

HOMELESS POLICY DEPUTIES MEETING AGENDA

MEETING PARTICIPANTS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WILL NEED TO CALL INTO THE MEETING

Date: Thursday, August 10, 2023
Time: 2:00 PM
Microsoft Teams Link: [Click here to join the meeting](#)
Teleconference Number: [+1 323-776-6996,,665324311#](#)

	AGENDA ITEM	LEAD
I.	Welcome and Introductions	Ivan Sulic, Fourth District
II.	Homelessness Emergency Response Update	Cheri Todoroff, Executive Director, CEO-HI
III.	Women's Needs Assessment	Amy Turk, Chief Executive Officer, Downtown Women's Center Sofia Herrera, Hub for Urban Initiatives Samantha Batko, Urban Insitute
IV.	Items Recommended for Future Discussion	
V.	Public Comment*	

* Public Comment is limited to one minute. Those interested in speaking should raise their hand on Microsoft Teams and unmute once called upon by the Chair. Those on their phones should press *5 to raise their hand and *6 to unmute.

NEXT MEETING: SEPTEMBER 14, 2023
(August 24, 2023 Meeting Canceled)

August 10, 2023

Homeless Initiative

Homeless Policy Deputies Meeting

LA County Homelessness Emergency Response Update



Chief
Executive
Office.



County of Los Angeles
Homeless
Initiative



LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Homelessness Emergency Response

MISSIONS

Mission 1:

Encampment
Resolution in
Partnership with
Local Jurisdictions

Mission 2:

Housing

Mission 3:

Mental Health and
Substance Use
Disorder Services

CUTTING THE RED TAPE

**Delegated Authorities
Expedite and Streamline:**

- ✓ Hiring
- ✓ Contracting and Purchasing
- ✓ Applying for and Accepting Grant Funding
- ✓ Real Estate Transactions



Pathway Home is the protocol for encampment resolutions countywide, mobilizing a coordinated, person-centric, housing-focused response while recognizing that every encampment requires a unique approach.

LA County will collaborate with local jurisdictions, nonprofit providers, people experiencing homelessness, and other partners to develop encampment-specific plans and funding for:

1. Outreach and trauma-informed engagement
2. Interim-housing options and supportive services
3. Resource coordination and navigation toward permanent housing
4. Stabilization services in permanent housing



ENCAMPMENTS

- January 2023 Motion Unanimously Approved by the Board
- Encampments of 10 or more people



RV ENCAMPMENTS

- September 2022 Motion Unanimously Approved by the Board
- Locations with 5 or more RVs

Mobile Connect Days: What We Learned

In April and May 2023, the County collaborated with the State, LAHSA and the City of Los Angeles to conduct 4 Mobile Connect Days at Inside Safe interim housing locations

Events included services from:

- **Registrar-Recorder:** providing vital records such as birth certificates
- **Department of Public and Social Services:** benefit enrollment for Medi-Cal, CalFresh, CalWORKS, and General Relief, CalFresh replacement cards, benefit verification
- **Department of Motor Vehicles:** no-fee ID cards
- **Social Security Administration:** benefit verification letters, local office appointments, documents printed to local offices for pickup or delivery



County of Los Angeles

**Homeless
Initiative**

Pathway Home Service Connection Event

Pathway Home Service Connection Event

The County's Service Connection Events aim to support encampment resolution clients in interim housing toward permanent housing solutions and supports.

- Occurs at interim housing the site 1-2 weeks after move-in day
- It is an opportunity to
 1. Get people document-ready so they can be connected to permanent housing resources.
 2. Mobilize various County departments to activate a day of resource navigation at the site where people experiencing homelessness are newly housed
- Connection Events are facilitated by CEO-HI and DHS Housing for Health staff with robust collaboration across multiple County Departments

Pathway Home Service Connection Event:

Participating Agencies

- **DHS Housing for Health Mobile Clinics** bring primary, specialized, and behavioral health care to newly housed residents.
- **DHS Countywide Benefits Entitlement Services Team (CBEST)** assists individuals with applying for disability benefits programs including Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI), Early/Full Retirement, Survivors Benefits, and Veterans Benefits with the goal to increase income which is important in securing and retaining stable housing.
- **DMH Homeless Outreach and Mobile Engagement (HOME) and Interim Housing Outreach Program (IHOP)** teams provide mental health support services and linkages to outpatient mental health treatment and higher levels of care for individuals with more severe mental illness.
 - **Veterans Peer Access Network (VPAN)**, a DMH team led by veterans for veterans, helps veterans navigate often complicated systems so they receive the necessary mental health, substance abuse, employment, healthcare, education, legal, and housing services.
- **DPSS** supports individuals with benefit enrollment support for General Relief, CalFresh, Medi-Cal, and other DPSS administered resources.

