

### San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

### AGENDA AND NOTICE

### OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE

Thursday, January 05, 2017, 2:30 PM

Monrovia Public Library – 321 S Myrtle Ave; Monrovia, CA TELECONFERENCE LOCATIONS:

888 S Figueroa St., Los Angeles, CA 90017

#### HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE

Chair Joe Lyons City of Claremont

Vice-Chair Becky Shevlin City of Monrovia

#### **MEMBERS**

Baldwin Park
Claremont
Covina
Monrovia
Pasadena
Pomona
Rosemead
San Gabriel
South El Monte
West Covina
LA County Supervisorial
District #1
San Gabriel Valley Water
Districts

Thank you for participating in today's meeting. The Homelessness Committee encourages public participation and invites you to share your views on agenda items.

MEETINGS: Regular Meetings of the Homelessness Committee are held on the fourth Thursday of each month at 12:30 PM at Monrovia Public Library (321 S. Myrtle, Monrovia, CA 91016). The Meeting agenda packet is available at the San Gabriel Valley Council of Government's (SGVCOG) Office, 1000 South Fremont Avenue, Suite 10210, Alhambra, CA, and on the website, <a href="www.sgvcog.org">www.sgvcog.org</a>. Copies are available via email upon request (<a href="sgv@sgvcog.org">sgv@sgvcog.org</a>). Documents distributed to a majority of the Committee after the posting will be available for review in the SGVCOG office and on the SGVCOG website. Your attendance at this public meeting may result in the recording of your voice.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:** Your participation is welcomed and invited at all Committee meetings. Time is reserved at each regular meeting for those who wish to address the Board. SGVCOG requests that persons addressing the Committee refrain from making personal, slanderous, profane or disruptive remarks.

TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE: At a regular meeting, the public may comment on any matter within the jurisdiction of the Committee during the public comment period and may also comment on any agenda item at the time it is discussed. At a special meeting, the public may only comment on items that are on the agenda. Members of the public wishing to speak are asked to complete a comment card or simply rise to be recognized when the Chair asks for public comments to speak. We ask that members of the public state their name for the record and keep their remarks brief. If several persons wish to address the Committee on a single item, the Chair may impose a time limit on individual remarks at the beginning of discussion. The Committee may not discuss or vote on items not on the agenda.

**AGENDA ITEMS:** The Agenda contains the regular order of business of the Committee. Items on the Agenda have generally been reviewed and investigated by the staff in advance of the meeting so that the Committee can be fully informed about a matter before making its decision.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:** Items listed on the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and will be acted upon by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless a Committee member or citizen so requests. In this event, the item will be removed from the Consent Calendar and considered after the Consent Calendar. If you would like an item on the Consent Calendar discussed, simply tell Staff or a member of the Committee.



In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the SGVCOG office at (626) 457-1800. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the SGVCOG to make reasonable arrangement to ensure accessibility to this meeting.



#### PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Roll Call
- **3.** Public Comment (If necessary, the Chair may place reasonable time limits on all comments)
- **4.** Changes to Agenda Order: Identify emergency items arising after agenda posting and requiring action prior to the next regular meeting (*It is anticipated the Committee may take action*)

**CONSENT CALENDAR** (*It is anticipated the Committee may take action on the following matters*)

**5.** Homelessness Meeting Minutes *Recommended Action: Approve.* 

**6.** Correspondence

Recommended Action: Receive and File.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS** (*It is anticipated the Committee may take action on the following matters*)

7. Homelessness Committee Work Plan
Recommended Action: Discuss and recommend Governing Board approve SGVCOG
Homelessness Policy.

- **8.** Los Angeles County Homeless Quarter Cent Sales Tax Measure *Recommended Action: For information.*
- 9. Los Angeles Regional Homelessness Advisory Council Recommended Action: Nominate the Regional Homeless Advisory Council representative and provide nominee name to the Governing Board for approval.

**PRESENTATIONS** (*It is anticipated the Committee may take action on the following matters*)

**ACTION ITEMS** (*It is anticipated that the Committee may take action on the following matters*)

**UPDATE ITEMS** (It is anticipated the Committee may take action on the following matters)

COMMITTEE MEMBER ITEMS STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS ADJOURN



### **SGVCOG Homelessness Committee Unapproved Minutes**

Date: October 27, 2016

Time: 12:30 PM

Location: Monrovia Public Library (119 W. Palm Ave; Monrovia, CA)

### PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

**1.** Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:38

2. Roll Call

**Members Present** 

Claremont
Monrovia
Rosemead
West Covina
Supervisorial District #1

J. Lyons
B. Shevlin
M. Clark
L. Johnson
R. Barbosa

### Absent

Covina

Pomona

San Gabriel

South El Monte

SGV Water Districts

Pasadena

TVMWD

Baldwin Park

### **COG Staff**

C. Cruz, Staff

- **3.** Public Comment
  - D. Alcedo updated the committee on the January 2017 LAHSA Homeless count.
- 4. Changes to Agenda Order: Identify emergency items arising after agenda posting and requiring action prior to the next regular meeting

  There were no changes to the agenda.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

- **5.** Homelessness Meeting Minutes *Recommended Action: Approve.*
- **6.** Correspondence

Recommended Action: Receive and File.

### There was a motion to approve consent calendar Items 5-6 (M/S: B. Shevlin/ L. Johnson) [Motion Passed]

<b>AYES:</b>	Claremont, Monrovia, Rosemead, West Covina, Supervisorial District
	#1
NOES:	
<b>ABSTAIN:</b>	
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Covina, Pomona, San Gabriel, South El Monte, SGV Water Districts,
	Pasadena, TVMWD, Baldwin Park

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

7. Homelessness Committee Work Plan Recommended Action: Discuss and Provide Direction to Staff.C. Cruz presented on this item and received direction from Committee to edit sections on funding, coordination and best practices.

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

- **8.** Los Angeles County COPS Program Lieutenant Geoff Deedrick, LA County Sheriff Department LA County Sheriff Deputy Lt. Geoff Deedrick presented on this item
- 9. Azusa PD HALO Program Officer Kyle Bailey, Azusa Police Department Azusa Police Officer Bailey and Azusa Police Lt. Chris Grant presented on this item
- 10. Claremont Human Services Community Mobilization Anne Turner, City of Claremont, Human Services Director

Claremont Community Services Director, Anne Turner presented on this item and on Police protocols on engaging homeless individuals.

UPDATE ITEMS COMMITTEE MEMBER ITEMS STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS ANNOUNCEMENTS ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 2:17 PM.

### El Monte wants to house homeless veterans. Here's how they plan to do it

By Christopher Yee, San Gabriel Valley Tribune

Friday, December 9, 2016



EL MONTE >> Two new affordable veteran housing projects are expected to open in El Monte by 2019.

Hollywood Community Housing Corporation is set to break ground on its Palo Verde Apartments project, at 4704-4716 Peck Road, Jan. 25. Meanwhile, Mercy Housing is looking build another affordable veteran housing project at the intersection of Baldwin and Rose avenues by as early as 2019.

"These men and women served all of us and our country," said City Councilman Juventino "J" Gomez just before <u>unveiling a new statue honoring veterans</u>. "The city of El Monte came forward and said we as a city are going to support our homeless, our veterans, our people."

Palo Verde is expected to have 49 single, double and triple apartments, and Mercy's project is expected to offer 55 of the same varieties to house single veterans and those with families.

Twenty-five of Palo Verde's units will be dedicated to housing low-income or homeless veterans while the remainder can go to locals whose incomes fall below 50 percent of the area median income.

For Mercy, 32 of the units will house low-income veterans, and 22 will go specifically to homeless veterans.

The city has different levels of involvement with each project. In the case of Palo Verde, the city offered a \$360,000 low-interest loan for construction. With Mercy, the city is working to acquire railroad-owned land at the intersection of Baldwin and Rosa avenues to transfer to Mercy at a cost of \$2.66 million, and the city is also providing Mercy a \$750,000 low-interest loan to be repaid over 55 years.

"The city has placed a high priority on providing services for those who served in the armed services," said city economic development director Minh Thai. "We want to support various services, programs and housing projects whenever we have an opportunity."

While Hollywood Housing has built apartments for special needs populations for years, this is its first project serving veterans, said executive director Sarah Letts.

After attending City Council meetings and seeing a strong veteran presence in the city, Letts said she understands why El Monte has gone out of its way to help organizations get these housing projects built.

"Projects like these require strong public-private partnerships," Letts said. "When you're modifying the built environment, building something that suits the community's needs takes a lot of collaboration and support from local government, and that's what we've got in El Monte."

Mercy already has a presence in the city, having built the <u>El Monte Veterans Village</u>, an affordable veteran housing project with 40 studio apartments that opened in 2014.

New housing for homeless or low-income veterans is sorely needed in the San Gabriel Valley with an estimated 7,800 veteran families and 500-1,000 homeless veterans, said Ed Holder, vice president of real estate development for Mercy Housing California.

"For many residents from the El Monte region, this is home for them. The idea of moving them to places with space elsewhere would not bring them out of homelessness," Holder said. "People want to live in the communities they're comfortable in, raised in, lived their whole lives in."

Negotiations with First American Title and the Alameda Corridor-East Construction are ongoing. On Tuesday, the City Council voted unanimously to extend its escrow window with First American Title and the authority from Dec. 31 to June 30, 2017, allowing real estate negotiations to continue into the new year.

One way organizations like Hollywood Housing and Mercy can help create more affordable housing for those who are homeless or near to it is the proposed county-wide quarter-cent sales tax to help fund homeless supportive services approved for the March ballot Tuesday by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.

"We're all encouraged by the support the board continues to express and exhibit regarding homelessness," Holder said. "At the moment, between the city of Los Angeles' Measure HHH and this new county measure, there's potential for real progress."

