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According to the 2011 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Report by the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, 51,340 individuals are homeless in Los Angeles County. Although this is a slight reduction from the homeless count in 2009, Los Angeles County remains the homeless capital of the country.

The Los Angeles Continuum of Care (LACoC) includes all of Los Angeles County except the Cities of Glendale, Pasadena and Long Beach. The LACoC has counted 45,422 homeless individuals among whom various subpopulations have been identified, including 15,489 (34%) persons with substance abuse problems; 14,830 (33%) persons with mental illness; 10,901 (24%) chronically homeless individuals; 9,903 (22%) persons with physical disabilities; 9,218 (20%) families; 8,131(18%) veterans; 4,610 (10%) survivors of domestic violence; 3,959 (9%) homeless youth; and 1,104 (2%) persons with HIV/AIDS. Some of these individuals suffer from co-occurring disorders.

The data speak to the urgent need to clearly understand each subpopulation’s unique challenges and to strategically implement best practice solutions matched to each subpopulation. These best practices include rapid re-housing for homeless

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families, “housing first” permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless individuals; affordable housing with self-sufficiency services and positive youth development approaches for unaccompanied homeless youth; and the HUD-VASH program for chronically homeless veterans.

In 2006, the Board of Supervisors adopted a \$100 million Homeless Prevention Initiative that allowed various County Departments to innovate, align and leverage resources in order to launch several successful homeless demonstration projects. Now, it is time to scale up the lessons learned, to systematically align and integrate existing resources within the County family of departments, and to collaborate with our government and community partners on this issue. While the County has many departments that provide services to homeless individuals, homelessness per se is not the formal responsibility of any department, committee or cluster. Today, the Board of Supervisors, the Chief Executive Officer and each County Department serving homeless individuals must step up and “take ownership” of the homelessness problem in order to generate solutions that will prevent and end homelessness in Los Angeles County.

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

1. Establish a Los Angeles County Interdepartmental Council on Homelessness (LACICH) to bring together the County stakeholder departments and agencies to coordinate the County’s efforts to end homelessness in our community.
2. The goal of the LACICH shall be to develop and sustain an interdepartmental Los Angeles County plan that will seek to prevent and end homelessness by bringing the resources of the entire County family to bear upon this problem in a dynamic, coordinated and collaborative fashion, including the use of national and local best

practices, and by ensuring accountability and results. The LACICH shall ensure its efforts are congruent with and complement existing County initiatives.

3. Establish the following structure for the LACICH:

- a. The LACICH will be presided over by the Chairperson of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and the Chief Executive Officer will serve as the Vice-Chairperson.
- b. LACICH members are the directors of the following Los Angeles County Departments and Agencies: Chief Executive Office, Children and Family Services, Community and Senior Services, Community Development Commission / Housing Authority, Health Services, Human Resources, Mental Health, Military and Veterans Affairs, Probation, Public Defender, Public Health, Public Social Services, Sheriff, Courts and Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA).
- c. LACICH Advisory Agencies include the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, U.S. Social Security Administration, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and the U.S. Department of Labor.