City’s involvement in eviction prevention and develop additional strategies where the City can mitigate the impact of eviction on individuals and families. The City will be an active partner in addressing the underlying causes of evictions and provide support to vulnerable tenants before they face homelessness.

**SECTION 7. Effective Date.** This Order shall take effect immediately upon signing.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

MAR 11 2025  
Date

APPROVED:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