URL: http://www.sgvtribune.com/veterans/20161209/el-monte-wants-to-house-homeless-veterans-heres-how-they-plan-to-do-it

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# Quarter-cent sales tax measure to aid L.A. County homeless is placed on March ballot





By Doug Smith

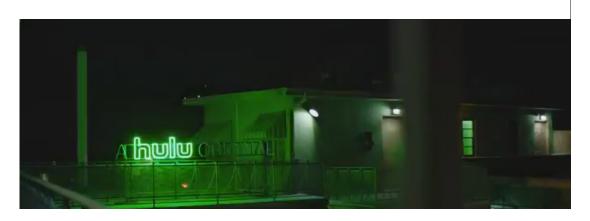
DECEMBER 6, 2016, 6:30 PM



fter listening to a cavalcade of speakers praise them for a vote they hadn't yet taken, Los Angeles County supervisors on Tuesday unanimously placed a quarter-cent sales tax proposal on the March ballot to fund homeless programs.

The five supervisors voted with little comment on the measure, which is expected to raise about \$355 million a year over its 10-year lifespan if it gains the two-thirds majority required. Instead, they left the talking to nearly 100 speakers who came to promote the homeless tax.

**ADVERTISING** 



The measure is intended to provide the final piece of the funding that county and L.A. city officials say is needed to address the homeless encampments that have proliferated across the region.

County officials described the sales tax as a complement to the \$1.2-billion general obligation bond measure approved by Los Angeles city voters last month.

The city funds, and hundreds of millions of dollars in state mental health funds expected to flow into the county in the years ahead, can be used only for capital construction. Over the next 10 years they will fund thousands of units of housing designed to provide chronically homeless people permanent shelter backed up by services.

Phil Ansell, head of the county's homelessness initiative, told the board the sales tax money would be used to provide those services and subsidies to help pay the rent.

Ansell said a study conducted with the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority had identified a gap of \$450 million a year needed to provide programs for the 47,000 people estimated to be homeless in the county.

The effect of the quarter-cent sales tax on county residents would be "a dime on a \$40 sweater or \$1 on a \$400 TV," Ansell said.

Mitchell Katz, head of the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services, set the tone for the hearing, contrasting homelessness with other conditions such as diabetes that he cannot cure.

"I can actually cure homelessness," Katz said. "The cure is a house."

But he added, "There is no way we can, with existing funds, move 47,000 into housing."

Any doubt that newly elected Supervisors Janice Hahn and Kathryn Barger would put their names on a tax measure in their first meeting vanished when Hahn said she was proud that the vote — still two hours off — would be "the first motion I will have my name attached to."

At one point Hahn asked Ansell why the measure wasn't designed to be permanent when the need for the funds would most likely continue.

Ansell said the sunset mechanism was designed to give the county's voters a chance to judge the success of the programs and decide whether they deserved continued funding.

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 $Hundreds\ of\ supporters\ of\ the\ measure-many\ color-coded\ in\ T-shirts\ representing\ their\ affiliations-filled$ 

the board hearing room and three overflow rooms for the first meeting of the two new supervisors.

During more than two hours of public comment, no speakers opposed the measure. Two, representing a

business group and the city of Pasadena, asked the board to be careful that the funds are distributed equitably.

As the hearing teetered on the edge of open celebration, board Chairman Mark Ridley-Thomas zig-

zagged from calling for the audience to suppress its applause to calling out the names of homeless

organizations, prompting their adherents to stand, wave their arms and scream.

Many, representing nonprofit agencies that work with the homeless, used their two minutes to describe their

struggles dealing with a problem that exceeds their resources.

After several dozen planned speakers had had their say, Ridley-Thomas allowed a couple of dozen impromptu

speakers to come forward, pleading with them to say just "yeah or nay" so the board could meet a 3 p.m.

deadline on another item.

"Come 2:45, hell or high water, someone is going to make a motion," he admonished.

But they kept coming.

Several were formerly homeless people who tearfully described their road to stability.

"I just wanted to say I love you," one woman told the board. "I'm just so happy. Let's do it."

The public comment became an open display of the formidable coalition that will now go to work to get it

approved.

Support came from labor unions, veterans groups, churches and synagogues, business organizations and

dozens of nonprofit groups, including Heal the Bay and the Natural Resources Defense Council.

U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.) delivered an endorsement by video. USC President C.L. Max Nikias sent

his support by emissary.

Other backers include the United Way of Greater Los Angeles, the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce

and the California Community Foundation, all of which supported the successful campaign for Proposition

HHH, the housing bond measure approved in November. The measure easily won with 77% of the vote.

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**Twitter: @LATdoug** 

### **ALSO**

Standoff beneath the 110 Freeway: Homeless man builds a compound, officials tear it down, he rebuilds

Editorial: Los Angeles passed Measure HHH, but there are still hurdles ahead for housing homeless people

This is what L.A.'s homeless voters have to say about the presidential election

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This article is related to: Homelessness

### Why Pasadena outranked 32 major U.S. cities in reducing homelessness

### Numbers fall in past eight years, but remain above national average

By Jason Henry, San Gabriel Valley Tribune

Friday, December 23, 2016



Pasadena reduced its homeless population by nearly 54 percent between 2009 and 2016, the highest percentage among 32 large cities studied by the U.S. Conference of Mayors, according to a report from the organization.

Pasadena had the largest percent decreases in total homelessness and in the amount of homeless families, the study reported. The city counted 1,216 as homeless in 2011, but only 530 in 2016. Officials in the Housing and Career Services Department say three times as many people would be homeless today if the city had ignored the problem.

"We've been focusing on expanding our efforts for homeless prevention and permanent supportive housing, and that has been bearing good results," said William Huang, Pasadena's director of housing. "But there is still a lot more work to do."

The city has helped house hundreds of people in the past few years, through rental subsidy vouchers and building permanent supportive housing.

Mary's Place, a 20-unit apartment complex built in partnership with Union Station Homeless Services, opened earlier this year after years of fighting for funding.

"That project has 62 people living in it — 62 people who are no longer homeless, including 36 children," Huang said. "This is what ends homelessness."

A change in policy in 2011 has helped reduce homelessness by shifting the city into a more proactive role, Huang said. The city previously operated an intake center where the homeless could come to get help but that method hinged on someone seeking assistance. Now, outreach teams make contact with homeless individuals daily in an attempt to build trust so they are more likely to use the city's resources. It can take months of contacts before someone comes around to accepting help, Huang said.

The city is closely watching ballot measures to increase funding for homelessness in Los Angeles and L.A. County because the fight is a regional one, not something Pasadena can solve alone, Huang said.

"The better L.A. does and the better L.A. County does, the better Pasadena will do," Huang said.

Despite the decline, Pasadena has a homeless rate of 37.3 per 10,000 people, nearly double the national rate of 16.9 per 10,000. Many of those who remain are chronically homeless — a category Pasadena saw an increase in last year — and are resistant to services.

Pasadena enacted more aggressive panhandling ordinances this year, including a law that makes it easier for the city to confiscate belongings left in public spaces. Advocates say these new laws criminalize the homeless, but city officials argue they are trying to prevent intimidation and blocked right-of-ways.

The report from the U.S. Conference of Mayors and National Alliance to End Homelessness analyzed data from 32 cities across 24 states. Cities included New York, Washington, D.C., Long Beach, Lincoln, Wichita, Austin, Atlanta, Chicago and others. The selected cities represent 32 percent of the more than 544,000 people experiencing homelessness in the nation.

Two-thirds of the cities saw decreases between 2009 and 2016. Long Beach, for example, saw a reduction of 1,659 people or 43 percent, while other cities like Los Angeles, Wichita, Honolulu and Washington D.C. experienced double digit increases in the same time frame.

Though Los Angeles had an overall increase, it was less than 15 percent and in some subcategories, homelessness was on the decline, according to Chris Ko, director of systems and innovation for the United Way of Greater Los Angeles.

The cities are interconnected with the light rail, but Pasadena's reduction isn't directly related to Los Angeles' increase, Ko said. New counting methods, rather than people migrating from Pasadena or Long Beach, are more likely to blame for the uptick.

"This is not an accident, this is the result of intentional choices that Pasadena has made," Ko said. "You're starting to see some of the things that Pasadena did five years ago finally come to fruition,"

United Way partners with Pasadena and other cities on programs for the homeless. Ko said the success seen in Pasadena is in part because the city is aggressive in pursuing funding and innovation with the proceeds. An abundance of private organizations, like Union Station Homeless Services, help further the city's goals.

Still, Pasadena must stay vigilant if it wants the progress to continue, Ko warned. Other cities, such as Denver, have seen reductions only to backslide in later years because of changes in politics that favored enforcement over assistance.

"We've seen this go backwards," Ko said. "We're all hoping for Pasadena to continue showing leadership."

URL: http://www.sgvtribune.com/social-affairs/20161223/why-pasadena-outranked-32-major-us-cities-in-reducing-homelessness

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### **REPORT**

DATE: January 5, 2017

TO: SGVCOG Homelessness Committee

FROM: Phil Hawkey, Executive Director

RE: HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE WORK PLAN

#### **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Recommend the Governing Board adopt The Homelessness Policy and Work Plan.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The SGVCOG Homelessness Committee began discussion on the Committee work plan starting on August 25, 2016. The goal of the Committee is to ensure that there are adequate homelessness programs and services available for those with the greatest need in the San Gabriel Valley Region (SGV). Currently, the SGV has an estimated 3,142 homeless individuals. In order to combat homelessness in the SGV, the Committee focused on five (5) key items to include in the final work plan document to guide the Committee. They are as follows:

- Definition of homelessness
- Causes of homelessness
- Challenges to combat homelessness
- The homeless population in the SGV
- Strategies to combat homelessness in the SGV

The final draft work plan policy (Attachment A) reflects the Committee's comments and edits over the past five months and COG Staff will present the final draft document (Attachment B). Pending approval of the final work plan by the Committee it is anticipated that it will go to the Governing Board for approval on January 19, 2017.