Pathway Home Service Connection Event:

Participating Agencies

- **DPH – SAPC Client Engagement and Navigation Services (CENS)** provides navigation, screening, and referral to substance use disorder services including outpatient, residential, and withdrawal management services.
- **DCBA Office of Immigrant Affairs (OIA)** provides legal representation through RepresentLA to immigrants who are navigating issues related to detention, deportation, and benefits representation, and can help link immigrants to all available support services.
- **DMVA** provides support for veterans experiencing homelessness through the deployment of claims assistants and Veteran Service Officers who can assist veterans in need of benefits establishment at the State or federal level, enroll in VA healthcare, and assist if VPAN needs any help navigating the VA.
- **DMV** supplies no-fee ID vouchers and ID services.

Pathway Home Service Connection Events

1 Completed Service Connection Event

- 1 County Service Connection Event occurred on July 13, 2023, for the Pacoima Wash Inside Safe operation

3 Upcoming Service Connection Events Day Events

- August 11th with HOPICS
- August 23rd with PATH
- Date TBD, in preliminary planning phase with The People Concern for Inside Safe operation in Hollywood



Pathway Home Service Connection Event Pacoima Wash	
County Impact Report	
Program	Inside Safe
Encampment Resolution Location & Date	Pacoima Wash – July 6, 2023
Service Connection Event Date	July 13, 2023
Supervisory District (SD)	SD3
Council District (CD)	CD7
Interim Housing Site(s)	Motel – North Hills
Residents in Interim Housing	53
Outreach Lead Partner(s)	LA Family Housing County-funded MDT
Interim Housing Service Provider	LA Family Housing

Pathway Home Service Connection Event

Pacoima Wash

DMH HOME Teams

10 residents served

- 6 were reconnected to DMH services
- 4 were new to DMH
 - 2 had an unknown prior service connection (unable to verify)
 - 2 had no prior DMH service connection

DHS Mobile Clinic

19 residents served

- 12 received medical services
 - 5 were returning patients
 - 7 were new patients
- 7 received social work and/or substance use counseling services

Pathway Home Service Connection Event

Pacoima Wash

DPSS Homeless Services

18 residents served

- 13 were enrolled in DPSS programs/benefits
 - 5 had no active benefits
 - 8 had 1 or more active benefits
 - Additional services were provided to individuals who enrolled in programs
- 5 additional residents were provided services including
 - EBT Card Replacements
 - BIC Card Replacements
 - Verification of Benefits

DCBA Office of Immigrant Affairs

6 residents served + 1 family from a different LAFH site.

Thank you.



