

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS SHEILA KUEHL AND  
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July 7, 2020

**Creation of a Reserve Fund to Support the Alternatives to Incarceration Initiative**

For several years now, Los Angeles County has been on a trajectory that moves the county toward rehabilitation and community-based healing, and away from traditional enforcement and punishment models, for justice-involved adults and young people. This focus by the Board of Supervisors (“Board”) has been expressed in a number of initiatives including the closure of 10 Probation detention facilities (nine camps and one juvenile hall); the cancellation of plans to replace Men’s Central Jail and to build a women’s detention facility in Mira Loma; and the creation of an Office of Diversion and Reentry that has successfully diverted thousands of individuals from the criminal justice system.

On February 12, 2019, the Board took another critical step by creating the Alternatives to Incarceration (“ATI”) Workgroup. A few months later, on June 24, 2019, the Board made a financial commitment to the future ATI Initiative by establishing a funding reserve to support capital projects related to incarceration alternatives. The ATI

**MOTION**

SOLIS	_____
RIDLEY-THOMAS	_____
KUEHL	_____
HAHN	_____
BARGER	_____

Workgroup issued its preliminary report on June 11, 2019 and its final report on March 10, 2020. This final report, entitled “Care First, Jails Last” represents the culmination of a more than a year’s work by 25 voting members representing County agencies and departments, advocates, and community leaders. It also represents the voices of the more than 1,000 individuals who participated in 56 meetings, community listening sessions, and other opportunities to engage in a vision for healthier and safer communities. The ATI Workgroup’s final report consists of 114 recommendations which are organized into five overarching strategies. In addition, at the request of the Board and, in an effort to ensure that the recommendations in the report would be actionable, the ATI Work Group identified 26 foundational recommendations as the starting point to making their vision a reality.

On March 10, 2020, the Board unanimously approved the motion entitled “Building a System of Alternatives to Incarceration.” Through this motion, the Board instructed the Chief Executive Officer (“CEO”) to establish an organizational unit (the ATI Initiative) within the CEO’s office and to immediately hire a Director to lead this new unit. The ATI Initiative will be charged with vetting, planning, coordinating, and overseeing the implementation of ATI recommendations. The Board also adopted the five overarching strategies and instructed the CEO, in consultation with County Counsel (as needed), to report back within 90 days (June 10, 2020) with a preliminary written analysis of the fiscal, legal, and operational components of each of the 26 foundational ATI recommendations.

Unfortunately, the March 10, 2020 Board meeting was the last before the County, and indeed the entire country, found itself consumed by the turmoil of COVID-19. Now,

just over three months later, with this unprecedented public health crisis far from over, the county must contend with fiscal realities that no one could have anticipated. Still, the Board has not wavered in its commitment to the “care first, jails last” vision. The CEO is presently engaged in hiring an ATI Director. And, just recently, on June 23, 2020, the Board unanimously approved a motion put forward by Supervisors Hahn and Solis which asked several county departments to reassess the county’s approach to AB109 allocations for the purpose of determining whether those allocations can be made in a manner that better represents the Board’s commitment to the ATI Workgroup’s vision.

Although the current circumstances led to a temporary delay in the CEO’s analysis of the fiscal, legal, and operational components of the 26 foundational ATI recommendations, the Board looks forward to receiving this analysis later this calendar year. In the interim, the Board can take steps to ensure that funds are identified, and committed, so that once the analysis is complete and an ATI Director is hired, the county will be in a position to move this critical work forward.

**WE, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors;

1. Instruct the CEO to report back in 45 days (in alignment with the Hahn-Solis motion referenced above) with a proposal to establish a funding reserve dedicated to the ATI Initiative for the programs and services outlined in the ATI Workgroup’s recommendations. This programs and services reserve will complement the existing capital funding reserve established by the Board in June 2019 and the initial investment, in an amount to be determined by the CEO, shall be funded in the

Supplemental Budget. Further, the CEO's proposal should include a plan for growing the fund. In doing so, the CEO is encouraged to consider a broad range of potential funding sources, including AB109, SB678, mental health realignment reserve funds, funds derived from cost savings associated with lower jail populations, the Men's Central Jail deferred maintenance funds, and any other potential funding sources.

2. Instruct CEO, in collaboration with the ATI Workgroup and relevant county departments, to identify any legislative or local policy changes that the County could pursue to achieve greater flexibility and/or access to potential funding sources.
3. Instruct the CEO to undertake the above directives in collaboration with the ATI Director, once that person is hired. Further, direct the future ATI Director to work in close consultation with the Director of ODR to ensure coordination and alignment of their respective initiatives.

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SUP:VP/CreationOfAReserveFundToSupportTheAlternativesToIncarcerationInitiative