Prepared by: Chritian (

Christian Cruz

Management Analyst

Approved by:

Mariga Cratar

**Assistant Executive Director** 

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A – Final Draft Work Plan Policy

Attachment B – Final Draft Work Plan Policy Presentation



### San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments Homelessness Committee Policy

Adopted (DATE)

The San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) seeks to promote a high quality of life for all of the region's residents, and a critical element of doing this is ensuring that there are adequate homelessness programs and services available for those with the greatest need.

Currently, the County is divided into eight geographic areas designated as Service Planning Areas (SPA's). Each SPA is expected to have an equitable balance of homeless services. In January 2016, the Greater Los Angeles County Homeless Count was completed and the San Gabriel Valley (SGV), which is designated as SPA – 3, had an estimated 3,142 homeless individuals. However, it is important to note that the homeless count may not take into account those who are not easily visible such as homeless that reside in dense foliage areas and washes or those who are sharing the housing of others as temporary shelter due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason, Currently, Los Angeles County has an estimated permanent supportive housing gap of 15,341 units to house homeless individuals.

A homeless person is an individual without permanent housing who may live on the streets; stay in a shelter, mission, single room occupancy facilities, abandoned building or vehicle; or in any other unstable or non-permanent situation. <sup>1</sup> The homeless population also includes students. Students who meet the following criteria are considered to be homeless or marginally homeless: <sup>2</sup>

- Lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.
- Share the housing of other persons due to loss of housing,
- Live in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds and
- Live in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals, or are awaiting foster care placement.

According to the most recent homeless count snap shot for SPA-3, 68% of homeless individuals are male, 32% female and 0.2% transgender. Of this group, 44% are Hispanic/Latino, 38% White, and 13% African American. More than half, or 55% of the homeless population are between the ages of 25-35, 20% are between the ages of 55-61, and 18% are below the age of 24. Also, 35% are chronically homeless<sup>3</sup>, 19% of the homeless population are families, and 5% are veterans. <sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Section 330 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C., 254b)

<sup>2</sup> Education Code 48852.7; 42 USC 11434a

<sup>3</sup> According to the Housing and Urban Development Department. A person who is "chronically homeless" is an unaccompanied homeless. individual with a disabling condition. -who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more, -OR has had at least four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years.

<sup>4</sup> Note: percentages do not include homeless individuals that fall within one or more categories. and/or categories not included.

An estimated 17% of the SGV homeless population reside in Pasadena and 21% in Pomona. The remaining 62% are located within the remaining cities in the SGV.

It is necessary to approach homelessness in the SGV with the idea that any services, initiatives, and funding must have the ability and flexibility to provide for a diverse homeless population. There are many causes of homelessness and they include but are not limited to:

- Domestic violence
- Substance abuse
- Mental illness
- Recent incarceration

- Economic issues
- Exclusion due to race, sexual orientation, identity, or cultural norms

There remain many challenges to addressing homelessness in the SGV including:

- **Data:** Difficulty in accurately collecting data on the homeless population and lack of consistency across state and federal agencies in defining homelessness; which results in underfunding of programs and lack of programs that meet the demographics of the homeless population.
- **Funding:** Insufficient funding which leads to programs that are limited, variable and restricted as well as programs that are discontinued.
- Coordination and Best Practices: Lack of a master list of resources as well as a toolkit
  of programs that are sensitive to the context of the community. This results in community
  opposition and difficulty in forming programs. Homeless individual may reside in multiple
  jurisdictions and makes it difficult to accurately track, follow-up and provide them with
  appropriate resources.

The homeless population in the SGV includes a myriad of individuals, families, youth/young adults and many more. It is essential to tailor programs and resources to meet the needs of a diverse homeless population; such as:

- 1) Veteran resources
- 2) Substance abuse programs
- 3) Family assistance centers
- 4) Mental health services
- 5) Counseling services
- 6) Job training and placement
- 7) Rapid re-housing programs
- 8) Day and night emergency shelters
- 9) Domestic violence resources
- 10) Health care services

This Homelessness Policy is intended to outline the priorities for the Committee to combat homelessness in the SGV region, by supporting and implementing homelessness initiatives and programs. Local engagement and partnerships are necessary to combating homelessness in the SGV. As such, the SGVCOG will pursue strategies to combat homelessness that include, but are not limited to:

- 1) Work with LAHSA to increase city participation in annual homeless count and participate in regional forums like the Milken institute to improve data analysis.
- 2) Explore the development of an annual SGV-wide homeless services fundraiser to raise money for homeless services.
- 3) Identify and track programs as well as state legislation for the consideration of the Committee and advocate for programs that meet the following criteria:
  - Provide long-term funding for homelessness programs;
  - Encourage the development of permanent housing facilities,
  - Establish opportunities for job training and placement;
  - Provide resources to local agencies to implement housing and homeless programs;
  - Will empower local governments with additional resources and flexibility to better serve homeless individuals and families, increase access to affordable housing and extend proven programs for the homeless.
- 4) Work with cities to increase participation in programs such as the United Way's Funders Collaborative and LA County's rapid re-housing program.
- 5) Develop a point of contact for each city and a database of current practices and initiatives that each city has undertaken to combat homelessness including priorities and needs for each city and contact information for those services.
- 6) Develop presentations and materials that cities can utilize to address community concerns about permanent supportive housing in order to increase support for this type of program.
- 7) Work with LAHSA and provide a COG representative for their Regional Homelessness Advisory Council to develop joint initiatives related to homelessness, including chronic homelessness and homelessness as a result of substance abuse.

These strategies are intended to guide the actions of the SGVCOG but also inform and influence the short-term actions and long-term goals of the SGVCOG. These strategies are also intended to evolve and be modified as needed.

# HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE WORK PLAN FINAL DRAFT POLICY

### Introduction

- The San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) seeks to promote a high quality of life for all of the region's residents, and a critical element of doing this is ensuring that there are adequate homelessness programs and services available for those with the greatest need.
- Currently, the County is divided into eight geographic areas designated as Service Planning Areas (SPA's). Each SPA is expected to have an equitable balance of homeless services.
- In January 2016, the Greater Los Angeles County Homeless Count was completed and the San Gabriel Valley (SGV), which is designated as SPA 3, had an estimated 3,142 homeless individuals. However, it is important to note that the homeless count may not take into account those who are not easily visible such as homeless that reside in dense foliage areas and washes or those who are sharing the housing of others as temporary shelter due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason, Currently, Los Angeles County has an estimated permanent supportive housing gap of 15,341 units to house homeless individuals

### **DEFINITION**

A homeless person is an individual without permanent housing who may live on the streets; stay in a shelter, mission, single room occupancy facilities, abandoned building or vehicle; or in any other unstable or non-permanent situation. The homeless population also includes students. Students who meet the following criteria are considered to be homeless or marginally homeless:

- Lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.
- Share the housing of other persons due to loss of housing,
- Live in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds and
- Live in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals, or are awaiting foster care placement.

### SGV HOMELESS COUNT HIGHLIGHTS

### According to the most recent homeless count:

- 68% are Male
- 32% Female
- 0.2% Transgender

#### Of this group:

- 44% are Hispanic/Latino
- 38% White
- 13% African American.

#### Age range:

- 55% are between the ages of 25-35,
- 20% are between the ages of 55-61,
- 18% are below the age of 24.

#### Of note:

- 35% are chronically homeless,
- 19% of the homeless population are families,
- 5% are veterans.

#### An estimated:

- 17% of the SGV Homeless reside in Pasadena and 21% in Pomona
- 62% are located within the remaining cities in the SGV

However, it is important to note that the homeless count may not take into account those who are not easily visible such as homeless that reside in dense foliage areas and washes.

### CAUSES OF HOMELESSNESS

It is necessary to approach homelessness in the SGV with the idea that any services, initiatives, and funding must have the ability and flexibility to provide for a diverse homeless population. There are many causes of homelessness and they include but are not limited to:

- Domestic violence
- Substance abuse
- Mental illness
- Recent incarceration
- Economic issues
- Exclusion due to race, sexual orientation, identity, or cultural norms

### **CHALLENGES**

- **Data:** Difficulty in accurately collecting data on the homeless population and lack of consistency across state and federal agencies in defining homelessness; which results in underfunding of programs and lack of programs that meet the demographics of the homeless population.
- **Funding:** Insufficient funding which leads to programs that are limited, variable and restricted as well as programs that are discontinued.
- Coordination and Best Practices: Lack of a master list of resources as well as a toolkit of programs that are sensitive to the context of the community. This results in community opposition and difficulty in forming programs. Homeless individual may reside in multiple jurisdictions and makes it difficult to accurately track, follow-up and provide them with appropriate resources.

### HOMELESS POPULATION IN THE SGV

The homeless population in the SGV includes a myriad of individuals, families, youth/young adults and many more. It is essential to tailor programs and resources to meet the needs of a diverse homeless population; such as:

- Veteran resources
- Substance abuse programs
- Family assistance centers
- Mental health services
- Counseling services
- Job training and placement
- Rapid re-housing programs
- Day and night emergency shelters
- Domestic violence resources
- Health care services

# Homelessness Stategies

This Homelessness Policy is intended to outline the priorities for the Committee to combat homelessness in the SGV region, by supporting and implementing homelessness initiatives and programs. Local engagement and partnerships are necessary to combating homelessness in the SGV. As such, the SGVCOG will pursue strategies to combat homelessness that include, but are not limited to:

- I. Work with LAHSA to increase city participation in annual homeless count and participate in regional forums like the Milken institute to improve data analysis.
- 2. Explore the development of an annual SGV-wide homeless services fundraiser to raise money for homeless services.

- 3. Identify and track programs as well as state legislation for the consideration of the Committee and advocate for programs that meet the following criteria:
  - Provide long-term funding for homelessness programs;
  - Encourage the development of permanent housing facilities,
  - Establish opportunities for job training and placement;
  - Provide resources to local agencies to implement housing and homeless programs;
  - Will empower local governments with additional resources and flexibility to better serve homeless individuals and families, increase access to affordable housing and extend proven programs for the homeless.

