

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BOARD MEETING TRANSCRIPT

EXECUTIVE OFFICE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

[REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2023, ON PAGE 417]

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: GOOD MORNING, EVERYONE, AND WELCOME, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC. WE WELCOME YOU TO OUR REGULARLY SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. TODAY IS TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19TH, 2023. WE TAKE NOTE THAT A FULL COMPLEMENT OF THE BOARD IS PRESENT. THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, COUNTY COUNSEL, EXECUTIVE OFFICER, AND SERGEANT-AT-ARMS ARE ALL HERE TO ASSIST. WE'LL BEGIN TODAY'S BOARD MEETING WITH THE COUNTY'S LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT. THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES RECOGNIZES THAT WE OCCUPY LAND ORIGINALLY AND STILL INHABITED AND CARED FOR BY THE TONGVA, TATAVIAM, SERRANO, KIZH, AND CHUMASH PEOPLES. WE HONOR AND PAY RESPECT TO THEIR ELDERS AND DESCENDANTS-- PAST, PRESENT, AND EMERGING-- AS THEY CONTINUE THEIR STEWARDSHIP OF THESE LANDS AND WATERS. WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT SETTLER COLONIZATION RESULTED IN LAND SEIZURE, DISEASE, SUBJUGATION, SLAVERY, RELOCATION, BROKEN PROMISES, GENOCIDE, AND MULTIGENERATIONAL TRAUMA. THIS ACKNOWLEDGMENT DEMONSTRATES OUR RESPONSIBILITY AND COMMITMENT TO TRUTH, HEALING, AND RECONCILIATION, AND TO ELEVATING THE STORIES, CULTURE, AND COMMUNITY OF THE ORIGINAL INHABITANTS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY. WE ARE GRATEFUL TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO LIVE AND WORK ON THESE ANCESTRAL LANDS. WE ARE DEDICATED TO

GROWING AND SUSTAINING RELATIONSHIPS WITH NATIVE PEOPLES AND LOCAL TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS, INCLUDING (IN NO PARTICULAR ORDER) THE FERNANDENO TATAVIAM BAND OF MISSION INDIANS, GABRIELINO TONGVA INDIANS OF CALIFORNIA TRIBAL COUNCIL, GABRIELENO/TONGVA SAN GABRIEL BAND OF MISSION INDIANS, GABRIELENO BAND OF MISSION INDIANS KIZH NATION, SAN MANUEL BAND OF MISSION INDIANS, SAN FERNANDO BAND OF MISSION INDIANS. TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE FIRST PEOPLES OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE. OUR INVOCATION TODAY WILL BE LED BY MARTHA BARRENECHE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF SCHOLAS OCCURRENTES U.S.A., FROM THE THIRD DISTRICT, FOLLOWED BY THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, WHICH WILL BE LED BY JOHN OPPENHEIM, FORMER E-3 AIRMAN 2C, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE, IN THE FOURTH DISTRICT. IF YOU ARE ABLE, PLEASE STAND.

MARTHA BARRENECHE: GOOD MORNING. I HAVE THE HONOR, TODAY, TO INVOCATE GOD FOR TODAY'S BOARD MEETING. AND TO DO SO, I WOULD LIKE TO SHARE A RECENT MESSAGE OF SCHOLAS OCCURRENTES' FOUNDER, HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS. FOR DECADES, IT SEEMED THAT THE WORLD HAD LEARNED FROM SO MANY WARS AND FAILURES, AND WAS SLOWLY MOVING TOWARDS VARIOUS FORMS OF INTEGRATION. BUT HISTORY IS SHOWING SIGNS OF TURNING BACK. CONFLICTS THAT WERE CONSIDERED TO HAVE BEEN OVERCOME ARE FLARING UP, AND CLOSELY RESENTFUL AND AGGRESSIVE SOCIAL INTERACTIONS ARE REEMERGING. THIS REMINDS US THAT EACH GENERATION HAS TO MAKE THE STRUGGLES

AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF PAST GENERATIONS ITS OWN, AND TAKE THEM TO EVEN HIGHER GOALS. GOOD, AS WELL AS LOVE, JUSTICE, AND SOLIDARITY, CANNOT BE ACHIEVED ONCE AND FOR ALL. THEY MUST BE CONQUERED EVERY DAY, KNOWING THAT A LOT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED, BUT THERE ARE STILL MANY OF OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS SUFFERING FROM INJUSTICE, AND THAT IS THE CALL FOR US ALL TODAY. AS AN EXPRESSION OF MANY THAT HAS BEEN DONE, I THANK YOU, GOD, FOR THIS BOARD OF WOMAN SUPERVISORS. AND AS TO HOW MANY MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE, I PRAY TO YOU THAT THEY HAVE A BLESSED BOARD MEETING, AND CONTINUOUS WORK. AMEN.

JOHN OPPENHEIM: PLEASE JOIN ME IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. PUT YOUR HAND OVER YOUR HEART. I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND TO THE REPUBLIC FOR WHICH IT STANDS: ONE NATION UNDER GOD, INDIVISIBLE, WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU VERY MUCH. I WANT TO THANK MARTHA BARRENECHE-- OR TITA, AS MANY OF US KNOW HER-- WHO IS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF SCHOLAS OCCURRENTES IN THE UNITED STATES. SCHOLAS IS THE FOUNDATION CREATED BY POPE FRANCIS, DESIGNED TO BRING YOUNG PEOPLE FROM DIVERSE BACKGROUNDS TOGETHER, TO MAKE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE IN THEIR COMMUNITY THROUGH COLLABORATION AND EXCHANGE. SCHOLAS'S SIGNATURE PROGRAM, PELOTA DE TRAPO, WAS LAUNCHED IN THE UNITED STATES

FOR THE FIRST TIME THIS YEAR. TITA WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN BRINGING PELOTA TO LOS ANGELES COUNTY, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH LA84. EARLIER THIS YEAR, WE UNANIMOUSLY PROCLAIMED AUGUST 13TH PELOTA DE TRAPO DAY, AND CELEBRATED 10 YEARS OF SCHOLAS OCCURRENTES'S WORK. THIS WOULD NOT HAVE HAPPENED WITHOUT TITA'S LEADERSHIP. SHE EARNED A DEGREE IN EDUCATION SCIENCES FROM THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF LA PLATA, ARGENTINA. SHE WENT ON TO SERVE IN COUNCIL POSITIONS RELATED TO PEDAGOGY AND EDUCATIONAL SCIENCE. FROM EARLY ON, SHE WAS PASSIONATE ABOUT HELPING YOUTH FEEL EMPOWERED THROUGH MEANINGFUL COMMUNITY CONNECTION, AND SHE JOINED SCHOLAS OCCURRENTES FOUNDATION IN 2017, AND HELPED IMPLEMENT ITS PROGRAMS WORLDWIDE. WE'RE SO LUCKY SHE'S HERE TO PROVIDE THE INVOCATION TODAY, AND IF YOU CAUGHT SPECTRUM LAST NIGHT, THERE WAS A WONDERFUL FEATURE ABOUT THIS PROGRAM, AND THE WORK OF POPE FRANCIS, AND THE FOUNDATION. YOU CAN CHECK IT OUT ON THEIR WEBSITE. THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE WITH US TODAY. [APPLAUSE]

SUP. HAHN: THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR. I WANTED TO ALSO THANK MR. OPPENHEIM FOR JOINING US TODAY, AND LEADING US IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. MR. OPPENHEIM JOINED THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AT THE AGE OF 17, AND SERVED FROM 1958 UNTIL 1962. HE SERVED AS A MEDIC AT BASE HOSPITAL IN SAN BERNARDINO, LEAVING AS AN AIRMAN 2ND CLASS. HE SERVED ALL OVER THE HOSPITAL, WORKING IN EVERY DEPARTMENT-- I LIKE THIS PART-- EVEN IN THE

OBSTETRICS DEPARTMENT, WHEN HIS DAUGHTER STEPHANIE WAS BORN. WHILE SERVING HIS COUNTRY, HE BEGAN ATTENDING SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY COLLEGE TO FURTHER HIS EDUCATION. HE LATER GRADUATED FROM SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY WITH A BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE IN BUSINESS AND ACCOUNTING. MR. OPPENHEIM WAS VERY SUCCESSFUL IN HIS CIVILIAN CAREER IN THE BUSINESS SOFTWARE INDUSTRY, HOLDING VARIOUS MANAGEMENT ROLES AND RUNNING HIS OWN BUSINESS. FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS, HE HAS VOLUNTEERED AT CENTURY VILLAGES AT CABRILLO, IN LONG BEACH. HE STARTED VOLUNTEERING AS A YOGA INSTRUCTOR-- YOU JUST KEEP GETTING BETTER, THE MORE I READ-- AND PROGRESSED TO BECOMING A STRONG ADVOCATE FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING, AND CHAMPION FOR OUR SENIOR VETERANS. HE ALSO VOLUNTEERS AT THE COUNTY'S BOB HOPE PATRIOTIC HALL, WHERE HE USED HIS EXPERIENCE IN BUSINESS SOFTWARE TO IMPLEMENT A VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM. HE SERVES AS A BOARD MEMBER FOR VETERANS STAND TOGETHER IN SOUTH GATE, WHICH PROVIDES RESOURCES AND SERVICES TO HELP VETERANS OVERCOME HOMELESSNESS, P.T.S.D., AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE. THANK YOU, MR. OPPENHEIM, FOR BEING HERE TODAY. THANK YOU FOR YOUR MILITARY SERVICE AND YOUR STEADFAST DEDICATION TO HELPING VETERANS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY. I HAVE A LITTLE TOKEN OF OUR APPRECIATION. [APPLAUSE] THANK YOU SO MUCH.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: WE'LL NOW HAVE THE PET PRESENTATION BY SUPERVISOR BARGER.

SUP. BARGER: THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR. NOW I WANT TO INTRODUCE YOU TO A BEAUTIFUL LITTLE CHIHUAHUA-TERRIER MIX THAT'S AT THE TOP OF SANTA'S NICE LIST. HE'S AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION AT THE DOWNEY SHELTER. YOU CAN ADOPT JINGLE BY CALLING 562-940-6898. HE IS CURRENTLY STAYING THERE, AND IS LOOKING FOR A FOREVER HOME. CAN YOU SAY HI? HE'S A LITTLE NERVOUS, BUT HE'S VERY SWEET. THEY THINK HE'S ABOUT 10 MONTHS OLD, BUT HAVING JUST ADOPTED ONE, IT'S A GUESSTIMATE, BECAUSE I THINK HE'S A PUPPY. SO WITH THAT, I'M GOING TO DIRECT YOU UP TO THE SCREEN ABOVE US. WE HAVE A DOG TO INTRODUCE YOU FROM PALMDALE. MEET MELINDA, A ONE-YEAR-OLD LABRADOR RETRIEVER-SIBERIAN HUSKY MIX. OUR ANIMAL CARE SHELTERS ARE VERY CROWDED UP IN THE ANTELOPE VALLEY. THAT MEANS WE HAVE A LOT OF INCREDIBLE ANIMALS IN NORTH COUNTY LOOKING FOR THEIR FOREVER HOME. PLUS, THERE IS A SPECIAL GOING ON NOW. ALL HUSKIES AT OUR CARE CENTERS ARE FREE, SO THERE'S NEVER BEEN A BETTER TIME TO ADOPT. IF YOU WANT TO BRING MELINDA HOME, CALL THE PALMDALE CARE CENTER AT 661-575-2888. OR IF YOU WANT A SMALL DOG, THIS IS JINGLE, 10-MONTH-OLD CHIHUAHUA MIX, LOOKING FOR A FOREVER HOME. AND IF YOU CAN'T ADOPT, BUT YOU WANT TO FOSTER, ALL OF OUR SHELTERS ARE VERY FULL, SO WE'RE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS OR PEOPLE THAT WANT TO HELP US FOSTER. SO WITH THAT, THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. MAKE IT AN EVEN HAPPIER HOLIDAYS BY FINDING THIS LITTLE ONE A HOME. ALL RIGHT. WITH THAT, WE WILL MOVE ON TO TODAY'S AGENDA. BEFORE I SAY THE MAGIC WORDS, TODAY IS CELIA'S LAST MEETING WITH AS EXECUTIVE OFFICER. CELIA, THANK YOU, BOTH, FOR WELCOMING ME SO WARMLY THIS YEAR, AND FOR SUPPORTING ALL OF US TO ENSURE WE'VE EACH BEEN EQUIPPED AS CHAIR, AND THAT WE CAN REALLY LEAD THE COUNTY IN THE WAYS THAT WE NEED TO. YOU'VE BEEN A WONDERFUL SOURCE OF DILIGENCE IN THE MOST IMPORTANT OPERATIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE, IN SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF L.A. COUNTY. WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR PUBLIC SERVICE, YOUR KINDNESS, AND THE HEART YOU'VE BROUGHT TO THIS WORK. IT'S CLEAR THAT THIS IS MORE THAN A ROLE FOR YOU. THIS IS YOUR CALLING TO SERVE, AND IT SHINES THROUGH EVERYTHING THAT YOU DO. WE THANK YOU FOR ALL OF YOUR HARD WORK, AND WANT NOTHING MORE THAN FOR YOU TO ENJOY THE NEXT GREAT CHAPTER IN YOUR RETIREMENT, AND I KNOW WE'LL TAKE A LITTLE TIME AT THE END OF THE MEETING TO CELEBRATE YOU. BUT WITH THAT, EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PLEASE CALL THE AGENDA.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR. GOOD MORNING, MADAM CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD. TODAY'S AGENDA WILL BEGIN ON PAGE 2, CONSENT CALENDAR, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ITEMS 1 THROUGH 31. ON ITEM 1, THIS INCLUDES A REVISION, AS INDICATED ON THE SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA. ON ITEM 2, SUPERVISOR HAHN REQUESTS THAT THIS ITEM BE HELD. ON ITEM 5, THIS INCLUDES

A REVISION, AS INDICATED ON THE SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA. ON ITEM 6, SUPERVISOR SOLIS REQUESTS THAT THIS ITEM BE HELD. THIS ITEM RELATES TO ITEM 9 AND 44. ALSO, ON THIS ITEM, IT HAS BEEN MOVED UNDER "SEPARATE MATTERS," AS INDICATED ON THE SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA. ON ITEM 8, THIS INCLUDES A REVISION, AS INDICATED ON THE SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA. ON ITEM 9, SUPERVISOR SOLIS REQUESTS THAT THIS ITEM BE HELD. THIS ITEM RELATES TO ITEMS 6 AND 44. ALSO ON ITEM 9, SUPERVISOR HAHN IS RECUSING HERSELF FROM THE VOTE, PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 84308, BECAUSE SHE RECEIVED A CONTRIBUTION OR CONTRIBUTIONS OF MORE THAN $250 WITHIN THE LAST 12 MONTHS FROM ARTURO SCHNEIDER, WHO IS A PARTY, PARTICIPANT, OR AN AGENT OF A PARTY OR PARTICIPANT IN THE PROCEEDINGS. ON ITEM 10, THIS INCLUDES A REVISION, AS INDICATED ON THE SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA. ON ITEM 12, SUPERVISOR MITCHELL REQUESTS THAT THIS ITEM BE HELD. ALSO, THIS INCLUDES A REVISION, AS INDICATED ON THE SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA. ON ITEM 14, SUPERVISOR MITCHELL REQUESTS THAT THIS ITEM BE HELD. ALSO, THIS INCLUDES A REVISION, AS INDICATED ON THE SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA. ON ITEM 23, THIS INCLUDES A REVISION, AS INDICATED ON THE SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA. ON ITEM 24, SUPERVISOR HORVATH REQUESTS THAT THIS ITEM BE HELD. ALSO, THIS INCLUDES A REVISION, AS INDICATED ON THE SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA. ON ITEM 26, THIS INCLUDES A REVISION, AS INDICATED ON THE SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA. ON ITEM 27, SUPERVISOR BARGER REQUESTS THAT THIS ITEM BE HELD. ON PAGE 32, ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS,

ITEMS 32 THROUGH 100. ON ITEM 34, SUPERVISOR HORVATH IS RECUSING HERSELF FROM THE VOTE, PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 84308, BECAUSE SHE RECEIVED A CONTRIBUTION OR CONTRIBUTIONS OF MORE THAN $250 WITHIN THE PAST 12 MONTHS FROM JULIAN GOLD, WHO IS A PARTY, PARTICIPANT, OR AN AGENT OF A PARTY OR PARTICIPANT IN THE PROCEEDING. ON ITEM 36, THIS INCLUDES A REVISION, AS INDICATED ON THE SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA. ON ITEM 37, SUPERVISOR HAHN IS RECUSING HERSELF FROM THE VOTE, PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 84308, BECAUSE SHE RECEIVED A CONTRIBUTION OR CONTRIBUTIONS OF MORE THAN $250 WITHIN THE PAST 12 MONTHS FROM STEVEN POWELL, WHO IS A PARTY, PARTICIPANT, OR AN AGENT OF A PARTY OR PARTICIPANT IN THE PROCEEDING. ON ITEM 44, SUPERVISOR SOLIS REQUESTS THAT THIS ITEM BE HELD. THIS ITEM RELATES TO ITEMS 6 AND 9. ALSO, ON ITEM 44, SUPERVISOR HAHN IS RECUSING HERSELF FROM THE VOTE, PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 84308, BECAUSE SHE RECEIVED A CONTRIBUTION OR CONTRIBUTIONS OF MORE THAN $250 WITHIN THE PAST 12 MONTHS FROM ARTURO SCHNEIDER, WHO IS A PARTY, PARTICIPANT, OR AN AGENT OF A PARTY OR PARTICIPANT IN THE PROCEEDINGS. ON ITEM 45, SUPERVISOR MITCHELL REQUESTS THAT THIS ITEM BE HELD. ON ITEM 53, SUPERVISOR HORVATH REQUESTS THAT THIS ITEM BE HELD. ON ITEM 65, SUPERVISOR MITCHELL REQUESTS THAT THIS ITEM BE HELD. ON ITEM 71, SUPERVISOR HORVATH IS RECUSING HERSELF FROM THE VOTE, PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 84308, BECAUSE SHE RECEIVED A

CONTRIBUTION OR CONTRIBUTIONS OF MORE THAN $250 WITHIN THE PAST 12 MONTHS FROM JULIAN GOLD, WHO IS A PARTY, PARTICIPANT, OR AN AGENT OF A PARTY OR PARTICIPANT IN THE PROCEEDING. ALSO, ON ITEM 71, SUPERVISOR MITCHELL IS RECUSING HERSELF FROM THE VOTE, PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 84308, BECAUSE SHE RECEIVED A CONTRIBUTION OR CONTRIBUTIONS OF MORE THAN $250 WITHIN THE PAST 12 MONTHS FROM MAYOR JAMES BUTTS, WHO IS A PARTY, PARTICIPANT, OR AN AGENT OF A PARTY OR PARTICIPANT OF THE PROCEEDINGS. ON ITEM 72, SUPERVISOR BARGER REQUESTS THAT THIS ITEM BE HELD. THIS ITEM RELATES TO ITEM 98-A. ON ITEM 76, SUPERVISOR HAHN IS RECUSING HERSELF FROM THE VOTE, PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 84308, BECAUSE SHE RECEIVED A CONTRIBUTION OR CONTRIBUTIONS OF MORE THAN $250 WITHIN THE PAST 12 MONTHS FROM PEDRO PERAZO, STEVEN POWELL, AND JILL ANDERSON, WHO ARE A PARTY, PARTICIPANT, OR AN AGENT OF A PARTY OR PARTICIPANT IN THE PROCEEDING. ON ITEM 77, SUPERVISOR HAHN REQUESTS THAT THIS ITEM BE CONTINUED TO JANUARY 9, 2024. ON ITEM 78, SUPERVISOR HORVATH REQUESTS THAT THIS ITEM BE CONTINUED TO MARCH 12, 2024, AS INDICATED ON THE POSTED AGENDA. ON ITEM 79, SUPERVISOR HORVATH REQUESTS TO BE RECORDED AS A NO VOTE. ON PAGE 73, THIS INCLUDES MISCELLANEOUS ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA, WHICH WERE POSTED MORE THAN 72 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING, AS INDICATED ON THE SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA. ON ITEM 98-A, SUPERVISOR BARGER REQUESTS THAT THIS ITEM BE HELD. ON PAGE 74, ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION. ON ITEM

103, SUPERVISOR MITCHELL REQUESTS THAT THIS ITEM BE HELD. ON PAGE 76, SEPARATE MATTER. ITEM 6 IS A RECOMMENDATION TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF SHORT-TERM NOTES THROUGH THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CAPITAL ASSET LEASING LEASE REVENUE NOTE PROGRAM AND LONG-TERM LEASE REVENUE BONDS, OR A COMBINATION OF BOTH TYPES OF FINANCING MECHANISMS, IN THE AMOUNT UP TO $34,983,000, TO FUND PROJECT EXPENDITURES OF THE RESIDENTIAL WITHDRAWAL MANAGEMENT FACILITY. ON ITEM 6, SUPERVISOR SOLIS REQUESTS THAT THIS ITEM BE HELD. ALSO, THIS INCLUDES A REVISION, AS INDICATED ON THE SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA, AND THIS ITEM RELATES TO ITEMS 9 AND 44. ON PAGE 77, SPECIAL DISTRICT AGENDA. THIS IS THE AGENDA FOR THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY. ON PAGE 80, NOTICES OF CLOSED SESSION. THE REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCES, THROUGH CS-1, ARE BEFORE YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: MOVED BY SUPERVISOR HAHN, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR SOLIS TO APPROVE THESE ITEMS. THAT WILL BE THE ORDER. EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PLEASE PLAY THE CODE OF CONDUCT.

SPEAKER: LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, MAY I PLEASE HAVE YOUR ATTENTION. THE MEETING OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS IS ABOUT TO COMMENCE. A CODE OF CONDUCT WILL NOW BE READ, AND WE REQUEST THAT YOU COMPLY WITH IT TO ENSURE THE EFFICIENT ADMINISTRATION OF THE MEETING. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC, IT IS YOUR RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN TODAY'S BOARD

HEARING, AND THE BOARD ENCOURAGES SUCH PARTICIPATION. HOWEVER, THE RIGHT OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD MUST BE BALANCED WITH THE NEED TO ENSURE THAT PUBLIC COMMENT DOES NOT INTERFERE WITH THE ORDERLY COURSE OF THE BOARD'S BUSINESS. ALL ARE REMINDED TO ABIDE BY THE FOLLOWING RULES: SPEAKERS MUST CEASE SPEAKING IMMEDIATELY WHEN THEIR TIME HAS ENDED. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS MUST RELATE TO THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THAT ITEM. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT IS LIMITED TO SUBJECTS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE BOARD. PUBLIC COMMENT DOES NOT INCLUDE THE RIGHT TO ENGAGE IN A DIALOGUE WITH BOARD MEMBERS OR STAFF. PLEASE REMAIN RESPECTFUL OF THE FORUM, AND REFRAIN FROM UTTERING, WRITING, OR DISPLAYING PROFANE, PERSONAL, THREATENING, DEROGATORY, DEMEANING, OR OTHER ABUSIVE STATEMENTS TOWARD THE BOARD, ANY MEMBER THEREOF, STAFF, OR ANY OTHER PERSON. MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE SHOULD BE RESPECTFUL OF THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY SPEAKERS, STAFF, AND BOARD MEMBERS, AND MAY NOT CLAP, CHEER, WHISTLE, OR OTHERWISE DISRUPT THE ORDERLY CONDUCT OF THE MEETING. ANY PERSON ENGAGING IN CONDUCT THAT DISRUPTS THE MEETING IS SUBJECT TO BEING REMOVED FROM THE BOARD MEETING. AND FINALLY, IF YOU WITNESS CONDUCT OR BEHAVIOR BY OTHER MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC THAT DISRUPTS YOUR ABILITY TO REMAIN ENGAGED OR PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING, PLEASE NOTIFY THE SERGEANT-AT-ARMS OR OTHER COUNTY STAFF. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: TODAY WE'LL BEGIN WITH ITEM 2, FOLLOWED BY ITEM 6, WHICH WILL BE TAKEN UP WITH ITEMS 9 AND 44; THEN ITEM 72, WHICH WILL BE TAKEN UP WITH ITEM 98-A, FOLLOWED BY ITEMS 53, 12, 14, 24, 27, 45, AND FINISHING WITH ITEM 65 AND ITS RELATED ITEM, 103, FOLLOWED BY THE REMAINING ITEMS NOT HELD BY THE BOARD, AND GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT. AND I JUST WANT TO LET YOU KNOW THAT SOME OF THOSE EARLY ITEMS, WE'VE INDICATED THAT THERE MAY BE A NUMBER OF SPEAKERS, SO IF YOUR ITEM THAT YOU ARE HERE FOR IS A LITTLE BIT LATER ON THE AGENDA, YOU ARE WELCOME TO TAKE A BREAK AND COME BACK. WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO KEEP THE MEETING MOVING, BUT I JUST WANTED TO ADVISE YOU THAT WE DO HAVE A LOT OF SPEAKERS FOR OUR AGENDA TODAY. BEFORE WE BEGIN, EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PLEASE READ THE CALL-IN INFORMATION THAT WAS PROVIDED ON THE AGENDA, AND EXPLAIN OUR SPEAKING RULES.

SPEAKER: FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO PARTICIPATE REMOTELY, AS INDICATED ON THE AGENDA, PLEASE CALL 877-226-8163, AND USE PARTICIPANT CODE NUMBER 133-6503. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATING REMOTELY AND IN THE BOARDROOM, YOU WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE BOARD THROUGHOUT THE MEETING. YOU WILL RECEIVE ONE MINUTE TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON ITEMS HELD BY SUPERVISORS, AND UP TO A TOTAL OF THREE MINUTES ON ALL REMAINING ITEMS AND GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT, FOR A TOTAL OF 6 MINUTES FOR THIS MEETING. PLEASE NOTE: ONCE YOUR TIME HAS

EXPIRED, WE WILL MOVE TO THE NEXT SPEAKER. PLEASE MONITOR YOUR TIME AND THE ITEMS YOU ARE SIGNING UP FOR, AS YOUR NAME WILL NOT BE CALLED ONCE YOUR TIME HAS ELAPSED. FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC JOINING US REMOTELY, WHEN THE BOARD MOVES TO THE ITEM YOU WISH TO ADDRESS, PROMPTLY PRESS 1 THEN 0 TO BE ENTERED INTO THE SPEAKING QUEUE. REMEMBER TO TURN DOWN THE VOLUME ON YOUR DEVICE AS SOON AS THE MODERATOR CALLS ON YOU, OR THERE WILL BE AN ECHO. YOU WILL NEED TO PRESS 1 THEN 0 FOR EACH ITEM ON WHICH YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK. TO ENSURE WE HEAR FROM BOTH IN-PERSON AND TELEPHONIC SPEAKERS, WE WILL ALTERNATE BETWEEN THE TWO SPEAKING QUEUES. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO ARE IN ATTENDANCE, WHEN YOU HEAR OR SEE YOUR NAME DISPLAYED ON THE SCREEN, PLEASE COME DOWN TO THE FRONT OF THE BOARDROOM, AND STAFF WILL ASSIST YOU. PLEASE DO NOT APPROACH THE PODIUM UNTIL DIRECTED TO DO SO. WE WILL BEGIN BY CALLING IN-PERSON SPEAKERS, AND WHILE THEY ARE COMING FORWARD, WE WILL TAKE TELEPHONIC SPEAKERS. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. WE'LL NOW BEGIN WITH ITEM 2, SOUTHEAST LOS ANGELES CULTURAL CENTER PROJECT, WHICH WAS HELD BY SUPERVISOR HAHN. FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ON THE TELEPHONE, PLEASE PRESS 1 THEN 0 NOW TO COMMENT ON THIS ITEM. SUPERVISOR HAHN?

SUP. HAHN: THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR. COLLEAGUES, BEFORE US TODAY IS A PROJECT THAT I BELIEVE WILL BE THE NEW JEWEL IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY. THE SOUTHEAST LOS ANGELES CULTURAL CENTER-- OR, AS THE COMMUNITY LIKES TO CALL IT, THE S.E.L.A. CULTURAL CENTER-- HAS BEEN IN THE MAKING FOR YEARS, THANKS TO THE LEADERSHIP OF OUR COLLEAGUE SUPERVISOR HILDA SOLIS, SPEAKER EMERITUS ANTHONY RENDON, STATE SENATOR LENA GONZALEZ, RENOWNED ARCHITECT FRANK GEHRY, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, THE RESIDENTS OF SOUTHEAST L.A. AND BECAUSE OF REDISTRICTING, I NOW HAVE THE PRIVILEGE TO REPRESENT THIS COMMUNITY, AND I WANT TO DO MY PART IN MAKING THIS PROJECT A REALITY, WHICH IS WHY MY MOTION TODAY IS DIRECTING OUR C.E.O. AND THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, ARTS AND CULTURE, AND PARKS AND REC CREATION TO REPORT BACK TO THIS BOARD IN 90 DAYS WITH THE STEPS WE NEED TO TAKE TO CONSTRUCT THIS PROJECT AND DEVELOP A PLAN FOR ITS OPERATIONS. FOR TOO LONG, THIS PART OF L.A. COUNTY HAS BEEN UNDERSERVED IN TERMS OF ACCESS TO ARTS AND CULTURE. THE RESIDENTS OF SOUTHEAST L.A. DESERVE THE SAME ACCESS TO ARTS THAT OTHER AREAS OF THE COUNTY HAVE. THIS REGION DOES NOT HAVE A FORD THEATRE, A DISNEY CONCERT HALL, OR A COUNTY MUSEUM OF ART. BUT BELIEVE ME, THE TALENT AND LOVE FOR THE ARTS IS ALREADY IN THIS COMMUNITY. THEY JUST DON'T HAVE A FACILITY WHERE THEY CAN GATHER TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES AND SHOWCASE THEIR ABILITIES. IF YOU LOOK UP AT THE SCREEN, YOU WILL SEE WHAT THIS PROJECT WILL LOOK LIKE. AND THANKS TO THE DESIGN OF FRANK

GEHRY, IT WILL INCLUDE ART GALLERIES, A RECORDING STUDIO, FILM, STAGE, CERAMIC STUDIOS, CAFE, AND MUCH MORE. ITS PROPOSED LOCATION IS IN THE CITY OF SOUTH GATE, ON THE PUBLIC WORKS IMPERIAL YARD. BUT THANK YOU TO DIRECTOR MARK PESTRELLA. HE HAS BEEN VERY SUPPORTIVE, AND HAS COMMITTED TO DOING HIS PART BY RELOCATING THE YARD, WITH THE HELP OF GOVERNOR NEWSOM AND CALTRANS. THANK YOU, MARK, AGAIN, FOR BEING COOPERATIVE, AND MY NOTES SAY, "FOR YOUR EAGERNESS TO MAKE IT HAPPEN." SO, THERE YOU GO. THIS PROJECT ALSO ALIGNS WITH THIS BOARD'S INITIATIVES AND PRIORITIES. WE RECENTLY ADOPTED THE L.A. RIVER MASTER PLAN, AND THIS PROJECT IS INCLUDED IN ONE OF THE FIVE MAJOR PROJECT ZONES IN 2020. WE APPROVED THE COUNTYWIDE CULTURAL POLICY, DIRECTING OUR DEPARTMENTS TO MAKE SURE THAT EVERY RESIDENT HAS MEANINGFUL ACCESS TO ARTS AND CULTURE, AND THAT IS EXACTLY WHAT THIS PROJECT WILL DO. I WANT TO THANK SPEAKER EMERITUS ANTHONY RENDON-- I THINK HE WILL BE WITH US THIS MORNING. OH, HE'S HERE? OKAY-- FOR HIS VISION AND HIS ADVOCACY. HE PLAYED A CRITICAL ROLE IN GETTING $124 MILLION IN STATE FUNDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION COST. AND WHILE WE PLAN TO HAVE COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS BUILD IT, THE ASSEMBLY MEMBER HAS COMMITTED TO IDENTIFYING THE FULL FUNDING NEEDED TO CONSTRUCT THIS PROJECT AND PAY FOR THE RELOCATION OF OUR PUBLIC WORKS YARD. HE WAS ALSO SUCCESSFUL IN ADVOCATING FOR $5 MILLION IN THE STATE BUDGET, WHICH WE JUST GAVE TO OUR DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND CULTURE, TO PROVIDE GRANTS AND PROGRAMS FOR THE SOUTHEAST

COMMUNITY. IN ADDITION, $3 MILLION WAS ALLOCATED TO CREATE A PANEL OF COMMUNITY LEADERS THAT WILL WORK TOGETHER TO MAKE SURE THAT ONCE THIS PROJECT IS BUILT, WE ARE READY WITH A COMMUNITY-DRIVEN OPERATIONS PLAN IN PLACE. THERE ARE MANY LOCAL PARTNERS THAT HAVE HELPED DEVELOP THIS PROJECT TO WHAT IT IS TODAY: THE L.A. PHIL, THE SOUTHEAST ARTS AND CULTURAL FOUNDATION, LATINAS ART FOUNDATION, AND SO MANY MORE. INVESTING IN THE S.E.L.A. CULTURAL CENTER WOULDN'T JUST SUPPORT THE CRITICAL WORK OF LOCAL ARTISTS, DANCERS, ACTORS, AND MUSICIANS FROM THE REGION; IT WOULD CREATE UNPRECEDENTED WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES, AND WOULD BE A VITAL DESTINATION FOR A COMMUNITY THAT IS DESPERATELY DESERVING OF ONE. I THINK IT'S CLEAR THAT THIS COMMUNITY IS MORE THAN DESERVING OF THIS CULTURAL CENTER. THERE IS SO MUCH ART AND SO MUCH BEAUTY IN SOUTHEAST L.A., AND IT IS TIME FOR IT TO BE SHOWCASED FOR THE REST OF THE WORLD TO SEE. THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO FURTHER OUR COMMITMENT TO SUPPORTING MEANINGFUL ARTS AND CULTURE ACROSS EVERY REGION OF L.A., AND ENSURE THAT ART ACCESS IS EQUITABLE. THANK YOU, SUPERVISOR SOLIS, FOR STARTING THIS, AND WITH YOUR SUPPORT AND OUR COLLEAGUES', WE WILL GET IT OVER THE FINISH LINE. THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: SUPERVISOR SOLIS?

SUP. SOLIS: YES, CONGRATULATIONS, SUPERVISOR HAHN. AND ALSO, I WANT TO RECOGNIZE SPEAKER EMERITUS RENDON FOR BEING HERE, AS WELL AS MEMBERS OF THE S.E.L.A. COMMUNITY. YOU SAID IT PRETTY RIGHT ON, IN THAT S.E.L.A. HAS BEEN COMMUNITIES OF DIFFERENT CITIES THAT HAVE REALLY BEEN DEPRIVED OF MANY, MANY THINGS, INCLUDING ARTS, RECREATION, OPEN SPACE, AND TRANSPORTATION. AND I KNOW ALL THOSE WILL COME TOGETHER AS WE ENVISION HOW WE REALLY CONNECT ALL OF THE GOOD PARTS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY, ESPECIALLY S.E.L.A. I WAS SO PROUD TO HAVE REPRESENTED THE AREA DURING THE FIRST PART OF MY TWO TERMS, BUT THEN GOT REDISTRICTED, AND NOW IT IS IN YOUR LAP, SUPERVISOR HAHN. AND I KNOW YOU ARE SPENDING A LOT OF TIME OUT THERE, DOING A LOT OF GOOD THINGS, AND I'M HAPPY THAT YOU HAVE EMBRACED THIS PROJECT, BECAUSE IT HAS BEEN, I THINK, AT A LEVEL WHERE, AT THE BEGINNING, PERHAPS, NOT EVERYONE UNDERSTOOD WHAT THE DREAM AND THE CONCEPT WAS, AND HOW IT WOULD GET FUNDED. BUT I KNOW THAT OUR DEPARTMENTS, THE TWO THAT ARE HERE-- MARK PESTRELLA, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, AND OUR ARTS COMMISSION AND DEPARTMENT-- ALSO HAVE BEEN VERY, VERY ENGAGED WITH THIS, INCLUDING OUTSIDE PARTNERS SUCH AS FRANK GEHRY, AS WELL AS EVERYONE ELSE IN THE COMMUNITY. AND IT IS A LABOR OF LOVE, AND I'M HAPPY TO SAY THAT THIS IS SOMETHING THAT NEEDS TO BE DONE, BECAUSE IT'S REALLY ABOUT EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND DIVERSITY, AND IT'S ALSO MAKING SURE THAT THE COUNTY TAKES SOME RESPONSIBILITY HERE, AS WELL, BECAUSE FOR SO MANY YEARS,

S.E.L.A. HAS BEEN NEGLECTED, AND IT'S TIME THAT WE PUT THEM ON THE MAP AND MAKE SURE THAT EVERYTHING THAT THEY ESPOUSE, WE ESPOUSE HERE AT THE COUNTY. SO I'M WHOLEHEARTEDLY IN SUPPORT OF THIS, AND KNOW THAT THERE IS GOING TO BE MORE OPPORTUNITY FOR MORE WORKFORCE TRAINING, INVESTMENT, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AS WELL AS THE COLLABORATION WITH OUR DEPARTMENTS, AND ESPECIALLY PUBLIC WORKS, BECAUSE IT HAS BEEN MONUMENTAL. AND MARK PESTRELLA HAS BEEN THERE FROM THE GET-GO, I WANT TO SAY, SO MY HAT GOES OFF TO YOU, BECAUSE WE'VE HAD MANY, MANY MEETINGS FOR SEVERAL YEARS ON THIS TOPIC, ALONG WITH THE TEAM AND ARCHITECTS OF FRANK GEHRY AND OTHERS, AND REALLY TRYING TO SPREAD THE GOOD WORD. AND FINALLY, HOPEFULLY, IT WILL COME TO FRUITION. AND AGAIN, TO SPEAKER EMERITUS RENDON, FOR REALLY WEIGHING IN SO HEAVILY WITH ALL THE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS THAT ARE NECESSARY, AND CERTAINLY WILL REQUIRE MORE ASSISTANCE. AND HOPEFULLY, THIS WILL ATTRACT MORE PHILANTHROPIC FUNDS, AS WELL AS INVESTMENTS FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR, AS WELL AS OTHERS THAT MAY THINK THAT THIS IS A DREAM THAT THEY WANT TO BE A PART OF, AND MAKE IT A REALITY. SO THANK YOU SO MUCH, SUPERVISOR HAHN, AND I AM GOING TO BE VOTING FOR THIS, OBVIOUSLY. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. I, TOO, AM REALLY EXCITED. I'LL KEEP MY REMARKS BRIEF, BUT I DID HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH FRANK GEHRY EARLIER THIS YEAR, AND HE IMPRESSED UPON ME JUST HOW IMPORTANT IT WAS TO HIM, PERSONALLY, TO SEE THIS

VISION REALIZED. HE'S VERY EXCITED ABOUT HIS INVESTMENT IN THIS PROJECT AND SEEING IT COME TO LIFE, NOT FOR HIS OWN PERSONAL POSTERITY, BUT FOR WHAT IT MEANS FOR THE COMMUNITY, AS YOU BOTH HAVE SAID SO WELL. AND SO I'M VERY EXCITED TO SUPPORT THIS PROJECT AND SEE IT MOVE FORWARD. ARE THERE ANY OTHER SUPERVISORS WHO WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK? SEEING NONE IN THE QUEUE, EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PLEASE CALL THOSE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO HAVE SIGNED UP TO SPEAK ON THIS ITEM.

