

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS SHEILA KUEHL AND
KATHRYN BARGER

October 2, 2018

Sheltering Our County’s Veterans

The 2018 Los Angeles County point-in-time homeless count found that 3,886 veterans are experiencing homelessness in our County. While this represents a 19% drop from the 2017 point-in-time homeless count, we must continue to strengthen our commitment, dedicate resources, and provide leadership as we work to end homelessness for our county’s veterans.

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is currently working on a master plan to develop the West Los Angeles (WLA) Campus, which will include permanent housing for veterans experiencing homelessness. While the VA develops the master plan, the VA of Greater Los Angeles seeks to construct a temporary, 3-year interim housing facility on the WLA VA campus for 100 veterans experiencing homelessness. Utilizing federal funding, the VA can fully pay the operations and case management costs for interim housing for 100 veterans experiencing homelessness. However, the VA is unable to pay for capital costs for the interim housing. As a result, the VA is seeking to partner with the County and the City of Los Angeles to provide capital costs for temporary interim housing at the WLA VA Campus.

MOTION

SOLIS _____

RIDLEY-THOMAS _____

HAHN _____

BARGER _____

KUEHL _____

By partnering with the City of Los Angeles to provide the VA with capital funding to support the creation of the interim housing facility, the County will be able to maximize Measure H dollars by securing 3 years, or 1,095 days of interim housing for our county's veterans at a cost that is equal to what the County would otherwise spend to cover 500 days of operating costs for 100 beds, based on a \$50 per bed rate. This is a cost-effective opportunity for the County to support our county's veterans while permanent housing is built at the WLA VA Campus.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Direct the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to negotiate and execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Los Angeles (City) and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to provide funding for VA interim housing facility capital costs;
2. Direct the CEO to re-direct no more than \$2.5 million from the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority FY 2018-19 Homeless Initiative Strategy E8 Measure H allocation to the City; and
3. Delegate authority to the CEO to execute an agreement with the City for a bridge housing facility at the VA's West Los Angeles campus funded in part by the aforementioned re-directed HI Strategy E8 Measure H allocation.