- 4. Work with cities to increase participation in programs such as the United Way's Funders Collaborative and LA County's rapid re-housing program.
- 5. Develop a point of contact for each city and a database of current practices and initiatives that each city has undertaken to combat homelessness including priorities and needs for each city and contact information for those services.
- 6. Develop presentations and materials that cities can utilize to address community concerns about permanent supportive housing in order to increase support for this type of program.

7. Work with LAHSA and provide a COG representative for their Regional Homelessness Advisory Council to develop joint initiatives related to homelessness, including chronic homelessness and homelessness as a result of substance abuse.

These strategies are intended to guide the actions of the SGVCOG but also inform and influence the short-term actions and long-term goals of the SGVCOG. These strategies are also intended to evolve and be modified as needed.

### REPORT

DATE: January 5, 2017

TO: SGVCOG Homelessness Committee

FROM: Phil Hawkey, Executive Director

RE: LOS ANGELES COUNTY HOMELESS QUARTER CENT SALES TAX

**MEASURE** 

### RECOMMENDED ACTION

For information.

### **BACKGROUND**

The County Board of Supervisors on December 6, 2016 unanimously voted to place a quarter-cent sales tax on the March 7, 2017 ballot (Attachment A). This Measure would raise an estimated \$355 million annually with a sunset date after ten (10) years and seeks to fund the County Wide Plan for addressing homelessness which, will implement prevention, outreach, employment and bridge housing and other critical strategies that will need to be sustained and expanded in the coming years. This Measure needs a two-thirds majority in order to pass in March and will complement the \$1.2 billion general obligation bond that was passed in November which, can only be used for capital construction.

This Measure would provide an ongoing revenue source that is critical to the County to honor long-term commitments to address the regional homeless crisis in the San Gabriel Valley. However, it is not currently known who will conduct the administration of funds and how monies will be distributed among sub-regions and cities.

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Christian Cruz

Management Analyst

Approved by:

Marisa Creter

**Assistant Executive Director** 

arisa Creter

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A – LA County Staff Report and Resolution



AGN. NO.

### MOTION BY SUPERVISORS MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS AND DECEMBER 6, 2016 AND JANICE HAHN

### Securing Ongoing Funding to Address the Homeless Crisis

On August 17, 2015, the Los Angeles County (County) Board of Supervisors (Board) launched the Homeless Initiative to combat the homeless crisis that pervades its communities. The County Homeless Initiative conducted an inclusive and comprehensive planning process, including 18 policy summits on nine topics from October 1 to December 3, 2015, which brought together 25 County departments, 30 cities and other public agencies, and over 100 community partners and stakeholders.

The Homeless Initiative generated a powerful set of 47 coordinated and integrated strategies divided into the following six areas, which are each key to combating homelessness:

- Prevent Homelessness;
- Subsidize Housing;
- Increase Income;
- Provide Case Management and Services;
- Create a Coordinated System; and
- Increase Affordable/Homeless Housing.

- MORE -

	<u>MOTION</u>	
SOLIS		
KUEHL		
HAHN .		
BARGER .		
RIDLEY-THOMAS		

# MOTION BY SUPERVISORS MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS AND JANICE HAHN DECEMBER 6, 2016 PAGE 2

On February 9, 2016, after hearing the testimony of elected officials and representatives of over fourteen cities from throughout the County who pledged their support and commitment to working collaboratively with the County, the Board adopted the Chief Executive Officer's Homeless Initiative's 47 strategies (Strategies). The Board also approved new, one-time funding of \$100 million to initiate the implementation of these Strategies; however, the Board will soon need to replenish these one-time funds. The community-based organizations that participated in crafting the Strategies strongly advocated that the Board needed to secure additional, ongoing, annual funds to implement the Strategies in the years to come.

The best budget projections make it very clear that current County resources are not sufficient to fund Countywide initiatives and services to combat homelessness on an ongoing basis at the levels required to address the current crisis within the County.

The passage of Proposition HHH in November 2016 will allow the City of Los Angeles (City) to leverage resources and finance about 8,000-10,000 units of permanent supportive housing over the next 10 years. Furthermore, the State of California's No Place Like Home bond would also leverage resources and finance about 5,700 permanent supportive housing units over four funding cycles across all 88 cities and unincorporated areas of the County. Finally, in addition to other local, state and federal grant solicitations, the County's Community Development Commission also provides capital development funds for construction of permanent housing set aside for special needs and homeless populations. As a leader in the regional strategy to address homelessness, the Board is committed to securing annual, ongoing revenue to fund the essential support services that would complement these permanent supportive housing units and associated rental subsidies. To that end, on October 25, 2016, the Board unanimously approved a motion to craft the framework for a proposed Memorandum of Understanding that would facilitate a coordinated Countywide strategy on construction of permanent housing, allocation of rent subsidies and provision of supportive services.

### MOTION BY SUPERVISORS MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS AND JANICE HAHN DECEMBER 6, 2016 PAGE 3

To ensure the success of these permanent supportive housing units, and to fully implement the Homeless Initiative and other promising practices, the County has an urgent need to provide prevention, crisis, and support services, including health care, mental health services, and substance abuse treatment for homeless children, families, foster youth, seniors, battered women, disabled individuals, veterans, and other homeless adults.

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) has estimated that \$450 million a year (not counting construction costs) in services funding is required to make serious strides to address homelessness across the County. LAHSA calculates that over 15,000 units of permanent supportive housing are needed to aid persons who are living with disabilities and have had long durations of homelessness; the \$450 million estimate includes, but is not limited to, supportive services and rental subsidies for these proposed permanent supportive housing units.

While the key to ending homelessness is linking individuals and families to permanent housing, not all persons experiencing homelessness need permanent supportive housing. Many families and individuals can be linked to permanent housing and services through rapid rehousing programs. Additionally, the County's Homeless Initiative is implementing prevention, outreach, employment and bridge housing and other critical strategies that will need to be sustained and expanded in the coming years.

The County has diligently examined existing programs and reallocated funds to high-performing, effective programs that have shown the best outcomes. The County has also set aside General Funds to implement innovative programs, such as C3 street engagement teams, rapid rehousing and landlord incentive programs. The County has already taken steps through the Whole Person Care application to secure \$90 million in federal funding for the next five years, a portion of which will help finance supportive service needs for homeless persons eligible for Medicaid. However, an ongoing

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS AND JANICE HAHN DECEMBER 6, 2016 PAGE 4

revenue measure is critical if the County is to fully honor any long-term commitments to address the regional homeless crisis consistent with the strategies for combating homelessness developed through the Homeless Initiative adopted by the Board.

The County is authorized to impose a retail transactions and use (sales) tax in the incorporated and unincorporated territory of the County to generate revenue dedicated to preventing and combating the homelessness crisis and to fund the County's Homeless Initiative Plan.

In order to meet the urgent need of the people of this County to combat the homeless crisis, this Board must place a ¼-cent special sales tax on the ballot at the next available election to be held on March 7, 2017.

WE THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, adopt the attached resolution calling and giving notice of the special election on a countywide sales tax measure, that will be levied for a period of ten (10) years, to generate ongoing revenue dedicated to preventing and combating the homeless crisis and to fund the County's Homeless Initiative Plan, to be held in Los Angeles County on March 7, 2017, and consolidating the special election with other elections to be held on March 7, 2017.

YV/DW

####

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CALLING AND GIVING NOTICE OF A SPECIAL TAX ELECTION ON A COUNTYWIDE TRANSACTIONS AND USE (SALES) TAX TO PREVENT AND COMBAT HOMELESSNESS TO BE HELD IN THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ON MARCH 7, 2017, AND CONSOLIDATING THE SPECIAL TAX ELECTION WITH OTHER ELECTIONS TO BE HELD ON MARCH 7, 2017

WHEREAS, the County of Los Angeles ("County") is facing a pervasive and deepening homeless crisis, which currently endangers the health and safety of tens of thousands of residents, including veterans, women, children, LGBTQ youth, persons with disabilities, and seniors; and

**WHEREAS**, the tremendous scale of homelessness in the County threatens the economic stability of the region by burdening emergency medical services and the social services infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2016 Homeless Count released by the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), the number of homeless persons in the County on any given night is roughly 47,000, including over 6,000 parents and their children; and

WHEREAS, over 3,000 of the homeless in the County are veterans; and WHEREAS, since 2013, the number of homeless women has risen 55 percent; and

WHEREAS, the number of homeless persons living in encampments, tents and vehicles increased by a staggering 123 percent from 2013 to 2016, from 5,153 persons to 11,472; and

WHEREAS, homelessness is also increasing in the suburbs of the County. The homeless population has grown by 35 percent in the San Fernando Valley from 2015 to 2016, from 5,424 to 7,334, and in the South Bay, homelessness increased by 10 percent, from 5,351 to 5,913 during the same period; and

WHEREAS, many homeless people are facing severe threats to their health and safety on a daily basis; recent research has demonstrated that homeless persons are 3 to 4 times more likely to die than members of the general population, and studies

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indicate that premature death most often results from acute and chronic medical conditions aggravated by homeless life; and

WHEREAS, on August 17, 2015, the County Board of Supervisors launched the Homeless Initiative to combat the homeless crisis that pervades our communities; and

WHEREAS, the County Chief Executive Officer's ("CEO") Homeless Initiative conducted an inclusive and comprehensive planning process, including 18 policy summits on nine topics from October 1 to December 3, 2015, which brought together 25 County departments, 30 cities and other public agencies, and over 100 community partners and stakeholders; and

**WHEREAS**, the Homeless Initiative generated a powerful set of 47 coordinated and integrated strategies divided into the following six areas, which are each key to combating homelessness:

- Prevent Homelessness;
- Subsidize Housing;
- Increase Income;
- Provide Case Management and Services;
- Create a Coordinated System; and
- Increase Affordable/Homeless Housing; and