SPEAKER: WILL ANTHONY RENDON PLEASE COME FORWARD, AND STAFF WILL ASSIST YOU?

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THIS IS OUR SPEAKER EMERITUS. WE WELCOME YOU. THANK YOU FOR BEING WITH US THIS MORNING.

ANTHONY RENDON: THANK YOU. GOOD MORNING. GOOD MORNING, SUPERVISORS. I AM THE SPEAKER EMERITUS OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE ASSEMBLY, REPRESENTING THE 62ND ASSEMBLY DISTRICT IN SOUTHEAST LOS ANGELES COUNTY. I'M HERE THIS MORNING TO SUPPORT THIS MOTION, BY SUPERVISORS HAHN AND SOLIS, TO CREATE A PLAN FOR COUNTY OPERATION OF THE S.E.L.A. CULTURAL CENTER. THIS PROJECT, DRIVEN BY OUR COMMUNITY-- AND THERE ARE SO MANY OF THEM HERE TODAY-- CAME OUT OF THE LOWER LOS ANGELES REVITALIZATION PLAN, AND IT REPRESENTS AN EXTRAORDINARY OPPORTUNITY FOR SOUTHEAST L.A. I HAVE REPRESENTED THIS AMAZING

COMMUNITY FOR MORE THAN A DECADE NOW, AND I CAN TELL YOU WITH ABSOLUTE CERTAINTY THAT NO DISTRICT IS MORE DESERVING OR MORE IN NEED OF A CULTURAL ARTS CENTER THAN THIS ONE. THIS IS AN ISSUE OF ARTISTIC INEQUITY. SOUTHEAST LOS ANGELES HAS A STUNNING ARRAY OF LOCAL ARTISTIC TALENT, BUT NONE OF THE CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS OR RESOURCES OF OTHER AREAS OF LOS ANGELES. FINALLY, WE DON'T HAVE THE WEALTH, SO WE DON'T GET THE ART OR THE MUSIC OR THE THEATER OR THE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES. BUT WITH THIS PROJECT, WE CAN CHANGE ALL OF THAT. THE S.E.L.A. CULTURAL CENTER DOESN'T JUST REPRESENT A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY FOR SOUTHEAST L.A.'S DANCERS, ARTISTS, MUSICIANS, AND ACTORS TO SHINE, BUT IT WILL ALSO BE A CULTURAL MECCA FOR THE ENTIRE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES AND BEYOND. IT WILL BE A BOON FOR LOCAL RESTAURANTS AND SMALL BUSINESSES, AND IT WILL BRING NEW LIFE BLOOD TO OUR COMMUNITY. IT WILL PROVIDE HISTORIC WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTHEAST LOS ANGELES, AND OFFER A HUGE VARIETY OF NEW CAREER OPPORTUNITIES TO OUR CONSTITUENTS. IT WILL BE A SOURCE OF ARTISTIC EDUCATION FOR BOTH YOUNG AND OLD, THAT SOUTHEAST L.A. HAS NEVER EXPERIENCED BEFORE. THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA HAS ALREADY APPROPRIATED $132 MILLION TOWARD THIS PROJECT; NOW WE ARE REQUESTING L.A. COUNTY'S CONTINUED PARTNERSHIP TO MAKE IT HAPPEN. WE HAVE HAD TREMENDOUS PARTNERSHIP FROM OUR SUPERVISORS, DEFINITELY FROM COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS AND DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND CULTURE, AND WE'RE WANTING TO CONTINUE THAT PARTNERSHIP. WITH THIS VOTE,

YOU HAVE THE CHANCE TO FURTHER L.A. COUNTY'S MISSION OF PROVIDING ARTISTIC AND CULTURAL OPPORTUNITIES TO EVERYONE, REGARDLESS OF WHERE THEY LIVE. AGAIN, I WANT TO THANK SUPERVISORS HAHN AND SOLIS FOR THEIR WORK IN CHAMPIONING THIS EFFORT ON BEHALF OF SOUTHEAST LOS ANGELES, AND I ASK THE BOARD TO SUPPORT THE MOTION BEFORE YOU. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. WE'LL NOW TURN TO SPEAKERS ON THE TELEPHONE.

SPEAKER: AS A FINAL REMINDER FOR PARTICIPANTS ON THE TELEPHONE, IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON ITEM 2, AND IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY DONE SO, PLEASE PRESS 1 THEN 0 NOW TO BE PLACED IN THE SPEAKING QUEUE. MODERATOR, MAY WE HAVE THE FIRST SPEAKER, PLEASE?

MODERATOR: OUR FIRST PARTICIPANT IS ERIC EISENBERG. YOU MAY BEGIN.

ERIC EISENBERG: HELLO, SUPERVISORS. MY NAME IS ERIC EISENBERG, AND I AM A COMMISSIONER FOR YOUR DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND CULTURE, AND TWICE PAST PRESIDENT. I'M SPEAKING TODAY TO SUPPORT THE UPCOMING VOTE ON THE S.E.L.A. CULTURAL CENTER. AT THE DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND CULTURE, WE SPEND A LOT OF TIME CRUNCHING DATA. OUR DATA DEPARTMENT IS VERY ACTIVE,

CONTINUALLY TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHAT WE NEED TO DO IN ORDER TO SPREAD CULTURAL EQUITY ACROSS THE ENTIRE COUNTY. THIS PROJECT WILL BE SERVING A COUNTY SECTION THAT HAS, TIME AND TIME AGAIN, COME UP AS BEING ONE THAT IS NOT GETTING COUNTY RESOURCES. THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTY DESERVE IT. THE PEOPLE OF SOUTHEAST LOS ANGELES DESERVE IT. WHEN YOU LOOK AT THIS PROJECT, IT'S NOT ONLY A PLACE TO COME IN AND DO POTTERY OR LOOK AT ART. A PROJECT OF THIS MAGNITUDE ACTUALLY CREATES A GATEWAY TO JOBS.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED. MODERATOR, NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS OSCAR CISCO. YOU MAY BEGIN.

SPEAKER: HELLO. MY NAME IS I'M OSCAR CISCO. I'M A REPRESENTATIVE OF STATE SENATOR LENA GONZALEZ, IN SENATE DISTRICT 33. FIRST, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK SUPERVISORS HAHN AND SOLIS FOR AUTHORING ITEM 2, IN SUPPORT OF ADVANCING THE CREATION OF A SOUTHEAST LOS ANGELES CULTURAL CENTER. THIS SOUTHEAST L.A. CULTURAL CENTER IS A PROJECT IDENTIFIED BY THE COMMUNITY AS PART OF THE LOWER L.A. RIVER MASTER PLAN, AND THE L.A. RIVER MASTER PLAN. ART GIVES US MEANING AND HELPS US UNDERSTAND OUR WORLD. SCIENTIFIC STUDIES HAVE PROVEN THAT ART APPRECIATION IMPROVES OUR QUALITY OF LIFE, AND MAKES US FEEL

GOOD. THE S.E.L.A. CULTURAL CENTER IS THE OPPORTUNITY TO STIMULATE A LOCAL ART-BASED ECONOMY FOR OUR COMMUNITIES AND RESIDENTS. THE RESIDENTS IN OUR REGION DESERVE THE SAME INVESTMENTS THAT HAVE BEEN MADE IN OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTY, THAT UPLIFT THE ARTS AND VALUE OF OUR CULTURE. I RESPECTFULLY ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT ON THE MOTION. THANK YOU SO MUCH.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. MODERATOR, NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS AL RIOS. YOU MAY BEGIN.

AL RIOS: GOOD MORNING, HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. MY NAME IS AL RIOS. I'M A CITY COUNCILMAN FOR THE CITY OF SOUTH GATE, AND I'M EMPLOYED WITH EAST LOS ANGELES COUNTY, THE SOUTHEAST CAMPUS. I AM SO HAPPY THAT THIS MOTION IS BEFORE THE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. IT'S SO AWESOME THAT WE HAVE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO BRING THE FINE ARTS TO THE SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY, TO CULTIVATE A LOT OF THE TALENT THAT EXISTS THERE, ESPECIALLY THE YOUNG. THIS IS GOING TO REALLY CULTIVATE THE TALENT. IT'S GOING TO REALLY BENEFIT THE COMMUNITY, NOT ONLY AT THE ARTS CENTER, BUT THE SURROUNDING REGION, CITIES. THIS IS A REAL UPLIFT TO AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR THE L.A. RIVER. I WANT TO THANK THE SPEAKER EMERITUS ANTHONY RENDON, THE STATE, ALL THE PHILANTHROPY, ALL THE ORGANIZATIONS THAT PITCHED IN, PUBLIC WORKS, THE COUNTY--

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED. MODERATOR, NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS ARIEL PE. YOU MAY BEGIN.

ARIEL PE: GOOD MORNING, CHAIR HORVATH AND BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. MY NAME IS ARIEL PE. AS THE MAYOR, I AM SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD. I'M ALSO SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THE GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS, AS YOUR CURRENT PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK SUPERVISORS HAHN AND SOLIS FOR AUTHORING ITEM NUMBER 2, IN SUPPORT OF ADVANCING THE CREATION OF THE SOUTHEAST LOS ANGELES CULTURAL CENTER. I AM CALLING IN SUPPORT FOR THIS MOTION. THE S.E.L.A. CULTURAL CENTER IS A PROJECT IDENTIFIED BY THE COMMUNITY AS A PART OF THE LOWER L.A. RIVER MASTER PLAN. ART GIVES MEANING AND HELPS US UNDERSTAND OUR WORLD. SCIENTIFIC STUDIES HAVE PROVEN THAT ART APPRECIATION IMPROVES THE QUALITY OF LIFE, AND MAKES US FEEL GOOD. IT HAS BEEN SAID THAT, IN CHILDREN, EXPOSURE TO THE ART PROGRAM IMPROVES COMMUNICATION, BOOSTS SELF-ESTEEM, BUILDS CONNECTION AND COMMUNITY. THE S.E.L.A. CULTURAL CENTER HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO STIMULATE A LOCAL ART-BASED ECONOMY FOR OUR COMMUNITIES AND RESIDENTS. I RESPECTFULLY ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT ON THIS MOTION. THANK YOU.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS BRIANNA GORTON. YOU MAY BEGIN.

BRIANNA GORTON: HI. GOOD MORNING. THANK YOU SO MUCH. MY NAME IS BRIANNA GORTON. I'M A PROJECT MANAGER WITH THE WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY, SO I'M HERE THIS MORNING TO VOICE MY FULL SUPPORT FOR THE SOUTHEAST LOS ANGELES CULTURAL CENTER, WHICH WILL BRING GREAT ARTISTIC AND CULTURAL OPPORTUNITIES TO SOUTHEAST L.A. AND I RESPECTFULLY ASK YOU TO PLEASE VOTE IN SUPPORT OF THIS. THANK YOU SO MUCH.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. WE WILL NOW CALL IN-PERSON SPEAKERS. WILL THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS PLEASE COME FORWARD, AND STAFF WILL ASSIST YOU: ARTURO GONZALEZ, CLAIRE BOWIN, DAVID HERNANDEZ, ERIKA NUNO, HECTOR ARIAS, JORGE MORALES, MARK STANLEY, MIGUEL LUNA, REY SEPULVEDA, AND SANDRA NUNEZ. MODERATOR, MAY WE HAVE THE NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE?

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS SALVADOR DIAZ. YOU MAY BEGIN. SALVADOR DIAZ, GO AHEAD, PLEASE.

SPEAKER: [SPEAKS SPANISH].

SPEAKER: HIS TIME HAS EXPIRED. WE WILL NOW PAUSE TO HEAR THE ENGLISH INTERPRETATION OF THIS COMMENT.

TRANSLATOR: HELLO. GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS SALVADOR DIAZ. I AM A LEADER AND RESIDENT OF WALNUT PARK, ALSO A DIRECTOR ON ONE OF THE COMMITTEES. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK SUPERVISOR HAHN AND THE REST OF THE SUPERVISORS FOR THE CULTURAL CENTER IN L.A. I AM CALLING TO APPROVE FOR THIS PROJECT TO TAKE PLACE, AND ALSO JUST WANT TO LET YOU KNOW THAT ART IS SOMETHING THAT ENRICHES OUR WORLD, AND IT IS SO IMPORTANT FOR YOUTH, FOR OUR PARENTS, AND IT CREATES MORE SUCCESS. THANK YOU.

SPEAKER: MAY WE HAVE THE NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE?

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS ALI SALE. YOU MAY BEGIN.

ALI SALEH: GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS ALI SALEH, A COUNCILMEMBER OF THE CITY OF BELL, AND CHAIR OF THE SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY, AND A LIFELONG RESIDENT OF S.E.L.A. I WANT TO THANK SUPERVISORS HAHN AND SOLIS FOR CHAMPIONING ITEM 2, A CRUCIAL STEP TOWARDS THE S.E.L.A. CULTURAL CENTER. THIS CENTER ISN'T JUST A PROJECT; IT IS A COMMUNITY-DRIVEN DREAM OF MINE, IN BOTH THE LOWER L.A. RIVER MASTER PLAN AND L.A. RIVER MASTER PLAN, WHICH REPRESENTS

THE UNITY AND CREATIVITY OF OUR COMMUNITY. WE'VE WITNESSED THE SUCCESS EF S.E.L.A. ARTS FESTIVAL, DRAWING OVER 6,000 ATTENDEES EACH YEAR. YET, DESPITE THE TALENT IN SOUTHEAST L.A., WE LACK CENTRALIZED SPACE TO SHOWCASE, A SPACE THIS CULTURAL CENTER WILL PROVIDE. THIS INITIATIVE ISN'T JUST ABOUT ART. IT IS ABOUT INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE. STUDIES DEMONSTRATE THAT EXPOSURE TO ART BENEFITS OUR YOUTH, FOSTERS COMMUNICATION--

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED. MODERATOR, NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS RICKY ABILEZ. YOU MAY BEGIN.

RICKY ABILEZ: GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS RICKY ABILEZ. I'M CALLING ON BEHALF OF ARTS FOR L.A. I WOULD LIKE TO START BY THANKING SUPERVISORS SOLIS AND HAHN FOR INTRODUCING THIS MOTION. ARTS FOR L.A. ENVISIONS THE PROLIFERATION OF SOLIDARITY-BASED APPROACHES TO L.A.'S HOUSING AND WORKSPACE CRISIS, WHICH INCLUDES INNOVATIVE MODELS OF SPACE SHARING, COMMON PROPERTY OWNERSHIP, AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT. THE AVERAGE ANGELENO SPENDS BETWEEN 30% AND 50% OF THEIR INCOME ON RENT, WHICH MAKES IT NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR ARTISTS TO AFFORD CREATIVE WORKSPACE AND CULTURAL OPPORTUNITIES. THIS PROJECT IS

AN INCREDIBLE STEP FORWARD FOR LOCAL ARTISTS, WHO CONTINUE TO STRUGGLE FINDING AFFORDABLE SPACE FOR ARTMAKING, REHEARSALS, AND CREATIVE PROGRAMMING. WE ARE THRILLED TO SEE THE BOARD IS TAKING ACTION ON THE DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND CULTURE'S CULTURAL POLICY STRATEGIC PLAN STRATEGY 18, BY INVESTING IN S.E.L.A., AND WE ENCOURAGE THE CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT OF PROJECTS LIKE THIS ONE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE RESULTING PLAN.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS DANALY LEON. YOU MAY BEGIN.

DANALY LEON: HELLO. MY NAME IS DANALY LEON. I'M A LOCAL ARTIST AND REPRESENTATIVE OF THE LATINAS ART FOUNDATION, BASED IN PARAMOUNT, IN SOUTHEAST L.A. I HAVE LIVED IN S.E.L.A. ALL OF MY LIFE. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK SUPERVISORS HAHN AND SOLIS FOR AUTHORIZING ITEM 2, IN SUPPORT OF ADVANCING THE CREATION OF THE SOUTHEAST LOS ANGELES CULTURAL CENTER. I AM HERE IN SUPPORT OF THIS MOTION. WE HAVE SEEN THE SUCCESS AND DESIRE FOR ART-BASED PROGRAMMING THROUGH OUR WORK WITH THE COMMUNITY. WE DESERVE, IN OUR REGION, THE SAME INVESTMENTS THAT HAVE BEEN MADE IN OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTY, WHILE RESPECTING AND UPLIFTING THE CURRENT COMMUNITY THROUGH ARTS AND THE RICH

CULTURE THAT IT HAS. I RESPECTFULLY ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT ON THE MOTION. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. BEFORE OUR NEXT SPEAKER GOES, IF WE COULD JUST KEEP IT A LITTLE BIT QUIET HERE, IT HELPS US HEAR THE SPEAKERS ON THE PHONE. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. GO AHEAD.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS ESMERALDA GARCIA. YOU MAY BEGIN.

SPEAKER: GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS ESMERALDA GARCIA, AND I WOULD LIKE TO THANK SUPERVISORS HAHN AND SOLIS FOR AUTHORIZING THIS MOTION TO BRING AN ADVANCE NEEDED RESOURCES TO THE SOUTHEAST L.A. COMMUNITIES. I'VE BEEN WORKING WITH THESE COMMUNITIES AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS ALL THE WAY SINCE THE LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVER REVITALIZATION PLAN, WHERE THIS BECAME A VERY IMPORTANT PRIORITY FOR THE COMMUNITY TO ENSURE ACHIEVING CULTURAL EQUITY, AND BRINGING VERY MUCH NEEDED RESOURCES TO THESE COMMUNITIES. I RESPECTFULLY ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT FOR THE MOTION. THANK YOU.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS MARIO VARGAS. YOU MAY BEGIN.

MARIO VARGAS: MARIO VARGAS, AND I'M THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE LAKEWOOD FAMILY Y.M.C.A., AND I WOULD LIKE TO THANK SUPERVISORS HAHN AND SOLIS FOR AUTHORING ITEM NUMBER 2, IN SUPPORT OF ADVANCING THE CREATION OF THE SOUTHEAST LOS ANGELES CULTURAL CENTER. IT'S VERY IMPORTANT FOR US IN TERMS OF BRINGING OUR YOUTH TO THE CENTER, TO EXPAND THEIR HORIZONS AND CREATE THOSE AHA MOMENTS, AS WELL AS THEM TO SEE THE CULTURE AND ART THAT'S PART OF THEIR OWN CULTURE AND ART THAT THEY DON'T SEE VERY OFTEN. SO I'M IN FULL SUPPORT OF THIS, AND I RESPECTFULLY ASK FOR THE SUPPORT ON THIS MOTION. THANK YOU.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS SAM GEHRY. YOU MAY BEGIN.

SAM GEHRY: GOOD MORNING, SUPERVISORS. I WANT TO THANK SUPERVISORS HAHN AND SOLIS FOR BRINGING ITEM 2 TO THE BOARD. I HAVE THE PLEASURE OF BEING PART OF THE ARCHITECTURAL TEAM BEHIND THIS PROJECT, AND WORKING ON IT FOR A FEW YEARS, AND EXPERIENCING NOT ONLY THE INS AND OUTS OF THE PROJECT DEVELOPMENT, BUT WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY THROUGH OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT TO BUILD THE PROGRAM AND THE VISION FOR THE CENTER. I SPEAK FOR MY FAMILY AND OUR OFFICE WHEN I SAY THAT EQUITY AND ARTS EDUCATION ARE VERY IMPORTANT FACTORS IN OUR

WORLD, AND WE'RE HAPPY THAT THIS ITEM IS MOVING FORWARD, AND SUPPORT THIS MOTION. THANK YOU.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS MEAGHAN LLOYD. YOU MAY BEGIN.

MEAGHAN LLOYD: HI, SUPERVISORS. THIS IS MEAGHAN LLOYD, PARTNER AT GEHRY PARTNERS. AS SAM GEHRY SAID, WE HAVE BEEN WORKING ON THIS FOR MANY YEARS, AND ARE SO GRATEFUL FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP, THE UNPRECEDENTED COLLABORATION BETWEEN STATE AND COUNTY, WHICH IS SO NEEDED IN THIS DAY AND AGE. AND WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR THIS, AND SUPPORT THE MOTION. THANK YOU.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS ANITA ORTIZ. YOU MAY BEGIN.

ANITA ORTIZ: GOOD MORNING, SUPERVISORS. MY NAME IS ANITA ORTIZ, AND I SERVE ON THE L.A. COUNTY ARTS COMMISSION FOR THE FOURTH DISTRICT, APPOINTED BY SUPERVISOR HAHN. TODAY, I RESPECTFULLY URGE YOU TO SUPPORT THE MOTION SHE CO-AUTHORED WITH SUPERVISOR SOLIS, THAT WILL HELP BRING THE S.E.L.A. CULTURAL CENTER TO LIFE. THE ARTS HAVE THE POWER TO CONNECT

AND INSPIRE US. THEY ALSO OFFER US COMFORT AND HEALING, WHICH WE DEFINITELY NEED NOW MORE THAN EVER. THIS PROJECT GOES EVEN FURTHER, BY BRINGING THE ARTS TO SOUTHEAST L.A., AN AREA THAT HISTORICALLY HAS NOT SEEN THIS KIND OF INVESTMENT. I'M SO PROUD OF L.A. COUNTY'S COUNTYWIDE CULTURAL POLICY, BECAUSE IT'S BRINGING AN INTENTIONAL FOCUS TO CREATING EQUITY, AND ENSURING EVERY RESIDENT HAS MEANINGFUL ACCESS TO ARTS AND CULTURE. S.E.L.A. EMBODIES WHAT THE POLICY WAS CREATED FOR. AND DID I MENTION THAT FRANK GEHRY IS BEHIND THE DESIGN OF THE NEW, MULTIDISCIPLINARY ARTS CAMPUS? THAT'S PRETTY COOL. WHO KNOWS? THE NEXT FRANK GEHRY MIGHT JUST LEARN AND LOVE THEIR CRAFT IN THAT VERY SPACE. AND THEY MIGHT HAPPEN TO BE A PERSON OF COLOR, OR TRANS, OR DISABLED, OR LOW-INCOME, OR SOMEONE WHO NEVER THOUGHT THE ARTS COULD TRANSFORM THEIR LIFE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE S.E.L.A. CULTURAL CENTER.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS ANA ELIZARRARAS. YOU MAY BEGIN.

ANA ELIZARRARAS: GOOD MORNING, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AND A SPECIAL THANK-YOU TO SUPERVISORS HAHN AND SOLIS. MY NAME IS ANA ELIZARRARAS, AND I'M CALLING ON BEHALF OF THE SOUTH GATE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. I'D LIKE TO RESPECTFULLY ASK THAT YOU

APPROVE THIS ITEM, AS IT ALLOWS OUR COMMUNITY TO BE ENRICHED THROUGH THE ARTS, AND WILL ALLOW OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES AN ECONOMIC GROWTH AND A FUTURE DEVELOPMENT HERE IN THE S.E.L.A. COMMUNITY. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS EDDIE DE LA RIVA. YOU MAY BEGIN.

EDDIE DE LA RIVA: GOOD MORNING, HONORABLE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD. MY NAME IS EDDIE DE LA RIVA, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF MAYWOOD. I AM CALLING IN SUPPORT OF THIS MOTION AUTHORED BY SUPERVISORS HAHN AND SOLIS. THANK YOU, BOARD, FOR HELPING TO ELEVATE THE IMPORTANCE OF THE S.E.L.A. CULTURAL ARTS CENTER. THIS PROJECT IS OF TREMENDOUS IMPORTANCE, NOT ONLY TO MAYWOOD, BUT THE ENTIRE SOUTHEAST REGION. HISTORICALLY, OUR REGION HAS BEEN UNDER-RESOURCED, BUT THIS PROJECT WILL HELP TO RECTIFY THAT. THERE IS A LOT OF TALENT IN OUR COMMUNITIES; HOWEVER, WE LACK THE PROPER SPACE TO DEVELOP AND SHOWCASE ALL THAT IMMENSE TALENT. OUR REGION HAS A RICH HISTORY AND CULTURE, AND WE NEED THE SPACE TO HELP EXPLORE IT, SHOWCASE IT, AND TO TELL OUR STORY. WE DESERVE THE SAME INVESTMENTS THAT HAVE BEEN MADE IN OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTY, THAT UPLIFT THE ARTS AND VALUE OUR CULTURE. I IMPLORE THE BOARD TO INVEST IN OUR REGION AND

APPROVE THIS MOTION. THANK YOU TO HAHN AND SOLIS FOR BRINGING THIS IMPORTANT PROJECT TO THE FOREFRONT. WE APPRECIATE YOUR EFFORTS. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. WE'LL NOW GO IN PERSON. GO RIGHT AHEAD.

ARTURO GONZALEZ: GOOD MORNING. ARTURO GONZALEZ, PROJECT MANAGER WITH RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY, AS WELL AS FOUNDER OF EAST SIDE OF THE RIVER. WE'RE A COLLECTIVE OF ARTISTS FROM EAST L.A., S.E.L.A., AND S.G.V. GROWING UP IN EAST LOS AND BOUNCING AROUND, I COME FROM A BIG [INAUDIBLE] FAMILY, AND ART WAS ALWAYS WHERE I HAD SOLACE. WHEN WE WENT TO SCHOOL, SOME OF THE PEOPLE IN THE AUDIENCE, WE FOUND OTHER LIKE-MINDED KIDS, AND WE CLUNG TO EACH OTHER LIKE SURVIVORS OF A SHIPWRECK. WE'D DRAW TOGETHER AND HAVE SESSIONS IN LIQUOR STORE PARKING LOTS, IN GARAGES, AND WHEREVER WE COULD. DEVELOPING THIS CULTURAL CENTER ENABLES THE PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY, WHO HAVE A WEALTH OF ARTISTIC TALENT AND CULTURAL PRIDE, TO HAVE THE RESOURCES WE DESERVE, AND GIVES US A HOME FOR US TO DEVELOP OUR ARTISTIC SKILLS AND CREATE FUTURE LEADERS. SO I SPEAK IN SUPPORT OF THIS, AND I THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

CLAIRE BOWIN: GOOD MORNING, SUPERVISORS. CLAIRE BOWIN, DEPUTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY. I AM VERY PLEASED THIS MORNING TO BE HERE TO OFFER MY FULL SUPPORT FOR THE S.E.L.A. CULTURAL CENTER. I ALSO WANT TO CONGRATULATE ALL OF YOU ON YOUR LEADERSHIP TODAY, IN ENDORSING THIS IMPORTANT AND TRANSFORMATIVE PROJECT. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

MIGUEL LUNA: YES, GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS MIGUEL LUNA, AND I SERVE AS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE SOUTHEAST ARTS AND CULTURAL FOUNDATION. FOR THE PAST 8 YEARS, WE HAVE BEEN COLLABORATING AND WORKING WITH LOCAL ARTISTS TO REALLY PUT TOGETHER AN ARTS FESTIVAL, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE COUNTY FAMILY AND PUBLIC WORKS. SO THANK YOU SO MUCH, SUPERVISOR HAHN. THANK YOU, SUPERVISOR SOLIS AND, FRANKLY, ALL OF YOU, FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF THIS CULTURAL CENTER. FOR THE PAST, I THINK, TWO DECADES, CAFES AND RESTAURANTS HAVE SERVED AS THE DECENTRALIZED ART GALLERIES FOR SOUTHEAST L.A., AND IT'S TIME THAT THE ARTISTS HAVE A HOME. THANK YOU SO MUCH. APPRECIATE IT.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

JORGE MORALES: GOOD MORNING. JORGE MORALES, FORMER MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER FROM THE CITY OF SOUTH GATE. I JUST WANTED TO TAKE A MOMENT TO THANK SUPERVISORS HAHN AND SOLIS FOR BRINGING THIS ITEM FORWARD, AND TO SPEAKER RENDON FOR THE VISION TO BE ABLE TO BUILD THIS PROJECT, AND TO REALLY BELIEVE IN THE SOUTHEAST COMMUNITIES. WHEN I WAS MAYOR OF SOUTH GATE, I REMEMBER HEARING THIS DEMOGRAPHER FROM WASHINGTON, D.C., SAY THAT IF YOU TOLD HIM WHERE A KID WAS GOING TO GROW UP, HE COULD TELL YOU WITH CERTAINTY HOW THAT KID WOULD GROW UP. AND GROWING UP IN THE 90280, SOUTH GATE, S.E.L.A., WE KNEW THAT THESE KIDS WERE GOING TO GROW UP TO BE ASTHMATIC, DIABETIC, AND OBESE, AND IN MANY CASES, HAVE CANCER. AND I KNEW THAT THAT WAS TRUE BECAUSE, AS MANY OF YOU KNOW, I HAVE ALL FOUR OF THOSE THINGS, AND SO WE NEED TO DO SOMETHING TO BRING THESE COMMUNITIES UP, TO REALLY INVEST IN THESE COMMUNITIES, AND THAT'S WHY I THANK THE SPEAKER AND THE SUPERVISORS FOR REALLY INVESTING AND BELIEVING IN THIS PROJECT. I REALLY BELIEVE THAT THIS PROJECT CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THESE COMMUNITIES, AND THAT MORE PEOPLE CAN INVEST IN THEM AND CLEAN UP THE ENVIRONMENT, AND BRING MORE ARTS TO THESE COMMUNITIES. SO I THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT, AND I ASK FOR AN AYE VOTE. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: AND I KNOW, DURING YOUR TENURE AS PRESIDENT OF CONTRACT CITIES, YOU HIGHLIGHTED THIS PROGRAM, AS WELL. THANK YOU FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

ERIKA NUNO: GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS ERIKA NUNO. I GREW UP IN THE CITY OF HUNTINGTON PARK, IN SOUTHEAST L.A. I LIVED THROUGHOUT MY ADULT LIFE IN THE REGION, AS WELL, AND I CURRENTLY SERVE AS PLANNING COMMISSIONER FOR THE CITY OF HUNTINGTON PARK. I'M HERE TODAY IN SUPPORT OF ADVANCING THE CREATION OF THE S.E.L.A. CULTURAL CENTER. GROWING UP IN S.E.L.A., I WAS DRAWN TO MUSIC. THERE WEREN'T VERY MANY OUTLETS. I STUDIED VIOLIN IN ELEMENTARY, AND THEN IT WAS TAKEN AWAY, ONCE I WENT TO MIDDLE SCHOOL. THE ARTS CURRICULUM WAS TAKEN AWAY. MY FIRST MEMORIES OF DRIVING THROUGH BOYLE HEIGHTS WERE THE MURALS, AND I WONDERED WHY THAT WASN'T IN OUR COMMUNITY. IT WASN'T UNTIL I STARTED GOING THROUGHOUT THE L.A. COUNTY, AND TRAVELING THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, THAT I REALIZED THAT WE WERE VERY ARTS-POOR. SO IT'S TIME THAT WE MADE THAT CHANGE. WE CAN MAKE THAT CHANGE, AND WE'RE GOING TO WITH THE S.E.L.A. CULTURAL CENTER. THE S.E.L.A. RESIDENTS REALLY DESERVE THE INVESTMENTS IN OUR COMMUNITY, AND THE YOUTH DESERVE IT. SO THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

DAVID R. HERNANDEZ: GOOD MORNING, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. MY NAME IS DAVID R. HERNANDEZ, PRESIDENT AND C.E.O. FOR S.E.L.A.'S FILM PRODUCTION COMPANY, CALLED NIGHTFLARE. I AM A FILMMAKER FROM HUNTINGTON PARK, AND I HAVE LIVED IN S.E.L.A. FOR 34 YEARS. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK SUPERVISORS HAHN AND SOLIS FOR AUTHORIZING ITEM 2, IN SUPPORT OF ADVANCING THE CREATION OF THE SOUTHEAST LOS ANGELES CULTURAL CENTER. I'M HERE IN SUPPORT OF THIS MOTION. THE ARTS ARE PERSONALLY IMPORTANT TO ME BECAUSE, AS A COMMUNITY LEADER AND ARTIST, THIS SPACE WILL BE A BEACON FOR US TO MENTOR, CREATE WORKSHOPS, UTILIZE OUR FORM OF ART, AND ALSO BE ABLE TO COLLABORATE WITH OTHER CREATIVES IN OUR COMMUNITY. THE S.E.L.A. ARTS FESTIVAL HAS BEEN A GREAT EXAMPLE OF WHY THE CULTURAL ARTS CENTER IS IMPORTANT. IT UNIFIES OUR COMMUNITY AND IT HELPS OUR CREATIVES BE CLOSE TO HOME, INSTEAD OF HAVING TO DRIVE OUTSIDE OF THEIR OWN HOMES TO WORK ON THEIR CRAFT, AND SHOWCASE. I RESPECTFULLY ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT ON THIS MOTION. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

REY SEPULVEDA: HI. MY NAME IS REY SEPULVEDA. I'M A LOCAL RESIDENT OF THE CITY OF HUNTINGTON PARK. I'VE LIVED IN THE CITY, IN THE SOUTHEAST L.A. CITIES, FOR 30 YEARS NOW. I'M CALLING IN SUPPORT OF THIS MOTION. THE ARTS ARE PERSONALLY IMPORTANT TO ME BECAUSE, WHEN I WAS 14 YEARS OLD, NOT HAVING

ANY ARTS IN OUR COMMUNITY LED ME TO BEING ARRESTED IN THE CITY OF BELL FOR VANDALISM. AND AS WE KNOW, WHEN WE BRING ARTS AND CULTURE TO THEIR COMMUNITIES, WE ALSO REDUCE VIOLENCE, AND WE ALSO INCREASE THE YOUTH BEING ABLE TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES AND BE GREAT CITIZENS, RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS, IN OUR COMMUNITIES. SO THAT'S WHY THIS IS REALLY IMPORTANT TO ME. IN 2020, WE PAINTED A MURAL IN THE CITY OF BELL, AT THE L.A. COUNTY LIBRARY, AND WE RECEIVED A BIG CERTIFICATE FROM HILDA SOLIS. AND THAT WAS A BIG TURNAROUND FOR ME BECAUSE, 20 YEARS LATER, I'M BEING REWARDED FOR PUTTING UP ART ON THE WALL. SO THAT'S WHY THAT'S REALLY IMPORTANT TO ME. SO THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THIS MOTION. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

HECTOR ARIAS: BUENOS DIAS. GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS HECTOR ARIAS. I'M A RESIDENT OF SOUTHEAST L.A. I'M ALSO THE FOUNDER OF S.E.L.A. ARTS CENTER. AND GROWING UP IN S.E.L.A. IS REALLY CHALLENGING, ESPECIALLY FOR ARTISTS. I HAD A REALLY BAD PORTFOLIO, SO I COULDN'T REALLY REACH OUT TO ANY WORK JOBS IN THE INDUSTRY. MY ONLY OPTION THAT I HAD WAS, SINCE I'M A MURALIST, IT WAS THE L.A. RIVER. SO THAT WAS THE ONLY AREA WHICH IS MY BACKYARD, AND THAT WAS WHERE I USED TO EXPRESS MYSELF, AND I GREW UP FROM THERE. BUT NOW IT'S REALLY DIFFICULT TO ALSO FIND ANY OTHER LOCATIONS TO EXPRESS

OURSELVES AND CREATE MURALS, SO THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE THIS CULTURAL CENTER IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD, SO WE COULD GROW AND CHANGE OUR COMMUNITY TO A BETTER FUTURE, BECAUSE ART IS A WAY OF EXPRESSING, AND IT'S A HUMAN RIGHT. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

SANDRA NUNEZ: HELLO. GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS SANDRA NUNEZ. I AM A COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR FOR THE S.E.L.A. COLLABORATIVE. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK SUPERVISORS HAHN AND SOLIS FOR AUTHORING ITEM 2, IN SUPPORT OF ADVANCING THE CREATION OF THE SOUTHEAST LOS ANGELES CULTURAL CENTER. THERE IS SO MUCH TALENT IN S.E.L.A.; HOWEVER, WE DO NOT HAVE A CENTRALIZED AREA TO SHOWCASE IT. THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO SHOWCASE THE LOCAL TALENT THAT THE S.E.L.A. REGION HAS TO OFFER. AS THE S.E.L.A. COLLABORATIVE, WE RESPECTFULLY ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT ON THE MOTION, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH SUPERVISOR HAHN MOVING FORWARD, TO ENSURE THIS INVESTMENT SERVES AND PRIORITIZES THE NEEDS OF THE S.E.L.A. COMMUNITY. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

MARK STANLEY: I WOULD LIKE TO FIRST SAY THANK YOU, SUPERVISORS, FOR BRINGING THIS FORWARD. I AM MARK STANLEY. I'M

THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY. I REPRESENT 24 MEMBERS OF MY BOARD, THAT GO FROM FEDERAL, STATE, COUNTY, AND LOCAL LEADERSHIP, IN SUPPORT OF THIS PROJECT. WE'VE BEEN CARRYING THIS EFFORT FORWARD. WE ARE SO LOOKING FORWARD TO WORKING WITH THE MEMBERS OF YOUR TEAM TO CONTINUE TO MOVE THIS PROJECT FORWARD, AS WE HAVE DONE ON SO MANY PROJECTS WITH THE COUNTY. THIS PARTNERSHIP HAS BEEN VERY VALUABLE, AND WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO CONTINUE, PARTICULARLY ON THIS CULTURAL CENTER PROJECT THAT IS A VERY VALUABLE RESOURCE TO THE COMMUNITY. YOU'VE HEARD SO MANY SPEAKERS TALK ABOUT HOW THIS IS GOING TO BE TRANSFORMATIVE IN THE COMMUNITY. I AM ONE OF THOSE FOLKS WHO'S GOING TO BE ABLE TO BENEFIT FROM THAT, AS WELL, SO THANK YOU. I LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR AYE VOTE.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU VERY MUCH. THAT WAS OUR LAST SPEAKER, SO ITEM 2 IS NOW BEFORE US. MOVED BY SUPERVISOR HAHN, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR SOLIS TO APPROVE THE ITEM. EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PLEASE CALL THE ROLL.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: ITEM 2 IS BEFORE YOU. SUPERVISOR SOLIS?