County of Los Angeles

Homeless Initiative



Los Angeles County Women's Needs Assessment

Findings from the 2022 Survey of Women Experiencing Homelessness



Report Authors:
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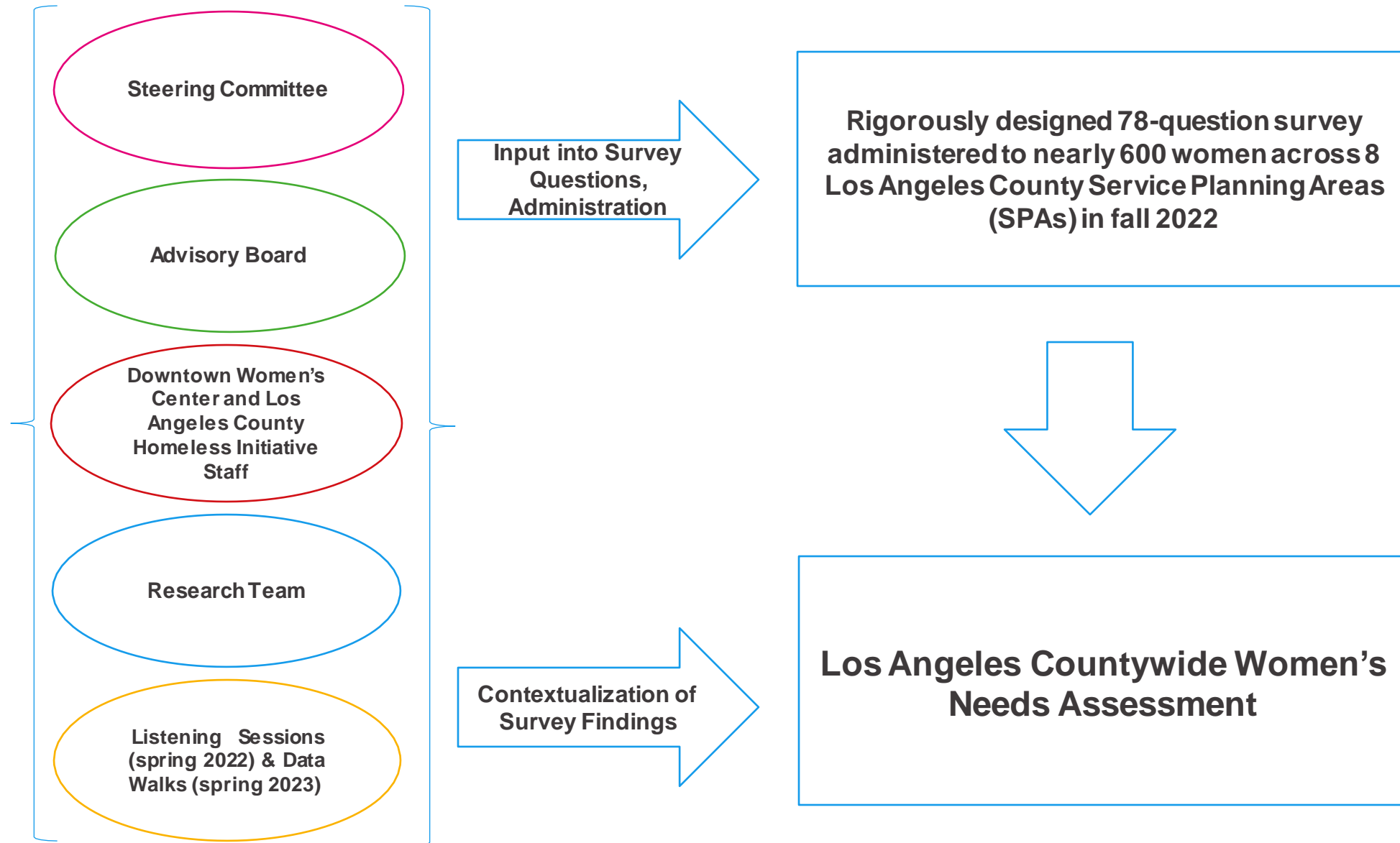
Acknowledgements

- All the women who shared their experiences with us in listening sessions and surveys
- Steering and Advisory Committee members
- Volunteers who administered surveys
- Downtown Women's Center and the County of Los Angeles Homeless Initiative



The Los Angeles County Women's Needs Assessment

- This study is the largest and most rigorous study to date in the nation targeted specifically to women experiencing homelessness as individuals
 - In spring 2022, nearly 100 women participated in listening sessions
 - In fall 2022, nearly 600 women completed a 78-question survey