**WHEREAS**, the recommended strategies of the Homeless Initiative reflect the following key principles:

- Homelessness is an extraordinarily complex problem which necessitates active, sustained countywide collaboration amongst the County, cities and other public agencies, and a wide array of community partners;
- The web of established collaborative relationships in Los Angeles County provides a very strong foundation for the implementation of these strategies;
- These recommended strategies must strengthen and build upon current County efforts by:
  - o Directing more resources to proven strategies;

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- o Integrating existing programs and services more effectively;
- Enabling cities to join the County in combating homelessness; and

 Identifying opportunities to leverage mainstream criminal justice, health, and social services; and

WHEREAS, on February 9, 2016, after hearing the testimony of elected officials and representatives from over 14 cities from throughout the County who pledged their support and commitment to working collaboratively with the County, the Board of Supervisors adopted the CEO's Homeless Initiative strategies; and

WHEREAS, for fiscal year 2016-17, the Board of Supervisors approved new, one-time funding of \$100 million to initiate the implementation of the strategies developed by the Homeless Initiative; however, this funding will not sustain the recommended strategies through 2017. The Board will soon need to replenish the \$100 million dollars in one-time funds allocated to fund the Homeless Initiative strategies. The community-based organizations that participated in crafting the Homeless Initiative strategies strongly advocated that the Board of Supervisors needed to secure additional, ongoing, annual funds to implement the Homeless Initiative strategies in the years to come; and

WHEREAS, the best budget projections make it very clear that current County resources are not sufficient to fund countywide initiatives and services to combat homelessness on an ongoing basis at the levels required to address the current crisis within Los Angeles County; and

WHEREAS, this past winter, both the County and the City of Los Angeles declared local states of emergency as it relates to the lack of shelter for homeless persons within the County and the City; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors unanimously voted to seek a statewide declaration of emergency for the State's homeless crisis. The County's petition to get the Governor to declare a state of emergency on homelessness has garnered over 27,000 signatures. The State Assembly overwhelmingly passed a resolution urging the Governor to declare a state of emergency for homelessness. The City of Los Angeles, City and County of San Francisco, and the City of Santa Rosa have also passed similar resolutions urging the Governor to declare a state of emergency for homelessness. Thirty-two members of Congress have signed a joint letter urging the Governor to augment annual funding to address the homeless crisis and Congress members Hahn,

Napolitano, Sanchez, and Lowenthal have all also urged the Governor to declare a state of emergency for homelessness. The Governor has refused, however, to declare such an emergency, and therefore, local governments, like the County, must take immediate action to address the homeless crisis in their own jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, the passage of Proposition HHH in November 2016 will allow the City of Los Angeles to leverage resources and finance about 8,000-10,000 units of permanent supportive housing over the next 10 years. Furthermore, the State of California's "No Place Like Home" bond would also leverage resources and finance about 5,700 permanent supportive housing units over four funding cycles across all 88 cities and unincorporated areas of the County. Finally, in addition to other local, state and federal grant solicitations, the County's Community Development Commission (CDC) also provides capital development funds for construction of permanent housing set aside for special needs and homeless populations. As a strong partner in the regional strategy to address homelessness, the Board of Supervisors is committed to securing annual, ongoing revenue to fund the essential support services that would complement these permanent supportive housing units and associated rental subsidies. To that end, on October 25, 2016, the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a motion to craft the framework for a proposed Memorandum of Understanding that would facilitate a coordinated countywide strategy on construction of permanent housing, allocation of rent subsidies and provision of supportive services. To ensure the success of these permanent supportive housing units, and to fully implement the Homeless Initiative and other promising practices, the County has an urgent need to provide prevention, crisis, and support services, including healthcare, mental health services, and substance abuse treatment for homeless children, families, foster youth, seniors, battered women, disabled individuals, veterans, and other homeless adults; and

WHEREAS, LAHSA has estimated that \$450 million a year (not counting construction costs) in services funding is required to make serious strides to address homelessness across the County. LAHSA calculates that over 15,000 units of permanent supportive housing are needed to aid persons who are living with disabilities and have had long durations of homelessness; the \$450 million estimate includes

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supportive services and rental subsidies for these proposed permanent supportive housing units; and

WHEREAS, while the key to ending homelessness is linking individuals and families to permanent housing, not all persons experiencing homelessness need permanent supportive housing. Many families and individuals can be linked to permanent housing and services through rapid rehousing programs. Additionally, the County's Homeless Initiative is implementing prevention, outreach, employment and bridge housing and other critical strategies that will need to be sustained and expanded in the coming years.

WHEREAS, the County has diligently examined existing programs and reallocated funds to high-performing, effective programs that have shown the best outcomes. The County has also set aside general fund money to implement innovative programs, such as C3 street engagement teams, rapid rehousing and landlord incentive programs. The County has already taken steps through the Whole Person Care application to secure \$90 million in federal funding for the next five years, a portion of which will help finance supportive service needs for homeless persons eligible for Medicaid. However, an ongoing revenue measure is critical if the County is to fully honor any long-term commitments to address the regional homeless crisis consistent with the strategies for combating homelessness developed through the Homeless Initiative adopted by the Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Parts 1.6 and 1.7 of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, the County is authorized to impose a retail transactions and use tax at a rate of 0.125% (or any multiple thereof) in the incorporated and unincorporated territory of the County to generate revenue for specific purposes ("special sales tax"); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article XIII C, section 2(d) of the Constitution, and California Revenue and Taxation Code section 7285.5, a special sales tax is subject to approval by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Supervisors and by a two-thirds vote of the qualified voters voting in an election on the issue; and

WHEREAS, pursuant Government Code section 53724(d), an election for the approval of a special tax may be held at any election date otherwise permitted by law; and

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WHEREAS, the County desires to impose a special retail sales tax at a rate of one-quarter percent (0.25%) on the sale of tangible personal property and the storage, use, or other consumption of such property to generate revenue for the specific purpose of preventing and combating homelessness in Los Angeles County; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors deems it necessary and essential to submit the question of the special sales tax to the qualified voters within the County at the regular election to be held on March 7, 2017, and to consolidate such election with the other elections to be held on that date.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles as follows:

**Section 1. Call of the Election and Purpose**. An election shall be held and the same is hereby called and ordered to be held in the County on the 7th day of March, 2017, for the purpose of submitting to the voters a proposed ordinance regarding a special sales tax in the amounts hereinafter set forth.

**Section 2. Ballot Measure.** The measure for the County to levy a special tax shall appear on the ballot substantially as follows:

Los Angeles County Plan to Prevent and Combat Homelessness	
To fund mental health, substance abuse treatment, health care, education, job training, rental subsidies, emergency and affordable housing, transportation, outreach, prevention, and supportive services for homeless children, families, foster youth, veterans, battered women, seniors, disabled individuals, and other homeless adults; shall voters authorize Ordinance No to levy a ¼ cent sales tax for ten years, with independent annual audits and citizens' oversight?	YES NO

**Section 3. Ordinance.** The attached ordinance, Exhibit A, is incorporated by reference ("Ordinance").

**Section 4. Specific Purpose**. The specific purpose of the special sales tax is to generate ongoing funding to prevent and combat homelessness within Los Angeles County, including funding mental health, substance abuse treatment, health care, education, job training, rental subsidies, emergency and affordable housing,

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transportation, outreach, prevention, and supportive services for homeless children, families, foster youth, veterans, battered women, seniors, disabled individuals, and other homeless adults, consistent with the strategies developed through the Homeless Initiative adopted by the Board of Supervisors, and as otherwise directed by the Board to address the causes and effects of homelessness, as further described in the Ordinance.

**Section 5.** Accountability Measures. Pursuant to Government Code section 50075.3, if the special sales tax is approved, for so long as any proceeds of the special sales tax remain unexpended, the County Auditor-Controller shall cause a report to be prepared by an independent auditor and to be filed with the Board of Supervisors no later than December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year, commencing December 31, 2018, stating (1) the amount of special sales tax revenues collected and expended in such year; and (2) the status of any project and description of any services or programs funded from proceeds of the special sales tax. The report may relate to the calendar year, fiscal year, or other appropriate annual period, as the Auditor-Controller shall determine, and may be incorporated into or filed with the annual budget, audit, or other appropriate routine report to the Board of Supervisors.

Section 6. Community Oversight and Accountability. A Citizens' Oversight Advisory Board shall be created, as provided for in the Ordinance, to review all expenditures from the special sales tax, and submit periodic evaluations of the Homeless Initiative and the County's programs to combat homelessness funded by the special sales tax.

**Section 7. Tax Account.** If the ballot measure authorizing the special sales tax is approved, the proceeds of the special sales tax shall be deposited in a special account, to be created and maintained by the County.

Section 8. California Environmental Quality Act. Based upon all of the facts before it on this matter, the Board of Supervisors finds that the submission of this question of a special sales tax to the voters is not subject to, or is exempt from, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Submission of the special sales tax to the voters is not a project as defined by California Code of Regulations Section 15378(b)(4) because it relates to the creation of government funding mechanisms, which do not

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involve commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

**Section 9. Proclamation.** Pursuant to section 12001 of the Elections Code, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles hereby PROCLAIMS that an election shall be held in the County on Tuesday, March 7, 2017, to vote upon the proposed ordinance. The polls shall be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**Section 10.** Election Procedure. All qualified voters residing within the County shall be permitted to vote in the election and in all particulars not recited in this resolution, the elections shall be held as nearly as practicable in conformity with the Elections Code of the State of California. The votes cast for and against the measure shall be separately counted and if the measure receives the required number of votes, two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast by the qualified electors voting on the measure, the special sales tax in the amounts stated in the Ordinance shall be effective and ratified.

**Section 11. Sample Ballot**. The Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk is instructed to print the entire proposed Ordinance in the sample ballot.

**Section 12. Consolidation.** The election called by this Resolution shall be consolidated with the other elections conducted by the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk to be held in the County of Los Angeles on March 7, 2017, and the measure shall be placed on the same ballot.