SUP. SOLIS: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR SOLIS, AYE. SUPERVISOR MITCHELL?

SUP. MITCHELL: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR MITCHELL, AYE. SUPERVISOR HAHN?

SUP. HAHN: ABSOLUTELY, YES. AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR HAHN, AYE. SUPERVISOR BARGER?

SUP. BARGER: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR BARGER, AYE. SUPERVISOR HORVATH?

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR HORVATH, AYE. MOTION CARRIES, 5-0.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: EXCITING. VERY GOOD. I KNOW SOME OF YOU WILL BE LEAVING THE CHAMBERS. IF YOU COULD DO SO QUIETLY, WE'RE MOVING ON NOW TO ITEM 6, APPROVE THE PROJECTS AND BUDGETS AND AWARD A DESIGN-BUILD CONTRACT FOR THE LOS ANGELES GENERAL MEDICAL CENTER RESIDENTIAL WITHDRAWAL MANAGEMENT FACILITY AND MENTAL HEALTH URGENT CARE CENTER PROJECTS, AND

ESTABLISH THE PSYCHIATRIC SUBACUTE FACILITY; AS WELL AS ITEM 9, ADVANCING REVITALIZATION OF THE FORMER OLD GENERAL HOSPITAL AND WEST CAMPUS THAT OPTIMIZES COMMUNITY BENEFITS; AND ITEM 44, LOS ANGELES COUNTY GENERAL HOSPITAL CAMPUS: CENTENNIAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT EXCLUSIVE NEGOTIATION AGREEMENT, ALL OF WHICH WERE HELD BY SUPERVISOR SOLIS. FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ON THE TELEPHONE, PLEASE PRESS 1 THEN 0 NOW TO COMMENT ON THIS ITEM. WE DO HAVE SEVERAL MEMBERS OF OUR STAFF, WHO WILL BE WITH US HERE TO ADDRESS ANY COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS, AND I WELCOME THEM TO OUR PANEL HERE, NOW. I ALSO WANT TO ADVISE THAT, DUE TO SUPERVISOR HAHN RECUSING HERSELF ON ITEMS 9 AND 44, WE WILL FIRST DISCUSS ITEM 6, AND THEN WE WILL FOLLOW WITH DISCUSSION ON ITEMS 9 AND 44, WHEN SUPERVISE HAHN EXITS THE BOARDROOM, AND THEN WE WILL MOVE TO PUBLIC COMMENT ON ALL ITEMS. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THAT, PLEASE ASK OUR STAFF. OTHERWISE, COLLEAGUES, IF WE COULD PLEASE LIMIT YOUR COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FIRST TO ITEM 6, WE WILL BEGIN WITH SUPERVISOR SOLIS.

SUP. SOLIS: YES, THANK YOU SO MUCH, MADAM CHAIR, AND I WANT TO THANK MY COLLEAGUES TODAY, BECAUSE TODAY WE'RE GOING TO BE DISCUSSING, I THINK, SOME VERY IMPORTANT MOTIONS RELATED TO THIS PROJECT THAT ARE SO IMPORTANT, NOT JUST TO ME, BUT TO THE MANY RESIDENTS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY, INCLUDING THE FIRST DISTRICT. THEY ARE, IN MY OPINION, A CULMINATION OF YEARS OF

WORK, PARTNERSHIP WITH THE COMMUNITIES THAT I REPRESENT, AS WELL AS MAKE UP A GOOD PORTION OF LOS ANGELES, THE CITY. I ALSO WANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE LETTERS OF SUPPORT RECEIVED FROM THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS: GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSON, CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICE SECRETARY MARK GHALY, MAYOR KAREN BASS AND HER TEAM, COUNCILMEMBER EUNISSES HERNANDEZ, COUNCILMEMBER NITHYA RAMAN, COUNCILMEMBER HUGO SOTO-MARTINEZ, COUNCILMEMBER KEVIN DE LEON. AND I WOULD ESPECIALLY LIKE TO THANK ALL THE ELECTED OFFICIALS AND THEIR REPRESENTATIVES WHO ARE HERE WITH US TODAY. I ALSO WANT TO POINT OUT OTHER INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE BEEN UNIQUELY ENGAGED IN THIS EFFORT FOR THE LAST, I WANT TO SAY, ALMOST SEVEN YEARS. THANK YOU TO ROSA SOTO, HEATHER HAYS, AND ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH INNOVATION COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP, FOR CONTINUING TO PUT THE NEEDS OF OUR RESIDENTS FIRST AND FOREMOST. AND OF COURSE, I ALSO WANT TO THANK OUR PROVIDERS, OUR COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS, WHO ARE NUMEROUS, AND OUR UNION PROVIDER, S.E.I.U. 721. I WANT TO THANK ALL OF YOU WHO ARE HERE IN PERSON, REPRESENTING OUR COMMUNITY, FROM LABOR, WHO ARE TAKING TIME OUT OF THEIR VERY BUSY HOLIDAY SCHEDULE TO BE WITH US TODAY. THE FIRST MOTION WE ARE DISCUSSING IS THE NEXT PHASE OF THE RESTORATIVE CARE VILLAGE AT LOS ANGELES GENERAL MEDICAL CENTER. I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE A MOMENT, IF I MIGHT, MADAM CHAIR, TO RECOGNIZE THE TREMENDOUS WORK DONE BY OUR COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, WHO HAVE HELPED THIS PROJECT AND MADE IT A

REALITY. TO THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH-- I SEE OUR DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTOR HERE, LISA WONG-- I WANT TO THANK HER, ESPECIALLY-- CONNIE DRAXLER, AND DR. AMANDA REESE FOR ALL THAT THEY HAVE DONE TO HELP MOVE THESE PROJECTS ALONG AND FORWARD, IN IDENTIFYING, IN PARTICULAR, CRUCIAL FUNDING SOURCES TO SUPPORT THIS INITIATIVE. I ALSO WANT TO THANK THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH, ESPECIALLY DR. BARBARA FERRER, DR. GARY TSAI, AND ANTONNE MOORE, FOR ENSURING SUBSTANCE YOUTH SERVICES WOULD BE A KEY PART OF THE RESTORATIVE CARE VILLAGE. AND I MOST IMPORTANTLY WANT TO THANK DR. CHRISTINA GHALY, JORGE OROZCO, AND DR. BRAD SPELLBERG, FOR BEING SUPPORTIVE PARTNERS IN THIS JOURNEY, SHARING THEIR CAMPUS FOR THESE PROJECTS. OF COURSE, THESE PROJECTS DON'T JUST HAPPEN OVERNIGHT. WE DO IT WITH FINE LEADERSHIP. THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND I PERSONALLY WANT TO RECOGNIZE MARK PESTRELLA, VINCENT YU, AND ALICIA RAMOS, AND CARISSA TAMMER, FOR ALSO HELPING US OUT ON THIS EFFORT. IT HAS BEEN A LONG JOURNEY, NO DOUBT. THERE WERE MANY DOUBTERS, BUT HERE WE ARE TODAY, AND I AM SO PLEASED TO SEE SO MANY OF YOU HERE. AND NONE OF THIS, OF COURSE, WOULD BE DONE WITHOUT THE SUPPORT OF OUR C.E.O., FESIA DAVENPORT. AND ALSO, I WANT TO THANK JOHN COOKE, WHO HAS BEEN AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS; VANESSA MOODY; AMIR ALAM; AND OUR C.E.O. BUDGET TEAM, FOR THEIR CONTINUOUS ENGAGEMENT IN THIS PROJECT. WITH THAT, I WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS THE NEXT PHASE OF THE RESTORATIVE CARE VILLAGE. THESE ACTIONS

REPRESENT NEARLY FIVE YEARS OF WORK, HAND-IN-HAND WITH OUR COMMUNITY, MANY OF WHOM ARE HERE TODAY TO SEE THIS THROUGH. NEARLY FIVE YEARS AGO, THIS BOARD WAS IN A PROCESS OF SPENDING OVER $1 BILLION TO REPLACE THE MEN'S CENTRAL JAIL. BUT WE REALIZED THEN, AND WE RECOGNIZE NOW, THAT WE COULD NOT CONTINUE WITH THE STATUS QUO OF JAILING OUR WAY OUT OF THIS CRISIS. FRANKLY, THAT OUTDATED APPROACH HELPED FUEL THE PRESSING CRISIS THAT OUR COUNTY FACES TODAY. THE CRIMINALIZATION OF POVERTY, MENTAL HEALTH, SUBSTANCE ABUSE, HAS CONTRIBUTED OVERWHELMINGLY TO OUR HOMELESSNESS CRISIS, FURTHERING OUR NEED FOR LOW-INCOME, AFFORDABLE, AND SUPPORTIVE HOUSING. ANGELENOS, AS YOU KNOW, ARE WITNESSING THESE CRISES RIGHT NOW, AND MANY ARE SEEING IT RIGHT NOW IN OUR OVERCROWDED JAILS. AND THERE'S AN OVERWHELMING NUMBER OF HOMELESS PEOPLE THAT NOW GO TO OUR EMERGENCY ROOMS IN OUR HOSPITALS, BECAUSE THEY ARE UNHOUSED, AND THEY NEED HELP, AND THEY NEED TREATMENT. I DON'T THINK I NEED TO REMIND ANYONE THAT OUR TWO MOST EXPENSIVE COUNTY BEDS, QUITE FRANKLY, ARE OUR JAIL AND OUR EMERGENCY ROOM BEDS, WHICH IS PREPOSTEROUS. AND SADLY, OUR JAILS HAVE BECOME THE DE FACTO LARGEST MENTAL HEALTH FACILITY IN THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES. PEOPLE, AS YOU KNOW, ARE CYCLING BETWEEN THESE COSTLY COUNTY SYSTEMS, WHILE THE CRISIS CONTINUES TO GROW. AND ALMOST FIVE YEARS AGO, WE WERE FACED WITH A DECISION: DO WE CONTINUE DOWN THE SAME PATH, OR DO WE CHANGE? DO WE PIVOT TO SOMETHING NEW, SOMETHING TO BREAK THAT

CYCLE? AND WE KNOW THE ANSWER BECAUSE, AS A BOARD, WE DECIDED SEVERAL YEARS AGO TO UNDERTAKE INITIATIVES THAT DEFINED OUR NORTH STAR, AND THAT WAS THE ADOPTION OF THE CARE FIRST, JAILS LAST INITIATIVES. SINCE THAT DAY, TOGETHER, WE AS A BOARD, HAVE TAKEN SIGNIFICANT ACTIONS TO STEER THIS BEHEMOTH BUREAUCRACY TOWARDS REAL CARE-FIRST SOLUTIONS. WE SAID, "NO MORE JAILS." RATHER, WE NEED TO FOCUS ON BUILDING OUT OUR CONTINUUM OF CARE TO BETTER SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITIES, WITH SERVICES SUCH AS MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES. IT IS NO SURPRISE THAT WE ARE IN A TREMENDOUS NEED FOR THESE BEDS ACROSS THE SPECTRUM, FOR THOSE WHO NEED THIS HELP: A HELPING HAND WITH MEDICATION MANAGEMENT, OPEN RESIDENTIAL BEDS, TO SERVICING OUR MOST ACUTE NEIGHBORS WHO ACQUIRE MORE ATTENTION AND CARE IN A SETTING THAT PROMOTES HEALING AND WELLNESS. IN MY OPINION, WE NEED TO PROVIDE MORE NONPUNITIVE SETTINGS, AND OPTIONS THAT GIVE OUR MOST VULNERABLE RESIDENTS A CHANCE-- A REAL CHANCE-- AND OPPORTUNITY TO HEAL. FROM DAY ONE, I HAVE EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF DOING THIS WORK IN COLLABORATION WITH COMMUNITY. IN MY DISTRICT, WE LAUNCHED THE HEALTH INNOVATION COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP, SO WE COULD NOT ONLY HEAR FROM THE COMMUNITY, BUT WORK WITH THEM ON HOW THE COUNTY COULD MEET THEIR NEEDS: THE NEEDS OF THOSE THAT THEY SERVE, AND THOSE THAT ARE MOST VULNERABLE. THEY HAVE INFLUENCED THE DIRECTION I HOPE TO GO THROUGH TODAY, WITH THE SUPPORT OF THIS BOARD. THEY HAVE AMPLIFIED THE VOICES I HAVE HEARD ACROSS MY DISTRICT, VOICES I

AM SURE YOU ARE HEARING IN MANY OF YOUR DISTRICTS, AND THEY ARE ASKING, "WHAT IS THE COUNTY DOING TO ADDRESS OUR CRISIS?" THIS IS A RESPONSIBILITY THAT I KNOW ALL OF US TAKE TO HEART. AS THE SAFETY NET FOR OUR MOST VULNERABLE RESIDENTS, IT IS INCUMBENT UPON US TO RESPOND IN A COMPASSIONATE MANNER. AND IN THE FIRST DISTRICT, THAT IS WHAT WE INTEND TO DO ON THE CAMPUS OF LOS ANGELES GENERAL MEDICAL CENTER. I HAVE LONG BEEN HONORED TO REPRESENT OUR COUNTY'S FLAGSHIP HOSPITAL. SINCE THE 1930'S, IT HAS PROVIDED WORLD-CLASS CARE TO RESIDENTS ACROSS THE ENTIRE COUNTY. BUT FOR THE PATIENTS WHO VISIT THE MEDICAL CENTER, THE CAMPUS IS MORE THAN JUST A HOSPITAL NOW. IT IS A COMMUNITY INSTITUTION, A SYMBOL OF HOPE, AND A HUB FOR THOSE MOST IN NEED. OVER THE YEARS, THERE HAVE BEEN SIGNIFICANT CHANGES ACROSS THE CAMPUSES, EXPANDING THE CARE OFFERED THERE, AND NOW SERVING AS A LEVEL-ONE TRAUMA CENTER. AND NOW, WHEN THE NEED OF OUR COUNTY IS GREATEST, IT IS TIME FOR THE NEXT STEP IN ITS EVOLUTION. THAT'S WHAT THE RESTORATIVE CARE VILLAGE REPRESENTS: A CORNERSTONE PROJECT THAT WILL DIRECTLY ADDRESS THE MENTAL HEALTH, SUBSTANCE USE, AND HOUSING NEEDS THAT ARE BEING EXPERIENCED CURRENTLY BY OUR MOST VULNERABLE RESIDENTS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY. WE ARE SEEING THIS CRISIS PLAY OUT ACROSS L.A. COUNTY, WHERE TOO MANY ARE SUFFERING WITHOUT HAVING ACCESS TO CARE AND HOUSING THAT THEY NEED TO RECOVER AND TO HEAL. THAT'S WHY, SEVEN YEARS AGO, I WAS APPROACHED BY A GROUP OF DOCTORS, INCLUDING DR. MARK GHALY,

WHO IS NOW OUR STATE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES SECRETARY. WE BROUGHT OUR BEST AND BRIGHTEST MINDS TOGETHER TO FIND A HOLISTIC SOLUTION TO BREAK THE STREETS-TO-EMERGENCY-ROOM CYCLE, THROUGH THE CREATION OF THE HEALTHY VILLAGE. WE ARE IN THE MIDST OF SETTING UP A COMPREHENSIVE CONTINUUM OF CARE TO ADDRESS THE PHYSICAL, THE MENTAL, AND SUBSTANCE USE DEPENDENCY, TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF OUR RESIDENTS. WE ARE BUILDING OUT BEDS AND SERVICES ACROSS LEVELS OF CARE, FROM CRISIS TO ACUTE TO SUBACUTE, AND BEYOND. WE ALREADY HAVE COMPLETED TWO KEY SERVICES IN OPERATION AT THE RESTORATIVE CARE VILLAGE, AND I INVITE THE PUBLIC TO GO VISIT THEM. AT THE RECUPERATIVE CARE CENTER, WE HAVE 96 BEDS OPERATED BY J.W.C.H. INSTITUTE, FOR PATIENTS WITH CHRONIC HEALTH NEEDS THAT NO LONGER NEED EMERGENCY CARE, BUT ARE STILL TOO ILL TO GO HOME. AND SADLY, THEY WOULD GO BACK TO THE STREETS, HAD THESE BEDS NOT BEEN PROVIDED. AT THIS CENTER, WE SERVE MANY UNHOUSED RESIDENTS, PROVIDING LONG-TERM SPACE TO HEAL, WITH WRAPAROUND SERVICES TO HELP WHEN THEY LEAVE THE FACILITY. WE ALSO HAVE 64 BEDS OF CRISIS RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT ON THE CAMPUS, TO ADDRESS THE ACUTE MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS OF OUR PATIENTS. THROUGH THESE FOUR 16-BED FACILITIES, WHICH WERE CONFIGURED TO COMPLY WITH THE FEDERAL I.M.D. EXCLUSION, RESIDENTS CAN STAY FOR MONTHS IN A CARE-DRIVEN SETTING TO ADDRESS THEIR ACUTE BEHAVIORAL NEEDS. THESE TWO PROGRAMS ARE ALREADY MAKING A PROFOUND IMPACT ON THE LIVES OF THOSE MOST IN NEED. BUT WE KNOW IT IS NOT ENOUGH,

WHICH IS WHERE THE NEXT PHASE COMES IN FOR THE RESTORATIVE CARE VILLAGE. THE NEXT MAJOR UNDERTAKING IS THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW MENTAL HEALTH URGENT CARE CENTER ON CAMPUS. THE CENTER WILL PROVIDE 24-HOUR STABILIZATION FOR PEOPLE IN CRISIS, BOTH ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS, WHERE THEY CAN BE ASSESSED FOR MEDICATION EVALUATION, AND IF NECESSARY, FURTHER HOSPITALIZATION. THIS CENTER WILL NOT ONLY HELP DECOMPRESS THE CROWDED PSYCH BEDS AT L.A. GENERAL, BUT IT WILL ALSO SERVE AS A DIRECT DROP-OFF POINT FOR OUR FIRST RESPONDERS. AND IT CAN ALSO REFER PATIENTS TO OTHER FACILITIES THAT ARE PLACED THERE AT THE RESTORATIVE CARE VILLAGE, IF THEY NEED FURTHER HELP. BUT IN ADDITION TO MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS, WE ALSO KNOW THERE IS A PRESSING SUBSTANCE USE CRISIS, AND THE TWO ARE OFTEN CO-OCCURRING, AS WE WELL KNOW. THIS IS WHY, ATOP THE URGENT CARE CENTER, WE ARE BUILDING A RESIDENTIAL WITHDRAWAL MANAGEMENT FACILITY. IT WILL PROVIDE BEDS FOR STABILIZATION AND WRAPAROUND SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH SUBSTANCE ABUSE DEPENDENCY. THIS INCLUDES MOTIVATIONAL INTERVIEWING, COUNSELING, CARE COORDINATION, AND 24/7 NURSING CARE. ONCE THEY ARE SOBERING, AND WITHDRAWAL NEEDS ARE MET, PATIENTS WILL BE EASILY CONNECTED TO LONG-TERM PROGRAMS IN THE COMMUNITY, WHERE THEY CAN CONTINUE THEIR JOURNEY TO RECOVERY. THAT IS IN THE IMMEDIATE NEXT PHASE FOR THE RESTORATIVE CARE VILLAGE. AND BECAUSE DEMAND WILL CONTINUE TO OUTPACE CAPACITY, SHORTLY AFTER, WE WILL WORK TO EMBARK UPON THE CREATION OF A

PSYCHIATRIC SUBACUTE FACILITY, TO ADDRESS THE LONG-TERM SUBACUTE MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS OF OUR RESIDENTS. THIS FACILITY WILL FEATURE SUBACUTE BEDS FOR LONG-TERM PSYCHIATRIC CARE FOR PEOPLE WHO NO LONGER MEET THE CRITERIA FOR ACUTE CARE, BUT ARE NOT READY TO LIVE IN AN OPEN BOARD-AND-CARE FACILITY. IN ADDITION, THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND WRAPAROUND SERVICES NURSING CARE WILL BE AVAILABLE 24/7. AND ALONG WITH THE RESIDENTIAL WITHDRAWAL MANAGEMENT BEDS, D.M.H. AND D.P.H. HAVE IDENTIFIED SUBACUTE MENTAL HEALTH BEDS AS THE MOST PRESSING NEED IN OUR COMMUNITY. IN TOTAL, THESE TWO PHASES OF THE RESTORATIVE CARE VILLAGE WILL BRING 160 NEW BEDS TO OUR COUNTY, TO DESPERATELY NEEDED INDIVIDUALS, ADDING TO THE 160 THAT HAVE ALREADY BEEN CREATED ON CAMPUS. THESE BEDS, AS YOU KNOW, WILL PLAY A PIVOTAL ROLE IN MANY OF OUR COUNTY'S INITIATIVES. SUPERVISOR HAHN, I KNOW DECOMPRESSING OUR JAILS IS AN INITIATIVE THAT YOU TAKE SERIOUSLY, AND I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTNERSHIP ON THESE EFFORTS. THE PSYCHIATRIC SUBACUTE FACILITY IS CENTRAL TO OUR DEPARTMENT'S PLAN TO CREATE CARE-DRIVEN SETTINGS FOR THE P-3 AND P-4 POPULATION, AS WELL AS THE M.I.S.T. AND F.I.S.T. POPULATION. SUPERVISOR MITCHELL, I KNOW YOU HAVE DONE EXTENSIVE WORK TO ENSURE WE ARE CARING FOR OUR M.I.S.T. POPULATION, SO I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR WORKING WITH ME, SO THIS SPACE CAN PROVIDE THE SERVICES THAT WE HAVE LONG FOUGHT FOR. THE SUBACUTE BEDS WILL UTILIZE THE CRITICAL A.B. 900 DOLLARS YOU FOUGHT SO HARD TO BRING DOWN TO

THE COUNTY. IT WILL ALSO BE FUNDED UTILIZING $10 MILLION IN D.M.H. SALES TAX REALIGNMENT DOLLARS, AND $7.3 MILLION OF OUR J.C.O.D. ALTERNATIVE CRISIS RESPONSE FUNDING, AND $16.9 BILLION OF A.R.P.A. FUNDS. AND THANKS TO THE STATE, $20 MILLION OF THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH C.I.P. FUNDS WILL ALSO BE MADE AVAILABLE. THEY WILL ALSO PROVIDE SERVICES TO MANY OF OUR UNHOUSED RESIDENTS, WHO ARE LANGUISHING IN THE STREETS WITHOUT LONG-TERM CARE. AND THE FACILITY WILL PROVE PIVOTAL TO OUR COUNTY'S EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO HOMELESSNESS. ULTIMATELY, THE GOAL OF THE RESTORATIVE CARE VILLAGE IS A COMPLETE CONTINUUM OF CARE, AN ALTERNATIVE TO INCARCERATION AND HOMELESSNESS. AND IT IS A REGIONAL PROJECT. I DON'T WANT TO SAY THAT I AM SELFLESSLY SAYING THAT IT IS JUST GOING TO SERVE DISTRICT-ONE RESIDENTS, WHEN WE HAVE PEOPLE COMING FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTY, CURRENTLY, TO RECEIVE CARE IN OUR RECUPERATIVE BEDS NOW. AND THIS WILL ALSO INCLUDE ACCESS TO HOUSING THAT WE ARE BUILDING ON THE CAMPUS: 300 UNITS OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING, AND OF COURSE THE REIMAGINING OF THE HISTORIC GENERAL HOSPITAL, WHICH WE'LL BE DISCUSSING SHORTLY. AND I WANT TO MAKE CLEAR WITH THIS PROJECT THAT WE ARE UTILIZING COUNTY ASSETS TO ADDRESS OUR TOP BOARD-ADOPTED PRIORITIES: UPLIFT MARGINALIZED COMMUNITY MEMBERS, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH COMMUNITY, TO ADDRESS THE HIGHEST NEEDS. MADAM CHAIR, THERE ARE ALSO A FEW SMALL EDITS THAT I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO READ INTO THE MOTION TO CLARIFY FUNDING TOTALS. IF I MIGHT, MADAM CHAIR, ON PAGE

SEVEN, IN THE "FISCAL IMPACT FINANCING" SECTION, STRIKE THE FIGURE "$34,983,000," AND REPLACE IT WITH "$34,750,000," AND MAKE THE SAME CORRECTION ON DIRECTIVE 11. AND ON PAGE 8, ALSO THE "FISCAL IMPACT FINANCING" SECTION, PLEASE STRIKE THE FIGURE $92,220," AND REPLACE IT WITH $91,220." COLLEAGUES, I WOULD AGAIN LIKE TO GO BACK TO THE MOMENT NEARLY FIVE YEARS AGO. WE WERE TRULY ON THE BRINK OF BUILDING A NEW JAIL, AND NOW THE LOT WHERE A NEW JAIL WAS PROPOSED, THE SITE IS NOW HOME TO THE CARE-FIRST VILLAGE, PROVIDING 232 UNITS OF INTERIM HOUSING FOR OUR UNHOUSED RESIDENTS THAT LIVE IN THE CITY OF L.A. AND THE SURROUNDING AREA. AND INSTEAD OF A JAIL, ALL OF US ARE SETTING UP RESTORATIVE CARE VILLAGES IN OUR RESPECTIVE DISTRICTS. THIS IS MONUMENTAL, AND FUNDAMENTAL, AND A TANGIBLE IMPROVEMENT THAT WE ARE DELIVERING TO THE RESIDENTS OF L.A. COUNTY. WE CAN GO FURTHER, AND WE MUST, AND I DO BELIEVE THE TIME IS NOW. I ALSO WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY DEEP APPRECIATION TO THE FIRST-DISTRICT RESIDENTS, FOR STANDING UP AND WANTING TO BE A PART OF THE SOLUTION, BY WELCOMING THESE SERVICES IN THEIR BACKYARD. I HOPE THIS CAN SET AN EXAMPLE THAT ENCOURAGES OTHER COMMUNITIES TO STEP FORWARD AND TO DO THE SAME, AND I AM DEEPLY, DEEPLY GRATEFUL TO THIS BOARD FOR OUR CONTINUED SHARED PURPOSE, MOVING THE COUNTY TO SERVE THE GREATER COMPASSION AND GREATER CARE FOR ALL OF OUR RESIDENTS, AND ESPECIALLY THOSE THAT ARE MOST VULNERABLE. WITH THAT, MADAM CHAIR, I RESPECTFULLY ASK FOR YOUR AYE VOTE.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. SUPERVISOR HAHN?

SUP. HAHN: THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR. AND THANK YOU, SUPERVISOR SOLIS, FOR BRINGING THIS FORWARD TODAY, AND YOUR VISION FOR THE TRUE CARE FIRST, JAIL LAST PRIORITY THAT THIS BOARD HAS REPEATEDLY VOWED TO ACHIEVE. THESE NEW MENTAL HEALTH FACILITIES AND SUBSTANCE USE FACILITIES AT THE L.A. GENERAL RESTORATIVE CARE VILLAGE ARE URGENTLY NEEDED HERE IN L.A. COUNTY. I KNOW, AS YOU SAID, THIS FACILITY IS PHYSICALLY IN YOUR DISTRICT, BUT THEY WILL UNDOUBTEDLY SERVE RESIDENTS FROM ALL OF OUR COMMUNITIES. YOU KNOW, WE'VE SPENT A LOT OF TIME ON THIS BOARD TALKING ABOUT HOW WE NEED MORE MENTAL HEALTH BEDS, AND MORE SUBSTANCE USE AND TREATMENT FACILITIES, SO IT IS REFRESHING TO FINALLY BE VOTING ON A MOTION THAT IS GOING TO CREATE MORE BEDS BY EXPANDING THE L.A. GENERAL RESTORATIVE CARE VILLAGE, AND IT IS GREAT TO SEE THAT YOUR PARTNERS IN THIS CERTAINLY ARE HERE TODAY. THERE ARE PARTNERS IN LABOR. THERE ARE BUILDING TRADES. I.B.E.W. 11'S HERE. OUR S.I.E.U. WORKERS ARE HERE. THIS IS TRULY GOING TO BE A PROJECT THAT INCLUDES ALL THE STAKEHOLDERS THAT ARE IMPORTANT TO US. I THINK THESE RESTORATIVE CARE VILLAGES ARE GOING TO BE THE FUTURE OF CARE IN L.A. COUNTY, BECAUSE THEY WILL HAVE ALL TYPES OF SERVICES FOR PEOPLE AT DIFFERENT POINTS ALONG THE SPECTRUM OF NEED. I HAVE A RESTORATIVE CARE VILLAGE IN MY

DISTRICT, AT RANCHO LOS AMIGOS, AND I AM ALSO WORKING WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH TO EXPAND IT TO INCLUDE SOME PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING, TO ADD TO THE CONTINUUM OF CARE. AND I THINK IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THIS L.A. GENERAL EXPANSION WILL INCLUDE A MENTAL HEALTH URGENT CARE CENTER, BECAUSE THIS BOARD HAS BEEN EXPANDING ALTERNATIVE CRISIS RESPONSE PROGRAMS HERE IN L.A. COUNTY, AND THERE'S THREE THINGS THAT YOU NEED FOR A STRONG ALTERNATIVE CRISIS RESPONSE SYSTEM: SOMEONE TO CALL, SOMEONE TO RESPOND, AND SOMEWHERE TO GO. AND 9-8-8 NOW GIVES PEOPLE SOMEONE TO CALL. PSYCHIATRIC MOBILE RESPONSE TEAMS PROVIDE SOMEONE TO RESPOND. AND THE LAST PIECE OF THIS PUZZLE HAS ALWAYS BEEN SOMEWHERE TO GO. AND MOST OF THE TIME, THE BEST CHOICE FOR SOMEONE IN CRISIS IS A MENTAL HEALTH URGENT CARE. WE JUST DON'T HAVE ENOUGH OF THEM IN OUR L.A. COUNTY NETWORK, SO ADDING ANOTHER ONE TO OUR INVENTORY WILL STRENGTHEN OUR ALTERNATIVE CRISIS RESPONSE SYSTEM. I SUPPORT THIS MOTION. I SUPPORT YOUR VISION FOR THE L.A. GENERAL RESTORATIVE CARE VILLAGE. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: SUPERVISOR MITCHELL?

SUP. MITCHELL: THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MADAM CHAIR. AND, SUPERVISOR SOLIS, YOU KNOW I COMMEND YOU AND THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH, FOR REALLY DRIVING THIS PROJECT FORWARD, WITH THE M.L.K. RECUPERATIVE

CARE PROGRAM BEING THE FIRST IN THE COUNTY. YOU KNOW I AM A FIRM BELIEVER AND PROUD THAT WE REALLY ARE GOING TO BUILD THIS OUT, COUNTYWIDE, BECAUSE WE KNOW THAT, COUNTYWIDE, WE NEED MORE AFFORDABLE HOUSING, WE NEED JOBS, AND WE CERTAINLY NEED MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT, SO I WANT TO COMMENT YOU. THIS PROJECT IS ON COUNTY LAND, AND GIVEN THAT WE HAVE THESE DEEP NEEDS, WE SHOULD LEVERAGE OUR ASSETS TO SERVE THE HIGHEST NEEDS OF OUR CONSTITUENTS, WITHOUT A QUESTION. I AM CLEAR THAT THIS PROJECT HAS THE POTENTIAL TO DELIVER, POTENTIALLY, OVER 800 UNITS OF HOUSING, AND SO I THINK IT IS REALLY IMPORTANT THAT WE DO ALL THAT WE CAN TO USE THIS ASSET TO THE FULLEST OF ITS POTENTIAL, SO I SUPPORT THAT. I AM GLAD YOU REFERENCED THE I.M.D. RULE. AND I CERTAINLY HOPE THAT ALL OF THOSE YOU SAID, THAT SIGNED ON IN SUPPORT OF THIS MOTION, AND ALL OF THOSE THAT ARE HERE PRESENT TODAY WILL SUPPORT US IN ATTEMPTING TO SECURE AN EXEMPTION TO THAT RULE, BECAUSE WE NEED TO SCALE THESE KINDS OF PROJECTS UP TO MAKE A REAL DENT IN THE NEED OF WHAT WE NEED, IN TERMS OF ALL OF THE SERVICES YOU IDENTIFIED, IN TERMS OF ACUTE SETTINGS, ET CETERA, COUNTYWIDE. SO I AM HOPING, AGAIN, THAT ALL OF OUR PARTNERS HELP US LOBBY OUR FEDERAL FRIENDS TO GET AN EXEMPTION TO THE I.M.D. RULE, BECAUSE THAT'S THE ONLY WAY WE'RE GOING TO BE, AS A COUNTY, BE ABLE TO SCALE THIS UP, AND TO DELIVER THESE SERVICES TO OUR MOST ACUTE CONSTITUENTS. SUPERVISOR SOLIS, YOU MENTIONED TWO COSTLY WAYS IN WHICH WE ARE PROVIDING

SERVICES, OR THE MOST COSTLY. YOU MENTIONED E.R. AND JAIL. I WOULD ARGUE THERE'S A THIRD, AND THAT'S THE STREETS, BECAUSE THAT'S WHERE FAR TOO MANY OF THE PEOPLE WHO NEED THESE SERVICES FIND THEMSELVES. AND WE KNOW THAT THAT'S NOT ONLY A HUMAN COST, WHICH SHOULD BE AT THE TOP OF THE LIST, BUT IT IS ALSO A FINANCIAL COST TO EVERY LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT WHEN PEOPLE ARE NOT IN A PLACE TO BE ABLE TO RECEIVE THE SERVICES AND THE SUPPORT THEY NEED, AND THEY CAN'T GET THAT WELL IN E.R., JAIL, OR, I THINK, THE STREETS. AND SO I THINK THIS SERIES OF MOTIONS THAT WE'RE GOING TO HEAR TODAY, THAT WILL HELP BUILD OUT YOUR MODEL AND VISION, THAT YOU HAVE HELD DEAR FOR MANY, MANY YEARS, WILL ULTIMATELY GET US TO A MORE HUMANE, MORE COST-EFFECTIVE WAY, TO PROVIDE AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND NECESSARY MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENTS TO ANGELENOS IN EVERY CORNER OF THIS COUNTY. SO I WILL BE SUPPORTING YOUR MOTION TODAY.

SUP. SOLIS: THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. SUPERVISOR BARGER, DID YOU HAVE COMMENTS ON THIS ITEM? BEFORE WE MOVE TO THE OTHER TWO, DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS ON THIS ITEM? OKAY. I JUST WANT TO THANK SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP AND VISION FOR L.A. GENERAL MEDICAL CENTER. L.A. COUNTY NEEDS TO BUILD A WIDE RANGE OF BEDS, TO ENSURE WE ARE PROVIDING THE APPROPRIATE

LEVEL OF CARE TO INDIVIDUALS WHEN THEY NEED IT, AND WE HAVE TO ELIMINATE BOTTLENECKS IN OUR SYSTEM. THE RESTORATIVE CARE VILLAGE MODEL IS A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO ENSURE WE ARE BUILDING THESE BEDS, WITH THE EXPECTATION THAT INDIVIDUALS WOULD BE PLACED IN APPROPRIATE LEVELS OF CARE. THIS IS A CRITICAL COMPONENT OF THE A.T.I. PLAN THAT HAS LONG BEEN A VISION OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY, TO REALIZE A CARE-FIRST MODEL IN L.A. COUNTY, AND WE HAVE TO MAKE SURE THAT PLACES LIKE THIS ARE EXPANDED THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY. AS SUPERVISOR HAHN NOTED, THE MENTAL HEALTH URGENT CARE SYSTEM, WHICH I KNOW SHE HAS SO VOCIFEROUSLY CHAMPIONED, IS ALSO CRITICAL TO THIS MODEL. MAKING SURE WE HAVE THESE RESOURCES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY IS THE ONLY WAY WE CAN ACTUALLY FULLY REALIZE THIS MODEL. GENERAL HOSPITAL, OFFERING ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION, IS ALSO HELPING US ACHIEVE ANOTHER GOAL: MAKING SURE THAT WE ARE PROVIDING THESE RESOURCES TO PEOPLE WHO WOULD OTHERWISE BE PLACED IN JAILS IF THEY DIDN'T GET THE HEALTHCARE SUPPORT THAT THEY NEED. AND, SUPERVISOR MITCHELL, YOU ARE ABSOLUTELY RIGHT IN HIGHLIGHTING THE I.M.D. EXCLUSION ISSUE. I KNOW, COMING FROM A LOCAL GOVERNMENT THAT WASN'T AS CLOSELY TIED TO THIS ISSUE, IT WAS VERY SURPRISING TO ME TO UNDERSTAND THAT, BECAUSE OF A FEDERAL LAW, WE ARE NOT ALLOWED TO HAVE MORE THAN 16 UNITS OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES LOCATED ON ONE SITE. AND IN A PLACE LIKE LOS ANGELES, WHEN WE SEE THE MAGNITUDE OF THE CRISIS THAT EXISTS IN OUR COUNTY, TO ONLY BE ABLE TO HELP 16

PEOPLE AT A TIME WILL TAKE US FOREVER TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS THAT WE'RE ACTUALLY LOOKING TO ACHIEVE. AND SO WE WANT TO MAKE SURE WE ARE NOT WAREHOUSING PEOPLE, WHICH I KNOW WAS THE INTENTION OF THIS FEDERAL LEGISLATION, BUT IN PRACTICE, IT JUST DOESN'T MAKE SENSE. SO WE HAVE TO CONTINUE THAT ADVOCACY WORK, BECAUSE WE ARE BEING ASKED TO MOVE MOUNTAINS WITH ONE ARM TIED BEHIND OUR BACKS. I AM VERY EXCITED TO SEE WHAT IS POSSIBLE THROUGH THIS MOTION. I AM ENCOURAGED TO HEAR THE FUTURE DISCUSSION, AND MAKE SURE THAT WE ARE ABLE TO FULLY REALIZE THE POTENTIAL OF THIS SITE, AND ALL THAT WE NEED IT TO BRING TO LOS ANGELES COUNTY FOR ALL OF THE NEEDS WE ARE LOOKING TO SERVE. AT THIS POINT, I DON'T SEE ANY OTHER SUPERVISORS WHO WANT TO SPEAK ON THIS ITEM, SO THIS WOULD CONCLUDE DISCUSSION OF ITEM 6. SO, SUPERVISOR HAHN, WE ARE GOING TO TAKE PUBLIC COMMENT ON ALL THREE AFTERWARDS, SO WE WILL ASK YOU TO JUST TAKE A BRIEF RECESS FOR YOURSELF, AND WE WILL HAVE DISCUSSION ON ITEMS 9 AND 44, SO WE CAN ALSO DISCUSS THE RELATED ITEMS WITH THE OLD GENERAL HOSPITAL.

