



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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August 9, 2016

To: Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, Chair
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: Sachi A. Hamai
Chief Executive Officer

HOMELESS INITIATIVE QUARTERLY REPORT #2

On February 9, 2016, the Board of Supervisors (Board) approved the Los Angeles County Homeless Initiative (HI) recommendations, including 47 Strategies to combat homelessness, and instructed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to report back to the Board on a quarterly basis regarding the implementation status and outcomes of each Strategy. The first quarterly report was provided to the Board on May 9, 2016. This is the second HI quarterly report to the Board, which addresses the implementation status of the 47 approved Strategies, as well as the status of additional related Board directives.

Status Update on HI Strategies

Over 20 percent of the HI Strategies approved by the Board have been fully or partially implemented, and substantial work has been undertaken on almost all of the remaining Strategies. The projected implementation dates for the remaining Strategies range from August, 2016 to June, 2017. The attached chart provides information on the status and next steps of all 47 HI Strategies.

Board Directives Associated with Approval of HI Strategies

In addition to approving the 47 HI Strategies, the Board approved various related directives. The following are updates on some of those directives:

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

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- **Office of Homelessness** - On June 27, 2016, the Board approved the Final 2016-17 County Budget, which included the establishment of the Office of Homelessness within the CEO, effective July 1, 2016. The Office of Homelessness is dedicated to overseeing, coordinating, and ensuring effective implementation of the 47 HI Strategies approved by the Board, as well as being the County's central point of contact for all on-going efforts related to combatting homelessness in Los Angeles County.
- **Evaluation Plan** – On February 9, 2016, the Board directed the CEO to report back in this second quarterly report on the development of an evaluation plan for the HI Strategies. On July 28, 2016, a draft HI evaluation framework was discussed at the regular meeting of the Homeless Policy Deputies. Rather than have the framework submitted with this quarterly report, the deputies requested an opportunity to provide written comments and then have further discussion at a subsequent meeting. Therefore, the HI evaluation framework will be submitted with the next HI quarterly report in November 2016, along with the subset of HI strategy performance metrics which will be finalized by that time.
- **Potential Sources of On-Going Revenue** – Securing an on-going funding stream to sustain the HI efforts has been a priority for the Board, which approved one-time funding of \$99.7 million to support the initial implementation of the 47 HI Strategies. To sustain the Strategies, the Board directed the CEO to explore options for ongoing revenue, in collaboration with the Board. This Office provided the Board with multiple revenue options (including revenue estimates for each option) and collaborated with a polling research firm and Board deputies on extensive polling regarding the various options. Per the Board's direction, this Office advocated for a State law change to permit the County to seek voter approval of a tax on personal income above \$1 million/year to combat homelessness, and continues to advocate for a gubernatorial declaration of a statewide homeless emergency. Throughout this process, this Office has actively engaged community partners via e-mail and webinars regarding the County's legislative advocacy efforts, status of the County's efforts, and community advocacy opportunities. The pursuit of ongoing revenue remains a critical priority.

Response to Item 47-A from the February 9, 2016 Board Meeting

On February 9, 2016, the Board adopted item 47-A which included eight directives. Responses to all eight directives were previously submitted to the Board based on the due dates specified in the motion. For three of the directives, follow-up responses are included as part of this quarterly report:

- Directive 1: On May 9, 2016, this Office indicated that more information was needed to determine if it would be reasonable to allocate funding based on geographic need for Strategy B7, "Interim/Bridge Housing for Those Exiting Institutions." Our conclusion, which was discussed at two regular meetings of the Homeless Policy Deputies, is that it would not be reasonable to distribute the housing sites geographically since we will need to take advantage of available sites wherever they are located. It would also not be reasonable to distribute the housing slots based on where a homeless person was living before entering the institution from which the person is being discharged. Therefore, the funding for Strategy B7 will not be allocated geographically. The determination as to whether it would be reasonable to geographically allocate funding for all other Homeless Initiative Strategies was submitted to the Board as part of the first quarterly report on May 9, 2016.
- Directive 4: The Chief Information Office (CIO) is evaluating available social media platforms which could be utilized for advocacy by interested community members to support the siting and development of affordable and permanent supportive housing in their neighborhoods. Further discussions are being scheduled with candidate platforms to explore how they could be used to promote outreach and advocacy. Recommendations will be incorporated into the next HI quarterly report to the Board on November 9, 2016.
- Directive 6: On June 9, 2016, this Office reported to the Board on a "Capacity Building Initiative to Support Cities to Achieve the Outcomes Sought in the Homeless Initiative," and indicated that a follow-up response would be provided as part of this quarterly report. The HI continues to outreach to the cities and conduct focused work with a subset of interested cities and Councils of Governments (COGs) to maximize city participation in the following areas:
 - Contributing city funding toward the cost of rapid re-housing for homeless city residents;
 - Dedicating federal housing subsidies to permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless individuals;
 - Ensuring that law enforcement and other first responders effectively engage homeless families and individuals; and
 - Using land use policy to maximize the availability of homeless and affordable housing.

To date, fifteen cities are collaborating with the County on one or more strategies: Carson, Downey, Glendale, Inglewood, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Montebello, Pasadena, Pomona, Redondo Beach, San Gabriel, Santa Monica, South Gate, West Covina and West Hollywood. Additionally, COG responses to the HI's outreach efforts have been positive thus far, and meetings have taken place with the Gateway Cities, San Gabriel Valley, and Southbay Cities COGs.

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Moving forward, the HI will continue to collaborate with interested cities and COGs, and will seek to leverage lessons learned and successful outcomes from these current partnerships to engage and encourage additional cities and COGs to partner in the effort to combat homelessness.

Conclusion

This Office, along with County departments, will continue to work on implementing the Board-approved HI Strategies by engaging and working with federal, state, and local jurisdictions, community stakeholders, and private partners. In addition, this Office will continue to look at new and effective Strategies to combat homelessness in Los Angeles County.

The next HI quarterly report will be submitted on November 9, 2016. Please let me know if you have any questions, or your staff may contact Phil Ansell, Director of the Homeless Initiative, at (213) 974-1752, or at pansell@ceo.lacounty.gov.

SAH:JJ:FAD
PA:JR:ef

Attachment

c:	Executive Office, Board of Supervisors	Fire Department
	County Counsel	Health Services
	District Attorney	LAHSA
	Sheriff	Mental Health
	Alternate Public Defender	Military and Veterans Affairs
	Animal Care and Control	Parks and Recreation
	Arts Commission	Probation
	Beaches and Harbors	Public Library
	Child Support Services	Public Health
	Children and Family Services	Public Social Services
	Community and Senior Services	Public Works
	Community Development Commission	Regional Planning
	Consumer and Business Affairs	Superior Court