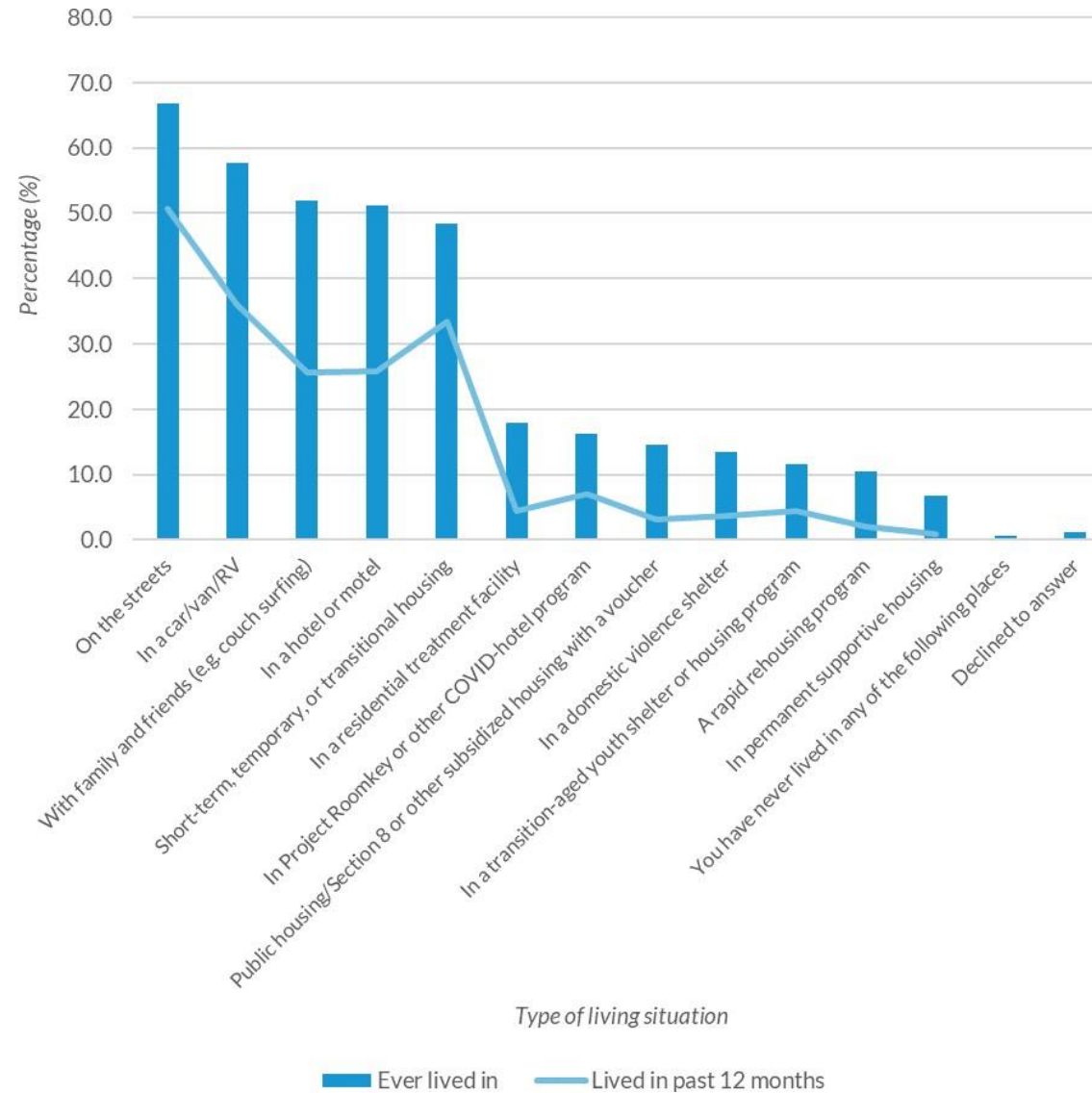
Women Experiencing Homelessness are Diverse

- Ages ranged from 18 to 83 years old.
- 34% of women identified as Hispanic or Latina, 32% percent identified as Black
- Nearly 4 percent identifying as a gender other than exclusively a woman or man, such as nonbinary or gender fluid
- Nearly 20 percent identifying as bisexual, lesbian, gay, queer, or another sexual orientation other than straight
- 61 percent had a disability
- 30% were working for pay
- Over half experienced a separation from a partner or spouse
- Over half had children-either adults or children who were not currently with them
- Health rated as fair or poor, with dental health being rated the poorest.

Women Experienced Homelessness for Long Periods

- Women experienced **multiple episodes** of homelessness
- More than **8 in 10 women** had experienced lifetime lengths of homelessness **over a year**
- More than **4 in 10 women** had lifetime experiences of homelessness of **longer than five years**