SUP. SOLIS: YES, THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR. ALONGSIDE THE RESTORATIVE CARE VILLAGE IS OUR GOAL OF REIMAGINING THE ICONIC GENERAL HOSPITAL THAT YOU SEE HERE ON DISPLAY. AND AS WITH THE RESTORATIVE CARE VILLAGE, THIS IS A PROJECT THAT WAS DONE DIRECTLY IN PARTNERSHIP, AGAIN, WITH OUR COMMUNITY. I WANT TO AGAIN THANK THEM FOR THE ONGOING AND CONTINUED PARTNERSHIP,

AND THAT INCLUDES THE HEALTH INNOVATION COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP, MADE UP OF ABOUT 40 DIFFERENT C.B.O.S THAT MET CONSECUTIVELY OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS, AS WELL AS OUR LABOR PARTNERS. I ALSO WANT TO RECOGNIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY FOR THEIR WORK-- KELLY LOBIANCO AND HER TEAM-- FOR HELPING US USHER THIS PIVOTAL PROJECT ALONG. I ALSO WANT TO THANK JESSICA KIM, AND DOUG COHEN ON HER STAFF, TO HELP US REIMAGINE THE GENERAL HOSPITAL. AND AS WITH THE RESTORATIVE CARE VILLAGE, NONE OF THIS WOULD BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE SUPPORT OF FESIA DAVENPORT AND HER TEAM. COLLEAGUES, WE ALL KNOW THE NUMBER-ONE CRISIS FACING OUR COMMUNITIES IS HOMELESSNESS AND THE LACK OF ADEQUATE HOUSING, ESPECIALLY AFFORDABLE HOUSING, TO PREVENT PEOPLE FROM FALLING INTO HOMELESSNESS, TO BEGIN WITH. AND RESIDENTS HAVE DEMANDED BOLD ACTION TO SAFELY AND COMPASSIONATELY BRING PEOPLE INDOORS, WHILE EXPANDING THE COUNTY'S SUPPLY OF HOUSING. AND THAT'S WHY I, AGAIN, WANT TO LEVERAGE THE RESOURCES AND OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE TO US AT THE LOS ANGELES GENERAL MEDICAL CENTER. WE HAVE TAKEN THE NEXT STEP IN REVITALIZING THE HISTORIC GENERAL HOSPITAL, BY ANNOUNCING THE SELECTED DEVELOPER WHO WILL JOIN THE COUNTY IN REPURPOSING THIS ARCHITECTURALLY AND CULTURALLY HISTORIC BUILDING. REVITALIZING THE HISTORIC GENERAL HOSPITAL BUILDING AND DEVELOPING THE SURROUNDING LAND REPRESENTS AN OPPORTUNITY TO CREATE SIGNIFICANT NUMBERS OF HOUSING UNITS, AND THIS IS IN LINE WITH THE COMMUNITY'S DECADES-LONG CALL TO HAVE A HEALTHY

VILLAGE IN THIS AREA. GENERAL HOSPITAL, AS YOU KNOW, OPENED ITS DOOR BACK IN 1930, AND HAS SINCE SERVED AS A BEACON OF HOPE, WHERE MILLIONS OF ANGELENOS FOUND CARE AND HEALING OVER THE YEARS. BUT DUE TO THE DAMAGE FROM THE 1994 NORTHRIDGE EARTHQUAKE, THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CONSTRUCTED A REPLACEMENT HOSPITAL, WHICH OPENED IN 2008, CALLED THE LOS ANGELES GENERAL MEDICAL CENTER. AND SINCE THEN, THE HISTORIC GENERAL HOSPITAL, AS YOU KNOW, HAS BEEN LARGELY VACANT. DESPITE THAT, THE GENERAL HOSPITAL BUILDING AND ITS DISTINCTIVE ART DECO STYLE HAS REMAINED CULTURALLY SIGNIFICANT, BOTH TO OUR COUNTY'S URBAN AND CINEMATIC HISTORY, AND IT MUST BE PRESERVED. TODAY, IT REPRESENTS AN OPPORTUNITY TO HOUSE HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE AND FAMILIES, AND PROVIDE SPACE FOR PROVIDING SERVICES TO OUR COMMUNITY. THE BUILDING IS APPROXIMATELY 1.2 MILLION SQUARE FEET, WITH AN ADDITIONAL 25 ACRES AVAILABLE, SURROUNDING IT. I CAN'T THINK OF ANY OTHER PLACE IN L.A. COUNTY WHERE WE WOULD BE ABLE TO REPLACE THIS, BECAUSE IT IS 19 STORIES. I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANYWHERE THAT YOU COULD FORESEE THIS. WHEN YOU FLY INTO LOS ANGELES, TO L.A.X., THIS BUILDING STANDS OUT. AND IT SEND A MESSAGE, I THINK, TO SOME OF US THAT IT CAN'T BE DESTROYED. IN THAT SPACE, WE CAN CONSTRUCT UP TO 1,000 UNITS OF DESPERATELY NEEDED HOUSING. THE COMMUNITY HAS CALLED FOR LOW-INCOME AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING UNITS, AND THAT IS WHAT WE HOPE TO DELIVER. AND I AM PUSHING FOR THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING

UNITS-- HOPEFULLY, 100%, IF POSSIBLE-- AND COMMUNITY HAS REQUESTED A NEIGHBORHOOD GROCERY MARKET STORE, GREEN SPACES, PUBLIC ART, AND OTHER AMENITIES. AND THAT'S WHY, AT MY DIRECTION, THE COUNTY COMPLETED A FEASIBILITY STUDY WITH A ROBUST, 5-YEAR OUTREACH, TO EVALUATE AND PRIORITIZE THE REUSE OPTIONS FOR REVITALIZING THIS HISTORIC HOSPITAL. FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE COUNTY'S HISTORY, COMMUNITY WAS DIRECTLY ENGAGED, EVEN IN THE EVALUATION PROCESS OF THE COMMUNITY BENEFITS. THIS IS A HISTORIC MOMENT FOR OUR COMMUNITY, BECAUSE THEY HAD A SEAT AT THE TABLE. AND NOW WE ARE UNVEILING A DEVELOPER TO JOIN US IN THIS VENTURE, WHO HAS HAD EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE WORKING WITH THE COUNTY ON OTHER MIXED-USE AND PUBLIC FACILITIES. THE COUNTY IS ALSO CONTRIBUTING $129 MILLION TOWARDS THE CENTRAL REPAIRS AND DESIGN DEVELOPMENT WORK, IN ADDITION TO THE PROPERTY AND THE LAND LEASE. WE HAVE SECURED FUNDING FROM OUR STATE AND FEDERAL PARTNERS, WHO BELIEVE IN THIS PROJECT. FOR EXAMPLE, $50 MILLION HAS COME FROM THE STATE LEGISLATURE, AND $55 MILLION IN THE FEDERAL AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS, IN ADDITION TO $24 MILLION FROM THE FIRST-DISTRICT CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDS. THE HOUSING WILL BE BUILT ON THIS CAMPUS, WILL DIRECTLY ADDRESS OUR HOMELESSNESS CRISIS, WHICH WE KNOW IS PRIMARILY DRIVEN BY THE LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING. THE REUSE OF THE GENERAL HOSPITAL CAN ALSO LEVERAGE THE PHYSICAL HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES THAT WILL BE OFFERED, AND ARE BEING OFFERED, AT THE

RESTORATIVE CARE VILLAGE. AND ULTIMATELY, THE HOPE IS THAT RESIDENTS SERVED AT THE RESTORATIVE CARE VILLAGE CAN RECOVER, CAN BE STABILIZED, AND ACCESS THE HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES THAT WE ARE BUILDING ON THIS CAMPUS. WE WANT TO ENSURE THAT WE ARE HOUSING THOSE RESIDENTS THAT ARE MOST IN NEED. THAT INCLUDES RESIDENTS FROM COMMUNITIES OF COLOR, WHO WERE OVERWHELMINGLY HIT THE HARDEST DURING THE PANDEMIC. WE MUST PROTECT THOSE WHO NEED IT THE MOST, AND DO OUR PART IN LOWERING THE COST OF HOUSING. THAT IS WHAT THE REVITALIZATION OF GENERAL HOSPITAL REPRESENTS. AGAIN, I WANT TO THANK EVERYONE WHO CAME HERE TODAY, AND WHO WE WILL HEAR FROM, IN SUPPORT OF THIS REGIONAL PROJECT. I CAN'T TELL YOU HOW PROFOUNDLY IMPACTFUL THIS HAS BEEN, PERSONALLY, TO ME, AND TO MY STAFF, AND TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE FIRST DISTRICT, AND THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, AND THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES. WITH THAT, MADAM CHAIR, I RESPECTFULLY ASK MY COLLEAGUES TO VOTE AYE ON THIS MATTER. THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. ARE THERE ANY OTHER SUPERVISORS WHO WOULD LIKE TO MAKE REMARKS ON THESE ITEMS? SEEING NONE IN QUEUE, WE CAN NOW WELCOME BACK SUPERVISOR HAHN, SO WE CAN HEAR PUBLIC COMMENT. THAT CONCLUDES OUR DISCUSSION ON ITEMS 9 AND 44. WE WILL NOW MOVE ON TO PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS 6, 9, AND 44, ALL TOGETHER. EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PLEASE

CALL THOSE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO HAVE SIGNED UP TO SPEAK ON THESE ITEMS.

SPEAKER: WILL EUNISSES HERNANDEZ, LOURDES CASTRO RAMIREZ, RAY SOSA, AL BALLESTEROS, ROBERT LOVELACE, SERGIO RASCON, ERNESTO PANTOJA, ANTHONY SANCHEZ, ADRIAN SCOTT FINE, AND ALEJANDRO CASTRO PLEASE COME FORWARD, AND STAFF WILL ASSIST YOU? MODERATOR, MAY WE HAVE THE FIRST REMOTE SPEAKER, PLEASE?

MODERATOR: OUR FIRST PARTICIPANT IS EDWARD OLMOS. YOU MAY BEGIN.

EDWARD JAMES OLMOS: HI. MY NAME IS EDWARD JAMES OLMOS, AND I'M AN ACTOR, PRODUCER, DIRECTOR, AND A RESIDENT OF LOS ANGELES FOR 76 YEARS, AND I JUST WANT TO SAY ONE THING: I AM SO IMPRESSED WITH YOU TODAY, THE ENTIRE BOARD, ESPECIALLY SUPERVISOR SOLIS'S AUTHORING OF ITEM 6 AND ITEM 9. I CAN'T TELL YOU HOW EMOTIONAL THIS DAY HAS BEEN, WITH THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE ARTS CENTER IN SOUTHEAST L.A. TO THIS. NOTHING EXEMPLIFIES THE VALUE AND DIGNITY MORE THAN WHAT SUPERVISOR SOLIS HAS BEEN DOING AND WORKING TOWARD, TO REALIZE OUR COMMUNITY'S NEED TO REIMAGINE THE HISTORIC GENERAL HOSPITAL AND THE SURROUNDING PROPERTIES OF THE CAMPUS OF L. A. GENERAL MEDICAL CENTER. NOTHING. TODAY'S MOTION UPHOLDS PEOPLE'S RIGHTS TO DIGNITY. THESE MOTIONS BEFORE THE BOARD

TODAY ADVANCE HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF OUR COUNTY, BRINGING AN ICONIC COUNTY ASSET BACK TO LIFE TO DELIVER ON COMMUNITY NEEDS, ADDRESSING OUR REGION'S HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS--

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED. GO AHEAD, MR. OLMOS. YOU CAN FINISH YOUR COMMENT.

EDWARD JAMES OLMOS: FOCUSING ON THE WHOLE-COMMUNITY CONCEPT OF CARE, HELPING OUR MOST VULNERABLE POPULATION, AND PROVIDING RECUPERATIVE CARE AND WRAPAROUND SERVICES FOR EMPOWERMENT, AND SUPPORTING A HEALTHY AND ECONOMICALLY PROSPEROUS EASTSIDE COMMUNITY. AND THIS IS FOR THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY, THE ENTIRE COUNTY, AND IN THE ENTIRE STATE.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED.

EDWARD JAMES OLMOS: BLESS YOU. THANK YOU, ALL.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR BEING WITH US. IT IS NICE TO HEAR YOU AND HAVE YOUR PARTICIPATION. BEFORE WE GO TO SPEAKERS ON THE PHONE, WE ARE GOING TO TURN IN PERSON. I KNOW WE HAVE LOURDES RAMIREZ HERE, ON BEHALF OF OUR MAYOR. THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR JOINING US.

LOURDES CASTRO RAMIREZ: GOOD MORNING, HONORABLE CHAIR, MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. AS MENTIONED, I AM LOURDES CASTRO RAMIREZ, AND I'M THE CHIEF OF HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS FOR MAYOR KAREN BASS. MAYOR BASS IS COMMITTED TO URGENTLY BRINGING PEOPLE INSIDE FROM THE STREETS, AND BUILDING A HOUSING AND SERVICES CONTINUUM THAT INCLUDES EXPANDING INTERIM HOUSING, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND PROVIDING ROBUST WRAPAROUND SERVICES, BUT ALSO A COMMITMENT TO ACCELERATING THE CONSTRUCTION OF PERMANENT AFFORDABLE HOUSING. AS YOU ALL MAY KNOW, KAREN BASS STARTED HER JOURNEY IN SERVICE AT THE COUNTY U.S.C. GENERAL HOSPITAL, WORKING AS A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT IN THE EMERGENCY ROOM, SO IT IS PARTICULARLY FITTING TO BE ADDRESSING THIS SITE'S REVITALIZATION TODAY, AS WE LEND SUPPORT FOR ITEMS NUMBER 6, 9, AND 44. THE MAYOR AND I THANK SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR REIMAGINING THE HISTORIC GENERAL HOSPITAL, AND DELIVERING VITAL RESOURCES TO ANGELENOS IN CRISIS. BRINGING HUNDREDS OF UNITS OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING, ALONG WITH A RESTORATIVE CARE VILLAGE WITH A FULL CONTINUUM OF CLINICAL CARE AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES, THIS DEVELOPMENT IS EXACTLY THE KIND OF THOUGHTFUL, ADAPTIVE REUSE NEEDED IN THE CITY AND THE COUNTY.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU.

LOURDES CASTRO RAMIREZ: WE COMMEND SUPERVISOR SOLIS AND THE ENTIRE COUNTY STAFF FOR ALSO INCLUDING A ROBUST COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ELEMENT TO THIS PROCESS. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR BEING HERE ON BEHALF OF THE MAYOR. WE APPRECIATE YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE CONVERSATION TODAY. I KNOW WE HAVE A LOT OF FOLKS IN PERSON, AS WELL AS ON THE PHONE, SO WHAT WE ARE GOING TO DO IS TAKE THE FIRST TEN ON THE PHONE. WE'RE GOING TAKE TEN IN PERSON, AND GO BACK AND FORTH, UNTIL WE COMPLETE ALL SPEAKERS WHO ARE IN THE QUEUE. MODERATOR, PLEASE GO AHEAD WITH SPEAKERS ON THE PHONE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS ERIKA ROGERS. YOU MAY BEGIN. ONE MOMENT, MS. ROGERS. OKAY, YOUR LINE IS OPEN. GO AHEAD, PLEASE.

ERIKA ROGERS: HELLO. MY NAME IS ERIKA ROGERS, AND ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY CLINIC ASSOCIATION OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR PUTTING FORTH AGENDA ITEMS 6 AND 9, RELATED TO THE L.A. GENERAL MEDICAL CENTER. C.C.A.L.A.C. REPRESENTS 66 NONPROFIT COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS. HEALTH CENTERS IN L.A. PROVIDE HIGH-QUALITY, PATIENT-CENTERED HEALTH AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES TO OVER 1.8 MILLION PATIENTS AT MORE THAN 450 SITES

THROUGHOUT L.A. COUNTY. AGENDA ITEM 6 SEEKS TO OFFER COMPREHENSIVE CARE FOR SUBSTANCE USE AND MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS OF RESIDENTS ACROSS LOS ANGELES COUNTY, WHICH ALIGNS WITH THE MISSION OF COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR AUTHORING AGENDA ITEM 9, RELATED TO REVITALIZING THE FORMER GENERAL HOSPITAL CAMPUS. THIS MOTION SEEKS TO PROPOSE AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND EXPAND [INAUDIBLE] SERVICES, WHICH WILL BETTER SERVE ALL THE RESIDENTS OF L.A. COUNTY. THANK YOU.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS ADRIAN TAFOYA. YOU MAY BEGIN.

SPEAKER: BUENOS DIAS. GOOD MORNING, EVERYONE. MY NAME IS ADRIAN TAFOYA. I AM CURRENTLY A SOCIAL WORKER CONTRACTED WITH DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH, WHO HAS SPENT THE LAST TEN YEARS WORKING BOTH AT THE COMMUNITY, COUNTY, AND FEDERAL LEVEL, AND TRYING TO BRING EQUITABLE SERVICES TO THE MOST VULNERABLE. MORE IMPORTANTLY, I AM A PRODUCT AND SON OF THE BOYLE HEIGHTS COMMUNITY, WHO, ALONG WITH MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS, HAVE SPENT A LOT OF TIME, FOCUS, LABOR, AND ADVOCACY IN ADDRESSING HEALTH DISPARITIES IN OUR COMMUNITY. I HAVE ALSO BEEN A PROVIDER AT THE PSYCH WARD DIRECTLY ACROSS FROM GENERAL HOSPITAL, AND I

HAVE SEEN UP CLOSE THE REVOLVING DOOR THAT WE CURRENTLY HAVE IN OUR SYSTEMS OF CARE, THAT HAVE ADDED TO THE DEFICITS OF HOMELESSNESS THAT, AT THIS POINT, TOUCHES EVERY PART OF OUR COUNTY. THIS IS WHY I WANT TO THANK SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR CHAMPIONING THIS PROJECT THAT IS GOING TO ALLOW US TO FINALLY ADDRESS UNDERLYING ISSUES--

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED. MODERATOR, NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS SUPANA ROXAM. YOU MAY BEGIN.

SPEAKER: HI. MY NAME IS SUPANA ROXAM, AND I WORK IN CHINATOWN, WITH [INAUDIBLE]. I WORK DIRECTLY WITH LINCOLN HEIGHTS YOUTH AND CHINATOWN FAMILIES, WHO ARE CONSTANTLY AT RISK OF BEING EVICTED OR PRICED OUT OF THEIR HOMES. WE ALSO WORK WITH MANY SENIORS WHO ARE ON FIXED INCOMES, AND LIVE IN S.R.O.S AND SLUM HOUSING. THESE SENIOR TENANTS ARE BARELY HANGING ON, AND THEY'RE PAYING AS LITTLE AS $340 A MONTH FOR RENT, SO THE REDEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTY U.S.C. HOSPITAL REPRESENTS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR OUR SENIORS TO RETIRE IN DIGNITY AND WITH VITAL COMMUNITY SUPPORT, AS OPPOSED TO CONSTANTLY WORRYING ABOUT WHETHER THEIR NEXT RENT INCREASE WILL LEAD TO HOMELESSNESS. SO WE WANT TO THANK YOU, SUPERVISOR SOLIS, FOR

AUTHORIZING ITEMS 9 AND 44, AND WE ASK ALL OTHER SUPERVISORS TO VOTE ON THESE MOTIONS. WE ALSO ASK THAT THE PROJECT PROVIDE DEEPER AFFORDABILITY, AND IDENTIFY WAYS TO OFFER LOCAL RESIDENTS PRIORITY IN NEWLY CONSTRUCTED HOUSING UNITS AND THE JOBS THAT THIS PROJECT WILL GENERATE. THANK YOU.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS TAWNY LOFTESS. YOU MAY BEGIN.

SPEAKER: HI, GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS TAWNY LOFTESS. I AM FROM THE PRISM WAY. I WANTED TO START BY THANKING SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR AUTHORING ITEMS 6 AND 9. AS SOMEONE WHO WORKS IN THE MIDDLE OF DOWNTOWN L.A., EVERY DAY, I SEE THE OVERWHELMING PROBLEM OF THOSE WHO ARE IN CRITICAL NEED OF HOUSING, MENTAL HEALTH, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT. I, PERSONALLY, HAVE STRUGGLED AND DEALT WITH SUBSTANCE ABUSE, MENTAL HEALTH DIAGNOSIS, HOMELESSNESS, AND INCARCERATION. THE IDEA OF THE WHOLE-PERSON AND THE WHOLE-COMMUNITY CONCEPT OF CARE, I BELIEVE, IS SO IMPORTANT IN HELPING OUR MOST VULNERABLE POPULATION, BY PROVIDING CARE, AS WELL AS WRAPAROUND SERVICES. I BELIEVE THIS WILL HELP OUR COMMUNITY WHERE IT IS THE MOST NEEDED. SO I ASK, IN CLOSING, TO RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THE BOARD FOR THE SUPPORT OF THIS MOTION. THANK YOU.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS KAREN LAW. YOU MAY BEGIN.

KAREN LAW: GOOD MORNING, SUPERVISORS. MY NAME IS KAREN LAW, AND I'M ON THE BOARD OF THE LOS ANGELES CHINATOWN COMMUNITY LAND TRUST. I'M HERE TO VOICE OUR SUPPORT AND APPRECIATION FOR SUPERVISOR SOLIS, FOR AUTHORING ITEM 6 AND ITEM 9, BOTH WHICH SUPPORT THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE OLD GENERAL HOSPITAL. WE ARE GLAD TO SEE THAT THIS DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIZES THE NEEDS OF SOME OF THE MOST VULNERABLE GROUPS IN OUR COMMUNITY. THE CAUSES OF HOMELESSNESS ARE COMPLEX, VARIED, AND INTERCONNECTED, AND THE SOLUTIONS NEED TO BE COMPREHENSIVE. THESE NEW PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES WILL HOPEFULLY NOT ONLY PROVIDE STABLE HOUSING NEEDED TO RECOVER, BUT ALSO THE WRAPAROUND THERAPEUTIC SERVICES, AS WELL. WE APPLAUD SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR CONTINUING TO STEWARD PROJECTS THAT FOCUS ON THE COMMUNITY'S NEEDS, WHILE ALSO USING EXISTING RESOURCES AND ASSETS TO DO SO. SO, TO THAT END, I RESPECTFULLY REQUEST YOUR SUPPORT FOR THESE MOTIONS. THANK YOU.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS WILLIAM LOPEZ. YOU MAY BEGIN.

SPEAKER: HI. GOOD MORNING, GUYS. ALL RIGHT, I STRONGLY SUPPORT THIS NEW PROJECT THAT YOU GUYS ARE WORKING ON. WE ACTUALLY REALLY NEED IT. AND BY ALL MEANS, HOPEFULLY, YOU GUYS CAN PASS THE MOTION, AND TRY AND KEEP ALL THE HOMELESS PEOPLE AWAY FROM THE METRO AND ALL THE ESSENTIAL PLACES THAT WE NEED TO GET TO POINT "A" TO POINT "B." SO THANK YOU, GUYS.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS DANIELLE DELANEY. YOU MAY BEGIN.

DANIELLE DELANEY: HELLO, SUPERVISORS. MY NAME IS DANIELLE DELANEY, AND I AM THE MENTAL HEALTH POLICY DIRECTOR OF THE ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY HUMAN SERVICE AGENCIES, OR A.C.H.S.A. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR AUTHORING ITEM 6, FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE RESTORATIVE CARE VILLAGE, AND ITEM 9, FOR THE REVITALIZATION OF L.A. GENERAL HOSPITAL. FROM A CRITICAL SHORTAGE OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING TO ALARMING RATES OF COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH NEED, L.A. COUNTY IS FACING MULTIPLE CRISES THREATENING THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF RESIDENTS. TODAY'S MOTIONS WILL CREATE SERVICES AND RESOURCES FOR WHICH

THE COUNTY IS IN DIRE NEED BY SUPPORTING OUR MOST VULNERABLE POPULATIONS AND PROVIDING RECUPERATIVE CARE AND WRAPAROUND SERVICES, BY FOCUSING ON WHOLE-PERSON AND WHOLE-COMMUNITY CARE, AND ADDRESSING THE COUNTY'S HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS CRISIS. A.C.H.S.A. WHOLEHEARTEDLY SUPPORTS THE PROVISION OF FULLY SUPPORTIVE HOUSING AND SERVICES FOR THOSE WITH SEVERE MENTAL ILLNESS, WITH PHYSICAL HEALTH COMORBIDITIES, AND/OR IN CRISIS, WITH ACCESS PROVIDED TO ALL RESIDENTS ACROSS L.A. COUNTY; THAT IS, HOUSING FIRST, BUT NOT HOUSING ALONE. TO THAT END, A.C.H.S.A. RESPECTFULLY REQUESTS YOUR SUPPORT OF THIS MOTION. THANK YOU.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS DEANNA STANLEY. YOU MAY BEGIN.

SPEAKER: HI. MY NAME IS DEANNA STANLEY, AND I THANK ALL OF THE REST OF THE SPEAKERS, SO FAR. MY POINT, HOWEVER, WHAT HAS NOT BEEN SAID, IS THAT, SIMPLY, THIS IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO. WE NEED THESE SERVICES, AND, SUPERVISOR SOLIS, YOU ARE AN AMAZING CHAMPION, AND I AM VERY PROUD TO LIVE IN YOUR DISTRICT, AND WORK IN YOUR DISTRICT. THE EFFORTS BY YOU AND THE BOARD, COLLABORATIVELY, TO ADDRESS WHAT SIMPLY NEEDS TO BE DONE IS

AMAZING. SO, TO THAT END, I RESPECTFULLY REQUEST YOUR SUPPORT OF THIS MOTION. THANK YOU.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS ZOYLA BRAVO. YOU MAY BEGIN.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: ZOYLA, GO AHEAD.

MODERATOR: ZOYLA BRAVO, GO AHEAD.

SPEAKER: HELLO?

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: YES, WE CAN HEAR YOU. GO AHEAD.

SPEAKER: [SPEAKS SPANISH].

SPEAKER: YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED. WE WILL NOW HEAR THE ENGLISH INTERPRETATION OF THIS COMMENT.

TRANSLATOR: HELLO. GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS ZOYLA RAMOS, AND I AM HERE TO THANK, OR CALLING IN TO THANK, SUPERVISOR SOLIS ON MOTION NUMBER 6, WHICH WILL OPTIMIZE AND HELP OUR COMMUNITY, AND WHICH IS THE BUDGETS AND AWARD DESIGN-BUILD CONTRACT FOR THE LOS ANGELES GENERAL MEDICAL CENTER, RESIDENTIAL WITHDRAWAL

MANAGEMENT FACILITY, MENTAL HEALTH URGENT CARE CENTER PROJECTS, AND THE PSYCHIATRIC SUBACUTE FACILITY. THE ALARMING NUMBERS OF MENTAL HEALTH AND WHAT WE HAVE WITH HOMELESSNESS IN OUR COMMUNITIES HAS IMPACTED. THANK YOU.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS ERNEST PANTOJA. YOU MAY BEGIN.

ERNESTO PANTOJA: GOOD MORNING, HONORABLE CHAIR, SUPERVISORS. MY NAME IS ERNESTO PANTOJA, CALLING ON BEHALF OF SERGIO RASCON, BUSINESS MANAGER OF LABORERS LOCAL 300. OBVIOUSLY, WE ARE CALLING IN SUPPORT OF ITEMS 6 AND 9, MOST IMPORTANTLY BECAUSE IT WILL CREATE GOOD-PAYING JOBS. BUT WHAT A LOT OF PEOPLE DON'T REALIZE IS THE BUILDING TRADES TAKE ON A ROLE WHERE WE PUT PEOPLE INTO GOOD JOBS, THAT ARE FORMERLY INCARCERATED. AND I WANT TO APPLAUD WHAT SUPERVISOR SOLIS IS DOING HERE. A LOT OF PEOPLE DON'T REALIZE A LOT OF THESE MEMBERS, THESE APPRENTICES, WHO MAY BE ONE STEP FROM MOVING BACKWARDS AND GOING BACK TO PRISON, SUFFER FROM MENTAL ILLNESS, SUBSTANCE ABUSE; THEY NEED THE SUPPORT. I, CURRENTLY, AM DEALING WITH SEVERAL MEMBERS WHO ARE HOMELESS, LIVING IN THEIR CARS. I THANK SUPERVISOR HOLLY MITCHELL AND CAROLINE TOROSIS FOR HELPING US FIND HOUSING FOR THEM. THIS IS MUCH

NEEDED, NOT JUST FOR THE JOBS, BUT FOR OUR PEOPLE THAT SUFFER FROM THESE THINGS EVERY DAY. AND OUR JOB IS TO TRY TO GET THEM TO MOVE FORWARD, NOT BACKWARD, SO WE ASK YOU TO PLEASE SUPPORT THESE MOTIONS. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU, AND YOUR MEMBERS ARE STANDING HERE IN THE CHAMBERS, SO WE SEE YOU. WE'RE NOW GOING TO GO TO THE NEXT TEN SPEAKERS HERE IN PERSON. GO RIGHT AHEAD.

RAY SOSA: RAY SOSA, CHIEF PLANNING OFFICER WITH THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR AUTHORING ITEMS 6, 9, AND 44. FROM A CRITICAL SHORTAGE OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING TO ALARMING RATES OF MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES, LOS ANGELES COUNTY IS CONFRONTING MULTIPLE CRISES, THREATENING PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE DIGNITIES OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE AND FAMILIES. AS THE PROVIDER AND OPERATOR OF PUBLIC TRANSIT, METRO EXPERIENCES THIS CRISIS EVERY DAY, AS OUR BUSES AND TRAINS TAKE PEOPLE WHERE PEOPLE SEEK SHELTER, SAFETY, AND BASIC MOBILITY TO SERVICES, EDUCATION, AND JOBS. SUPERVISOR SOLIS HAS BEEN A STEADFAST CHAMPION OF INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS TO ENSURE ALL RESIDENTS LIVE WITH DIGNITY. WE SUPPORT THE ITEMS THAT SHE HAS PROPOSED, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOU ALL PASSING THE MOTIONS. THAN YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

ROBERT LOVELACE: MY NAME IS ROBERT LOVELACE. I REPRESENT THE WESTERN STATES COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS, 90,000 MEMBERS STRONG. THIS IS A VERY BIG DEAL. I WAS HERE FIVE YEARS AGO, AND I KNOW HOW MUCH HARD WORK HAS BEEN PUT IN THIS. I AM GOING TO BREAK THE RULES. I'M GOING TO BE PRESUMPTUOUS, AND I AM GOING TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR YES VOTE ON THESE MOTIONS. THIS IS ABSOLUTELY GROUNDBREAKING, AND I FEEL THE EMOTION HERE, BECAUSE IT IS PART OF US, TOO. WE, AS CARPENTERS, ARE ONE OF THE LEADERS IN PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR THOSE WHO HAVE PREVIOUSLY MADE A MISTAKE AND ARE LOOKING FOR A CHANCE TO CHANGE THEIR LIVES. WE BELIEVE IN THIS, IN EVERY CORE OF OUR BODY. THIS HAS BEEN A VERY LONG JOURNEY, SO THANK YOU, STAFF. WE KNOW HOW MUCH HARD WORK IT IS, AND WE KNOW, INEVITABLY, WHEN GOVERNMENT TRIES TO DO SOMETHING, THERE'S SOME OBSTACLE THAT COMES UP THAT NOBODY EVER ANTICIPATED, AND YOU ARE GIVEN THE JOB TO FIGURE IT OUT. SO THANK YOU FOR THAT. AND LASTLY, I JUST WANT TO SAY, I KNOW HOW HARD YOU WORK, INDIVIDUALLY, AS MEMBERS, AND COLLECTIVELY, TO MAKE THE LIVES OF ANGELENOS BETTER DURING THE HOLIDAYS. ALL THE LITTLE THINGS YOU DO, THANK YOU FOR THAT.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

ARI GUTIERREZ ARAMBULA: HI. MY NAME IS ARI GUTIERREZ ARAMBULA. I WANT TO SAY THAT I RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTERS FROM EACH OF YOU, AND SO I KNOW HOW HARD YOU WORK TO SUPPORT THE COUNTY, YOUR CONSTITUENTS, AND I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR THAT. I AM A FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE LATINO EQUALITY ALLIANCE, AN L.G.B.T. ADVOCACY ORGANIZATION THAT SERVES BOYLE HEIGHTS, S.E.L.A., AND ALL PEOPLE, L.G.B.T. AND LATINO. I AM ALSO A MEMBER OF THE HEALTH INNOVATION COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP, HAVE WORKED ON EVERY COMMITTEE, INCLUDING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, AND HAVE HEARD FROM THE COMMUNITY WHAT THEY WANT TO SEE FROM THE COUNTY, AND WHAT THEY EXPECT ON GENERAL HOSPITAL. THEY WANT THEIR PUBLIC FACILITY TO BE USED FOR SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY, AND THE NEEDS THAT THEY NEED ARE MANY. I URGE THE E.N.R. TO GO FORWARD, SO THAT THE CONTRACTORS CAN LEARN MORE ABOUT WHAT THIS ENTAILS.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

ADRIAN SCOTT FINE: GOOD MORNING. ADRIAN SCOTT FINE, INCOMING PRESIDENT AND C.E.O. FOR THE LOS ANGELES CONSERVANCY, AND I AM HERE TO SPEAK IN STRONG SUPPORT TO REINVEST, ADAPTIVELY REUSE, AND REACTIVATE THE HISTORIC GENERAL HOSPITAL FOR MUCH-NEEDED AFFORDABLE HOUSING. CONSTRUCTED AS A MONUMENT TO MODERN MEDICINE, GENERAL HOSPITAL REVEALS IMPORTANT STORIES ABOUT EQUITY AND PUBLIC HEALTHCARE IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY. IT ALSO

DEMONSTRATES HOW HISTORIC BUILDINGS ARE INCREDIBLY ADAPTABLE FOR NEW, HUMANE USES, AND THE NEED TO REINVEST, KEEP, AND NOT DEMOLISH WHAT WE ALREADY HAVE, ESPECIALLY WHEN IT ALSO HONORS THE HERITAGE OF OUR COMMUNITY. THE PLAN FOR GENERAL HOSPITAL'S REUSE WILL BE TRANSFORMATIVE FOR THE COMMUNITY, AND LONG IN THE MAKING, AND WE THANK ALL THOSE INVOLVED, NOTABLY SUPERVISOR SOLIS AND HER TEAM, AND HER SUSTAINED LEADERSHIP IN BRINGING THIS EFFORT FORWARD. I SPEAK IN SUPPORT AND REUSE OF HISTORIC GENERAL HOSPITAL, AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

AL BALLESTEROS: YES, HI. GOOD MORNING. I'M AL BALLESTEROS. I'M THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF J.W.C.H. INSTITUTE. THANK YOU VERY MUCH, SUPERVISOR SOLIS, FOR BRINGING THIS MOTION FORWARD. THANK YOU, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, FOR TAKING UP THIS MOTION. SO, WE ARE YOUR LARGEST HOMELESS PROVIDER IN SKID ROW, IN TERMS OF MEDICAL SERVICES. LAST YEAR, WE SERVED 16,280 INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS. THE PROJECT AT GENERAL HOSPITAL, IN THE RESTORATIVE VILLAGE, IS GOING TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR DOCTORS, OUR MENTAL HEALTH STAFF, TO REFER, AND TO HELP PATIENTS AND CLIENTS GO FROM DIFFERENT LEVELS OF CARE THAT ARE NEEDED. I ASKED OUR DOCTORS AND OUR MENTAL HEALTH STAFF AND PSYCHIATRISTS WHAT THE BIGGEST NEEDS ARE NOW, WITH RESPECT TO THEIR WORK IN SKID ROW WITH HOMELESS

INDIVIDUALS, AND WHAT THEY ALL SAID, UNIFORMLY, WAS THAT THERE ARE NO SUBACUTE BEDS IN SKID ROW FOR PATIENTS. THE CLOSEST OPTIONS ARE COUNTY HOSPITAL.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU.

AL BALLESTEROS: AND UNFORTUNATELY, A LOT OF THE TIME, INDIVIDUALS GET SENT TO EMERGENCY ROOMS BECAUSE THERE'S NOT ADEQUATE ACCESS. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

ALEJANDRO CASTRO: [SPEAKS SPANISH].

TRANSLATOR: GOOD MORNING, SUPERVISORS. I AM A RESIDENT OF BOYLE HEIGHTS. MY NAME IS ALEJANDRO CASTRO, AND I AM HERE TO SUPPORT MOTIONS 6, 9, AND 44. I AM GRATEFUL IN A VERY SPECIAL WAY TO SUPERVISOR SOLIS, AND ALSO FOR BEING THE AUTHOR OF MOTION 6, AND TO APPROVE THE PROJECTS AND THE BUDGETS FOR THE MEDICAL ATTENTION AND URGENT CARE FOR MEDICAL MENTAL HEALTH IN THE GENERAL MEDICAL CENTER OF LOS ANGELES, AND TO ESTABLISH THE CENTER FOR PSYCHIATRIC CARE. I AM ALSO GRATEFUL AND SUPPORT THE REHABILITATION OF OUR VINTAGE HOSPITAL, GENERAL AND WEST CAMPUS, WHICH WILL OPTIMIZE THE BENEFITS OF THE COMMUNITY. AND ALSO, IT WILL PROVIDE ACCESSIBLE RESIDENCIES,

AND ALSO REDUCE THE ALARMING RATES OF MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES THAT WE HAVE. AND IT WILL BENEFIT THE FAMILIES, AS WELL. I SUPPORT THE MOTION. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. WELCOME, MADAM COUNCILMEMBER.