Section 13. Authority. This Resolution is adopted pursuant to section 12001 of the Elections Code and section 25201 of the Government Code. The Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board of Supervisors is ordered to file a copy of this Resolution with the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk at least eighty-eight (88) days prior to the day of the election. The Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk is authorized, instructed and directed to prepare any documents and take any additional actions that may be necessary in order to properly and lawfully conduct the election.

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The foregoing Resolution was on the 6th day of December 2016, adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles and ex officio the governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, agencies, and authorities for which said Board so acts.

LORI GLASGOW, Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles

Ву	:				

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

MARY C. WICKHAM County Counsel

By: Deputy County Counsel

Deputy County Counsel

## **ANALYSIS**

This ordinance adds Chapter 4.73--Transactions and Use Tax to Prevent and Combat Homelessness, of the Los Angeles County Code to impose a special countywide tax of 0.25% on all retail sales consummated at the retailer's place of business, and on the storage, use or other consumption of tangible personal property for a period of ten (10) years. The sole purpose of the Transactions and Use Tax to Prevent and Combat Homelessness is to generate revenue to address the causes and effects of homelessness within Los Angeles County. The ordinance will become effective only after approval by a two-thirds vote of the County Board of Supervisors and a two-thirds vote of the qualified voters voting in an election on the issue.

MARY C. WICKHAM County Counsel

By Deputy County Counsel

ORDINANCE	NO.	
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An ordinance amending Title 4, Revenue and Finance of the Los Angeles County Code, to add Chapter 4.73—Transactions and Use Tax to Prevent and Combat Homelessness, relating to a special countywide transactions and use tax to prevent and combat homelessness within Los Angeles County.

The people of the County of Los Angeles ordains as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 4.73 is hereby added to read as follows:

## Chapter 4.73

## Transactions and Use Tax to Prevent and Combat Homelessness

Sections:	
4.73.010	Title.
4.73.020	Operative Date.
4.73.030	Purpose.
4.73.040	Expenditure Plan.
4.73.050	Special Account.
4.73.060	Community Oversight and Accountability.
4.73.070	Accountability Measures.
4.73.080	Contract with State.
4.73.090	Transactions Tax Rate.
4.73.100	Place of Sale.
4.73.110	Use Tax Rate.
4.73.120	Adoption of Provisions of State Law.
4.73.130	Limitations on Adoption of State Law and Collection of Use.
4.73.140	Permit Not Required.

4.73.150	Exemptions and Exclusions.
4.73.160	State Law Amendments.
4.73.170	Amendment of Ordinance.
4.73.180	Enjoining Collection Forbidden
4.73.190	Severability.
4.73.200	Effective Date.
4.73.201	Execution.

This Chapter shall be known as the "Transactions and Use Tax to Prevent and Combat Homelessness" ordinance. The County of Los Angeles hereinafter shall be called "County." This ordinance shall be applicable in the incorporated and unincorporated territory of the County.

## 4.73.020 Operative Date.

Title.

4.73.010

Except as provided for in Section 4.73.050, the "Operative Date" means the first day of the first calendar quarter commencing more than 110 days after the adoption of this ordinance, the date of such adoption being as set forth below.

## 4.73.030 Purpose.

This ordinance is adopted to achieve the following and directs that the provisions hereof be interpreted in order to accomplish those purposes:

A. To impose a retail transactions and use tax in accordance with the provisions of Part 1.6 (commencing with section 7251) of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code and section 7285.5 of Part 1.7 of Division 2 which authorizes the County to adopt this tax ordinance which shall be operative if two thirds of the electors voting on

the measure vote to approve the imposition of the tax at an election called for that purpose.

- B. To adopt a retail transactions and use tax ordinance that incorporates provisions identical to those of the Sales and Use Tax Law of the State of California insofar as those provisions are not inconsistent with the requirements and limitations contained in Part 1.6 of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.
- C. To adopt a retail transactions and use tax ordinance that imposes a tax and provides a measure therefor that can be administered and collected by the State Board of Equalization in a manner that adapts itself as fully as practicable to, and requires the least possible deviation from, the existing statutory and administrative procedures followed by the State Board of Equalization in administering and collecting the California State Sales and Use Taxes.
- D. To adopt a retail transactions and use tax ordinance that can be administered in a manner that will be, to the greatest degree possible, consistent with the provisions of Part 1.6 of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, minimize the cost of collecting the transactions and use taxes, and at the same time, minimize the burden of record keeping upon persons subject to taxation under the provisions of this ordinance.
- E. To adopt a retail transactions and use tax ordinance for the specific purpose of preventing and combatting homelessness within Los Angeles County.

  Revenues generated by the retail transactions and use tax shall be used to sustain the implementation of the County's Homeless Initiative's recommended strategies, adopted by the Board of Supervisors on February 9, 2016, and as otherwise directed by the

Board of Supervisors to address the causes and effects of homelessness, consistent with this Chapter.

## 4.73.040 Expenditure Plan.

A. Consistent with Subsection E of Section 4.73.030, above, the revenues generated by the retail transactions and use tax will be expended by the County pursuant to an expenditure plan approved by the Board of Supervisors prior to June 30<sup>th</sup> of each year. The annual expenditure plan will include, but not be limited to, the following projects:

- Prevent Homelessness:
  - Homeless Prevention Program for Families;
  - b. Homeless Prevention Program for Individuals.
- 2. Subsidize Housing:
  - Expand Rapid Rehousing;
- b. Provide subsidized housing to homeless disabled individuals pursuing Supplemental Security Income;
  - c. Facilitate utilization of federal housing subsidies;
  - family reunification housing subsidies;
  - e. Interim/bridge housing for those exiting institutions.
  - 3. Provide Case Management and Services:
    - a. Mental health, substance use, and counseling services;
    - Regional Integrated Re-entry Network;
    - c. Jail In-reach;
    - d. Criminal Record Clearing Project;
    - e. Provide services for Permanent Supportive Housing.

## 4. Increase Income:

- a. Increase employment for homeless adults by supporting social enterprise;
  - b. Subsidized employment for homeless adults;
- c. Countywide Supplemental Security/Social Security Disability income, and Veterans benefits advocacy.
  - Create a Coordinated System:
    - Expand the Countywide Outreach System;
    - Strengthen the Coordinated Entry System;
    - c. Enhance the Emergency Shelter System;
    - d. Enhance services for transition age youth.
  - 6. Affordable Housing for the Homeless:
    - Preserve current affordable housing;
- b. Promote the development of affordable housing for homeless families and individuals.
  - 7. Other services to address the causes and effects of homelessness.
- B. To the extent feasible, revenues from the retail transactions and use tax shall be used to leverage additional public and private resources to address the causes and effects of homelessness, consistent with this Chapter.
- C. Revenues from the retail transactions and use tax may be awarded as grants to public agencies and non-profit organizations to address the causes and effects of homelessness, consistent with this Chapter. The Board of Supervisors shall adopt policies and procedures for the solicitation and award of such grants. Nothing herein precludes the County from using revenue generated by the retail transactions and use

tax for contracting with for-profit contractors and private businesses in compliance with applicable law.

## 4.73.050 Special Account.

Any retail transactions and use tax proceeds shall be deposited in a special account, created and maintained by the County, and used only for the specific purposes identified in Subsection E of Section 4.73.030, above, in accordance with Section 4.73.030, above.

## 4.73.060 Community Oversight and Accountability

- A. The Citizens' Homelessness Initiative Oversight Advisory Board ("Advisory Board") is hereby created.
- B. The Advisory Board shall be comprised of five members appointed by the Board of Supervisors. Each Supervisorial District shall nominate one member for appointment by the Board of Supervisors. The Advisory Board shall include at least one member that meets each of the following criteria:
- A professional from the field of municipal/public finance and/or accounting and budgeting with a minimum of ten years of relevant experience in evaluating financial transactions and program cost-effectiveness; and
- An individual working in the homelessness services, research, or advocacy field in a management position with a minimum of ten years of relevant experience.

The Advisory Board members shall be governed by and comply with State conflict of interest laws (e.g., Government Code section 87000 et seq.; and section 1090 et seq.) and the County's conflict of interest policies. The members shall have no legal action pending against Los Angeles County and are prohibited from acting in any

activity directly or indirectly involving funding provided through this ordinance during their tenure on the Advisory Board. Advisory Board members shall not have direct interest or employment with any public or private entity, which receives funding provided through this ordinance.

- C. The Advisory Board shall do all of the following:
- Semi-annual review of all expenditures from the retail transactions and use tax;
- 2. Publish a complete accounting of all allocations each year, posting the information on the County's publicly accessible Internet Web site; in a downloadable spreadsheet format, including information about the location and footprint of each funded project, its objectives, status, and outcomes, any matching funds used, and the applicable program from the expenditure plan schedule;
- 3. Submit periodic evaluations to the County of the retail transactions and use tax expenditures, which may at the Board of Supervisors' direction be undertaken by independent researchers, identifying any changes needed to meet the objectives of the Homeless Initiative.
- D. Members of the Advisory Board shall serve a term of four years at the pleasure of the Board of Supervisors, and no member may serve more than two consecutive four-year terms. The Board of Supervisors may, by order, extend this length of service or waive this limit for individuals or the Advisory Board as a whole. A member's position shall become vacant upon his or her death, resignation, or removal by the Board of Supervisors. In the case of such a vacancy, the Supervisorial District from which the vacancy arose shall nominate a successor for appointment by the Board of Supervisors to fill the unexpired term.

E. Members of the Advisory Board shall not be compensated for their service, but may be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

## 4.73.070 Accountability Measures.

For so long as any proceeds of the retail transactions and use tax remain unexpended, the Auditor-Controller shall cause a report to be prepared by an independent auditor and filed with the Board of Supervisors no later than December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year, stating: (i) the amount of retail transactions and use tax proceeds collected and expended in such year; and (ii) the status of any projects or description of any services or programs funded from proceeds of the retail transactions and use tax.