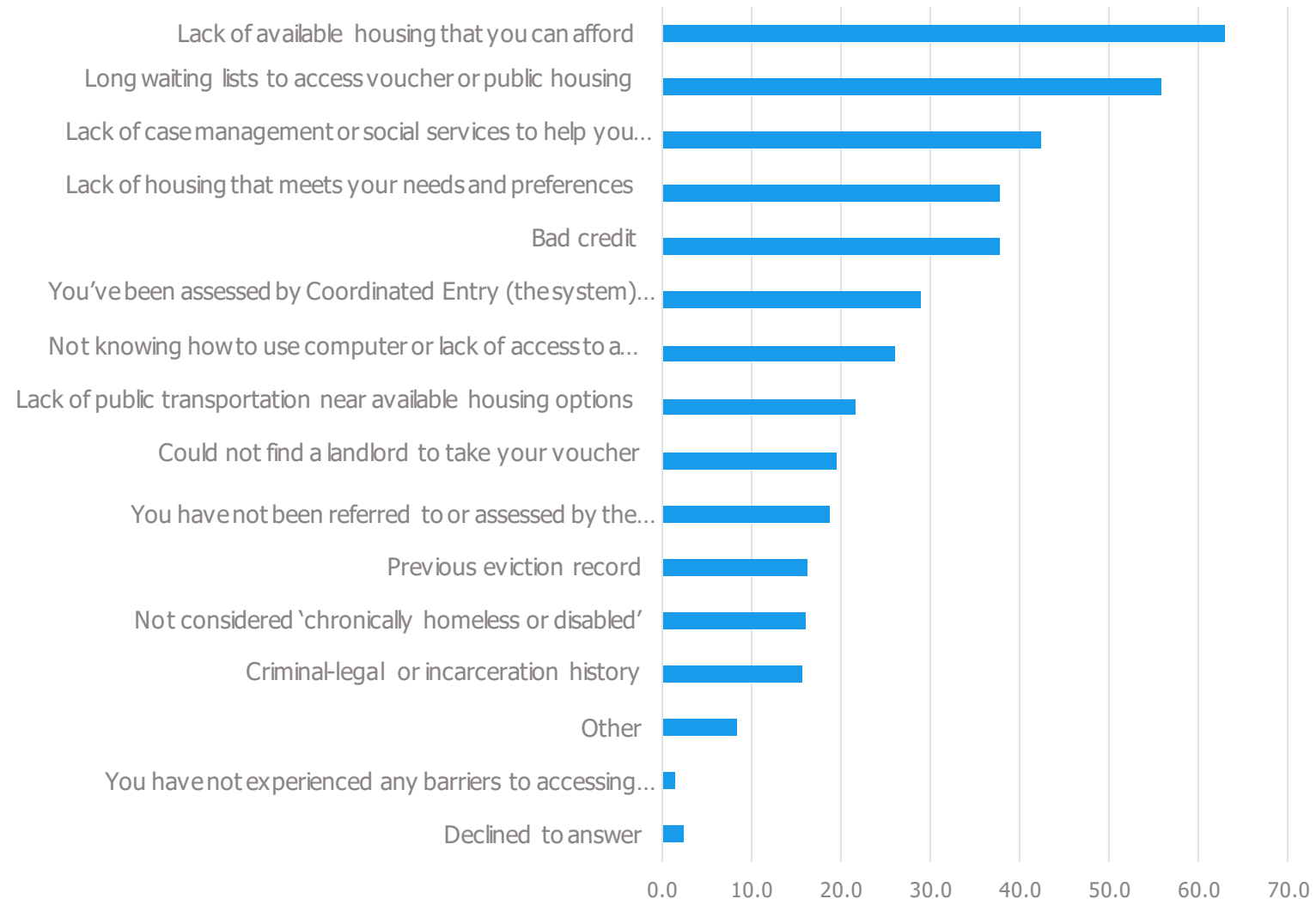
Women Most Often Slept In Unsheltered Locations