EUNISSES HERNANDEZ: I AM SO EXCITED AND HONORED TO BE ABLE TO BE HERE WITH YOU ALL IN THIS CAPACITY. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR HAVING ME. GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS EUNISSES HERNANDEZ. I AM THE COUNCILMEMBER THAT REPRESENTS THE FIRST DISTRICT, HERE IN THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES, AND I AM HERE TODAY TO SPEAK IN SUPPORT OF ITEMS 6, 9, AND 44 ON THE AGENDA TODAY. IT IS TRULY EXCITING THAT THE COUNTY IS AT A POINT OF NOT ONLY KICKSTARTING THE REDEVELOPMENT OF THIS HISTORIC GENERAL HOSPITAL TO DELIVER MUCH-NEEDED HOUSING AND COMMERCIAL SERVICES TO THIS AREA, BUT IT IS COMPLEMENTING, AND IT IS DOING THIS WITH THE CREATION OF A SORELY NEEDED RESTORATIVE CARE VILLAGE. WE HAVE BEEN TALKING ABOUT RESTORATIVE CARE VILLAGES FOR YEARS, AND I AM GETTING GOOSEBUMPS RIGHT NOW, BECAUSE THIS IS GOING TO MAKE IT HAPPEN. THE R.C.V.'S RESIDENTIAL WITHDRAWAL MANAGEMENT FACILITY MENTAL HEALTH URGENT CARE CENTER AND PSYCHIATRIC SUBACUTE FACILITY WILL BE AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE TO INVEST IN CARE-FIRST APPROACHES TO MEETING OUR COMMUNITY NEEDS. TOGETHER, THESE PROJECTS WILL FORM A HUB TO PROVIDE SORELY NEEDED SPECIAL CARE

AND SERVICES TO SUPPORT THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF OUR MOST VULNERABLE COUNTY AND CITY RESIDENTS. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF YOU, AND THE SUPERVISORS, THE LEADERS OF OUR COUNTY, MANY OF MY SHEROES, FOR YOUR GUIDELINE AND YOUR LEADERSHIP TO BRING THESE PROJECTS TO FRUITION, AND WOULD ESPECIALLY LIKE TO THANK SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR HER LEADERSHIP IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE R.C.V., AND FOR ENSURING THAT THESE PROJECTS ARE MEETING THE NEEDS OF LOCAL COMMUNITY, BY PRIORITIZING DEEP ENGAGEMENT AND WORKFORCE OPPORTUNITIES. THANK YOU, CHAIRWOMAN.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NICE TO SEE YOU HERE. WE WILL NOW CALL MORE NAMES OF SPEAKERS IN PERSON, BEFORE WE GO TO OUR NEXT CALLERS.

SPEAKER: WILL ALICIA GODINEZ, ANDREA FULLER, ANDREA ZUNIGA, ANTHONY MARTINEZ, ARMANDO ESCOBAR, ARNOLD SACHS, ASTRID HEGER, BOANEREZ MARTINEZ, DIEGO RODRIGUES, EDITH AGUILAR, EUGENE MOY, EVA GARCIA, FANNY GUZMAN, FREDERICK GRIFFIN, AND GABRIELA ORONA PLEASE COME FORWARD. AND STAFF WILL ASSIST? MODERATOR, MAY WE HAVE THE FIRST REMOTE CALLER, PLEASE?

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS ROSARIO LOPEZ. YOU MAY BEGIN.

SPEAKER: [SPEAKS SPANISH].

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: WE WILL NOW HEAR THE ENGLISH INTERPRETATION OF THIS COMMENT.

TRANSLATOR: GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS ROSARIO LOPEZ, AND I AM CALLING TO SUPPORT MOTIONS 6, 9, AND 44, AND I AM EXTREMELY PROUD OF THE WORK, AND BEING ABLE TO HAVE WORKED ALONGSIDE SUPERVISOR HILDA SOLIS. GOD WILLING, YOU APPROVE THIS MOTION. SUPERVISOR SOLIS HAS FOUGHT HARD WITH US, ALONGSIDE WITH US, AND WE JUST REALLY WANT TO THANK YOU, AND HOPE THAT YOU APPROVE THE MOTION. THANK YOU.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS EMANUEL MATAMOROS. YOU MAY BEGIN.

SPEAKER: HELLO. GOOD MORNING, EVERYONE. MY NAME IS EMANUEL, AND I LIVE AND WORK IN THE EAST SIDE AS A RESIDENT, AND ALSO A TENANT CONSULTANT FOR STAY HOUSED L.A. I SUPPORT ITEM 9 AND 44. AND THANK YOU, SUPERVISOR SOLIS, FOR AUTHORING THESE ITEMS, AND THEN ALSO INCLUDING THE SELECTED DEVELOPER TO WORK WITH THE L.A.C.+U.S.C. MEDICAL CENTER FOUNDATION TO ENSURE A STRONG COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROCESS DURING THE EXCLUSIVE NEGOTIATION AGREEMENT PROCESS. IT IS VERY CRUCIAL TO CONTINUE

TO SEND THE COMMUNITY INPUT THERE IN THE [INAUDIBLE] PROCESS, TO ENSURE THAT THE USES FOR THE GENERAL HOSPITAL TRULY SERVE EXISTING RESIDENTS, PREVENT DISPLACEMENT, SUPPORT EXISTING AND NEW MODES OF TRANSPORTATION, AND SET STRONG AFFORDABLE HOUSING REQUIREMENTS THAT GIVE LOCAL RESIDENTS AN OPPORTUNITY TO APPLY AND QUALIFY FOR FUTURE UNITS. I JUST THINK THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO ALSO ADD TO THE [INAUDIBLE] PROCESS, MAYBE SETTING STRONG REQUIREMENTS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING TO ENSURE, RIGHT, THAT EXISTING RESIDENTS IN THE EAST SIDE ARE ABLE TO QUALIFY FOR THESE--

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED. MODERATOR, NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS OSCAR DE LA O. YOU MAY BEGIN.

OSCAR DE LA O: GOOD MORNING, SUPERVISORS. I WANT TO SPEAK IN FAVOR OF THE MOTIONS BEING CONSIDERED. I THANK SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR BRINGING THEM FORWARD, FOR PUTTING FORTH A VISION OF THIS IMPORTANT AREA. AT BIENESTAR HUMAN SERVICES, WHERE I WORK, WE BELIEVE THAT THIS EFFORT WILL WIDEN ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE, BY CREATING A SYSTEM OF CARE THAT IS FOUNDED ON THE WHOLE-PERSON CARE; THAT IT WILL PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE NETWORKS OF CARE AND PARTNERSHIP IN THE COMMUNITY; AND IT WILL

REMOVE THE SILOS IN CARE THAT, MANY TIMES, PROVIDE A FRAGMENTED SYSTEM OF CARE, AND DOESN'T DEAL WITH THE WHOLE-PERSON CARE. I ENCOURAGE ALL OF YOU TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THIS EFFORT, AND TO CONTINUE--

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED. MODERATOR, NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS ALEX ALVARADO. YOU MAY BEGIN.

SPEAKER: PLEASE BEGIN.

MODERATOR: ALEX?

SPEAKER: MODERATOR, MAY WE HAVE THE NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE?

SPEAKER: YES, YES, YES. NO, I'M HERE. I'M HERE. I'M SORRY. I REPRESENT THE SCHOLARS FACTORY AND URBAN ZONES, AND I'M CALLING FOR ITEMS 6 AND 9, WHICH I SUPPORT. I'M SITTING HERE BY MACARTHUR PARK, AND I STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT THIS IS NECESSARY FOR OUR COMMUNITY. WHEN WE START LOOKING AT HOMELESSNESS AS A HUMAN RIGHT, WE NEED TO ADDRESS THAT, AND I APPLAUD SUPERVISOR HILDA SOLIS AND EVERYBODY ON THE BOARD, AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME. GOD BLESS.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS RUTH RIVERA. YOU MAY BEGIN.

RUTH RIVERA: HI. GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS RUTH RIVIERA. I AM WITH THE EAST LOS ANGELES WOMEN'S CENTER. AND FIRST AND FOREMOST, I JUST WANT TO THANK SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR HER ALWAYS STEADFAST APPROACH AND INNOVATIVE WAYS OF TRYING TO TAKE CARE OF OUR COMMUNITY. AND AS SOMEONE WHO IS COLLOCATED AT THE WELLNESS CENTER HERE AT LOS ANGELES GENERAL MEDICAL CENTER, WE NOTICE HOW MUCH WE ARE ABLE TO TAKE CARE OF THE INDIVIDUALS AS A WHOLE PERSON, SEE THEM, AND TRY TO COME UP WITH GREAT WAYS OF TAKING CARE OF OUR COMMUNITY. AND JUST LIKE OUR DIRECTOR SAYS-- OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, BARBARA KAPPOS-- HEALING AN INDIVIDUAL IS HEALING A COMMUNITY, AND I THINK THAT THAT'S THE BEST APPROACH THAT THE FIRST DISTRICT HAS ALWAYS DONE. SO I RESPECTFULLY ASK FOR THE APPROVAL OF ITEMS 6 AND 9. THANK YOU.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS DIANE VALENCIA. YOU MAY BEGIN.

SPEAKER: HELLO. I AM DIANE VALENCIA, AND I WORK AT THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN COMMUNITY ALLIANCE, WITH LOW-INCOME YOUTH FROM CHINATOWN AND LINCOLN HEIGHTS. MANY OF OUR FAMILIES ARE LIMITED-ENGLISH PROFICIENT, AND GETTING DISPLACED AWAY FROM THEIR COMMUNITY MEANS BEING UNABLE TO ACCESS JOBS AND HEALTHCARE AND OTHER VITAL COMMUNITY SERVICES [INAUDIBLE]. THIS REDEVELOPMENT OF COUNTY U.S.C. HOSPITAL IS A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE JOBS, HOUSING, AND HEALTH FOR OUR LOW-INCOME COMMUNITIES, ALL ON ONE CAMPUS. AND WE THANK SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR HER LEADERSHIP IN ENSURING THAT COUNTY U.S.C. REMAINS A RESOURCE FOR OUR MOST VULNERABLE ANGELENOS. WE ASK THE SUPERVISORS TO VOTE FOR ITEMS 9 AND 44, BUT ASK THAT THE PROJECT PROVIDE DEEPER AFFORDABILITY, AND TO IDENTIFY WAYS TO OFFER LOCAL RESIDENTS PRIORITY IN THE NEW CONSTRUCTION HOUSING UNITS AND THE JOBS THAT THIS PROJECT WILL GENERATE. THANK YOU.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS ROBERT CONTRERAS. YOU MAY BEGIN. ONE MOMENT, MR. CONTRERAS. OKAY, THE LINE IS OPEN. GO AHEAD, SIR.

ROBERT CONTRERAS: GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS ROBERT CONTRERAS. I'M THE PRESIDENT AND C.E.O. FOR BIENESTAR HUMAN SERVICES.

TODAY, I WANT TO EXPRESS OUR GRATITUDE FOR SUPERVISOR SOLIS, FOR HER LEADERSHIP IN BRINGING FORWARD ITEMS 6, 9, AND 44, A TESTAMENT OF HER UNWAVERING COMMITMENT TO OUR COMMUNITY'S WELLBEING. IN THE FACE OF CRITICAL SHORTAGE OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND ESCALATING MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES, LOS ANGELES COUNTY GRAPPLES WITH CRISES THAT IMPACT THE LIVES OF THOUSANDS. SUPERVISOR SOLIS, A STEADFAST CHAMPION OF INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS, HAS WORKED TIRELESSLY TO ENSURE THAT ALL RESIDENTS CAN LIVE WITH DIGNITY. THESE MOTIONS ARE PIVOTAL IN ADVANCING THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF OUR COMMUNITIES BY REVIVING AN ICONIC COUNTY ASSET, ADDRESSING THE HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS CRISIS, AND EMBRACING A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO CARE THAT CONSIDERS THE WHOLE PERSON AND ENTIRE COMMUNITY. THIS SPECIFICALLY TARGETS OUR MOST VULNERABLE POPULATION, PROVIDING MUCH-NEEDED RECUPERATIVE CARE--

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED. MODERATOR, NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS GILBERT SALDATE. YOU MAY BEGIN.

GILBERT SALDATE: YES. MY NAME IS GILBERT SALDATE. I WORK FOR THE GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS. I AM THE DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL HOMELESSNESS PROGRAM. I WANT TO THANK SUPERVISOR

SOLIS FOR BEING THE CHAMPION OF THIS, FOR ITEM 6 AND ITEM 9. AS A RESIDENT OF ALHAMBRA, BUT ALSO GROWING UP IN NORTHEAST LOS ANGELES, AS A CHILD, THAT HOSPITAL BROUGHT MUCH HEALING INTO MY LIFE, AND WAS A LIFESAVER FOR MY MOM. AND I BELIEVE THAT, WITH THESE ITEMS THAT I SUPPORT, THAT THEY WILL CONTINUE TO BE AN IMPACT IN HEALING, A HISTORICAL HEALING, THAT GENERAL HOSPITAL HAS DONE. SO I SUPPORT IT. THE COMMUNITY HAS SPOKEN, AND I THINK THAT WE NEED TO APPRECIATE WHAT THE WORDS OF THE COMMUNITY ARE, AND VOTE FOR THESE TWO ITEMS. THANK YOU, HILDA, AND GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: WE'RE NOW GOING TO SPEAKERS IN PERSON. GO RIGHT AHEAD.

ANDREA FULLER: HI. MY NAME IS ANDREA FULLER, DIRECTOR OF THE COMMUNITY PROGRAMS AND SERVICES DIVISION AT TARZANA TREATMENT CENTERS. WE PROVIDE DETOX, RESIDENTIAL, AND OUTPATIENT DRUG TREATMENT SERVICES THROUGHOUT LOS ANGELES COUNTY. TODAY'S MOTION BEFORE THE BOARD UPHOLDS PEOPLE'S RIGHTS TO DIGNITY. FROM CRITICAL SHORTAGES OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING TO ALARMING RATES OF MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES, LOS ANGELES COUNTY IS CONFRONTING MULTIPLE CRISES, THREATENING PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE DIGNITIES OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE AND FAMILIES. THANK YOU, SUPERVISOR SOLIS, FOR BRINGING THIS MOTION. AS A BEHAVIORAL

HEALTHCARE CENTER, WE RESPECTFULLY ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT ON THIS MOTION. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

ARMANDO ESCOBAR: GOOD MORNING, MEMBERS OF THE BOARD, AND GENERAL PUBLIC, AND SUPERVISORS, EVERYONE. MY NAME IS ARMANDO ESCOBAR, AND I'VE BEEN LIVING IN THIS COUNTY SINCE 1974. IN 1975, ONE OF MY DAUGHTERS WAS BORN AT GENERAL HOSPITAL. IN 1980, I BOUGHT MY HOME AT CYPRESS PARK, AND IT WAS HARD FOR ME AT THAT TIME. COULD YOU IMAGINE HOW HARD IT IS AT THIS MOMENT, TO BUY A HOME ON THOSE AREAS? TODAY, I AM HERE TO SUPPORT AND ASK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT FOR HILDA SOLIS' ITEMS 6 AND 9, FOR THE LOS ANGELES GENERAL MEDICAL CENTER TO PROVIDE SORELY NEEDED AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND MENTAL HEALTH. THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR ATTENTION.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

ANTHONY MARTINEZ: GOOD MORNING, SUPERVISORS. MY NAME IS ANTHONY MARTINEZ. I'M THE OPERATIONS COORDINATOR WITH THE S.E.L.A. COLLABORATIVE. FROM A CRITICAL SHORTAGE OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING TO ALARMING RATES OF MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES, LOS ANGELES COUNTY IS CONFRONTING MULTIPLE CRISES, THREATENING PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE DIGNITIES OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE AND

FAMILIES. SUPERVISOR SOLIS HAS BEEN A STEADFAST CHAMPION OF INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS TO ENSURE ALL RESIDENTS CAN LIVE WITH DIGNITY. TO THAT END, WE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST YOUR SUPPORT OF THIS MOTION, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH THE SUPERVISORS TO CONTINUE TO PRIORITIZE EQUITABLE INVESTMENTS IN COMMUNITIES WITH THE GREATEST NEEDS. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

ALICIA GODINEZ: [SPEAKS SPANISH].

TRANSLATOR. HELLO, GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS ALICIA GODINEZ, 31 YEARS OF LIVING IN LOS ANGELES CITY. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK SUPERVISOR HILDA SOLIS FOR THESE MOTIONS. AND I WOULD LIKE, ALSO, THAT THOSE PEOPLE THAT CAN POSSIBLY RENT AN AFFORDABLE-HOUSING HOME WOULD BE ABLE TO, AND TO SUPPORT SMALL BUSINESSES. WE WOULD ALSO LIKE A RESTAURANT WITH HEALTHY FOODS, AND ALSO SO TRAFFIC ISN'T SO CONGESTED, SO WE'RE ABLE TO WALK. I'M ALSO REQUESTING, RESPECTFULLY, YOUR SUPPORT ON THESE MOTIONS. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

FANNY GUZMAN: HI. GOOD MORNING, EVERYBODY. MY NAME IS FANNY GUZMAN, AND I'M HERE WITH EL SERENO COMMUNITY LAND TRUST, AND

I INVITE OUR COMMUNITY LAND TRUST ECOSYSTEM TO STAND UP WITH ME, PLEASE. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR AUTHORING ITEM NUMBER 6. SUPERVISOR SOLIS HAS BEEN A STEADFAST CHAMPION OF INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS TO ENSURE ALL RESIDENTS CAN LIVE WITH DIGNITY, BUT NOTHING EXEMPLIFIES THE VALUE OF DIGNITY MORE THAN HER WORK. IN THE COMMUNITY'S VISION TO REIMAGINE THE HISTORIC GENERAL HOSPITAL AND ITS SURROUNDING PROPERTIES ON THE CAMPUS OF L.A. GENERAL MEDICAL CENTER, COMMUNITY VOICES AND PRIORITIES HAVE BEEN CENTRAL IN GETTING US TO THIS POINT, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUED ENGAGEMENT WITH THE ELECTED DEVELOPERS TO HELP US IN REALIZING A HEALTHY VILLAGE, BOTH IN AND AROUND THE HISTORIC GENERAL HOSPITAL. TO THAT END, I RESPECTFULLY REQUEST YOUR SUPPORT IN THIS MOTION. THANK YOU SO MUCH.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

EUGENE MOY: GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS EUGENE MOY. I AM A NATIVE OF L.A., AND A LIFELONG RESIDENT OF L.A. COUNTY. I AM HERE REPRESENTING, OR SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF, THREE ORGANIZATIONS: THE CHINESE AMERICAN CITIZENS ALLIANCE, C.A.C.A., WHICH HAS BEEN IN L.A. SINCE 1912; THE CHINATOWN COMMUNITY LAND TRUST; AND ALSO, THE CHINATOWN COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL CENTER OF GREATER L.A. WE ARE IN SUPPORT OF MOTIONS 6, 9, AND 44. WE BELIEVE IN AFFORDABLE HOUSING, SUPPORTING THE DIGNITY OF OUR

RESIDENTS OF OUR COMMUNITY. FROM A PERSONAL STANDPOINT, I HAVE TRANSPORTED COMMUNITY FRIENDS MORE THAN ONCE TO COUNTY GENERAL, TO THE EMERGENCY ROOM, AND IT WAS EVIDENT THAT DESPITE THE HEROIC WORK THAT THE STAFF WAS DOING, THAT ALTERNATIVES WERE NEEDED, AND WE APPLAUD THE SUPERVISOR FOR SUPPORTING A NEW DIRECTION TO HELP OUR COMMUNITY. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

DIEGO RODRIGUES: GOOD MORNING. I'M DIEGO RODRIGUES, EXECUTIVE V.P. OF ALMA, A MENTAL HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES PROVIDER SERVING BOYLE HEIGHTS AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES. FIRST, I WANT TO THANK SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR AUTHORING THESE MOTIONS, WHICH FURTHER DEMONSTRATES HER CONTINUED LEADERSHIP IN ADDRESSING HEALTH DISPARITIES AND UPHOLDING THE DIGNITY AND OVERALL WELFARE FOR ALL INDIVIDUALS. ITEMS 6, 9, AND 44 WILL PROPEL US FORWARD IN THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE OLD GENERAL HOSPITAL INTO A RESTORATIVE SPACE, WITH A SPECIFIC FOCUS ON COMPREHENSIVE CARE AND HOUSING. AS A MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDER SERVING OUR UNHOUSED COMMUNITY MEMBERS, I CAN'T OVERSTATE THEIR URGENT NEED FOR THIS PROJECT AS A LIFELINE FOR OUR MOST VULNERABLE POPULATION. AS A MEMBER OF THE HEALTH INNOVATION COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP, WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH THE SELECTED DEVELOPER TO ESTABLISH THIS TRANSFORMATIVE VILLAGE. I RESPECTFULLY ASK FOR YOUR FULL SUPPORT. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: [SPEAKS SPANISH].

TRANSLATOR: HELLO. GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS EDITH AGUILAR. I AM A RESIDENT OF BOYLE HEIGHTS IN LOS ANGELES, AND I AM HERE TO THANK SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR BEING THE MAIN AUTHOR OF MOTIONS 6, 9, AND 44. SUPERVISOR SOLIS HAS BEEN A BEACON IN FIGHTING TO FIND THESE INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR THE RESIDENTS TO LIVE WITH DIGNITY. THESE PROJECTS WILL ALLOW US TO HAVE AFFORDABLE HOUSING, AND TO HAVE BETTER OPPORTUNITIES FOR EMPLOYMENT, AS WELL AS HAVING A MARKET THAT WILL BE HEALTHY. THESE WILL HELP THE MOST VULNERABLE POPULATION, AND IT WILL ALSO BRING AND RESTORE ALL OF THE SERVICES AND EMPOWERMENT TO THE COMMUNITY. THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY. I AM THANKFUL I AM A REPRESENTATIVE OF BOYLE HEIGHTS.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: NEXT SPEAKER.

BOANERGEZ MARTINEZ: HELLO. MY NAME IS BOANERGEZ MARTINEZ, AND I'M A PEER SUPPORT SPECIALIST FOR THE PRISM WAY ORGANIZATION. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR HER VISION IN ITEMS 6, 9, AND 44, WHICH I AM IN FAVOR FOR AND SUPPORT GREATLY. REBUILDING FACILITIES LIKE THE GENERAL HOSPITAL, THAT OFFERS

PROPER MENTAL HEALTHCARE AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE CARE, IS VITAL TO POVERTY COMMUNITIES WHO NORMALLY DON'T HAVE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE SERVICES. AS I WAS WALKING DOWN THE STREET THE OTHER DAY, AN UNHOUSED WOMAN APPROACHED ME, AND SHE ASKED ME FOR SOME MONEY. AS I GAVE HER MONEY, I PRAYED FOR HER, AND I TOLD HER THAT SHE HAD VALUE AND WORTH. AND AS SHE CRIED, SHE TOLD ME, "THANK YOU FOR ACKNOWLEDGING ME AND NOT PASSING ME BY, LIKE OTHERS DID." ONE THING THAT WE ALL HAVE IN COMMON IN THIS ROOM IS THE NEED TO BE LOVED AND SUPPORTED, AND HAVING A COMMUNITY THAT BUILDS AND BRINGS HOPE BY HAVING SOMEONE THAT WILL RECEIVE YOU WHEN YOU'RE AT YOUR WORST. AND THAT'S WHAT SUPERVISOR SOLIS IS DOING, IS GIVING HOPE TO PEOPLE THAT FEEL LIKE THEY'RE DEVALUED, AND FEEL THAT THEY HAVE NO WORTH. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER. THAT PAINTING IS BEAUTIFUL.

EVA GARCIA: [SPEAKS SPANISH].

TRANSLATOR: HELLO. GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS EVA GARCIA, AND I AM AN ORGANIZER WITH THE COMMUNITY POWER COLLECTIVE, AND I'M ALSO A MEMBER OF [INAUDIBLE], AND I SUPPORT 6, 9, AND 44. FIRST OF ALL, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR BEING ABLE TO ADDRESS THESE ITEMS. AND ALSO, IT'S IMPORTANT THAT THE

COMMUNITY BE INVOLVED AND BE PART OF THE PROCESS FOR E.N.A., AND ALSO TO GUARANTEE THE USE OF THE GENERAL HOSPITAL THAT WILL REALLY SERVE THE RESIDENTS OF THE COMMUNITY. AND AS AN ORGANIZER OF TENANTS, I ALSO SEE THE NEED FOR AFFORDABLE LIVING, AS WELL AS THE ACCESSIBLE CONDITIONS-- OR THE LACK OF CONDITIONS-- AND WE DON'T WANT JUST 30%. WE WANT 80%, BECAUSE OUR COMMUNITY NEEDS IT, AND WE'RE HERE LOOKING AT THE NEED IN A LEVEL THAT IS JUST EXCESSIVE IN THIS MARKET. AND LIKE I'VE ALWAYS SAID BEFORE, LIVING IN RESIDENCY IS A HUMAN RIGHT, AND WE DO NOT WANT MARKETED LIVING. WE WOULD LIKE THIS TO BE ACCESSIBLE FOR ALL OF THE COMMUNITY.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

DR. ASTRID HEGER: GOOD MORNING. THANK YOU FOR INCLUDING ME. I'M DR. ASTRID HEGER. I AM THE FOUNDER AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE LARGEST CHILD ABUSE PROGRAM IN THE UNITED STATES, WHICH IS ALSO SITUATED AT THE MEDICAL CENTER. I'M HERE TO REMIND US AND SPEAK IN FAVOR OF THE RESTORATIVE VILLAGE, WHICH I THINK IS ESSENTIAL IN THE CONTINUUM OF MENTAL HEALTH CRISES THAT WE ARE CONSTANTLY FACING IN THIS COUNTY. BUT I ALSO WANT US TO ALWAYS REMEMBER WHERE IT STARTS, AND THAT 70% OF THOSE WHO LIVE ON THE STREETS, AND 70% OF THOSE WHO WILL BE GOING INTO THE RESTORATIVE VILLAGE ARE PRODUCTS OF OUR FOSTER CARE SYSTEM, AND THAT AS WE PLAN AND AS WE MOVE FORWARD, THAT

WE NEED TO TAKE A REALLY STRONG STAND ON PREVENTION. I REMEMBER BEING A MEDICAL STUDENT WHEN THE MEDICAL CENTER WAS SEEN AS THIS AMAZING CITY OF HOPE ON A HILL, WHERE EVERYONE CAME, AND I HOPE WE CONTINUE TO SEE IT THAT WAY. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU SO MUCH. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

SPEAKER: WOULD THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS PLEASE COME FORWARD, AND STAFF WILL ASSIST: GERALDO LEON, IRMA CERVANTEZ, JENNIFER GARCIA, JESSICA HERNANDEZ, JOSE GARCIA, JOSE MIGUEL RUIZ, JOSE RODIO, JUANA MENA OCHOA, JULIE RICO, KAREN GLENN, KENYA REESE, KIMBERLY ALVARADO, AND LILLIAN CABRAL.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: NEXT SPEAKER, GO AHEAD. GO AHEAD.

SPEAKER: OKAY. [SPEAKS SPANISH].

TRANSLATOR: GOOD MORNING. WE BELONG TO THE ORGANIZATION OF THE COMMUNITY POWER COLLECTIVE IN WHITTIER BOULEVARD, AND MY NAME IS GABRIELA ORONA. WE ARE STREET VENDORS, AND WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR HER SUPPORT-- AND HER TEAM, AS WELL-- FOR BEING ABLE TO APPROVE THE DESIGN AND THE CONTRACT FOR THIS CONSTRUCTION. THIS WILL HAVE A HUGE IMPACT, NOW THAT WE ARE VERY MANY VULNERABLE PEOPLE, BUT EVEN THOUGH WE ARE HONEST WORKING PEOPLE THAT, EVERY DAY, WE HAVE TO TAKE HOME

OUR MONEY TO BE ABLE TO MEET ENDS WITH OUR FAMILY. IF WE DON'T WORK, WE DON'T TAKE FOOD TO THE TABLE, SO WE ASK, PLEASE, THAT YOU DO SUPPORT THE MOTION THAT SUPERVISOR HILDA SOLIS HAS SET FORTH. THANK YOU, SUPERVISOR SOLIS.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

ARNOLD SACHS: YES, THANK YOU. GOOD MORNING AGAIN. THANK YOU FOR NAVIGATING THIS PROGRAM. IT'S AN UPLIFTING DISCUSSION. THE EFFICACY OF YOUR WORK IS BEYOND BELIEF. YOUR LASER-LIKE FOCUS IS MAGNIFICENT. I'M WONDERING, IS THIS A GENERAL HOSPITAL FROM 32? BECAUSE I KNOW M.L.K. HOSPITAL WAS ALSO KNOWN AS A GENERAL HOSPITAL. AND I'M WONDERING, BECAUSE YOU HAVE THIS L.A. CARE HEALTH PLAN, AND IT SAYS L.A. CARE IS A LOCAL INITIATIVE FOR 2 MILLION ENROLLEES, ALREADY. IT'S LOCATED OVER HERE AT 700 EAST 7TH STREET. AND I KNOW L.A. CARE WAS OWNED BY MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: IF YOU COULD PLEASE FOCUS YOUR COMMENTS ON THE GENERAL HOSPITAL.

ARNOLD SACHS: I KNOW WHAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT, MADAM CHAIR. M.L.K. HOSPITAL WAS ALSO KNOWN AS A GENERAL HOSPITAL, BUT IT WASN'T A GENERAL HOSPITAL. AND "GENERAL HOSPITAL" IS A NAME OF

A SOAP OPERA. ARE THEY GETTING PAID RESIDUALS FROM THAT? AND WHAT ABOUT THE ELEVATOR SHAFT--

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: GOOD MORNING.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: EXCUSE ME, WE HAVE ANOTHER SPEAKER. THAT IS YOUR SECOND WARNING. YOU CANNOT SPEAK OVER OTHER SPEAKERS. GO AHEAD. THANK YOU.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. GOOD MORNING, EVERYONE. THANK YOU FOR COMING IN TODAY, AND THANK YOU, BOARD AND SUPERVISOR SOLIS. MY NAME IS JESSICA, AND I AM WITH S.B.C. S.E.L.A. TODAY I AM REPRESENTING THEM, AND ALSO, I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT I AM A FORMER FOSTER YOUTH, AND ALSO A PATIENT AT L.A.C+U.S.C. GENERAL HOSPITAL, FROM THE DEPARTMENTS OF CARDIOLOGY AND ADULT CLINICS. I SAY THAT I AM FULLY IN FAVOR OF 6, 9, AND 44 MOTIONS. AS SOMEONE WHO IS ALSO RETURNING HERE, I AM GRATEFUL. THANK YOU FOR ESTABLISHING NEW PRIORITIES FOR THE HISTORICAL GENERAL HOSPITAL. WE ALSO LOOK FORWARD IN ENGAGING WITH THE DEVELOPER, AND TO HELP EVERYONE WITHIN OUR COMMUNITIES TO MAKE THESE CHANGES POSSIBLE. RESPECTFULLY, THANK YOU FOR HAVING ME HERE TODAY.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. YOUR TESTIMONY WAS VERY POWERFUL. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

JENNIFER GARCIA: GOOD AFTERNOON. MY NAME IS JENNIFER GARCIA, PROGRAM MANAGER FOR ALMA FAMILY SERVICES COMMUNITY AMBASSADOR NETWORK. WE'RE PARTNERS WITH 6 OTHER COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS TO SUPPORT OUR MEMBERS IN EAST L.A. AND BOYLE HEIGHTS, ONE OF THESE PARTNERS BEING THE WELLNESS CENTER AT L.A. GENERAL HOSPITAL. I'D LIKE TO THANK SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR AUTHORING ITEM 6, 9, AND 44. THROUGH OUR COLLABORATIVE, WE'VE CONDUCTED COMMUNITY OUTREACH, MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT GROUPS, COMMUNITY EVENTS, AND LINKAGES FOR OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS TO MEET OUR COMMUNITY'S BASIC NEEDS. ONE OF THE MOST CRUCIAL AND FREQUENT REFERRALS IS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING. THESE MOTIONS BEFORE THE BOARD TODAY ADVANCE THE HEALTH, WELLBEING, AND DIGNITY OF OUR COUNTY, BY USING THE GENERAL HOSPITAL AND SURROUNDING CAMPUS TO DELIVER ON THE COMMUNITY'S HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS NEEDS, HELPING OUR VULNERABLE POPULATIONS THROUGH WHOLE-PERSON AND COMMUNITY CARE, AND SUPPORTING AN OVERALL HEALTHY AND RESILIENT EASTSIDE COMMUNITY. I RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THE BOARD'S SUPPORT ON THIS MOTION. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: HELLO. GOOD AFTERNOON. MY NAME IS JULIE RICO. I'M AN ART WORLD PERSON, AND A RESIDENT IN CHINATOWN, AND A SENIOR THERE. I'M IN FAVOR OF THE WELL-THOUGHT-OUT MOTIONS 6, 9, AND 44. THANK YOU, SUPERVISOR SOLIS, AND ALL OF THE SUPERVISORS IN FAVOR OF THIS PROJECT. I WAS HAPPY TO HEAR ABOUT THE SOUTHEAST CULTURAL CENTER TODAY, AS IT RECOGNIZES THE NEED TO SUPPORT CREATIVES AND THEIR RESPECTIVE COMMUNITIES. IT IS MY HOPE THAT THIS NEW RESTORATIVE CENTER WILL SUPPORT CREATIVES THROUGH EDUCATION, PRACTICAL TRAINING, SO THAT THESE VULNERABLE PEOPLE CAN DEVELOP SKILLS, SO THEY MORE EASILY FIT INTO A SOCIETAL ROLE, ESPECIALLY IN OUR INCREDIBLE, CREATIVE CITY, BUILT ON CREATIVE IDEAS AND EFFORTS. NOT ONLY SHOULD THIS NEW CENTER SUPPORT MEDICAL EFFORTS, BUT SO, TOO, IN A SOULFUL WAY, WHERE PEOPLE ARE SEEN AND FEEL THEY ARE PART OF A LARGER COMMUNITY. AS CITIZENS, OF COURSE, WE ALL WANT SUCCESS FOR EVERYONE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

SPEAKER: HELLO, EVERYONE. MY NAME IS KENYA REESE, AND I AM A RESIDENT OF EAST L.A. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR AUTHORIZING MOTIONS 6, 9, AND 44. I SHOW MY SUPPORT ON THESE MOTIONS, SINCE THEY WILL BRING HOPE AND OPPORTUNITY FOR OUR COMMUNITY BY PROVIDING JOBS, ADDRESSING OUR REGION'S HOUSING CRISIS, IMPROVING OUR COMMUNITY NEEDS, AND EMPOWERING

THE VOICES OF INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE OFTEN SUBJECT TO LEFT UNHEARD. IT IS CRUCIAL TO CONTINUE TO CENTER COMMUNITY INPUT DURING THIS PROCESS, AND I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING HOW THESE MOTIONS WILL HELP ADVANCE THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF OUR COMMUNITY. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: [SPEAKS SPANISH].

TRANSLATOR: HELLO. GOOD AFTERNOON, EVERYONE. MY NAME IS IRMA CERVANTES, AND I AM HERE TO SUPPORT MOTION 9 AND 44, AND ALSO THANKING SUPERVISOR SOLIS. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. AS A COMMUNITY MEMBER, I HAVE BEEN INVOLVED SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THIS PROJECT, AND I THINK IT'S IMPORTANT TO TAKE IN ACCOUNT ALL OF THE COMMUNITY'S INPUT DURING THE TIME WITH E.N.A., TO ENSURE THAT THE USE OF THE GENERAL HOSPITAL DOES BENEFIT THE RESIDENTS, TO ALSO PREVENT HOMELESSNESS, AND ALSO TO SUPPORT THE NEW MODES OF TRANSPORTATION, AND TO ALSO ESTABLISH SOLID RESOURCES FOR AFFORDABLE LIVING, AND FOR THEM TO BRING THE LOCAL RESIDENTS ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO BE ABLE TO REQUEST AND QUALIFY FOR THE FUTURE UNITS. FOR THAT, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT PROCESS, E.N.A., INCLUDE THE COMMUNITY, NOT JUST TO INFORM OF THE NEEDS, BUT TO ALSO HAVE A SEAT AT THE TABLE TO MAKE

DECISIONS. IT'S IMPORTANT THAT THIS PROJECT BE CENTERED IN THE NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

SPEAKER: AH, YES. GOOD MORNING, SUPERVISORS. MY NAME IS LILLIAN CABRAL, AND I AM A MEMBER OF S.E.I.U. LOCAL 721, WORKING AT L.A. COUNTY GENERAL AS A HEAD CLERK SUPERVISOR IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PATIENT FINANCIAL SERVICES. I HAVE BEEN THERE 45 YEARS, AND NO, I HAVEN'T RETIRED YET. I WAS BORN THERE IN 1956, AT THE BIG GENERAL HOSPITAL, SO IT'S VERY DEAR TO ME. VERY DEAR. THOUSANDS OF DEDICATED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES REPRESENT S.E.I.U. 721, AND DEDICATED THEIR LIVES TO CARING FOR PATIENTS AND MAINTAINING THE FACILITIES AND THE GROUNDS AT L.A. GENERAL. FOR DECADES, OUR UNION HAS FOUGHT FOR A COMMUNITY-CENTERED DEVELOPMENT, SOCIAL JUSTICE, AND WORKERS' RIGHTS. OUR UNION'S PROUD TO SAY THAT L.A. COUNTY HAS ALREADY MET AND IS ON ITS WAY TO UPHOLDING THESE VALUES IN THE CENTENNIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM. WHILE THERE ARE MANY INDIVIDUAL COMPONENTS OF THIS PROJECT THAT CAN BE IMPROVED, S.E.I.U. LOCAL 721 AND OUR--

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

SPEAKER: HI. GOOD AFTERNOON, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. I'M SPEAKING ON AGENDA ITEM 6. I'M HERE ON BEHALF OF LOCAL S.E.I.U. 721. I'M EMPLOYED WITH THE COUNTY, AND I WORK AT L.A. GENERAL MEDICAL CENTER, AS A [INAUDIBLE] CLERK FOR THE PAST 5 YEARS. THE CENTENNIAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IS GOING TO BE A MASSIVE OPPORTUNITY, NOT JUST FOR L.A. COUNTY, BUT FOR L.A. CITY. OUR UNION APPRECIATES SUPERVISOR SOLIS'S ENGAGEMENT SHE HAS HAD THROUGH THE H.I.C.P., THE HEALTH INNOVATION COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP. BUT AS AN L.A. COUNTY EMPLOYEE, I LOOK FORWARD FOR THE UPCOMING EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT. AS A MEMBER OF THE R.F.P., THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL PROCESS, THE LANGUAGE IN HIRING UNION WORKERS WAS VERY VAGUE, AND WE APPRECIATE THE ENGAGEMENT WITH SUPERVISOR SOLIS AND HER STAFF TO MODIFY TODAY'S RECOMMENDATION TO INCLUDE THE REQUIREMENT OF [INAUDIBLE] SUBCONTRACTORS [INAUDIBLE] LABOR PEACE AGREEMENT WITH LABOR UNIONS. THIS ELEMENT WILL TRULY BENEFIT OUR COMMUNITY.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. THANK YOU.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: BEFORE WE GO TO OUR NEXT SPEAKER, WE DO HAVE 30 MORE SPEAKERS ON THIS ITEM. I'M NOT GOING TO CUT THE TIME, BUT IF YOU HAVE ALREADY HEARD YOUR COMMENT SAID, OR IF

YOU JUST WANT TO AMPLIFY SOMEBODY WHO IS SPEAKING, SO WE DON'T HAVE TO HAVE ALL 30 SPEAKERS, PLEASE CONSIDER THAT. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK, OF COURSE, YOU ARE WELCOME TO DO SO. GO AHEAD, NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

JOSE MIGUEL RUIZ: THANK YOU, CHAIRMAN. GOOD AFTERNOON, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. MY NAME IS JOSE MIGUEL RUIZ. I'M THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND FOUNDER OF CULTIVA L.A., A NONPROFIT THAT HAS 6 COMMUNITY GARDENS AND FORUMS, AND I'M HERE IN SUPPORT OF ITEMS 6, 9, AND 44. I'VE PERSONALLY BEEN TO BOTH THE HOSPITAL AND THE NEW RESTORATIVE CARE VILLAGE, AND LET ME TELL YOU, IT'S BEAUTIFUL. IT DOES HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO ALSO HEAL. PEOPLE HEAL THROUGH THE ENVIRONMENT, AS WELL. THERE IS A LOT OF YOUTH. I'M ALSO REPRESENTING THE CALIFORNIA CLIMATE ACTION CORPS FELLOWS, SO IF I ASK THAT THAT STAND? CULTIVA? THEY'RE IN THE BACK. AND THEN WE ALSO HAVE FOLKS FROM THE YOUTH CLIMATE COMMISSION. SO, AS AN APPOINTEE TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, DISTRICT 1, FOR THE CARE FIRST COMMUNITY INVESTMENT, I HAVE ALSO SEEN IT FROM THE C.F.C.I. POINT OF VIEW, AND BELIEVE ME, WE NEED MORE UNITS. SO THANK YOU. AS A SOCIAL WORKER, I AM EXCITED AND LOOK FORWARD TO ALSO BEING PART OF THIS PROJECT, AND I WANT TO COMMEND YOU FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP, AS THIS IS ALSO BEING SEEN ACROSS THE NATION. THANK YOU SO MUCH. THANK YOU, SUPERVISOR SOLIS.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER. GO AHEAD.