#### 4.73.080 Contract with State.

Prior to the operative date, the County shall contract with the State Board of Equalization to perform all functions incident to the administration and operation of this transactions and use tax ordinance; provided, that if the County shall not have contracted with the State Board of Equalization prior to the operative date, it shall nevertheless so contract and in such a case the operative date shall be the first day of the first calendar quarter following the execution of such a contract.

## 4.73.090 Transactions Tax Rate.

For the privilege of selling tangible personal property at retail, a transaction tax is hereby imposed upon all retailers in the incorporated and unincorporated territory of the County at the rate of 0.25% of the gross receipts of any retailer from the sale of all tangible personal property sold at retail in said territory for a period of ten (10) years beginning on and after the operative date of this ordinance.

#### 4.73.100 Place of Sale.

For the purposes of this ordinance, all retail sales are consummated at the place of business of the retailer unless the tangible personal property sold is delivered by the retailer or his agent to an out-of-state destination or to a common carrier for delivery to an out-of-state destination. The gross receipts from such sales shall include delivery charges, when such charges are subject to the State sales and use tax, regardless of the place to which delivery is made. In the event a retailer has no permanent place of business in the State or has more than one place of business, the place or places at which the retail sales are consummated shall be determined under rules and regulations to be prescribed and adopted by the State Board of Equalization.

## 4.73.110 Use Tax Rate.

A use tax is hereby imposed on the storage, use or other consumption in the County of tangible personal property purchased from any retailer on and after the operative date of this ordinance for storage, use or other consumption in said territory at the rate of 0.25% of the sales price of the property for a period of ten (10) years beginning on and after the operative date of this ordinance. The sales price shall include delivery charges when such charges are subject to State sales or use tax regardless of the place to which delivery is made.

## 4.73.120 Adoption of Provisions of State Law.

Except as otherwise provided in this ordinance and except insofar as they are inconsistent with the provisions of Part 1.6 of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, all of the provisions of Part 1 (commencing with section 6001) of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code are hereby adopted and made a part of this ordinance as though fully set forth herein.

4.73.130 Limitations on Adoption of State Law and Collection of Use Taxes.

In adopting the provisions of Part 1 of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code:

- A. Wherever the State of California is named or referred to as the taxing agency, the name of this County shall be substituted therefor. However, the substitution shall not be made:
- When the word "State" is used as a part of the title of the State
   Controller, State Treasurer, State Board of Equalization, State Treasury, or the
   Constitution of the State of California;
- 2. Where the result of that substitution would require action to be taken by or against this County or any agency, officer, or employee thereof rather than by or against the State Board of Equalization, in performing the functions incident to the administration or operation of this ordinance.
- 3. In those sections, including, but not necessarily limited to sections referring to the exterior boundaries of the State of California, where the result of the substitution would be to:
- a. Provide an exemption from this tax with respect to certain sales, storage, use or other consumption of tangible personal property which would not otherwise be exempt from this tax while such sales, storage, use or other consumption remain subject to tax by the State under the provisions of Part 1 of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, or;

HOA.100828746.3

- b. Impose this tax with respect to certain sales, storage, use or other consumption of tangible personal property which would not be subject to tax by the State under the said provision of that code.
- In sections 6701, 6702 (except in the last sentence thereof), 6711,
   6715, 6737, 6797 or 6828 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.
- B. The word "County" shall be substituted for the word "State" in the phrase "retailer engaged in business in this State" in section 6203 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, and in the definition of that phrase in section 6203.

## 4.73.140 Permit Not Required.

If a seller's permit has been issued to a retailer under section 6067 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, an additional transactor's permit shall not be required by this ordinance.

## 4.73.150 Exemptions and Exclusions.

- A. There shall be excluded from the measure of the transactions tax and the use tax the amount of any sales tax or use tax imposed by the State of California or by any city, city and county, or county pursuant to the Bradley-Burns Uniform Local Sales and Use Tax Law or the amount of any state-administered transactions or use tax.
- B. There are exempted from the computation of the amount of transactions tax the gross receipts from:
- 1. Sales of tangible personal property, other than fuel or petroleum products, to operators of aircraft to be used or consumed principally outside the County in which the sale is made and directly and exclusively in the use of such aircraft as common carriers of persons or property under the authority of the laws of this State, the United States, or any foreign government.

- 2. Sales of property to be used outside the County which is shipped to a point outside the County, pursuant to the contract of sale, by delivery to such point by the retailer or his agent, or by delivery by the retailer to a carrier for shipment to a consignee at such point. For the purposes of this paragraph, delivery to a point outside the County shall be satisfied:
- a. With respect to vehicles (other than commercial vehicles) subject to registration pursuant to Chapter 1 (commencing with section 4000) of Division 3 of the Vehicle Code, aircraft licensed in compliance with section 21411 of the Public Utilities Code, and undocumented vessels registered under Division 3.5 (commencing with section 9840) of the Vehicle Code by registration to an out-of-County address and by a declaration under penalty of perjury, signed by the buyer, stating that such address is, in fact, his or her principal place of residence; and
- b. With respect to commercial vehicles, by registration to a place of business out-of-County and declaration under penalty of perjury, signed by the buyer, that the vehicle will be operated from that address.
- 3. The sale of tangible personal property if the seller is obligated to furnish the property for a fixed price pursuant to a contract entered into prior to the operative date of this ordinance.
- 4. A lease of tangible personal property which is a continuing sale of such property, for any period of time for which the lessor is obligated to lease the property for an amount fixed by the lease prior to the operative date of this ordinance.
- 5. For the purposes of subparagraphs (3) and (4) of this section, the sale or lease of tangible personal property shall be deemed not to be obligated pursuant to a contract or lease for any period of time for which any party to the contract or lease

has the unconditional right to terminate the contract or lease upon notice, whether or not such right is exercised.

- C. There are exempted from the use tax imposed by this ordinance, the storage, use or other consumption in this County of tangible personal property:
- 1. The gross receipts from the sale of which have been subject to a transactions tax under any state-administered transactions and use tax ordinance.
- 2. Other than fuel or petroleum products purchased by operators of aircraft and used or consumed by such operators directly and exclusively in the use of such aircraft as common carriers of persons or property for hire or compensation under a certificate of public convenience and necessity issued pursuant to the laws of this State, the United States, or any foreign government. This exemption is in addition to the exemptions provided in sections 6366 and 6366.1 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.
- 3. If the purchaser is obligated to purchase the property for a fixed price pursuant to a contract entered into prior to the operative date of this ordinance.
- 4. If the possession of, or the exercise of any right or power over, the tangible personal property arises under a lease which is a continuing purchase of such property for any period of time for which the lessee is obligated to lease the property for an amount fixed by a lease prior to the operative date of this ordinance.
- 5. For the purposes of subparagraphs 3 and 4 of this section, storage, use, or other consumption, or possession of, or exercise of any right or power over, tangible personal property shall be deemed not to be obligated pursuant to a contract or lease for any period of time for which any party to the contract or lease has the

unconditional right to terminate the contract or lease upon notice, whether or not such right is exercised.

- 6. Except as provided in subparagraph 7, a retailer engaged in business in the County shall not be required to collect use tax from the purchaser of tangible personal property, unless the retailer ships or delivers the property into the County or participates within the County in making the sale of the property, including, but not limited to, soliciting or receiving the order, either directly or indirectly, at a place of business of the retailer in the County or through any representative, agent, canvasser, solicitor, subsidiary, or person in the County under the authority of the retailer.
- 7. "A retailer engaged in business in the County" shall also include any retailer of any of the following: vehicles subject to registration pursuant to Chapter 1 (commencing with section 4000) of Division 3 of the Vehicle Code, aircraft licensed in compliance with section 21411 of the Public Utilities Code, or undocumented vessels registered under Division 3.5 (commencing with section 9840) of the Vehicle Code. That retailer shall be required to collect use tax from any purchaser who registers or licenses the vehicle, vessel, or aircraft at an address in the County.
- D. Any person subject to use tax under this ordinance may credit against that tax any transactions tax or reimbursement for transactions tax paid to a County imposing, or retailer liable for a transactions tax pursuant to Part 1.6 of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code with respect to the sale to the person of the property the storage, use or other consumption of which is subject to the use tax.
- E. When contracting with the State Board of Equalization pursuant to section4.73.080 to administer the tax imposed by this ordinance, it shall be the County's intent,

and any agreement shall ensure, that the combined rate limit specified in Revenue and Taxation Code section 7251.1 is not exceeded in any district within the County that has imposed a transactions and use tax pursuant to Part 1.6 of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code in effect on or before the effective date of this ordinance. The agreement shall include that appropriate steps are taken by the Board of Equalization to ensure that the County tax imposed by this ordinance, when aggregated with all other transactions and use taxes imposed pursuant to Part 1.6 of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code within that district, will 1) not cause the rate of the transactions and use tax within the district to exceed the combined rate limit; 2) not cause any person subject to the tax imposed by this ordinance to pay more than the legally permissible combined rate; and 3) have no impact on the revenue received by each district within the County as the result of any transactions and use tax imposed by the district on or prior to the effective date of this ordinance.

#### 4.73.160 State Law Amendments.

All amendments subsequent to the effective date of this ordinance to Part 1 of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code relating to sales and use taxes and which are not inconsistent with Part 1.6 and Part 1.7 of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, and all amendments to Part 1.6 and Part 1.7 of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, shall automatically become a part of this ordinance, provided however, that no such amendment shall operate so as to affect the rate of tax imposed by this ordinance.

#### 4.73.170 Amendment of Ordinance.

Except for amendments that would increase the tax rate, impose the tax on transactions and uses not previously subject to the tax (unless the amendment occurs

pursuant to Section 4.73.160), extend the tax, or be inconsistent with the purposes of this ordinance, the Board of Supervisors may amend this ordinance without submitting the amendment to the voters for approval.