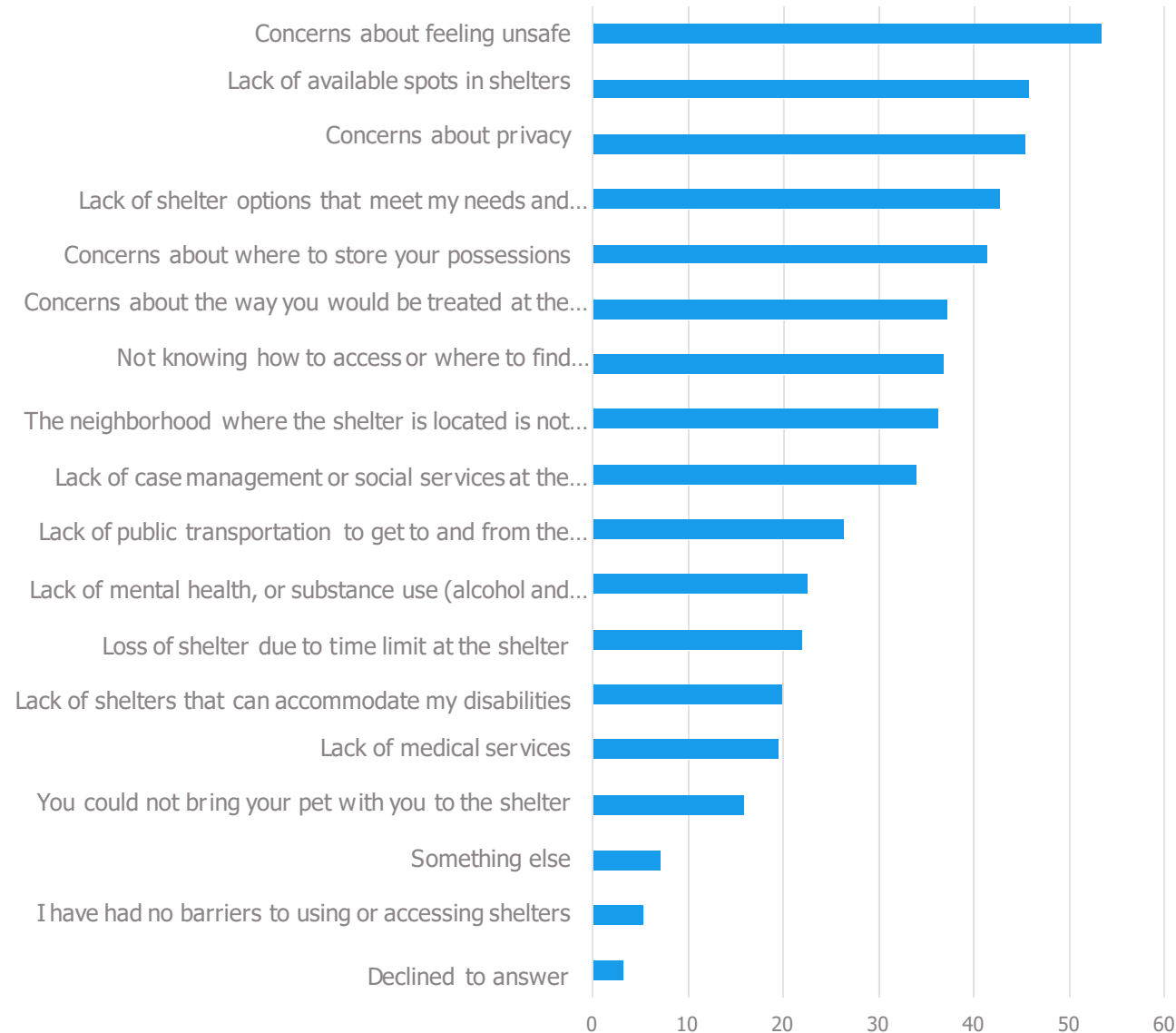
Women Experience Victimization Before and During Episodes of Homelessness

- Nearly 90 percent of women reported lifetime experiences of victimization
 - 49% reported experiencing interpersonal violence
 - 21% stated interpersonal violence was the cause of homelessness
 - 13% stayed in a DV shelter
- While experiencing homelessness:
 - 3 of 5 had something stolen from them
 - 2 of 5 were attacked
 - 1 in 5 were forced to take part in unwanted sexual activity

Women Reported Significant Barriers to Exiting Homelessness and Securing Housing



Women Reported Barriers to Accessing and Using Shelters



Recommendations

#1 - Support efforts to collect data on and tailor services to women experiencing homelessness as individuals.

- Collect and report on data on women's **experiences, needs, and preferences**
- Critical to **track progress** on ending homelessness among women

#2 - Fund housing assistance at the level needed to house all women experiencing homelessness

- Universal voucher program provides clear path forward to ending homelessness for all women.
- Lack of affordable housing, long waiting lists for housing assistance were primary barriers to housing.

#3 - Prioritize safety throughout the homelessness response system

- Prioritizing safety requires recognizing the unique needs and preferences of women.
- Concerns about safety was most common barrier to shelter
- Safety was a top priority in permanent housing

#4 - Provide dignity in the absence of housing

- Women want **dignified access** to bathrooms, showers, and storage of possessions
- **Remove barriers** that prevent access to services and shelter

#5 - Encourage programmatic response accountability for ensuring equitable outcomes for historically marginalized groups

- Women's **needs may vary** based on a variety of characteristics, their individual histories, and where they may be in their life cycle

Full 2022 Los Angeles County Women's Needs Assessment Report

