## <u>Enhancing Representation of the Unincorporated Areas in the County's</u> Homelessness Efforts

Unincorporated areas are those communities and areas that are outside the jurisdictional boundaries of incorporated cities. As such, they are not serviced by an incorporated city. County government serves as the "city" for these areas by providing basic municipal services such as zoning, building permits, law enforcement, libraries, parks, and street maintenance.

More than 65 percent of the County of Los Angeles (County) which spans 2,653.5 square miles is unincorporated. There are approximately 120-125 unincorporated areas with the greatest number located in the northern part of the County. The County unincorporated areas are home to 1 million residents and the Board of Supervisors serves as the only elected body representing them. In effect serving in an equivalent capacity of "city council" and the supervisor representing the area the "mayor."

In June 2020, the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) released the results of the 2020 Point-In-Time Count (PIT Count). It found that, on a given night, there are 66,436 people experiencing homelessness in the County, including 6,088 people in the unincorporated areas.

	<u>MOTION</u>	
MITCHELL		
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SOLIS		

Since the passage of Measure H in 2016, the County has worked with cities and Councils of Governments (COG) in the creation and implementation of Homeless Plans. The adaptation of these plans has allowed cities and COGs to access county homeless funds to address homelessness within their respective jurisdictions and service areas.

Numerous unincorporated areas were not included in the COG's homelessness planning efforts. As a result, they are unable to access COG's financial and technical resources. It is essential to include a focus on the unincorporated areas to ensure their representation in countywide efforts to address homelessness.

## **WE, THEREFORE MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors:

Direct the Chief Executive Office Homeless Initiative, in collaboration with LAHSA and County Departments, to report back in 90 days with the following:

- An assessment on how the unincorporated areas are represented in the regional coordination efforts
- An assessment on how the unincorporated areas are served in the County homeless system
- Recommendations to ensure a focus and strengthen representation of the
  unincorporated areas in countywide efforts to address homelessness.
   Recommendations should include examples like developing a countywide or
  region specific Unincorporated homeless plan, working with the board offices in
  coordinating services, an office that provides oversight of homeless outreach in
  County Unincorporated Communities, or an office that works to creating and
  streamlining new homeless projects in the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles
  County.

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