## 4.73.180 Enjoining Collection Forbidden.

No injunction or writ of mandate or other legal or equitable process shall issue in any suit, action or proceeding in any court against the State or the County, or against any officer of the State or the County, to prevent or enjoin the collection under this ordinance, or Part 1.6 of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, of any tax or any amount of tax required to be collected.

## 4.73.190 Severability.

If any provision of this ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the ordinance and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

#### 4.73.200 Effective Date.

This ordinance relates to the levying and collecting of the County's Transactions and Use Tax to Prevent and Combat Homelessness and shall take effect immediately upon approval by a majority of the electorate voting in an election on this ordinance.

## 4.73.201 Execution.

The Chair of the Board of Supervisors is authorized to attest to the adoption of this ordinance by the voters of the County.

I hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance was PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED by the people of the County of Los Angeles voting on the 7th day of March, 2017.

Chair of the Board of Supervisors



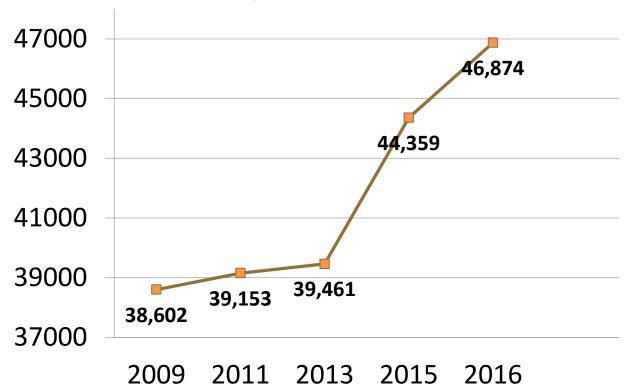
# Ongoing Revenue to Combat Homelessness Throughout Los Angeles County

Chief Executive Office December 6, 2016



# Homeless Count Daily Homeless Population\*

(in Los Angeles County)

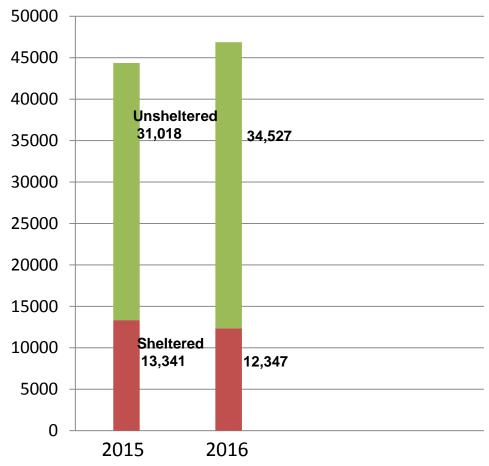


\*Homeless Count Data provided by Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority



# Sheltered vs. Unsheltered

## Total Homeless Population - Sheltered and Unsheltered



Data provided by Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority



# Los Angeles County Homeless Initiative

- In February 2016, Los Angeles County adopted a coordinated set of 47 strategies to combat homelessness, including strategies in which cities, businesses and faith leaders can participate.
- Inclusive and collaborative planning process involving over 1100 experts and community members focused on what works.





# What the Plan Does

- 47 strategies covering six areas:
  - Prevent Homelessness
  - Subsidize Housing
  - Increase Income
  - Provide Case Management and Services
  - Create a Coordinated System
  - Increase Affordable/Homeless Housing



# Homeless Housing/Services Gap

Housing Type		Total Gap (units)*	<u>Description</u>		
<b>fff</b>	Permanent Supportive Housing	15,341	Provides intensive support services to chronically homeless persons		
P	Rapid Re- Housing	8,376	Provides short-term housing assistance. Each unit can potentially house 2 households per year		
	Emergency Shelter	2,279	Provides crisis housing to unsheltered persons on the path to permanent housing		
	Homeless Prevention	2,555	Provides stabilizing housing assistance that keeps people and families from falling out of housing and into the homeless system		

<sup>\*</sup>Homeless Housing Gaps in the County of Los Angeles, Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, January 2016



# Ongoing Funding Needed

- Unmet need for homeless housing/services
  - \$450 million per year\* (not counting construction costs)
- Current funding
  - \$100 million one-time

\*Homeless Housing Gaps in the County of Los Angeles, Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, January 2016



# Proposed March Ballot Measure

- ¼ Cent sales tax for services, rental subsidies and housing
- Generates \$355 Million annually for ten years (legally restricted to combating homelessness)
- Complements "Brick and Mortar" Initiatives to build housing
- Strong Oversight with Citizens Advisory Committee



DATE: January 5, 2017

TO: SGVCOG Homelessness Committee

FROM: Phil Hawkey, Executive Director

RE: LOS ANGELES REGIONAL HOMELESS ADVISORY COUNCIL

#### RECOMMENDED ACTION

Nominate the Regional Homeless Advisory Council representative and provide nominee name to the Governing Board for approval.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The County and City of LA's Homelessness Strategies called for the creation of a public-private Regional Homelessness Advisory Council (RHAC) to ensure broad-based collective strategic leadership (Attachment A). The RHAC will be co-convened by the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) and Home for Good Los Angeles a community-driven initiative to end homelessness in L.A. County. This Advisory Council fulfills LA County's Homeless Initiative strategy E17. The objectives the RHAC will seek to accomplish are as follows:

- Support implementation of best practices and evidence-based approaches to homeless programming and services.
- Promote alignment of funding across all sectors and leverage resources in the most effective manner.
- Coordinate programmatic approaches across all homeless system providers and mainstream systems.
- Support a regional Strategic response to identify and resolve the primary factors contributing to housing instability and homelessness.
- Identify and articulate artificial barriers across geographic and political spheres, in order to eliminate them.
- Influence mainstream systems to ensure access and accountability to homeless consumers.

There will be a total of 56 seats and each of the Council of Governments in LA County will be allowed one representative. This is a non-elected position and LAHSA staff advised that either a COG staff member be appointed or a high level staff member from an organization that is intimately involved with the Homelessness Committee.

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_\_

Christian Cruz

Management Analyst

Approved by:

Marisa Creter

Marisa Creter

**Assistant Executive Director** 

**ATTACHMENTS** 

Attachment A - RHAC



# Los Angeles Regional Homelessness Advisory Council (RHAC)

## **Background**

- The County and City of LA's Homelessness Strategies call for the creation of a public-private Regional Homelessness Advisory Council (RHAC) to ensure broad-based collective strategic leadership.
- The federal HEARTH Act requires CoCs to establish a "CoC Board" to oversee CoC operations.
- LAHSA Commission established an Ad Hoc Committee on CoC Governance to explore how a new governance structure might be convened, staffed and coordinated with existing CoC oversight and governance bodies.

## Role and Purpose of the RHAC

## **Fulfill LA City (5E) and County (E17) Strategies**

- Strategic leadership and alignment
- Implementation of best practices and coordinated programmatic approaches across systems
- Alignment of funding
- Track progress and communicate results
- Regional focus on causes of homelessness
- Eliminate artificial geographic and political barriers
- Improve homeless access to mainstream systems

In addition, the RHAC will select the LA CoC Board.

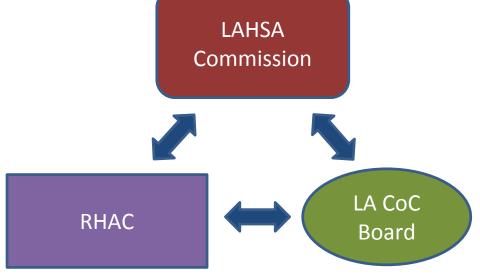
## Requirements and Role of the LA CoC Board

- Representative of the providers serving homeless subpopulations
- Include at least one current or formerly homeless individual
- Follow code of conduct, conflict of interest, and recusal process
- Review and advise LAHSA on LA's application for HUD's annual CoC Program Competition
- Evaluates and recommends LA CoC policies to ensure a competitive HUD application that advances the goal of ending homelessness in LA
- Advise LAHSA on LA CoC priorities and needs

## **Proposed LA CoC Governance Structure**



- **Provides Broad-Based Collective** Strategic Leadership
- Co-convened by LAHSA and Home For Good



Advises the LAHSA Commission on LA CoC matters

# The RHAC Will Be Representative of LA CoC Stakeholders and Geography

- Providers
- Formerly Homeless Individuals
- LA County and City Agencies
- Independent Cities
- Philanthropy
- Health Systems
- Business Community
- Education
- Faith Community
- Criminal Justice System
- Other LA County CoCs
- LAHSA Commission

## 12 Service Provider Representatives on the RHAC

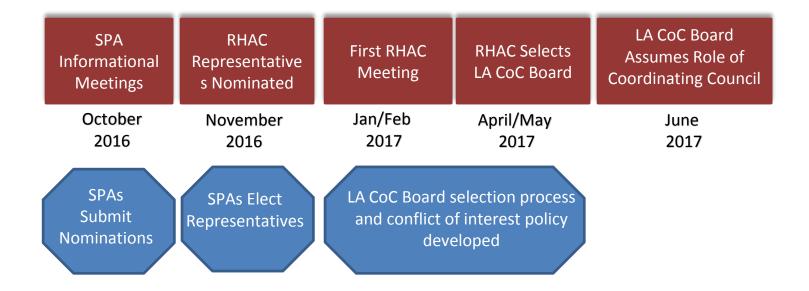


Each SPA will elect one representative with an additional representative for SPA 4.

3 at-large seats to ensure representation of all populations and sectors

LAHSA and Home For Good will identify gaps in representation and ask relevant subpopulation coalitions for nominations. If all groups are represented through the election process, these seats will be rotated among CES leads.

## **Timeline for Governance Restructuring**



## **Election Process for SPA Representatives**

- A working group of the Coordinating Council made recommendations
- Candidates must have relevant experience, provide three endorsers, and prepare a candidate statement
- One vote per agency per SPA
- One RHAC seat per agency
- Deadlines for nominations and election dates are in the election packet