KAREN GLENN: GOOD AFTERNOON. MY NAME IS KAREN GLENN, AND I AM WITH GRIFOLS, A HEALTHCARE COMPANY LOCATED ON THE EAST SIDE OF LOS ANGELES. I'D LIKE TO THANK SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR HER COMMITMENT TO THE REGION, AUTHORING ITEM 6, 9 AND 44. IN 2017, I JOINED THE HEALTH INNOVATION COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AS AN ORIGINAL MEMBER, WORKING ALONGSIDE COMMUNITY RESIDENTS, NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS, COUNTY AGENCIES, EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, AND L.A. REGIONAL. TOGETHER, WE HAVE ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN PARTICIPATORY PROCESS, GUIDED BY COMMUNITY INPUT, TO IDENTIFY AND PRIORITIZE THE NEEDS THAT MATTER MOST TO THE COMMUNITY MEMBERS, AND FIND SOLUTIONS TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING, IMPROVING HEALTH AND WELLBEING, FOCUSING ON THE WHOLE PERSON, AND BUILDING A STRONGER COMMUNITY, ALL ALIGNED WITH OUR COMPANY PRIORITIES. GRIFOLS RECOGNIZES THAT THESE EFFORTS WILL PAVE THE WAY FOR A TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGE AND A THRIVING REGION. FOR THIS REASON, I RESPECTFULLY REQUEST YOUR SUPPORT FOR ITEMS 6, 9, AND 44. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: WILL LINA MIRA, MAGDALENA CASARES, MARCO CORNEJO, MARIA BRENES, MARIO BARRAGAN, MICHAEL FLOWERS, PAMELA AGUSTIN, RAYNA SCHMIDT, ROSA SOTO, ROSALINA TAPIA, ROSALINA MIRA, RYAN

SANCHEZ, SUE ELLEN CHANG, SUSIE DE SANTIAGO, TANI LING, TOMMY FAAVAE, TRACY EVANSON, VANESSA RAMOS, AND WILLIAM HANG PLEASE COME FORWARD, AND STAFF WILL ASSIST YOU?

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: NEXT SPEAKER, GO AHEAD.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. MY NAME IS KIMBERLY, AND I LIVE AND WORK IN THE EAST SIDE. THANK YOU, SUPERVISOR SOLIS, FOR AUTHORING ITEMS 9, 44, AND FOR THE INCLUSION THAT THE SELECTED DEVELOPER WORK WITH THE L.A.C.+U.S.C. MEDICAL CENTER FOUNDATION, TO ENSURE A STRONG COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROCESS DURING THE E.N.A. PROCESS. IT IS CRUCIAL TO CONTINUE TO CENTER COMMUNITY INPUT DURING THE E.N.A. PROCESS, TO ENSURE THAT THE USES FOR THE GENERAL HOSPITAL TRULY SERVE EXISTING RESIDENTS, PREVENT DISPLACEMENT, AND SUPPORT EXISTING MODES OF TRANSPORTATION, AND SET STRONG AFFORDABLE HOUSING REQUIREMENTS THAT GIVE LOCAL RESIDENTS AN OPPORTUNITY TO APPLY AND QUALIFY FOR THE FUTURE UNITS. TO THIS END, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE E.N.A. PROCESS INCLUDE ONGOING CANVASSING AND IN-PERSON OUTREACH THAT BUILDS ON THE EXISTING COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER MODEL, SO THAT THE AREA RESIDENTS ARE INFORMED AND HAVE A SAY ON HOW THE GENERAL HOSPITAL WILL BE REPURPOSED, ESPECIALLY DURING THE E.N.A. PERIOD, IN AND BEYOND THE H.I.C.--

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

SPEAKER: [SPEAKS SPANISH].

TRANSLATOR: HELLO. GOOD AFTERNOON. MY NAME IS JUANA MENA OCHOA, AND I AM FROM BOYLE HEIGHTS. I WANT TO THANK THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AND SUPERVISOR SOLIS, FOR ALL OF THE HARD WORK TO BE ABLE TO BENEFIT AND BEAUTIFY THE COMMUNITY. AND I ADVOCATE TO VOTE ON ITEMS 6, 9, 44, AS A MEMBER OF RAMONA GARDENS. WE NEED BETTER AFFORDABLE LIVING. WE NEED A MARKET. WE NEED GREEN SPACE. AND ALSO, WHEN MY DAUGHTER GRADUATES, I WOULD LIKE FOR HER TO HAVE A BEAUTIFUL COMMUNITY. THANK YOU, AND YES, WE CAN.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: GOOD AFTERNOON. THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK. FIRST OF ALL, ON BEHALF OF MY BUSINESS MANAGER, SERGIO RASCON, [INAUDIBLE] LOCAL 300, I WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT THIS LETTER OF SUPPORT OF THIS PROJECT. THIS PROJECT GIVES US OPPORTUNITIES, SECOND CHANCES. A PROJECT LIKE THIS GAVE ME A SECOND CHANCE 19 YEARS AGO, AND NOW I'M A PRODUCTIVE MEMBER OF SOCIETY. [INAUDIBLE] HAS AN APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM THAT ENABLES US TO ATTAIN THE SKILLS NEEDED TO SUCCEED IN TODAY'S ECONOMY, CREATING THE PATHWAY INTO SOCIETY, BRIDGING THAT GAP BETWEEN POVERTY AND MIDDLE CLASS. YET, I AM CERTAIN THAT IT

WILL PRESENT THAT SAME OPPORTUNITY TO SO MANY. AND THIS PROJECT WILL HELP BREAK THE CYCLE OF RECIDIVISM. AND TOGETHER, WE CAN FOSTER A COMMUNITY WHERE ALL RESIDENTS CAN THRIVE. LET'S CREATE A BRIGHTER FUTURE, AND I INVITE YOU TO SUPPORT THIS PROJECT, ALSO. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER. GO AHEAD.

SPEAKER: HI. GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS SUSIE DE SANTIAGO, AND I'M HERE REPRESENTING I HEART S.E.L.A. I GREW UP IN BOYLE HEIGHTS, AND I STILL HAVE FAMILY THAT RESIDE IN BOYLE HEIGHTS COMMUNITY, NEAR MARIACHI PLAZA. WITH S.E.L.A. IN MIND, I WANT TO THANK SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR AUTHORIZING THE PROJECT TO REVITALIZE THE HISTORIC GENERAL HOSPITAL TO A RESTORATIVE CARE VILLAGE. AS YOU KNOW, L.A. COUNTY IS HAVING A MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS, AND AWARDING THE DESIGN CONTRACT OF GENERAL HOSPITAL WILL BE A HUGE BENEFIT TO THE MOST UNDERSERVED POPULATION OF THE EAST SIDE. ENSURING TO INCLUDE THE COMMUNITY'S VOICE AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT THROUGHOUT THIS PROJECT WILL BRING GENERAL HOSPITAL BACK TO LIFE, WHICH ADDRESSES THE HOUSING, HOMELESSNESS, AND MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS, IN ADDITION TO SO MUCH MORE, AS SUPERVISOR SOLIS PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED. I ASK FOR ALL OF YOU TO SUPPORT MOTIONS 6, 9, AND 44.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

MARIO BARRAGAN: HI, GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS MARIO BARRAGAN. I'M WITH I.B.E.W. LOCAL UNION 11, AND A LIFELONG RESIDENT OF THE FIRST DISTRICT. I LIVED IN BOYLE HEIGHTS, AND NOW IN BOYLE HEIGHTS. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR HER VISION, HER LEADERSHIP, AND THE AUTHORING OF ITEMS 6, 9, AND 44, ADVANCING THE RENOVATION AND REPURPOSING OF THE FORMER GENERAL HOSPITAL THAT HAS SERVED OUR COMMUNITY FOR OVER 80 YEARS, OFFERING EMERGENCY AND PRIMARY CARE FOR THOSE IN NEED. THAT WAS ME, AT ONE TIME, SO IT IS EXCITING TO SEE IT BE REVITALIZED TO OUR CURRENT COMMUNITY NEEDS. THIS PROJECT WILL NOT ONLY SERVE OUR COMMUNITY, BUT IT WILL ALSO SERVE THE LOS ANGELES AND ORANGE COUNTY BUILDING TRADES AND APPRENTICES, LIKE WE HAVE HERE TODAY, TO CONTINUE THEIR EDUCATION IN THE TRADES AND A CAREER PATH. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR TIME.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: [SPEAKS SPANISH].

TRANSLATOR: HELLO. GOOD AFTERNOON, EVERYONE. MY NAME IS MAGDALENA CASARES, AND I BELONG TO THE ORGANIZATION I HEART EAST L.A., S.B.C.C., AND I HAVE MY SISTERS HERE. AND WE ARE HERE TO SUPPORT SUPERVISOR SOLIS ON 6, 9, AND 44, WHICH WILL GENERATE NEW EMPLOYMENT, AND ALSO ASSIST WITH MENTAL HEALTH,

AND HAVE AFFORDABLE HOUSING, NOW THAT WE HAVE SO MUCH HOMELESS IN OUR COMMUNITY. THANK YOU, SUPERVISOR SOLIS, AND WE ARE GOING TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT YOU. YES, WE CAN.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

PAMELA AGUSTIN: GOOD AFTERNOON, SUPERVISORS. MY NAME IS PAMELA AGUSTIN. I ORGANIZE WITH THE EASTSIDE L.E.A.D.S. COALITION, AND I'M IN SUPPORT OF ITEMS 6, 9, AND 44. I THANK, OF COURSE, SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR AUTHORING THESE ITEMS, AND FOR HER REVISION TO INCLUDE AN ALLOCATION OF FUNDING TO ENSURE STRONG COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN THIS NEXT E.N.A. PROCESS. I ALSO APPRECIATE THE INCLUSION OF LANGUAGE IN SUPPORT OF WORKERS' RIGHTS TO ORGANIZE. MOVING FORWARD, IT IS CRITICAL THAT THE SELECTED DEVELOPER AND THE COUNTY WORK TO SET THE MINIMUM AFFORDABLE HOUSING THRESHOLD HIGHER THAN 30%, AND I LOVE TO HEAR SUPERVISOR SOLIS SAY 100%. EASTSIDE L.E.A.D.S. IS PROPOSING 80%, AND ALONG WITH S.E.I.U. 721, WE SEE THAT THE AVERAGE AFFORDABILITY THAT SHOULD BE PRIORITIZED SHOULD BE 40% A.M.I. OR LESS. THIS IS CRUCIAL IN A DISTRICT, AND FOR THE COUNTY, AND THIS MONUMENTAL PROJECT MUST MEET THAT NEED. THANK YOU, ALL SUPERVISORS. I HOPE TO GET--

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: GOOD MORNING, SUPERVISORS, CHAIR HORVATH. MY NAME IS MARIA BRENES, AND I'M A LONGTIME EAST SIDE OF L.A. RESIDENT, AND I'M HERE ALSO SUPPORTING ITEMS 6, 9, AND 44. THANK YOU, SUPERVISOR SOLIS, FOR AUTHORING. TODAY IS A HISTORIC MILESTONE. OVER 5 YEARS AGO, WE CAME TOGETHER AS A COMMUNITY TO PROACTIVELY RESPOND TO CRISIS AND OPPORTUNITY: THE CRISIS OF THE INCREASING DISPLACEMENT OF VULNERABLE RESIDENTS, PARTICULARLY TENANTS AND THOSE CONFRONTING HOMELESSNESS, AND RECOGNIZING THE OPPORTUNITY FOR PARTNERSHIP TO ADVANCE A MAJOR PUBLIC INVESTMENT, TO HELP STABILIZE OUR COMMUNITY AND TARGET SUPPORTIVE WRAPAROUND SERVICES FOR THE HIGHEST-NEED RESIDENTS OF L.A. COUNTY. AFFORDABLE HOUSING MUST CONTINUE TO BE PRIORITIZED, AND PREVENTION OF RESIDENT DISPLACEMENT. THANK YOU, SUPERVISOR SOLIS, FOR YOUR COLLABORATION. THANK YOU TO THE ENTIRE BOARD FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION, AND TO THE ENTIRE EASTSIDE COMMUNITY FOR STANDING--

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

ROSA SOTO: GOOD AFTERNOON, MADAM CHAIR AND BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. MY NAME IS ROSA SOTO, AND I'M EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR L.A.C.+U.S.C. FOUNDATION AND THE WELLNESS CENTER, IN SUPPORT OF ITEMS 6, 9, AND 44. THANK YOU TO SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR YOUR STEADFAST SUPPORT TO COMMUNITY. FOR THE PAST SEVEN YEARS, WE HAVE BEEN THE BACKBONE ORGANIZATION TO SUPPORT

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN ALL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS, AND TO CREATE OUR HEALTHY VILLAGE, TO ENSURE A STRONG EQUITABLE TABLE, TO UNDERSTAND THE NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY, THOSE NEEDS BEING AFFORDABLE HOUSING, INCREASED SERVICES FOR MENTAL HEALTH, OUR GROWING WELLNESS CENTER, AND PRESERVING OUR HISTORIC GENERAL HOSPITAL, TO NAME A FEW. WE HAVE HAD MORE THAN A HUNDRED MONTHLY AND COMMUNITY MEETINGS, AND LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING THIS EFFORT WITH THE COUNTY AND WITH OUR FUTURE DEVELOPERS, TO ENSURE OUR HEALTHY VILLAGE THAT NOT ONLY HEALS, BUT ENSURES HEALTH AND WELLNESS FOR ALL. WE APPRECIATE AND ASK FOR YOUR AYE VOTE. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: YES, GOOD AFTERNOON. MY NAME IS RAYNA SCHMIDT, OVER 37-YEAR RESIDENT OF L.A. COUNTY. I'M HERE TO FULLY SUPPORT SUPERVISOR HILDA SOLIS'S MOTIONS OF 6, 9, AND 44. AND ONE OF THE REASONS IS, I HAVE KNOWN HER FOR A VERY LONG, LONG TIME. SHE STANDS UP FOR US, OUR ISSUES, WHETHER IT'S HEALTHCARE, THE ELDERLY, HOME CARE, HOMELESSNESS, ADDRESSING ALL THOSE NEEDS. SO, PLEASE, ALL OF YOU NEED TO UNDERSTAND THAT, THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY, REGARDLESS WHETHER YOU'RE IN THE FIRST OR THE FIFTH DISTRICT, THEY ALL HAVE THE SAME NEEDS. AND I REALLY ENCOURAGE YOU TO PLEASE SUPPORT THOSE ISSUES THAT SHE'S SUPPORTING, AS

WELL AS ALL OF US ARE HERE FOR THAT REASON. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR ATTENTION.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

MICHAEL FLOWERS: GOOD AFTERNOON, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. MY NAME IS MICHAEL FLOWERS. I'M PRESIDENT OF THE WEST COVINA BOARD OF EDUCATION. I'M ALSO A COMMUNITY [INAUDIBLE] COMMISSIONER FOR THE CITY OF WEST COVINA. I'M COMING HERE IN PERSON JUST TO THANK ALL OF YOU, AND TO THANK SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR AUTHORING AND CHAMPIONING ITEMS 6, 9, AND 44. THESE ITEMS ARE ADDRESSING THE CRITICAL SHORTAGE OF HOUSING AND CHALLENGES DEALING WITH OUR MENTAL HEALTH IN L.A. COUNTY AND AROUND L.A. COUNTY. THESE MOTIONS BEFORE THE BOARD WOULD HELP SO, SO MANY PEOPLE. AND I SAY THAT BECAUSE NO ONE NEEDS TO BE EATING OUT OF A GARBAGE CAN. NO ONE NEEDS TO BE SLEEPING ON THE STREET. THESE ITEMS GOING FORWARD WOULD HELP SO MANY PEOPLE IN AND OUT OF MY COMMUNITY. NOT ONLY THAT, I SEE IT WITH OUR YOUTH, BUT I SEE IT ALSO WITH OTHER FAMILIES IN OUR COMMUNITY. SO I THANK GOD HE IS GIVING YOU GUYS ALL THE VISION GOING FORTH, AND I PRAY THAT-- THE BIBLE SAID A MAN WITHOUT THE VISION SHOULD PERISH, SO YOU KEEP THAT VISION. AND ANYTHING THAT I CAN DO, AS FAR AS WEST COVINA IS CONCERNED, YOU GOT ME. GOD BLESS YOU GUYS.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU MR. COMMISSIONER. GO AHEAD, NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: MY NAME IS TANI LING. I AM A RESIDENT OF CHINATOWN. I TEACH IN BOYLE HEIGHTS, AT THE NEIGHBORHOOD MUSIC SCHOOL, AND I AM REPRESENTING STOP THE GONDOLA, AND I AM JOINED BY FELLOW MEMBERS OF THE COALITION TODAY. WE ARE HERE TO SUPPORT ITEMS 6, 9, AND 44. THANK YOU, SUPERVISOR SOLIS, FOR YOUR CONTINUAL ENGAGEMENT WITH YOUR CONSTITUENTS, AND FOR AUTHORING THESE MOTIONS. THIS IS EXACTLY THE KIND OF TRANSFORMATIVE PROJECT THAT WE DESERVE IN LOS ANGELES, AND THAT DEMANDS OUR FULL ATTENTION. THERE'S NO TIME FOR DISTRACTION FROM PROPOSALS, LIKE FRANK MCCOURT'S GONDOLA, THAT WOULD SERVE THE WANTS OF A PROFITEER RATHER THAN THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY--

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: WE ARE FOCUSING ON GENERAL HOSPITAL, PLEASE. THANK YOU.

SPEAKER: YES. INSTEAD, IMAGINE IF ALL OF OUR ENERGY WENT TOWARD SUPPORTING PROJECTS SUCH AS THIS, THAT WILL LEAD TO HONEST AND FOUNDATIONAL CHANGE, AND THAT SUPPORT INTELLIGENT USE OF FUNDS AND PROCEDURAL TRANSPARENCY. THE NEW GENERAL HOSPITAL CAMPUS WILL BE UPHELD AS A BEACON OF HUMANITY. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR TIME.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

LINA MIRA: HI. MY NAME IS LINA MIRA, AND I AM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE LATINO AND LATINA ROUNDTABLE OF THE SAN GABRIEL AND POMONA VALLEY. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR AUTHORING ITEMS 6 AND 9, AND I AM IN FAVOR OF BOTH. WE THANK SUPERVISOR SOLIS AND COMMEND HER WORK TO REIMAGINE THE HISTORIC GENERAL HOSPITAL AND ITS SURROUNDING AREAS TO INCLUDE MUCH-NEEDED GREEN SPACE, HOUSING, AND A HEALTHY MARKET. THESE MOTIONS ADVANCE THE WELLBEING OF OUR COUNTY, BRINGING AN ICONIC COUNTY ASSET BACK TO LIFE FOR SERVICE OF THE COMMUNITY, ADDRESSING OUR REGION'S HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS CRISIS, AND HELPING OUR MOST VULNERABLE POPULATIONS, INCLUDING LOW-WAGE WORKERS AND SENIORS, AND SUPPORTING A RESILIENT AND ECONOMICALLY PROSPEROUS EASTSIDE COMMUNITY. AS SOMEONE WHO GREW UP IN LINCOLN HEIGHTS, AND BENEFITED FROM MEDICAL CARE AS A CHILD AT GENERAL HOSPITAL, I AM GLAD THAT THIS HISTORIC BUILDING WILL HAVE A NEW LIFE AND BE A BEACON OF HOPE FOR--

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: [SPEAKS SPANISH].

TRANSLATOR: HELLO. GOOD AFTERNOON. MY NAME IS ROSALINA TAPIA, AND I AM HERE TO SUPPORT MY COMMUNITY FROM WALNUT PARK. AND I WOULD LIKE TO THANK SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR BEING THE AUTHOR OF 6, 9, AND 44, BY APPROVING THE BUDGETS AND AWARDS OF THE DESIGN FOR THE CONTRACT OF THE LOS ANGELES MEDICAL CENTER, THE RESIDENTIAL WITHDRAWAL MANAGEMENT FACILITY, AS WELL AS THE MEDICAL URGENT CARE CENTER AND PSYCHIATRIC SUBACUTE FACILITY. AND ALSO, WITH THE GENERAL MEDICAL CENTER AND THE PSYCHIATRIC CENTER, I SUPPORT ITEM NUMBER 9, AND THANK YOU TO THE ENTIRE BOARD. THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: HI. MY NAME IS RYAN GONZALEZ. I AM HERE REPRESENTING THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY CONSERVATION CORPS. I WOULD LIKE TO START OFF BY THANKING SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR THE AUTHORING OF ITEMS 6 AND 9. I WOULD LIKE TO TOUCH BASE ON WHY I BELIEVE WE ARE IN DIRE NEED FOR THE LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY TO HAVE THESE PROJECTS APPROVED. WE CURRENTLY HAVE A RATIO FOR ABOUT FOUR TO FIVE [INAUDIBLE] TO L.A.'S CURRENT POPULATION WHO HAVE BEEN DIAGNOSED WITH A MENTAL OR PSYCHIATRIC DISORDER. MANY PEOPLE WITH MENTAL DISORDERS, OR EVEN SOMEONE WITH DRUG ABUSE, WILL SOMETIMES EXPERIENCE A NEGATIVE EPISODE WHERE THESE FACILITIES WILL PLAY A BIG ROLE IN FACILITATING CARE FOR ANYONE IN NEED, AND WILL HELP ALLEVIATE CALLS FROM OUR POLICE FORCE. WE, AS A

COMMUNITY, ARE ONLY AS STRONG AS OUR WEAKEST MEMBERS. EVERY MEMBER OF OUR COMMUNITY MATTERS AND DESERVES A SECOND CHANCE. I IMPLORE YOU TO STAND WITH US IN SOLIDARITY, IN THE UPLIFTING OF OUR COMMUNITY, AND HOPE I HAVE HIGHLIGHTED WHY WE DESERVE THE APPROVAL OF ITEM 6 AND 9. THANK YOU ONCE AGAIN FOR ALLOWING ME TO SPEAK ON BEHALF OF THE S.G.V.C.C., AND FOR YOUR UNDIVIDED ATTENTION.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

TOMMY FAAVAE: GOOD AFTERNOON. MY NAME IS TOMMY FAAVAE. I REPRESENT I.B.E.W. LOCAL 11, AND WE HAVE OUR APPRENTICES AND OUR JOURNEYMEN THAT ARE HERE TODAY IN SUPPORT OF THIS MAGNIFICENT PROJECT, AND PROJECTS. HI, JANICE. HI, LINDSEY. SO I JUST WANT TO JUST VOICE OUR FULL SUPPORT BEHIND HILDA SOLIS'S MOTION, AND WE ARE HAPPY THAT THESE PROJECTS COULD BE REQUIRED UNDER THE MASTER PLAN OF THE COMMUNITY WORKFORCE AGREEMENT AND AN APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM, AND SO FORTH. SO WE URGE AN AYE VOTE. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: HI. VANESSA RAMOS. AND, YOU KNOW, I HOPE THAT MY COMMENT IS RECEIVED AS INTENDED. ALTHOUGH I AM EXTREMELY HAPPY TO SEE SUCH MOVEMENT AROUND SUCH AN IMPORTANT BUILDING, I JUST

WANT TO HIGHLIGHT THAT THE NEED FOR COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP WITH CALIFORNIA'S PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY, LIKE DISABILITY RIGHTS CALIFORNIA, IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT, BECAUSE ALTHOUGH WE WANT PEOPLE RECEIVING SERVICES, WE ALSO WANT TO ENSURE THAT PEOPLE HAVE AN EXIT PLAN. SO, SOMETIMES, WHEN PEOPLE ENTER INTO PSYCHIATRIC CARE, UNFORTUNATELY, THEY MAY GET CAUGHT IN CONSERVATORSHIP. SO, AS EXCITED AS I AM TO SEE SO MANY PEOPLE COME UP AND SPEAK ABOUT THIS, I HOPE TO BE INCLUDED, PERSONALLY, IN MOVING FORWARD OF THIS PROJECT, SO THAT THOSE CONCERNS ARE ELEVATED. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

SPEAKER: MY NAME IS SUE ELLEN CHANG, THE NATIONAL HISTORIAN OF THE CHINESE AMERICAN CITIZENS ALLIANCE. I AM HERE TO ECHO ALL THE PREVIOUS SPEAKERS' SUPPORT OF AGENDA ITEMS' 6, 9, AND 44. I ALSO WANT TO ESPECIALLY THANK SUPERVISOR SOLIS, THIS MOST INNOVATIVE, ADAPTIVE USE OF THE HISTORIC GENERAL HOSPITAL, AND THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION, AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: HAPPY HOLIDAYS. NEXT SPEAKER.

TRACY EVANSON: GOOD AFTERNOON, SUPERVISORS.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: EXCUSE ME, JUST ONE SECOND. WE ARE GOING TO RESTART YOUR TIME. I KNOW THAT THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO FEEL YOU HAVE SPOKEN AND YOU'RE WAITING FOR OUR VOTE, OR MAYBE YOU'RE WAITING FOR ANOTHER ITEM. IF YOU COULD PLEASE RESPECT THE SPEAKERS WHILE THEY ARE SPEAKING, AS THEY HAVE YOU, THAT WOULD BE REALLY HELPFUL. GO AHEAD. THANK YOU.

TRACY EVANSON: THANK YOU. HELLO, SUPERVISORS. MY NAME IS TRACY EVANSON, WITH HEALED WOMEN HEAL. WE PROVIDE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES. WE ARE IN SUPPORT OF THIS MOTION, ITEMS 6, 9, AND 44, AND WE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THAT YOU WOULD ALSO SUPPORT THIS PROJECT. I WAS BORN AND RAISED IN BOYLE HEIGHTS, 20 YEARS, AND NOW SERVE YOUTH AND FAMILIES IN POMONA AND THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY AREAS; ALSO, L.A. COUNTY. AS FAMILIES IMPACTED BY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ARE AT HIGHER RISK OF BECOMING HOMELESS, IT IS IMPERATIVE TO HAVE MORE AFFORDABLE HOUSING AVAILABLE. I ALSO HAVE AN ADULT DAUGHTER WITH A DISABILITY, AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES EXPERIENCE HOUSING DISCRIMINATION, PREVENTING OR MAKING IT DIFFICULT FOR THEM TO SECURE HOUSING AND MEET THEIR BASIC NEEDS. THANK YOU, SUPERVISOR HILDA SOLIS, FOR CONTINUING TO CONSIDER SELF-WORTH AND SELF-RESPECT FOR ALL UNHOUSED PEOPLE, AND ALSO CONSIDERING THOSE AT RISK. THANK YOU. WE HAVE TO GET AHEAD OF THIS.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: GOOD AFTERNOON, SUPERVISOR. MY NAME, WILLIAM WANG. I AM A CITIZEN 27 YEAR. MY HOME IN CHINATOWN. I KNOW ENGLISH A LITTLE BIT. [SPEAKS CHINESE].

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. THANK YOU. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED. IF WE CAN WORK WITH COUNTY TRANSLATION SERVICES TO MAKE SURE WE GET A TRANSCRIPT FOR ALL OF THE SUPERVISORS, SO WE CAN GET THAT TRANSLATED TO OUR OFFICES, I WOULD APPRECIATE IT. WE HAVE THE ABILITY TO DO THAT. I AM SEEING, SO WE WILL MAKE SURE THAT THAT HAPPENS. THAT WAS OUR LAST SPEAKER ON THIS ITEM, ON ALL THREE OF THESE ITEMS. WE MADE IT THROUGH. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. WE ARE FIRST GOING TO TAKE UP ITEM 6, AS AMENDED, WHICH IS NOW BEFORE US. MOVED BY SUPERVISOR SOLIS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR HAHN TO APPROVE THIS ITEM. EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PLEASE CALL THE ROLL.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: ITEM 6, AS AMENDED, IS BEFORE YOU. SUPERVISOR SOLIS?

SUP. SOLIS: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR SOLIS, AYE. SUPERVISOR MITCHELL?

SUP. MITCHELL: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR MITCHELL, AYE. SUPERVISOR HAHN?

SUP. HAHN: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR HAHN, AYE. SUPERVISOR BARGER?

SUP. BARGER: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR BARGER, AYE. SUPERVISOR HORVATH?

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR HORVATH, AYE. MOTION CARRIES, 5-0. [APPLAUSE]

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: WE HAVE TWO MORE VOTES. ITEM 9 IS NOW BEFORE US. MOVED BY SUPERVISOR SOLIS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR MITCHELL TO APPROVE THIS ITEM. EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PLEASE CALL THE ROLL.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: ITEM 9 IS BEFORE YOU. SUPERVISOR SOLIS?

SUP. SOLIS: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR SOLIS, AYE. SUPERVISOR MITCHELL?

SUP. MITCHELL: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR MITCHELL, AYE. ON THIS ITEM, SUPERVISOR HAHN IS RECUSING HERSELF FROM THE VOTE, PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 84308. SUPERVISOR BARGER?

SUP. BARGER: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR BARGER, AYE. SUPERVISOR HORVATH?

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR HORVATH, AYE. MOTION CARRIES, 4-0. [APPLAUSE]

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: OUR FINAL VOTE, ITEM 44, IS BEFORE US. MOVED BY SUPERVISOR SOLIS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR BARGER. TO APPROVE THIS ITEM, EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PLEASE CALL THE ROLL.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: ITEM 44 IS BEFORE YOU. SUPERVISOR SOLIS?

SUP. SOLIS: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR SOLIS, AYE. SUPERVISOR MITCHELL?

SUP. MITCHELL: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR MITCHELL, AYE. ON THIS ITEM, SUPERVISOR HAHN IS RECUSING HERSELF FROM THE VOTE, PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 84308. SUPERVISOR BARGER?

SUP. BARGER: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR BARGER, AYE. SUPERVISOR HORVATH?

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA: SUPERVISOR HORVATH, AYE. MOTION CARRIES, 4-0. [APPLAUSE]

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU VERY MUCH. TO EVERYONE WHO WAS HERE ON THIS ITEM AND IS NOT STAYING FOR THE REST OF THE

AGENDA, PLEASE EXIT QUIETLY. WE DO HAVE MANY SPEAKERS ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS. THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE WITH US TODAY. WE APPRECIATE YOUR PARTICIPATION.

SUP. SOLIS: MADAM CHAIR, CAN I JUST THANK ALL THE FOLKS THAT CAME OUT TODAY? I REALLY APPRECIATE YOU. [SPEAKS SPANISH]. [APPLAUSE]

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. WE ARE NOW GOING TO MOVE ON TO ITEM 72, CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT DETERMINATION APPEAL; AND ITEM 98-A, DEVELOPING A LOS ANGELES COUNTY ORDINANCE FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY ZONING STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS, WHICH WERE HELD BY SUPERVISOR BARGER. FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ON THE TELEPHONE, PLEASE PRESS 1 THEN 0 NOW TO COMMENT ON THIS ITEM. WE HAVE WITH US HERE CHIEF MARRONE; DAVID DE GRAZIA, OUR DEPUTY DIRECTOR; AND SUSAN TAE, ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL PLANNING, WHO ARE AVAILABLE FOR QUESTIONS. ONCE AGAIN, WE WILL HAVE QUIET IN THE CHAMBERS, AND I WILL TURN IT TO SUPERVISOR BARGER. THANK YOU.

SUP. BARGER: THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR. FIRST OF ALL, THANK YOU ALL FOR BEING HERE. I HAVE A COUPLE OF QUESTIONS, JUST TO BETTER UNDERSTAND HOW THIS PROCESS ROLLED OUT. MY FIRST QUESTION IS, HOW DOES THE COUNTY CODE CURRENTLY ADDRESS

B.E.S.S. FACILITIES, IN TERMS OF LAND USE APPROVAL? AND DOES THE COUNTY CODE HAVE PROVISIONS FOR B.E.S.S. FACILITIES, OR ARE THEY CLASSIFIED UNDER OTHER USES?

DAVID DE GRAZIA: SO, CURRENTLY, THE COUNTY CODE DOES NOT HAVE B.E.S.S. LISTED AS A USE, AND SO WHAT HAPPENS IS THE DIRECTOR HAS MADE AN INTERPRETATION THAT THE USE MOST CLOSELY RELATED TO IT WOULD BE AN ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION SUBSTATION. AND SO WHEN REGIONAL PLANNING REVIEWS THESE, WE REVIEW THEM UNDER THE STANDARDS THAT WOULD BE USED FOR THE ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION STATIONS.

SUP. BARGER: HOW SIMILAR IS THAT? I MEAN, WHEN YOU SAY...

DAVID DE GRAZIA: WE THINK THEY ARE QUITE SIMILAR, IN TERMS OF THE WAY THAT THEY FUNCTION, IN TERMS OF STORING POWER, PUTTING IT BACK INTO THE SYSTEM, AND SO WE THOUGHT THAT WE WERE CONFIDENT THAT IT WAS A USE THAT WOULD BE MOST SIMILAR, AS FAR AS WHAT WE ALREADY HAVE IN THE ZONING CODE, AND THE STANDARDS WOULD BE SUFFICIENT.

SUP. BARGER: I'M SORRY, DID YOU INTRODUCE YOURSELF FOR THE RECORD?

DAVID DE GRAZIA: I APOLOGIZE. I AM DAVID DE GRAZIA, DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR REGIONAL PLANNING.

SUP. BARGER: AND, SUSAN, JUST IN CASE.

SUSAN TAE: YES, GOOD MORNING, OR AFTERNOON. MY NAME IS SUSAN TAE. I AM ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR WITH REGIONAL PLANNING.

SUP. BARGER: THANK YOU. MY SECOND QUESTION IS, WHY DID THE DEPARTMENT APPROVE THE DEVELOPER'S APPLICATION? WAS THE APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY THE DEVELOPER DEEMED COMPLETE? IF SO, ARE THERE SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEPARTMENT TO FOLLOW, IN TERMS OF RESPONSE, AS IT RELATES TO NOT HAVING TO GO FORWARD WITH THE PLANNING COMMISSION AND ALL?

DAVID DE GRAZIA: YEAH. SO THE APPLICATION WAS RECEIVED AND REVIEWED AND DEEMED COMPLETE. AFTER IT WAS DEEMED COMPLETE, IT WAS REVIEWED FOR ALL OF THE DIFFERENT STANDARDS IN THE ZONING CODE. IT WAS FOUND TO BE COMPLIANT WITH ALL OF THEM, AND THEN IT WAS APPROVED.

SUP. BARGER: SO THAT LEADS ME TO MY NEXT QUESTION, AND I THINK IT WOULD BENEFIT ME, NOT JUST FOR THIS, BUT OTHER PROJECTS. CAN YOU PLEASE EXPLAIN WHAT A MINISTERIAL OR BY-RIGHT LAND USE PROCESS IS FOR YOUR DEPARTMENT, AND HOW YOU ADDRESS THINGS

LIKE THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS C.E.Q.A., DETERMINATIONS FOR MINISTERIAL APPROVALS? BECAUSE SOME ARE MINISTERIAL AND SOME ARE NOT.

DAVID DE GRAZIA: YEAH. SO, A MINISTERIAL PERMIT IS AN ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW, AND BASICALLY WHAT THAT MEANS IS WE LOOK AT THE PROJECT, MAKE SURE THAT IT COMPLIES WITH EVERYTHING IN THE ZONING CODE. IF IT DOES COMPLY, WE APPROVE IT. WE DON'T HAVE ANY DISCRETION. EITHER IT COMPLIES WITH THE ZONING CODE OR IT DOESN'T. SO IN THIS CASE, IT DID COMPLY, AND SO WE APPROVED IT. PER STATE LAW, MINISTERIAL PERMITS DO NOT HAVE C.E.Q.A.

SUP. BARGER: SO IF THERE WAS SOMETHING THAT WOULD'VE TRIGGERED A CONDITIONAL USE, THEN IT WOULD HAVE GONE THROUGH THAT PROCESS, BUT IF IT IS CHECKING ALL THE BOXES, IT WOULD NOT GO BEFORE THE PLANNING COMMISSION AND WOULD NOT COME BEFORE THE BOARD?

DAVID DE GRAZIA: RIGHT. ANYTHING THAT'S MINISTERIAL IS ONLY STAFF-APPROVED, AND DOESN'T GO TO ANY SORT OF A COMMISSION OR BOARD.

SUP. BARGER: I DON'T KNOW IF YOU CAN ANSWER, BUT WHAT PERCENTAGE OF THE DECISIONS MADE ARE MINISTERIAL VERSUS THOSE THAT GO BEFORE OUR PLANNING?

DAVID DE GRAZIA: THAT IS A GREAT QUESTION. I DON'T HAVE THE EXACT PERCENTAGE, BUT THE OVERWHELMING AMOUNT OF PERMITS THAT WE APPROVE ARE MINISTERIAL. THAT COULD BE ANYTHING FROM A FENCE, AND VERY SMALL THINGS LIKE THAT, TO A BIGGER PROJECT. SO, YES, THE VAST MAJORITY OF THINGS THAT WE APPROVE ARE MINISTERIAL. A MUCH SMALLER PERCENTAGE WOULD GO TO A COMMISSION OR TO THE BOARD, EVENTUALLY.

