

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HILDA L. SOLIS AND
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August 14, 2018

Mobile Shower Pilot Program Expansion

On February 13, 2018, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (Board) directed the Chief Executive Office (CEO), in collaboration with the Department of Public Health, the Department of Parks and Recreation, the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), and other County departments as needed, to work with Lava Mae to establish a mobile shower pilot program at Whittier Narrows Recreation Area, and with Shower of Hope to establish a mobile shower pilot program in unincorporated East Pasadena. The Board also directed the CEO to report back on the effectiveness of the programs 90 days after their launch.

On May 21, 2018, the CEO reported back to the Board on the program run by shower provider Lava Mae at Whittier Narrows Recreation Area. The CEO reported that the program has been very successful during the first six weeks of operation, with up to 35 individuals per week using the mobile shower during the weekly four-hour events. On average, more than 100 individuals have utilized the services provided each

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week by multiple service providers including County departments, non-profit groups, and charitable organizations. Although some individuals elect not to shower, they do use other resources offered such as meals, health screenings, and expungement assistance.

On August 9, 2018, the CEO reported back to the Board on the program run by shower provider Shower of Hope in unincorporated East Pasadena. Over the six-week pilot, individuals had access to showers and warm meals on a weekly basis. The pilot program also provided intensive wraparound services on-site. These services included the Department of Public Social Services, the Public Defender, the Department of Public Health, and the Department of Mental Health.

In her report, the CEO indicated that the CEO Office of Emergency Management (OEM) is interested in making one or more of its mobile shower trailers (which were purchased for use in the event of emergencies) available to expand the County's efforts to provide mobile hygiene facilities to individuals experiencing homelessness. The OEM trailers could be used to build on the success of the mobile shower pilot as a tool to both improve access to hygiene facilities and increase opportunities for engaging people experiencing homelessness.

Moreover, there are other County Departments and agencies that may have resources that could enhance and expand the reach of the County's Mobile Shower Pilot Program. For example, the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation operates a number of aquatic centers or other recreational facilities that are equipped with shower facilities that go unutilized for parts of the year. In addition, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) Board recently

approved a motion asking for a preliminary implementation plan to establish a hygiene and mobile shower program for the homeless population in or near Metro stations. As the County works to increase access to hygiene facilities, we should look into existing resources that could be used for this purpose.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Chief Executive Officer to:

1. Work in collaboration with LAHSA, to:
 - a. Identify experienced homeless service providers capable of operating one or more of the OEM shower trailers, as recommended in the CEO's May 21, 2018 memorandum regarding mobile shower pilots;
 - b. Determine appropriate locations at which to deploy the OEM shower trailers to meet the needs of people experiencing homelessness, and;
 - c. Coordinate with Metro to determine the feasibility of placing one or more of the OEM shower trailers near Metro stations where there is a need.
2. Execute agreement(s) with selected service provider(s) allowing the provider(s) to utilize OEM shower trailer(s) at no cost and funding the providers to operate the trailers, or provide funding to LAHSA to execute agreements with providers to fund the shower trailer operations.
3. Utilize up to \$200,000 from the Homeless Initiative funding in the Provisional Financing Uses budget to support the operation of one or more of the OEM shower trailers.
4. Report back to the Board on the outcomes, including number of showers taken

as well as engagement with supportive services, of the expanded mobile shower pilot program utilizing the OEM shower trailers 120 days after the deployment of the first trailer.

5. Work in collaboration with the Department of Parks and Recreation and Parks Sheriff Bureau to identify County parks and recreational facilities equipped with unutilized showers during the off season and report back to the Board in 30 days with recommendations, including but not limited to program, operational, and maintenance costs, to pilot a program by making showers in certain identified facilities available to individuals experiencing homelessness.
6. Authorize the CEO or her designee to take any other actions consistent with and/or necessary for the implementation of the foregoing actions.

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