SUP. BARGER: SO, C.E.Q.A. WOULD NOT TRIGGER?

DAVID DE GRAZIA: NO, C.E.Q.A. WOULD NOT BE TRIGGERED BY ANY OF THOSE MINISTERIAL PERMITS.

SUP. BARGER: OKAY. SO MY NEXT QUESTION IS, SOME OF THE CONCERNS I'VE READ FROM THE APPELLANTS NOTE THAT, CURRENTLY IN L.A. COUNTY, ALL BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS, OR B.E.S.S. PROJECTS, ARE MINISTERIAL APPROVALS, REGARDLESS OF SIZE OR LOCATION. IS THAT ACCURATE? AND I THINK, BASED ON WHAT YOU SAID...

DAVID DE GRAZIA: NO, IT'S NOT ACCURATE, ACTUALLY. IT DEPENDS ON THE ZONE AND THE LOCATION. AND SO, FOR THIS CASE, IT IS IN A LIGHT INDUSTRIAL ZONE, AND SO THAT IS MINISTERIAL. IT DOES NOT REQUIRE A C.U.P. HOWEVER, IF IT WERE TO BE LOCATED IN ANOTHER ZONE, SUCH AS RESIDENTIAL, AGRICULTURAL, ET CETERA, IT WOULD REQUIRE A C.U.P., AND THEN C.E.Q.A. WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR THAT.

SUP. BARGER: WOULD ANY B.E.S.S. PROJECTS BE EXEMPT FROM THE C.E.Q.A. ANALYSIS?

DAVID DE GRAZIA: YES. ANYTHING THAT IS A MINISTERIAL APPROVAL FOR B.E.S.S. WOULD BE EXEMPT FROM C.E.Q.A.

SUP. BARGER: OKAY. THE APPEAL NOTES THAT THE DEPARTMENT INAPPROPRIATELY APPROVED THE PROJECT, MINISTERIALLY, BECAUSE TITLE 22 OF THE COUNTY CODE DOES NOT ALLOW FOR APPROVAL OF USE IN THE M-1 ZONE; THAT IS NOT PERMITTED UNDER THE CODE. BY FINDING THAT IT'S SIMILAR TO USE THAT IS MINISTERIALLY PERMITTED UNDER THE M-1 ZONE, DOES THE DEPARTMENT HAVE THIS AUTHORITY?

DAVID DE GRAZIA: YEAH. THE ZONING CODE GRANTS AUTHORITY TO THE DIRECTOR TO DETERMINE A USE IS SIMILAR TO AN EXISTING USE IN THE ZONING CODE. THE REASON IT DOES THAT IS, USES ARE

CONSTANTLY COMING UP THAT WEREN'T ANTICIPATED, AND AS THE TECHNOLOGY CHANGES, NEW THINGS END UP IN THE CODE. AND SO, OVER TIME, WE WILL CODIFY THAT AND PUT IT IN, BUT IN THE MEANTIME, THE DIRECTOR HAS THE ABILITY TO MAKE AN OFFICIAL INTERPRETATION, WHICH WE MEMORIALIZE IN A MEMO, AND USE THAT UNTIL THAT HAPPENS.

SUP. BARGER: SO I GUESS MY QUESTION, THEN, WOULD BE TO FOLLOW UP ON THAT. IF IT IS MINISTERIAL, AND C.E.Q.A. IS NOT REQUIRED, THE C.U.P. THEN IS NOT AN ISSUE, AS WELL.

DAVID DE GRAZIA: CORRECT.

SUP. BARGER: SO, MOVING FORWARD, OTHER PROJECTS, NO MATTER HOW BIG OR SMALL, ARE GOING TO BE MINISTERIAL?

DAVID DE GRAZIA: AGAIN, IT WILL DEPEND ON THE LOCATION AND THE ZONE. LIKE I SAID, SOME OF THE ZONES DO REQUIRE A C.U.P., BUT IF IT WERE ANOTHER LIGHT INDUSTRIAL ZONE, SUCH AS THE ONE WE'RE TALKING ABOUT TODAY, AT THIS POINT IN TIME, IT WOULD STILL BE MINISTERIAL, AND C.E.Q.A. WOULDN'T BE TRIGGERED.

SUP. BARGER: SO I DON'T KNOW IF THIS IS FOR COUNTY COUNSEL OR FOR YOU, BUT BECAUSE THERE'S NOT A SPECIFIC CALL-OUT TO B.E.S.S. PROJECTS, AND WE ARE APPLYING IT TO SOMETHING THAT IS

CLOSE TO IT, DOES THAT CREATE A VULNERABILITY TO APPROVE SOMETHING MINISTERIALLY, WHEN THERE'S REALLY NOT A SPECIFIC DESCRIPTION OF A PROJECT, AND WE ARE JUST KIND OF PUTTING UP SOMETHING THAT CLOSELY MIRRORS THAT?

SUSAN TAE: THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT HAS-- THANK YOU. THE DIRECTOR HAS THE AUTHORITY TO MAKE THESE CODE INTERPRETATIONS, AND THE ANALOGY TO AN E.D.S. IS SOMETHING THAT IS WIDELY SEEN IN OTHER COUNTIES, AS WELL.

SUP. BARGER: OKAY, SO WE ARE COVERED IN THAT AREA? OKAY, BECAUSE WHEN YOU SAID THAT, I DID NOT REALIZE. I THOUGHT THERE WAS A SPECIFIC CODE. CHIEF MARRONE, I KNOW THAT THE ISSUE AND CONCERNS REGARDING FIRE HAVE COME UP, AS IT RELATES TO-- ESPECIALLY IN PLACEMENTS WHERE THERE'S A HIGH FIRE DANGER. CAN YOU SPEAK TO YOUR INVOLVEMENT, YOUR DEPARTMENT'S INVOLVEMENT, AND HOW YOU ALL WILL BE INVOLVED WITH THIS, AND IF YOU HAVE GOTTEN ANY FAMILIARITY WITH THESE B.E.S.S. PROJECTS?

ANTHONY MARRONE: YES, SUPERVISOR. SO, L.A. COUNTY FIRE IS CURRENTLY INVOLVED IN THE PROCESS FOR FOUR LARGE B.E.S.S. PROJECTS HERE IN L.A. COUNTY, RANGING FROM S.D. 5, TO S.D. 2. OUR FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION-- AND I HAVE WITH ME TODAY DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF ALBERT YANAGISAWA, THE PREVENTION SERVICES BUREAU DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF, TO ANSWER ANY SPECIFIC QUESTIONS YOU MIGHT

HAVE, BUT L.A. COUNTY FIRE DOES REVIEW THE PLANS FOR B.E.S.S. PROJECTS. WE DON'T APPROVE ANY PROJECTS THAT ARE NOT SAFE, AND THAT DON'T MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CURRENT CODE, OR OF THE STANDARDS FROM THE NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION. SO OUR PRIORITY IS THE PROTECTION OF LIFE, THE ENVIRONMENT, AND PROPERTY, IN EVERYTHING THAT WE DO, SO WE'RE NOT GOING TO APPROVE A B.E.S.S. PROJECT IF WE FEEL THAT THE RESIDENTS OR THE COMMUNITIES ARE AT RISK, OR IF OUR FIRST RESPONDERS ARE GOING TO BE AT RISK. BUT THIS IS AN EMERGING TECHNOLOGY. THERE ARE NEW FIRE CODES AND REGULATIONS THAT ARE COMING OUT REGULATING B.E.S.S., BECAUSE AS WE GET MORE PROJECTS, WE ARE LEARNING MORE AND MORE. WE HAVE HAD THREE FIRES, INTERNATIONALLY: ONE IN AUSTRALIA IN 2023, ONE IN CALIFORNIA IN 2022, AND THEN THEY HAD A VERY DEVASTATING INCIDENT WITH AN EARLY B.E.S.S. PROJECT IN SURPRISE, ARIZONA, THAT INJURED 4 FIRST RESPONDERS. BUT THE TECHNOLOGY IS IMPORTANT TO US HERE IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY, WITH OUR EFFORTS FOR DECARBONIZATION, AND WE ARE GOING TO GET MORE AND MORE OF THESE. BUT WE ARE LOOKING AT EACH AND EVERY PROJECT TO ENSURE ITS SAFETY. AND EVEN IF YOU ARE IN THE VERY HIGH OR HIGH FIRE SEVERITY DANGER ZONE, WE'RE GOING TO MAKE SURE THAT WE PUT THINGS IN PLACE TO MAKE SURE THAT THE COMMUNITIES ARE NOT AT RISK, AND RESIDENTS ARE NOT AT RISK.

SUP. BARGER: MADAM CHAIR, I KNOW WE'VE GOT OUR TOWN COUNCIL AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE AREA THAT ARE HERE TO SPEAK, SO I WILL RESERVE THE REST OF MY COMMENTS TILL AFTER I HEAR FROM MY CONSTITUENTS IN THE COMMUNITY, IF THAT WOULD BE OKAY.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: ABSOLUTELY. SUPERVISOR MITCHELL?

SUP. MITCHELL: MADAM CHAIR, ARE WE HOLDING ITEM 72 AND 98 TOGETHER? ARE YOU GOING TO TAKE COMMENTS ON 98 NOW, OR WHEN WOULD YOU PREFER MY COMMENTS?

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: WE ARE HOLDING BOTH TOGETHER.

SUP. BARGER: YEAH, BECAUSE I HAVE COMMENTS ON THAT, AS WELL, BUT GO AHEAD.

SUP. MITCHELL: WELL, I WILL GO AFTER YOUR COMMENTS ON 98.

SUP. BARGER: OKAY. I MEAN, OBVIOUSLY, WITH THIS PROJECT, I FOUND THAT THERE IS A HIGH DENSITY. AND WHEN I LOOKED AT THE LIST, I HAD CONCERNS ABOUT THE FACT THAT THERE WAS NO SCOPING MECHANISM IN PLACE. AND IN THE NORTH COUNTY, BECAUSE OF THE AVAILABILITY OF LAND, IT IS OFTEN DETERMINED TO BE A PATH OF LEAST RESISTANCE FOR LARGE-SCALE PROJECTS, BECAUSE OF THE AVAILABILITY OF LAND. I CAN PROMISE YOU THAT MY COMMUNITIES

ARE ENGAGED, WELL-INFORMED, AND WILL STAND UP WHEN THEY FEEL IT IS RIGHT. GIVEN THE NUMBER OF PROJECTS PROPOSED IN THE ACTON COMMUNITY AND THE NORTH COUNTY, IN GENERAL, WE DO NEED TO ADDRESS EQUITABLE IMPACTS OF THESE PROJECTS. AS THE DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL PLANNING REPORT NOTED, THERE IS A NEED TO ESTABLISH AN ORDINANCE IN COUNTY CODE FOR THE APPROPRIATE SITING OF THESE TYPE OF PROJECTS. AS THE DEPARTMENT DRAFTS ORDINANCES, I DO HOPE-- AND I AM CONFIDENT WE WILL AND CAN-- GET TO THE HEART OF COMMUNITY CONCERNS ABOUT FIRE SAFETY, OVERCONCENTRATION, AND ASSESSMENT OF IMPACTS. WE ALSO NEED TO ADDRESS THE FACT THAT WE HAVE OUTCOMES THAT ARE DISPARATE, IN TERMS OF ENERGY RELIABILITY. B.E.S.S. PROJECTS WILL HELP BRING GREATER GRID AVAILABILITY AND RELIABILITY TO THE URBAN BASIN, BUT COMMUNITIES LIKE ACTON WILL STILL BE SUBJECT TO PUBLIC SAFETY POWER SHUTOFFS. ALWAYS ON THANKSGIVING, I MIGHT ADD. YEAH, UNLESS YOU ARE COOKING A TURKEY, AND THEN YOU WON'T BE LAUGHING, RIGHT? B.E.S.S. PROJECTS ARE ONE SOLUTION TO ADDRESS THE BROADER ISSUES PLAGUING ENERGY DELIVERY AND RELIABILITY. WE NEED TO TAKE A MORE COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH, AS WE AIM TO TRANSITION AWAY FROM FOSSIL FUELS, THAT DOES NOT LEAVE CERTAIN PARTS OF OUR COUNTY BEHIND, ESPECIALLY WHEN IT IS IN THEIR OWN BACKYARD. WE NEED TO LOOK AT THE DEPLOYMENT OF MICROGRIDS, AS WELL AS RENEWED FOCUS ON HOLDING POWER COMPANIES ACCOUNTABLE FOR KEEPING THE POWER ON. THIS PAST THANKSGIVING WAS THE FIRST SINCE 2020 WHEN LARGE SWATHS OF ACTON AND AGUA DULCE, IN MY

DISTRICT, DID NOT FACE THE THREATS OF P.S.P.S. WE HAVE A VERY DIVERSE COUNTY IN MANY WAYS, AND OUR POLICIES NEED TO TAKE A CONTEXT-SENSITIVE APPROACH THAT MEETS THE NEEDS OF ALL THE COMMUNITIES, AND OUR RESIDENTS. SO I LOOK FORWARD ON 98-A, AN ORDINANCE THAT THE DEPARTMENT WILL DEVELOP, AND I REQUEST AN AYE VOTE FROM MY COLLEAGUES ON THIS. BUT MAKE NO MISTAKE, I THINK THAT THIS IS A PRIORITY BY OUR GOVERNOR, AS WELL, AND BY THE C.P.U.C., AS IT RELATES TO NOT JUST IN L.A. COUNTY, BUT I THINK ACROSS THE STATE. AND I UNDERSTAND THAT, BUT WHEN I SAW THE LIST, AND HOW THE DENSITY WAS IN THE NORTH COUNTY, ESPECIALLY IN THE ACTON AREA AND MOVING TOWARD THE ANTELOPE VALLEY, IT CAUSED ME CONCERN, BECAUSE THAT TELLS ME THAT WE NEED TO BE MORE PROACTIVE IN HOW WE SITE THESE, TO MAKE SURE THAT IT IS NOT DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTING COMMUNITIES, ESPECIALLY COMMUNITIES WHERE THEY MOVED THERE BECAUSE OF THE RURAL SETTING, AND BECAUSE OF THE FACT THAT THEY DON'T HAVE THESE TYPE OF PROJECTS AND SOLAR ALL OVER THE PLACE. SO I WOULD ASK THAT WE TAKE THAT INTO CONSIDERATION, AS WELL. THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR. AND I KNOW, HOLLY, YOU WANT TO SAY SOMETHING, SUPERVISOR MITCHELL.

SUP. MITCHELL: THANK YOU VERY MUCH, SUPERVISOR BARGER, FOR BRINGING THE MOTION FORWARD. I THINK IT IS IMPORTANT CONVERSATION THAT WE NEED TO HAVE, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE STAKEHOLDERS THAT YOU HAVE ACTUALLY REFERENCED IN THE MOTION

ITSELF. THERE ARE CLEARLY INFRASTRUCTURE, SAFETY, ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS THAT WE SHOULD CONSIDER WHEN SITING BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM PROJECTS, WHILE ALSO CONSIDERING THE IMPORTANT ROLE THESE PROJECTS PLAY IN REACHING OUR CLIMATE AND CLEAN ENERGY GOALS, AND SUPPORTING THE GROWTH OF GREEN JOBS. OUR GOAL SHOULD BE TO ENSURE THAT WE ARE DEVELOPING RESPONSIVE LAND USE POLICIES THAT MEET THESE NEEDS, WHILE ALSO PRIORITIZING HEALTH, SAFETY, AND EQUITY, AS OUR COUNTY TRANSFORMS ITS ENERGY SYSTEMS. THE COUNTY'S LARGEST BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM PROJECT, TO DATE, IS IN THE SECOND DISTRICT, AND DELAYS IN PERMITTING HAD AN IMPACT ON PROGRESS, WHICH COULD HAVE CAUSED THE PROJECT TO LOSE 100 CLEAN ENERGY UNION JOBS. WE WERE ABLE TO WORK WITH FIRE TO ENSURE THAT, WHILE PRIORITIZING SAFETY FIRST AND FOREMOST, WE COULD FIND A REASONABLE PATH FORWARD TO REACH PERMIT APPROVAL WITHIN THE GIVEN TIME CONSTRAINTS. SO, TO ME, THIS DEMONSTRATES THE IMPORTANCE OF COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, NOT ONLY UPDATING YOUR STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES TO BE RESPONSIVE TO BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS AND OTHER NEW TECHNOLOGIES THAT WILL ALLOW OUR REGION TO UTILIZE MORE CLEAN ENERGY AND PRODUCE GREEN JOBS, BUT TO ALSO BE ADAPTIVE AND RESPONSIVE TO THOSE WANTING TO BRING THESE PROJECTS AND JOBS TO OUR REGION. WITH THIS MOTION, WE MUST NOT ONLY ENSURE THAT REGIONAL PLANNING CONVENE PARTNERS TO UPDATE COUNTY CODE, BUT THAT WE ALSO CONSULT WITH THE FIRE DEPARTMENT TO MAKE ANY UPDATES TO THE

FIRE CODE TO KEEP RESIDENTS SAFE, AND EXPEDITE APPROVAL OF THESE PROJECTS. SO THANK YOU FOR THE MOTION. THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. I HAVE JUST A COUPLE OF QUESTIONS FOR OUR STAFF HERE, THAT I THINK WILL HELP CLARIFY, ALSO, SOME CONCERNS THAT HAVE BEEN RAISED. REGARDLESS OF WHETHER A PROJECT IS APPROVED MINISTERIALLY, DOESN'T A BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE PROJECT STILL HAVE TO MEET SAFEY AND CODE REQUIREMENTS, EVEN THOUGH IT IS C.E.Q.A. EXEMPT? I JUST WANT THAT CLARIFIED ON THE RECORD, WHETHER THAT'S STILL PART OF THE PROCESS.

DAVID DE GRAZIA: YES, IT WOULD STILL HAVE GO THROUGH ALL OF THE REGULAR CHECKS. REALLY, THE PLANNING ENTITLEMENT GIVES THEM PERMISSION TO APPLY FOR BUILDING PERMITS, AT WHICH POINT FULL CONSTRUCTION PLANS ARE DRAWN UP, AND THEN IT IS SUBMITTED TO ALL OF OUR OTHER DEPARTMENT OR COUNTY TEAMS TO REVIEW, SUCH AS FIRE.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: OKAY. THANK YOU FOR THAT CLARIFICATION. DID YOU WANT TO ADD TO IT?

ANTHONY MARRONE: YES, MA'AM. OUR APPROACH INVOLVES A THOROUGH REVIEW AND ANALYSIS OF THE B.E.S.S. PLANS, THROUGH OUR PLAN

CHECK PROCESS. WE APPLY THE CODES FROM LOCAL, STATE, AND NATIONAL-- CODES LIKE THE N.F.P.A. STANDARDS-- TO THESE, TO ENSURE THAT THE PLANS BEING SUBMITTED ARE MEETING THE CODES AND THE STANDARDS, TO PROVIDE FOR SAFETY OF THE PUBLIC AND FOR FIRST RESPONDERS.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THAT'S HELPFUL TO HEAR THAT WE ARE CONTINUING TO FOCUS ON THAT, THAT OUR EXPEDIENCY THAT WE ARE SEEKING IN THIS ITEM WILL NOT TRUMP SAFETY REGULATIONS AND OTHER CODE STIPULATIONS THAT WE STILL MUST ADHERE TO IN THIS PROCESS. I DO HAVE ONE SLIGHT AMENDMENT ON ITEM 98-A, DIRECTIVE ONE. WE WANTED TO INCLUDE THE WORD "ZONE" AFTER "SIZE," TO READ, "DEPENDING ON THEIR SIZE, ZONE, AND IF THEY ARE PRIMARY OR ACCESSORY USES." AND I THINK THAT HELPS TO PROVIDE FURTHER CLARIFICATION, IF YOU ARE OKAY WITH THAT, SUPERVISOR BARGER. OKAY.

SUP. BARGER: ABSOLUTELY.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU VERY MUCH. WITH THAT, I INTEND TO VOTE YES ON BOTH OF THESE ITEMS. I AM PROUD TO HAVE BEEN A MEMBER OF THE BOARD FOR THE CLEAN POWER ALLIANCE FOR THE LAST- - SINCE IT WAS CREATED. I DON'T KNOW. MORE THAN FIVE YEARS, I GUESS. I AM CURRENTLY SERVING AS ITS VICE CHAIR, AND IT IS OUR DEFAULT ENERGY SUPPLIER FOR THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF LOS

ANGELES COUNTY, AS WELL AS MORE THAN 30 COMMUNITIES IN BOTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY, AND IN VENTURA COUNTY, AND IT WAS NAMED THE NUMBER-ONE CLEAN ENERGY PROVIDER IN OUR COUNTRY BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY. AND IT IS CRITICAL TO HAVE CLEAN ENERGY SOURCES, AND STORAGE IS A CRITICAL COMPONENT OF MAKING THAT POSSIBLE. SO I KNOW THAT WE WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT THERE ARE ENERGY STORAGE PROJECTS THAT EXIST IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY, BUT WE WANT TO DO SO WITH REGULATION, WITH SAFETY IN MIND, AND I THINK THAT'S REALLY OUR FOCUS OF THE ORDINANCE THAT'S BEING PROPOSED HERE TODAY. MY MOTION WITH SUPERVISOR SOLIS ON ITEM 23 ESTABLISHES AN L.A. COUNTY CLIMATE BUDGET TO ACHIEVE CARBON-NEUTRAL COUNTY OPERATIONS, WHICH WILL PLAY A ROLE IN INVESTMENT IN PROJECTS LIKE THIS, AS WELL AS JOBS. SO THERE'S A LOT OF GOOD WORK HERE. WE HAVE TO BE MINDFUL OF HOW WE PROGRESS, MOVING FORWARD. WE JUST HEARD TODAY THAT TECHNOLOGY HAS EVOLVED, AND THAT WILL ALSO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT SOME OF THE SAFETY CONCERNS THAT WE ARE HEARING FROM COMMUNITIES, AS WE MOVE FORWARD. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. AND NOW, EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PLEASE CALL THE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO HAVE SIGNED UP TO SPEAK ON THIS ITEM.

SPEAKER: WILL THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS PLEASE COME FORWARD, AND STAFF WILL ASSIST YOU: ANDY BLUM, ANGELICA CENDEJAS, ANNE MUDGE, ARNOLD SACHS, CINDY DODGE, DAVID WOOD, DEBORAH O'DELL, DIANA LIMON, DON LAIRD, JACQUELINE EYRE, JOE WHITELY, JOHN

FERRAR, JOHN VIDICK, JOSEPH SULLIVAN, JUNE PERKINS, KATHERINE TUCKER, AND KATHY COUGHLIN. AS A FINAL REMINDER FOR PARTICIPANTS ON THE TELEPHONE, IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON ITEMS 72 AND 98-A, AND IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY DONE SO, PLEASE PRESS 1 THEN 0 NOW TO BE PLACED IN THE SPEAKING QUEUE. MODERATOR, MAY WE HAVE THE FIRST SPEAKER, PLEASE?

MODERATOR: OUR FIRST PARTICIPANT IS DAVID GOMEZ. YOU MAY BEGIN.

SPEAKER: I OPPOSE THIS APPEAL, AND I AM WITH A RESIDENT SINCE 1991, IN THE ANTELOPE VALLEY, THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT PARTICIPANT IS PAUL DARRIGO. YOU MAY BEGIN.

PAUL DARRIGO: HI. MY NAME IS PAUL DARRIGO, WITH C.H.U.L.A., CITIZENS FOR A HUMANE LOS ANGELES. I AM OPPOSED TO THE OVERRULING ON THE CASE HERE BECAUSE, FIRST OF ALL, WE REALLY NEED TO LOOK AT WHAT GREEN ENERGY IS. WE NEED TO LOOK AT THE EFFICACY OF IT, WHERE IT COMES FROM, NOT THE IDEOLOGICAL NARRATIVE. LITHIUM ION IS INCREDIBLY TOXIC TO THE ENVIRONMENT.

MINING IS IT TOXIC. THERE WAS A BILL PASSED BY ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, BACK IN 2009: $1.2 BILLION TO ADVANCE HYDROGEN. IT'S A COOL PROPERTY THAT WE NEED TO LOOK AT, BESIDES THE ELECTRIC. SO, NO IN THIS AREA. YOU'RE GOING TO DESTROY THE AREA. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. WE WILL NOW GO TO IN-PERSON SPEAKERS. GO AHEAD.

DIANA LIMON: GOOD AFTERNOON, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. MY NAME IS DIANA LIMON, AND I AM THE DIRECTOR OF WOMEN RECRUITMENT AND SUPPORT FOR THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS, LOCAL 11. WE STRONGLY URGE THE BOARD-- I RISE IN OPPOSITION OF THIS APPEAL, AND WE STRONGLY URGE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO UPHOLD THE DIRECTOR'S C.E.Q.A. DETERMINATION FOR THIS PROJECT. THE HECATE GRID HUMIDOR'S BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM PROJECT WILL SUPPORT THE STATE'S GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION OBJECTIVES, WHILE PROVIDING APPROXIMATELY 100 GOOD UNION JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESIDENTS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY, AND I.B.E.W. MEMBERS. THIS DEVELOPER IS COMMITTED TO SAFETY AND DIRECT LOCAL BENEFITS, WHILE INCREASING OUR MUCH-NEEDED GRID RELIABILITY IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY. THIS PRIMARILY ELECTRICAL PROJECT MEANS MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN AND UNDER-REPRESENTED CONSTITUENTS TO ENTER INTO OUR TRADE. WE URGE YOU TO VOTE NO TO THIS APPEAL AND MOVE FORWARD WITH THIS

PROJECT, AND REST ASSURED, YOU HAVE THE MOST QUALIFIED, TRAINED WORKFORCE TO DO THIS INSULATION, TO AVOID THE CATASTROPHES THAT WERE PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. BEFORE WE GO TO THE NEXT SPEAKER, I JUST WANT TO CLARIFY. "YES" ON THE FIRST ITEM IS A REJECTION OF THE APPEAL. "NO," A NO VOTE, WOULD BE UPHOLDING THE APPEAL. CORRECT? OKAY. JUST WANTED TO CLARIFY, SO EVERYONE KNOWS UP HERE WHAT WE ARE VOTING ON, AND IN CASE THE COMMENTS WERE CONFUSING.

SPEAKER: THEN LET ME CLARIFY. IT IS A "YES" TO THE APPEAL.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: UNDERSTOOD. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. I THOUGHT THAT'S WHAT YOU MEANT. NEXT SPEAKER. GO AHEAD.

SPEAKER: MY NAME IS ANGELICA CENDEJAS, AND I AM HERE TO SPEAK ON ITEM 72, TO DENY THE APPEAL AND UPHOLD THE DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL PLANNING'S DETERMINATION. L.A. COUNTY'S PROJECT APPROVAL PROCESS IS COMPLETELY DEFICIENT IN COMPARISON TO THE PROCESS OF THE STATE'S OPT-IN PROGRAM. THIS PROGRAM WAS DEVELOPED BY THE CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION IN RESPONSE TO THE NEW A.B. 205 LEGISLATION, WHICH WAS PASSED TO FAST-TRACK APPROPRIATE ENERGY PROJECTS WISHING TO DEVELOP IN CALIFORNIA. THIS OPT-IN PROGRAM REQUIRES THAT PROJECTS GO THROUGH AN

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW, HAVE A COMMUNITY BENEFITS PLAN IN PLACE, AND ALSO FORMALLY ENGAGE WITH PUBLIC FOR QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS. THE COUNTY'S PROCESS REQUIRED NONE OF THIS. WE FIND NO EVIDENCE OF ANY OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENT JURISDICTION IN ANY OTHER STATE HAVING APPROVED A TRANSMISSION B.E.S.S. LIKE THIS HUMIDOR PROJECT BY SIMPLE MINISTERIAL REVIEW.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU.

SPEAKER: THE L.A. COUNTY'S APPROVAL PROCESS SHOULD AT LEAST BE AS RIGOROUS AS THE--

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU VERY MUCH. THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

SPEAKER: YES, THANK YOU. MY NAME IS JACQUELINE EYRE, WITH S.O.R.T. I AM SUPPORTING THE APPEAL. I PUT DOWN THAT I SUPPORT THE APPEAL. I HAVE A BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN PHYSICS FROM VASSAR. I HAVE A MASTER'S DEGREE IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT BERKELEY. I HAVE BEEN AN ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER SINCE 1986, AND FOR THE LAST TWO DECADES, I HAVE PARTICIPATED IN EVERY SINGLE TRANSMISSION PROCEEDING BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION-- LARGE PROCEEDING-- IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. SO I AM A TRANSMISSION SYSTEM EXPERT. SO WHEN I SAY THAT THE HUMIDOR PROJECT IS

NOTHING LIKE AN ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION SUBSTATION, THAT SHOULD CARRY WEIGHT. WE ARE APPEALING THE DETERMINATION THAT HUMIDOR IS C.E.Q.A.-EXEMPT, WHICH IS BASED ON THE CONCLUSION-- ERRONEOUS CONCLUSION-- THAT HUMIDOR IS A MINISTERIAL PROJECT BECAUSE IT IS SIMILAR TO A DISTRIBUTION SUBSTATION. THIS DETERMINATION IS INVALID BECAUSE THE MINISTERIAL FINDING IS INVALID. ALSO, IT IS NOT A BY-RIGHT USE. TO BE A BY-RIGHT USE, YOU HAVE TO BE LISTED IN THE CODE. B.E.S.S. IS NOT LISTED IN THE CODE; IT IS NOT A BY-RIGHT USE. THANK YOU, AND MERRY CHRISTMAS.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. MERRY CHRISTMAS. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: MY NAME IS CINDY DODGE, AND I'M IN SUPPORT OF THE APPEAL. ON AUGUST 1ST OF THIS YEAR, L.A. COUNTY AGAIN APPROVED HECATE'S HUMIDOR B.E.S.S. PROJECT, FOLLOWING A SMALL SITE PLAN REVISION TO EXCLUDE AN A2-ZONED PIECE OF THE PARCEL. THIS MINISTERIAL APPROVAL WAS MADE BY THE DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL PLANNING, WHO UTILIZED A SIMILARITY DETERMINATION, STATING THAT THIS HUMIDOR PROJECT WAS MOST SIMILAR TO A DISTRIBUTION SUBSTATION. THERE'S ABSOLUTELY NOTHING TO SUPPORT SUCH A DETERMINATION. THIS LOCATION, FUNCTION, AND VOLTAGE OF THIS PROJECT ESTABLISHED THAT IT IS ACTUALLY A TRANSMISSION FACILITY, AND THEREFORE SHOULD HAVE NEVER BEEN APPROVED THROUGH A MINISTERIAL REVIEW. MOST IMPORTANTLY, A SIMILARITY

DETERMINATION IS NOT ALLOWED UNDER THE COUNTY CODE TO APPROVE A USE IN AN--

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

SPEAKER: HELLO. MY NAME IS DON LAIRD. MY WIFE AND I JOINED THE POSTAL SERVICE AS LETTER CARRIERS IN 1986, AND PURCHASED A BRAND-NEW HOME IN SAUGUS. FUNNY THING ABOUT DREAMS, THEY PUSH YOU TO BE BETTER. IN 1988, WE SOLD OUR TRACT HOME AND PURCHASED TWO AND A HALF ACRES IN ACTON, WHICH IS WHERE WE BUILT OUR HOME. OVER THE NEXT 35 YEARS, WE LIVED THE AMERICAN DREAM. OUR CAREERS FLOURISHED, AND OUR FAMILY MULTIPLIED. THERE ARE ALWAYS BUMPS IN THE ROAD. WE FACED ILLNESSES AND INJURIES, HEAVY RAINS, DROUGHTS, OUR WELL GOING DRY, SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON SHUTTING OFF OUR ELECTRICITY FOR UP TO A WEEK FOR OUR SAFETY, PANDEMIC, SANTA ANA WINDS, AND THE WILDFIRES THAT FOLLOWED. DESPITE ALL THIS, WE PUSHED THROUGH. WE RECENTLY RETIRED AFTER 35 YEARS OF GOVERNMENT SERVICE, AND SETTLED TO REAP THE BENEFITS OF THE AMERICAN DREAM REALIZED. NOW, IN 2023, OUR AMERICAN DREAM IS ENDANGERED BY THE HUMIDOR PROJECT. I AM ASKING YOU, GIVE US AND OUR DREAM A FIGHTING CHANCE BY ALLOWING A FULL REVIEW OF THE HUMIDOR--

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

ANNE E. MUDGE: GOOD AFTERNOON, MADAM CHAIR, MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. MY NAME IS ANNE E. MUDGE, AND I AM LEGAL COUNSEL TO THE PROJECT. I AM HERE TODAY TO URGE YOU TO DENY THE APPEAL. THE ISSUES BEFORE YOU ARE VERY STRAIGHTFORWARD. THE DETERMINATION THAT A B.E.S.S. IS ALLOWED AS A BY-RIGHT USE IN AN INDUSTRIAL ZONE WAS MADE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL PLANNING IN 2021. THAT DETERMINATION IS NOT BEFORE YOU TODAY; IT HAS BEEN MADE. THE BY-RIGHT USE IS CONSIDERED MINISTERIAL UNDER THE ZONING CODE, AND BY STATE LAW, MINISTERIAL DETERMINATIONS ARE EXEMPT FROM C.E.Q.A. WE THEREFORE SUPPORT STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION THAT THE APPEAL BE DENIED, AND THE SITE PLAN REVIEW BE UPHELD. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

ANDY BLUM: GOOD AFTERNOON. MY NAME IS ANDY BLUM. I AM A FIRE PROTECTION ENGINEER WITH FIRE & RISK ALLIANCE. I AM HERE SPEAKING IN SUPPORT OF THE BOARD DENYING THE APPEAL. FIRE SAFETY IS ALWAYS A BIG CONCERN WITH BATTERY SYSTEMS, AND THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND L.A. COUNTY ARE REALLY AT THE FOREFRONT OF BATTERY STORAGE SYSTEM SAFETY. AND SO THEY HAVE ADOPTED NATIONALLY CREATED FIRE CODES, ALREADY, ACROSS THE

STATE. THESE ARE ALL APPLIED TO ANY BATTERY STORAGE SYSTEM INSTALLED IN THE COUNTY, AND IT HAS TO GO THROUGH A FULL REVIEW BY L.A. COUNTY FIRE, AS WELL AS ANY OTHER ENTITY IN THE COUNTY. AND SO BECAUSE OF THESE REASONS, THE CONCERNS WITH FIRE SAFETY CAN BE ADDRESSED THROUGH THOSE REVIEWS, TO ENSURE THAT EVERYTHING IS SAFE FOR THE COMMUNITY, AS WELL AS ANY INDIVIDUALS AT THE SITE. SO, THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

SPEAKER: LITHIUM ION BATTERIES PRODUCE SEVERAL EXTREMELY TOXIC GASES WHEN BURNING. THESE INCLUDE HYDROGEN FLUORIDE AND HYDROGEN CHLORIDE, IN ADDITION TO THE MORE COMMONLY PRODUCED GASES, SUCH AS CARBON MONOXIDE, CARBON DIOXIDE, HYDROGEN CYANIDE, METHANE, AND ETHANE, TO NAME JUST A FEW. HYDROGEN FLUORIDE IS ONE OF THE MOST DEADLY GASES, AND EXPOSURE CAN HAPPEN THROUGH INHALATION, OR CONTACT WITH THE SKIN OR EYES. BECAUSE OF THESE TOXIC GASES, FIREFIGHTERS MUST WEAR HIGHLY PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT WHEN FIGHTING A LITHIUM ION FIRE. UNFORTUNATELY, ACTON RESIDENTS DO NOT HAVE SUCH PROTECTION. THE SUPERHEATED AND HIGHLY TOXIC GASES PRODUCED BY THE FIRE OF LITHIUM ION BATTERIES POSE AN EVEN GREATER AND MORE FAR-REACHING RISK TO PUBLIC SAFETY THAN THE FIRE ITSELF. ALL THIS RISK FOR POWER ACTON WILL NEVER RECEIVE, AND RISKS WE DO NOT EVER WANT TO TAKE. MY NOTE ADDED.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

JOE SULLIVAN: YES, GOOD AFTERNOON. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND STAFF, THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK. MY NAME IS JOE SULLIVAN. I WORK FOR THE NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF GREATER LOS ANGELES, AND THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL 11, AND I AM HERE TO SPEAK IN SUPPORT OF ITEM NUMBER 72, AND ALLOW FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE PROJECT. WE NEED THESE PROJECTS TO ACHIEVE OUR AMBITIOUS CLIMATE GOALS. THERE'S NO WAY WE CAN MOVE FORWARD WITHOUT BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE. THESE PROJECTS ARE SAFE. I.B.E.W. AND [INAUDIBLE] HAVE BEEN INSTALLING THESE THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, SAFELY, FOR MANY, MANY YEARS. OVER A DECADE AGO, WE INSTALLED THE FIRST-OF-ITS-KIND MICROGRID AT OUR SCHOOL, AT OUR TRAINING CENTER, WITH A LARGE BATTERY SYSTEM, AND IT'S BEEN FUNCTIONING SAFELY. WE EMPHASIZE SAFETY AT OUR SCHOOL. WE HAVE A FULL-TIME SAFETY PROFESSIONAL WHO WORKS WITH OUR CONTRACTORS AND ELECTRICIANS. WE ARE TRAINED IN N.F.P.A. 70. WE HAVE OFFERED FIRST RESPONDER TRAINING FOR FREE AT OUR TRAINING FACILITY, FOR MANY YEARS.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU.

JOE SULLIVAN: OKAY, THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU VERY MUCH. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: HI. JOHN VIDICK, HERE. S.O.R.T. IS APPEALING THE DETERMINATION THAT THE HUMIDOR B.E.S.S. PROJECT IS EXEMPT FROM C.E.Q.A. GIVEN ITS SIGNIFICANT SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS, AS POINTED OUT BY OUR PREVIOUS SPEAKERS, THE HUMIDOR PROJECT POSES SIGNIFICANT RISK TO THE CALIFORNIA GRID, AND THAT IS BECAUSE THE SMOKE WILL PRODUCE IONIZED GASES THAT WILL SHORT OUT THE TRANSMISSION LINES THAT ARE VERY CLOSE TO THIS PROJECT. THIS PROJECT IS ILL CONCEIVED, AND APPROVAL WILL IMPOSE RISKS ON THE WESTERN INTERCONNECT PROJECT. THIS IS A KEY POWER CORRIDOR THROUGH L.A. COUNTY, AND COULD PUT AT RISK THE WHOLE GRID. THIS PROJECT WILL PUT 150 MILLION LITHIUM CELLS IN ACTON, NEAR THIS CRITICAL CORRIDOR. A FAULT IN ANY ONE CELL COULD LEAD TO THERMAL RUNAWAY-- SMOKE, TOXIC FUMES-- AND IMPACT OUR COMMUNITY, AND LIKELY SHUT DOWN THIS KEY ELECTRICAL CORRIDOR. A 2022 RESEARCH PAPER IN THE "JOURNAL OF ENERGY STORAGE," ON THERMAL RUNAWAY, INCLUDES VARIATIONS IN COMMERCIAL CELLS--

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING IN WRITING THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH THE BOARD, SO WE CAN READ THE REST OF IT, YOU CAN GIVE IT TO THAT NICE WOMAN RIGHT

THERE, AND WE WILL BE ABLE TO READ IT. THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

SPEAKER: MY NAME IS JOE WHITELY. I HAVE BEEN A RESIDENT OF ACTON FOR 20 YEARS. I'VE BEEN IN THE AEROSPACE BUSINESS FOR 50 YEARS, AND MY PRIMARY JOB IS ROCKET-LOADER TESTING AND EXPLOSIONS. AND WHEN THINGS GO BAD, THEY GO BAD IN A BIG WAY, AND REAL FAST. LITHIUM BATTERIES, NOT MUCH DIFFERENT. IT IS LIKE PUTTING A ROCKET TEST STAND IN THE LOCATION THAT YOU WANT. THIS IS NOT REALLY ABOUT THE BATTERIES. WE LOVE THE B.E.S.S. IDEAS. THE PROBLEM IS THE LOCATION. THE LOCATION IS IN A SEVERE FIRE AREA, AND WE ARE 100 YARDS FROM THE HILLSIDE, WHICH CAN JUST TAKE DOWN THE WHOLE OF ACTON. I AM ONE MILE UP FROM THE FACILITY, HERE. WHEN THE WINDS BLOW THROUGH THAT CORRIDOR, IT IS JUST GOING TO TAKE OUT A WHOLE CANYON. IT IS GOING TO TAKE OUT THE ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST, THAT WE JUST RECOUPED SEVERAL YEARS AGO. THE LOCATION OF IT IS ALSO NEXT TO THE METROLINK TRAIN STATION, THE SIERRA HIGHWAY, 14 FREEWAY, ANGELES FOREST HIGHWAY, PEARBLOSSOM HIGHWAY, WHICH COULD ALL--

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: HELLO, BOARD. I'M KATHERINE TUCKER, RESIDENT OF ACTON FOR OVER 20 YEARS. LITHIUM ION BATTERIES HAVE BEEN KNOWN TO REIGNITE HOURS, DAYS, EVEN WEEKS LATER, DUE TO STRANDED ENERGY

WITHIN THE BATTERY CELLS. THIS STRANDED ENERGY IS A GREAT RISK TO FIREFIGHTERS, AND THAT IS WHY THE BATTERY FIRES ARE ALLOWED TO BURN: TO ENSURE THAT STRANDED ENERGY IS CONSUMED. FIREFIGHTERS MAY FLOW HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS, EVEN OVER A MILLION GALLONS OF WATER, TO COOL AND PREVENT THE SPREAD OF A LITHIUM ION BATTERY FIRE. THE HUMIDOR WILL UTILIZE WATER FROM WATERWORKS DISTRICT 37, SUPPLIED BY A 12-INCH WATER MAIN. WATERWORKS DISTRICT 37 ALSO SERVES ACTON RESIDENTS, AT APPROXIMATELY 1.8 MILLION GALLONS A DAY. WE DON'T HAVE A LOT OF WATER IN ACTON. HOWEVER, THE CAPACITY OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE THAT PROVIDES THIS WATER IS LIMITED. AN INCIDENT AT THE HUMIDOR B.E.S.S. HAS THE POTENTIAL TO REQUIRE SO MUCH WATER THAT WATER SERVICE TO ACTON RESIDENTS WILL SURELY BE COMPROMISED. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: HI. MY NAME IS KATHY COUGHLIN. I OPPOSE ALL THIS PROJECT. IT HAS BEEN PROVEN THAT, ONCE A THERMAL RUNAWAY EVENT BEGINS, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO STOP. THOUGH THE OVERHEATING OR MALFUNCTION MAY START IN ONLY ONE BATTERY CELL, IT QUICKLY CASCADES AND SPREADS TO OTHER BATTERIES. EVEN DE-ENERGIZING THE SYSTEM CANNOT STOP THIS THERMAL RUNAWAY, BECAUSE THERE IS ENERGY STILL STRANDED WITHIN THE BATTERY CELLS. PROFESSORS OF PHYSICS FROM OXFORD UNIVERSITY DID A DETAILED STUDY ON THIS

VERY ISSUE, WITH THE FINAL DETERMINATION THAT THERMAL RUNAWAY CANNOT BE STOPPED, NOR PREVENTED, BY A FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEM UTILIZING A CLEAN AGENT. THE FLOW OF THOUSANDS AND THOUSANDS OF GALLONS OF WATER WILL ALSO NOT STOP A THERMAL RUNAWAY EVENT. IT WILL ONLY KEEP THE FIRE FROM SPREADING OUTSIDE THE BATTERY CONTAINER.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: DON'T B.E.S.S. WITH ACTON.

SPEAKER: HELLO, AND THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT OUR POINT OF VIEW HERE. AND ESPECIALLY TO OUR SUPERVISOR BARGER, THANK YOU. MY NAME IS JOHN FERRAR. I HAVE BEEN A RESIDENT OF ACTON AND A PROPERTY OWNER THERE FOR 33 YEARS-- ALMOST 34, NOW-- AND I AM A FORMER MEMBER OF THE ACTON TOWN COUNCIL. EVEN THOUGH ACTON IS PREDOMINATELY A RURAL RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY WITH LIMITED COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, IT ALSO HAS SEVERAL LIGHT INDUSTRIAL ZONED M-1 PROPERTIES, SEVERAL OF WHICH ARE LOCATED IN THE EAST PART OF THE COMMUNITY. ACCORDING TO OUR ANTELOPE AREA PLAN, L.A. COUNTY STATES LAND USE M-1 SHALL BE FOR BUSINESSES THAT ARE COMMUNITY-BASED. THE HUMIDOR B.E.S.S. AND OTHER BATTERY STORAGE PROJECTS FOR ACTON DO NOT SERVE THE ACTON AREA, AS SUCH, AND ARE THEREFORE NOT COMMUNITY-BASED. SINCE HUMIDOR

B.E.S.S. AND OTHER B.E.S.S. PROJECTS WILL BE AUTONOMOUS, THEY ALSO WILL NOT PROVIDE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: WILL THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS PLEASE COME FORWARD, AND STAFF WILL ASSIST: KENNY PERKINS, KENT TRUCKOR, KIM STOCKS, LAURA WILSON, LINDA KISH, LUKE NICHOLSON, MICHAEL HUGHES, MIKE KUFCHAK, NANCY JACOBI, PAM REUTER, RUST FOX, RUTHY BROCK, SCOTT PERCY, SHARON SIMONS, SHRUTI RAMAKER, TAMMY NECESSARY, THOMAS SMITH, AND TOMMY FAAVAE.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: GO AHEAD, NEXT SPEAKER.

JUNE PERKINS: THANK YOU. HI. GREETINGS TO YOU ALL, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AND THE PANEL HERE TODAY FROM THE L.A. COUNTY-- THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, AND FROM THE L.A. PLANNING COMMISSION. THANK YOU FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS YOU TODAY. MY NAME IS JUNE PERKINS. I AM A BOARD MEMBER OF THE ACTON TOWN COUNCIL, AND RETIRED HEALTHCARE WORKER FOR 47 YEARS. I STRONGLY FEEL AND OPPOSE HAVING THE B.E.S.S. HECATE BATTERY IN ACTON TOWN, BECAUSE IT IS REALLY A HIGH FIRE ZONE. UNFORESEEN CATASTROPHIC CIRCUMSTANCES AND CONSEQUENCES CAN BE DETRIMENTAL IN MANY WAYS. THANK YOU SO MUCH.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

DAVID WOOD: HELLO. MY NAME IS DAVID WOOD, AND I'M SENIOR DIRECTOR AT ROSENDIN ELECTRIC, AND WE ARE HERE TO SAY YES ON 72, AND SUPPORT THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE B.E.S.S. PROJECT. ROSENDIN IS PROUD PARTNERS WITH BOTH THE NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION AND THE I.B.E.W. WE LITERALLY EMPLOY, LITERALLY, THOUSANDS OF LOS ANGELES RESIDENTS. THIS PROJECT WILL INDEED PRODUCE 100 LOCAL JOBS. I AM SURE YOU'RE GOING TO HEAR THAT A FEW MORE TIMES BEFORE THE DAY IS OVER, AND I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT WE BUILD THESE PROJECTS NATIONWIDE, HERE IN LOS ANGELES, THROUGHOUT CALIFORNIA AND NEVADA, ALL THROUGH THE SOUTHWEST, AND SAFETY IS PARAMOUNT. AND WE PAY VERY CLOSE ATTENTION TO DESIGN, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ALL THE FIRE CODES. AND I WAS SORRY TO HEAR THAT SUPERVISOR BARGER IS ALREADY EXPERIENCING OUTAGES ON IMPORTANT DAYS, BUT THIS WILL SUPPLY RELIABLE POWER TO 300,000 HOMES. 300,000 HOMES. SO...

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE. LET'S LET OUR SPEAKERS SPEAK, SO WE CAN HEAR EVERYBODY ELSE. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. GO AHEAD.

MIKE KUFCHAK: GOOD AFTERNOON, DISTINGUISHED SUPERVISORS. MY NAME IS MIKE KUFCHAK, AND I AM THE DIRECTOR OF VETERANS AFFAIRS FOR I.B.E.W. LOCAL UNION 11. I AM SPEAKING IN

OPPOSITION TO THE APPEAL OF THE HUMIDOR PROJECT, MEANING I DO SUPPORT THIS PROJECT, AS IT HAS GREAT PROPENSITY TO UPLIFT NOT ONLY THE COMMUNITY, REGARDING STORED ENERGY, BUT OUR VETERAN POPULATION, AS WELL. MY DIRECT INTEREST IS REGARDING THE ECONOMICAL DEVELOPMENT OF JOBS THIS WOULD HELP CREATE FOR VETERANS OF THIS COMMUNITY. CURRENTLY, THE ANTELOPE VALLEY IS HOME TO SOME ROUGHLY 45,000 VETERANS. WE, THE I.B.E.W., RECRUIT VETERANS INTO SKILLED TRADES THROUGH OUR VETERAN ELECTRICAL ENTRY PROGRAM, TO NOT ONLY PROVIDE THEM WITH GOOD JOBS, BUT TO PROVIDE THEM WITH INTANGIBLES THAT ARE NEEDED TO SUSTAIN FAMILIES REGARDING HEALTH AND MEDICAL. BUT IN THE BIGGER PICTURE OF THINGS, IT ALSO HELPS EVISCERATE VETERAN HOMELESSNESS, WHICH IS A PARTIAL RESULT OF DEPRESSION THAT SETTLES IN WHEN AN INDIVIDUAL CANNOT EARN OR PROVIDE FOR THEMSELVES OR FAMILY. BY OPPOSING THIS PROJECT, WE ENSURE CAREERS FOR SOME OF OUR VETERANS IN CONSTRUCTION JOBS, BY BUILDING GRID RELIABILITY AND CLEAN ENERGY TRANSITION IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY, THAT BENEFITS ALL OF US.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU.

MIKE KUFCHAK: ADDITIONALLY, I STAND IN SUPPORT OF 98-A. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: I'M KIM STOCKS, ACTON RESIDENT, AND I SUPPORT THE APPEAL. HECATE'S LACK OF TRANSPARENCY, WITH INSUFFICIENT NOTIFYING TO OUR TOWN COUNCIL AND RESIDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SINGLE COMMUNITY EVENT HOSTED, UNANNOUNCED, 3:30 P.M. ON A WEEKDAY BY THE DEVELOPER, WAS A BLATANT ATTEMPT TO ENSURE THE LEAST RESIDENTS AS POSSIBLE TO BE PRESENT. THEY WANTED TO MITIGATE THE POTENTIAL FOR COMMUNITY BACKLASH, WHICH THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN PLENTY, AND A WELL-ATTENDED EVENT. OCTOBER 23RD, HECATE MAILED A BROCHURE TO SEVERAL RESIDENTS, INTRODUCING THEIR HUMIDOR PROJECT, ADDRESSING THE RESIDENTS BY NAME. THIS WAS TWO MONTHS AFTER THE PROJECT WAS APPROVED BY THE L.A. COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING. THEN THERE WAS A FOLLOW-UP PHONE CALL FROM A LADY NAMED BECKY. POOR BECKY. THE ICING ON THE CAKE WAS THE SECOND LETTER MAILED TO RESIDENTS, BY NAME, THANKING THE RESIDENTS FOR SUPPORTING THE PROJECT, WHEN IN FACT NOT ONE RESIDENT WAS--

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: HELLO. I'M LAURA WILSON. IN THE EVENT OF A LITHIUM ION B.E.S.S. FIRE, IT WOULD REQUIRE COPIOUS AMOUNTS OF WATER TO BRING THE INCIDENT UNDER CONTROL. LITHIUM ION BATTERY FIRES ARE IMPOSSIBLE TO EXTINGUISH. DURING A B.E.S.S. FIRE IN CHANDLER, ARIZONA, IN 2022, IN THE FIRST 3 DAYS ALONE, THE

RESPONDING FIRE DEPARTMENT HAD FLOWED 750,000 GALLONS OF WATER TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF THE FIRE. THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF WATER USED TO EXTINGUISH THIS FIRE CAN ONLY BE IMAGINED, AS THE WATER WAS FLOWING INSIDE THE BATTERY CONTAINER FOR A FULL 11 DAYS. THE EVENT ALSO TRIGGERED AN EVACUATION AND ROAD CLOSURES. FIRE PERSONNEL WERE NOT ABLE TO BRING THIS INCIDENT UNDER CONTROL AND DEEM THE AREA SAFE FOR NEARLY TWO WEEKS. THIS WAS A 10-MEGAWATT B.E.S.S. FACILITY, AND ONLY INVOLVED A 4-MEGAWATT PORTION OF THE BATTERIES. THE HUMIDOR B.E.S.S. WILL BE 40 TIMES LARGER, AT OVER 400 MEGAWATTS, AND IT WILL NOT SERVE ACTON.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: THE PICTURE I'LL GIVE YOU GUYS IS OF VINCENT PASS AND ACTON-PALMDALE. THE DARK LINES YOU SEE, THAT WERE LEFT OUT OF THE PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS WE RECEIVED FOR HUMIDOR, ARE THREE 500 K.V. LINES KNOWN AS THE PACIFIC A.C. INTERTIE. THEY MAINTAIN THE STABILITY OF THE INTERCONNECTION FOR 11 WESTERN STATES. FOR SYSTEM SECURITY AND STABILITY, THE ONLY PLACE THEY COME TOGETHER IS THE APPROACH TO VINCENT. TWO OR MORE OF THOSE LINES ARE [INAUDIBLE] L.A., WHICH CARRY MOST OF THE LOAD FOR L.A., BURBANK, GLENDALE, AND ANAHEIM. THE LOCATION OF THE HUMIDOR PROJECT IS THE SINGLE WORST PLACE TO PUT A B.E.S.S. FACILITY IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, BECAUSE RELAYING EVEN ONE OF

THOSE LINES DURING PEAK LOAD MEANS LOAD-SHEDDING AND BLACKOUTS. RELAYING THE RIGHT TWO, OR MORE, BREAKS THE WESTERN INTERCONNECTION, THE COST OF WHICH IS CALCULATED TO BE BILLIONS OF DOLLARS. THERMAL RUNAWAY AT LITHIUM ION BATTERY STORAGE SYSTEMS HAS PROVEN TO RESULT IN LARGE FIRES, GENERATING GREAT QUANTITIES OF TOXIC--

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER. BEFORE YOU BEGIN, JUST A REMINDER. IF YOU HAVE WRITTEN COMMENTS THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH THE BOARD, THAT YOU DON'T GET TO, YOU CAN PLEASE HAND THEM TO OUR ASSISTANT HERE, AND SHE WILL MAKE SURE WE GET THEM. GO AHEAD. SORRY TO INTERRUPT YOU.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. THE RESIDENTS OF ACTON AND THOSE OF OUR NEIGHBORING SISTER TOWN, AGUA DULCE, ARE UNITED IN THEIR CONCERN AND OPPOSITION TO THE HECATE HUMIDOR, AND ANY OTHER B.E.S.S. PROJECTS SLATED FOR DEVELOPMENT IN OUR COMMUNITY. WE HAVE HELD RALLIES AND UTILIZED SOCIAL MEDIA TO INFORM OUR RESIDENTS OF THE DANGERS ASSOCIATED WITH THE LITHIUM ION BATTERIES, WHICH THESE B.E.S.S. PROJECTS WILL UTILIZE. A PETITION OF PROTEST WAS CIRCULATED THROUGH OUR COMMUNITY THIS SUMMER, OVER A 6-WEEK PERIOD, AND WE WERE ABLE TO EASILY GATHER 1,892 SIGNATURES FROM CONCERNED RESIDENTS. THOSE SIGNATURES WERE SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY TO L.A. COUNTY ON

AUGUST 25TH, ALONG WITH OUR APPEAL OF THE NOTICE OF EXEMPTION TO C.E.Q.A., NOW BEFORE YOU TODAY. BUILD YOUR PROJECT. BUILD IT OUT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DESERT, WHERE THERE AREN'T COMMUNITIES AND PEOPLE LIVING THERE.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: HI. MY NAME IS MICHAEL HUGHES, 23-YEAR RESIDENT OF ACTON AND SMALL BUSINESS OWNER. ACTON IS OF THE BELIEF THAT HECATE NEGLECTED TO MAKE A SINCERE EFFORT TO INFORM OUR COMMUNITY ABOUT THEIR PROJECT. THE ACTON TOWN COUNCIL CALLED A SPECIAL MEETING ON JANUARY 9, 2023, TO ACCOMMODATE HECATE'S LATE DECEMBER '22 REQUEST TO PRESENT THEIR PROJECT, ONLY TO FIND OUT, DURING THE SPECIAL MEETING, THAT THIS PROJECT HAS ALREADY BEEN APPROVED MONTHS PRIOR, WITH NO NOTICE GIVEN TO THE COUNCIL. THE ACTON TOWN COUNCIL IDENTIFIED SEVERAL ISSUES WITH THE HUMIDOR B.E.S.S. PROJECT, AND WERE ABLE TO CONVINCE REGIONAL PLANNING TO SET ASIDE AN INITIAL PROJECT APPROVAL. IN ADDITION, HECATE PROVIDED NO PRIOR NOTIFICATION TO OUR RESIDENTS, NOR OUR ACTON TOWN COUNCIL, REGARDING THE ONE AND ONLY PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETING, HELD AT OUR LIBRARY ON MAY 23 OF '23. DESPITE OUR RESIDENTS ONLY FINDING OUT THROUGH HAPPENSTANCE 30 MINUTES PRIOR TO THE MEETING, THERE WERE 20 CONCERNED ATTENDEES.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: HONORABLE SUPERVISORS AND CHIEF MARRONE, REGIONAL PLANNING, FAR MORE THAN THREE B.E.S.S. FIRES YOU NAMED HAVE HAPPENED. THOSE WERE THE WORST, AND YOU KNOW THAT. THERE'S A DATABASE FOR FAILURES OF B.E.S.S. PROJECTS. SIMILARITY DETERMINATIONS ARE NOT ALLOWED BY COUNTY CODE ON M-1. THEY ARE ALLOWED ON M-1.5 AND M-2. PLEASE LOOK AT THE CODE, AND VERIFY. LITHIUM ION ARE HOLDING BACK B.E.S.S. IN THEIR APPROVALS. THE TECHNOLOGY IS DANGEROUS. THE ENERGY INDUSTRY ITSELF MENTIONS THE DANGERS OF LITHIUM ION. THAT IS WHAT IS HOLDING BACK OUR COMMUNITY FROM ACCEPTING THIS PROJECT. L.A. COUNTY RANK AND FILE H.A.Z.M.A.T. ARE WORRIED ABOUT THESE B.E.S.S. THEY'RE WORRIED ABOUT WHAT THEY WILL DO WHEN THEY CATCH FIRE. MY HUSBAND IS RETIRED L.A. COUNTY FIRE H.A.Z.M.A.T. THE B.E.S.S. WILL NOT SERVE ACTON. NONE OF THE 300,000 HOMES YOU SPEAK OF WILL BE IN--

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: MY NAME IS RUST FOX, AND I'M A RESIDENT OF ACTON, AND I WALK 3 TO 5 MILES ON CARSON MESA MOST DAYS, AND I CAN TELL YOU, IT'S NOT LIGHT INDUSTRIAL. IT'S RURAL RESIDENTIAL. RESIDENTS LIVING IN EAST ACTON ARE ALREADY FACING EXTREME HARDSHIPS IN OBTAINING FIRE INSURANCE FOR THEIR PROPERTY, DUE

TO BEING DESIGNATED AS A "VERY HIGH FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONE." MANY RESIDENTS HAVE FOUND THAT THEIR INSURANCE PROVIDERS WILL NO LONGER WRITE POLICIES IN THIS AREA, AND THEY'VE ISSUED NOTICES OF NON-RENEWAL, WHILE OTHERS HAVE SEEN THEIR PREMIUMS INCREASE SIGNIFICANTLY, AS MUCH AS $20,000 A YEAR, FOR FIRE INSURANCE FOR THEIR HOMES. THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE FOR MANY IS A CALIFORNIA F.A.I.R. PLAN, AND ALL OF THIS BEFORE EVEN ONE SHOVEL OF DIRT HAS BEEN TURNED OVER ON THE FIRST B.E.S.S. PROJECT PLANNED FOR THIS AREA. HOW WILL THOSE RESIDENTS PROTECT THEIR MOST VALUABLE ASSET, THEIR HOMES, WHEN 4 OF THESE LITHIUM ION BATTERY STORAGE PROJECTS--

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU FOR HEARING MY COMMENTS. MY NAME IS SHARON SIMONS, AND I LIVE IN ACTON. THE HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF GALLONS OF WATER NEEDED TO BRING A B.E.S.S. INCIDENT UNDER CONTROL WILL CARRY OUR PARTICULATE AND CHEMICALS INTO THE GROUND SOIL, IF THE RUNOFF FROM A FIRE IS NOT FULLY CONTAINED. BECAUSE THE HUMIDOR PROJECT SITS OVER THE ACTON WATER BASIN, AND IS ADJACENT TO THE HEADWATERS OF THE SANTA CLARA RIVER, THESE TOXIC CHEMICALS WILL THEN LEACH INTO THE GROUNDWATER, CAUSING CONTAMINATION OF BOTH. MOST OF THE RESIDENTS IN THE EAST ACTON AREA ARE SERVED BY WELLS. THIS IS THE VERY SAME

WATER AT RISK OF CONTAMINATION. WHILE IT MIGHT TAKE MONTHS AND MANY RAINS FOR THE CHEMICALS TO MAKE THEIR WAY INTO THE GROUNDWATER, IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE-- IMPOSSIBLE-- TO PREVENT, ONCE THE CONTAMINATED WATER PERMEATES AND CONTAMINANTS THE SOIL, TO BE DRINKABLE AGAIN. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

SPEAKER: HI. MY NAME IS SCOTT PIERCE. I LIVE IN ACTON. I'VE GOT A 10-ACRE RANCH IN THE CANYON, AND THE WIND BLOWS EITHER UP THE CANYON OR DOWN THE CANYON, SO IT'S LIKE A WIND TUNNEL. IF THERE'S A FIRE THERE, IT'S A DIRT ROAD, TOO, SO FIRE TRUCKS ARE GOING TO HAVE A HELL OF A TIME GETTING IN THERE. IF THERE'S A FIRE, THEY'RE GOING TO HAVE TO RELY ON AIR SUPPORT. ANYWAY, MY STATEMENT IS, I'M IN SUPPORT OF THE APPEAL. THE RESIDENTS OF ACTON WANT TO BE CLEAR THAT WE ARE NOT AGAINST GREEN ENERGY. WE ARE AGAINST THE OVERCONCENTRATION OF BATTERY STORAGE PROJECTS. WE ARE AGAINST USING LITHIUM ION BATTERY TECHNOLOGY IN THESE GRID SCALE PROJECTS, AND AGAINST PLACING THEM IN A QUIET, RURAL COMMUNITY LIKE ACTON. THE EAST ACTON AREA HAS BEEN DESIGNATED BY CAL FIRE AS A VERY HIGH FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONE. TRY SAYING THAT THREE TIMES FAST. THERE ARE MANY HOMES IN PROXIMITY TO THE PROPOSED HUMIDOR PROJECT. LITHIUM ION BATTERIES HAVE BEEN PROVEN TO BE AT RISK FOR OVERHEATING, WHICH CAN--

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

SPEAKER: GOOD AFTERNOON, SUPERVISORS. MY NAME IS LUKE NICHOLSON. I'M AN EMPLOYEE AT HECATE GRID. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME TODAY. I ASK THAT YOU DENY THIS APPEAL. I WANTED TO TOUCH ON THE SHORT- AND LONG-TERM CLIMATE BENEFITS OF THIS PROJECT. IN THE SHORT TERM, CLIMATE CHANGE IS CAUSING MORE STRESS ON OUR GRID, THROUGH HEATWAVES, DROUGHTS, AND FLOODS. NONE OF US WANT TO LOSE POWER IN ANY OF THESE EMERGENCIES. THIS PROJECT WILL PROVIDE POWER TO HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF HOMES. IN THE LONG TERM, CLIMATE CHANGE IS ONLY GOING TO BE MORE OF A PROBLEM, AND WE NEED TO DECARBONIZE OUR GRID, IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE THE STATEWIDE AND CLIMATE GOALS THAT WE HAVE SET FORTH. THIS PROJECT ALLOWS US TO SHIFT OUR ENERGY MIX FROM FOSSIL FUEL AND POLLUTION-PRODUCING PEAKER PLANTS TO RENEWABLE SOURCES THAT CAN'T BE USED AT TIMES OF DAY WHERE THE SUN ISN'T SHINING, OR THE WIND ISN'T BLOWING. I THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME, AND I ASK THAT YOU DENY THIS APPEAL.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: GOOD AFTERNOON, SUPERVISORS. MY NAME IS KENT TRUCKOR, AND I WORK WITH HECATE GRID ON THE HUMIDOR PROJECT, THE

APPLICANT. WE WOULD REQUEST THAT THE SUPERVISORS DENY THIS APPEAL. THE HUMIDOR PROJECT WILL PROVIDE GRID RELIABILITY FOR 300,000 THOUSAND HOMES. THAT MEANS KEEPING THE LIGHTS ON AND POWER FLOWING, HELPING TO PREVENT BLACKOUTS AND BROWNOUTS ON THE GRID. THIS IS A CRITICAL ASPECT AS WE DECARBONIZE THE GRID. WE NEED THESE ENERGY STORAGE FACILITIES TO HELP SUPPORT THE GRID AS WE BRING ON ADDITIONAL WIND AND SOLAR POWER. THE PROJECT WILL GENERATE ON AVERAGE, ANNUALLY, $2 MILLION IN TAXES TO L.A. COUNTY, TO HELP INVEST IN PUBLIC SERVICES. IT WILL ALSO DIRECTLY INVEST $100,000 PER YEAR IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY, TO HELP MAKE SURE THERE IS DIRECT INVESTMENT. IT WILL ALSO CREATE AT LEAST 100 UNION CONSTRUCTION JOBS, FURTHER HELPING DEVELOP THE WORKFORCE WE NEED TO HELP BUILD OUT THE GRID INFRASTRUCTURE AS WE COMBAT THE CLIMATE CRISIS. WE'RE COMMITTED TO DOING THIS PROJECT RIGHT, WE'RE COMMITTED WORKING WITH L.A. COUNTY FIRE, AND WE'VE DIRECTLY ENGAGED WITH OVER 2,000 HOMES IN THE AREA. WE URGE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO DENY THIS APPEAL. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: NEXT SPEAKER.

TOMMY FAAVAE: GOOD AFTERNOON, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. AGAIN, MY NAME IS TOMMY FAAVAE. I'M HERE TO URGE THE ITEM TO DENY THE APPEAL AND MOVE FORWARD WITH THE PROJECT. WITH OUR APPRENTICES THAT LIVE IN THE AFFECTED AREA, WHETHER IT'S DISTRICT 1 OR ALL

THE REST OF THE DISTRICTS, YOU KNOW, WE'RE GOING TO CREATE LOCAL JOBS, LOCAL COMMUNITY, AND SO FORTH. AND I URGE THE COUNCIL, WHEN IT COMES TO 98-A, WE URGE SUPPORT. WE LIKE TO SEE STAKEHOLDERS AT THE TABLE, WHETHER IT'S LABOR, FIRE, INDUSTRY DEVELOPERS THAT ARE IN THIS SPACE, THAT WE CAN COME TOGETHER AND THEN TALK ABOUT HOW WE CAN DISCUSS AND BRING BACK A GREAT ORDINANCE IN THE NEAR FUTURE. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: YES. MY NAME IS KENNY PERKINS. I'M A RESIDENT OF ACTON. WHEN I FIRST HEARD ABOUT THIS STORAGE SYSTEM, I DECIDED TO GO ONLINE AND INVESTIGATE IT, AND ALSO WITH GOOGLE AND EVERYTHING, AND I WAS SHOCKED WITH THE HORROR STORIES THAT I HEARD ABOUT THESE BATTERIES AND OTHER COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE UNITED STATES. AND ALSO, WE HAVE A GRID IN L.A. COUNTY THAT'S AN AGING GRID, AND SO ON AND SO FORTH, AND THEN WITH ALL OF THE ELECTRIC CARS AND EVERYTHING, WE ARE GOING TO HAVE SOME CATASTROPHIC PROBLEMS. AND ANOTHER BAD THING IS, WHEN THEY GO TO TRY TO PUT THE FIRE OUT, PARTLY UNDERNEATH, WHERE THEY'RE GOING TO BUILD THIS FACILITY, IS OUR WATER TABLE, AND IT WILL BE INFECTED VERY BADLY.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

SPEAKER: HI. MY NAME IS TOM SMITH, ANOTHER ACTON RESIDENT, AND MS. BARGER MENTIONED THAT THERE'S FOUR PROJECTS THAT THEY'RE LOOKING AT IN CALIFORNIA. I HOPE THEY'RE NOT ALL IN ACTON, AS I HEAR. BUT RUMOR IS THAT IF THIS ONE GOES INTO ACTON, IT'S JUST THE TIP OF THE ICEBERG. THERE'S GOING TO BE THREE MORE TO FOLLOW. AND IF THAT'S TRUE, THE RUMOR IS THAT IT'S GOING TO BE A 2.2-PLUS GIGAWATT AREA. FOR B.E.S.S., THAT WOULD BE THE LARGEST IN THE WORLD. I DON'T THINK WE NEED THAT IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD. AND THE OTHER THING IS, I WAS OUT FRONT, AND I WAS LOOKING AT WHAT OUR FLAG STANDS FOR, FOR L.A. COUNTY. I WAS SURPRISED. GREEN STANDS TO KEEP OUR COUNTY BEAUTIFUL. THERE'S NOTHING ABOUT A B.E.S.S. PROJECT THAT IS GOING TO KEEP THIS COUNTY BEAUTIFUL IN ACTON. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: HI. MY NAME IS TAMMY NECESSARY. I'M A 45-YEAR RESIDENT OF ACTON. THE BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE PROJECTS ARE BEING MET WITH OPPOSITION IN MANY TOWNS, CITIES, AND COUNTRIES ACROSS OUR NATION. B.E.S.S. PROJECTS HAVE BEEN DEFEATED AND WITHDRAWN DUE TO OUTCRY BY RESIDENTS AND THEIR PLANNING COMMISSIONS OVER THE FIRE-PRONE LITHIUM ION BATTERIES THEY UTILIZE, AND THE FIRE SAFETY AND HEALTH RISKS THEY POSE. IN RESPONSE TO THEIR RESIDENTS' CONCERNS, LOCAL GOVERNMENTS ARE NOW PUSHING BACK AGAINST B.E.S.S. DEVELOPERS, INCLUDING

IMPOSING MORATORIUMS ON B.E.S.S. PROJECTS, SO THAT THEY CAN MORE CAREFULLY ASSESS THE SAFETY AND APPROPRIATENESS OF WHERE TO SITE THESE PROJECTS. SO, YOU SEE, ACTON RESIDENTS ARE NOT ALONE IN OUR CONCERNS AND OPPOSITION TO THE HECATE HUMIDOR B.E.S.S., AND THE THREE OTHER LARGE B.E.S.S. PROJECTS PROPOSED FOR DEVELOPMENT IN OUR SMALL COMMUNITY. WE ASK THAT COUNTY UPHOLD OUR APPEAL, BASED ON ALL WE HAVE SAID TODAY. AND AS A SIDE NOTE ON THIS, ACTON GETS ZERO BENEFITS FROM ANY OF THIS B.E.S.S. PROJECT. WE GET ZERO POWER OR ENERGY FROM--

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

SHRUTI RAMAKER: GOOD AFTERNOON. MY NAME IS SHRUTI RAMAKER, WITH STANTEC. STANTEC WAS BROUGHT ON BY HECATE FOR CONSULTING AND PERMITTING SUPPORT FOR THE HUMIDOR BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE PROJECT. I WANTED TO REITERATE, AS INDICATED IN THE COUNTY STAFF REPORT, THE PROJECT IS SITED ON A PARCEL ZONED AS M-1, WHICH ALLOWS FOR INDUSTRIAL USES. THE SITE IS CURRENTLY USED AS A PAINTBALL FACILITY AND TRUCK STORAGE YARD. THE M-1 ZONE ALLOWS FOR B.E.S.S., AND USES SIMILAR TO B.E.S.S., WITH THE SITE PLAN REVIEW APPROVAL. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

SPEAKER: HI. MY NAME IS PAM WALTER. I'M A 35-YEAR RESIDENT OF ACTON. HI, SUSIE. I AM A 10-YEAR MEMBER OF THE ACTON TOWN COUNCIL, AND I AM A RETIRED 30-YEAR PRESIDENT OF THE ACTON-AGUA DULCE BROKERS ASSOCIATION. UNFORTUNATELY, I WASN'T RUNNING FAST ENOUGH ABOUT A YEAR AGO, AND I GOT CANCER. SO TODAY, I'M HERE, FIGHTING FOR MY TOWN. SO I'LL TRY TO KEEP MY COMPOSURE. FOR MANY PEOPLE, THEIR HOME IS THEIR MOST VALUABLE ASSET. MOST ACTON RESIDENTS HAVE CHOSEN TO LIVE IN A MORE RURAL SETTING FOR THE LIFESTYLE IT AFFORDS. ACTON RESIDENTS HAVE GLADLY TRADED THE COMFORTS OF AN URBAN NEIGHBORHOOD FOR THE QUIET, PEACEFUL SETTING OF A HOME LIKELY ACCESSIBLE ONLY BY A DIRT ROAD, AND WE'RE ON WELLS. MY WELL COST ME $60,000, AND I KNOW THAT MY WATER IS GOING TO GO TO PUT OUT THIS FIRE. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. DO WE HAVE ANY OTHER SPEAKERS? NO OTHER SPEAKERS. SUPERVISOR BARGER, YOU HAD SOME ADDITIONAL COMMENTS.

SUP. BARGER: YEAH. FIRST OF ALL, THANK YOU ALL FOR COMING OUT. I JUST WANT TO CLARIFY SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE TODAY, AND I THINK, CHAIR HORVATH, YOU WERE MAKING THAT CLARIFICATION, AND THAT IS, TODAY WE ARE DISCUSSING MULTIPLE SUBJECTS. TO BE CLEAR, WE ARE NOT DISCUSSING APPROVAL OF THE PROJECT. THE PROJECT WAS APPROVED, MINISTERIALLY, BY THE DEPARTMENT OF

REGIONAL PLANNING. THE DISCUSSION TODAY IS WHETHER THE DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL PLANNING, IN ITS MINISTERIAL APPROVAL OF THE PROJECT, APPROPRIATELY MADE THE DETERMINATION THAT THE PROJECT IS EXEMPT FROM C.E.Q.A., CORRECT? I WANT TO THANK THE DEPARTMENT FOR ANSWERING MY QUESTIONS AND FOR ENSURING THAT WE HAVE A DELIBERATIVE PROCESS TODAY. I ALSO WANT TO THANK COUNTY FIRE FOR BEING A PART OF THIS, BECAUSE I THINK IT IS IMPORTANT. AND TO ONE OF THE PEOPLE THAT SPOKE, I THINK IT IS IMPORTANT FOR US ALL, ESPECIALLY IN HIGH FIRE AREAS, TO MAKE SURE THAT WE TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION. I JUST WANT TO GET A CLARIFICATION, BECAUSE SUPERVISOR HAHN BROUGHT IT UP TO ME. IN THE FIRES, YOU DON'T FIGHT IT WITH-- BECAUSE WE'VE GOT WATER TANKS AT AGUA DULCE AIRPORT, AND WE'VE GOT WATER TANKS AT OTHER AREAS OUT THERE, BUT THIS WOULD BE-- WATER TANKS WOULD NOT BE USED IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, OR WOULD THEY?

ANTHONY MARRONE: WE'RE GOING TO TREAT ANY FIRE AT A BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM SITE AS A H.A.Z.M.A.T. INCIDENT. THE APPLICATION OF WATER IS NOT GOING TO BE PRIMARY, AS MANY OF THE PEOPLE SPOKE TODAY. IT'S NOT EFFECTIVE.

SUP. BARGER: BECAUSE I HEARD LOUD AND CLEAR, AND ACTUALLY, GOD BLESS WAYNE SPEARS, MAY HE REST IN PEACE, BUT HE ACTUALLY DONATED SPACE AT AGUA DULCE AIRPORT FOR WATER TANKS, AS DID A PRIVATE RESIDENT UP THERE, ALSO; ALLOWS YOU ALL TO USE A TANK

ON HIS HILLSIDE TO FIGHT FIRES. SO I JUST WANT TO MAKE THAT CLARIFICATION, BECAUSE I KNOW THAT WAS BROUGHT UP BY THE COMMUNITY. AND, SUPERVISOR HAHN, I APPRECIATE YOU BRINGING THAT UP. I ALSO WANT TO THANK MEMBERS OF THE ACTON TOWN COUNCIL, ESPECIALLY JACKIE EYRE, AS WELL AS RUTHY BROCK, FOR ENSURING THAT THE COMMUNITY'S VOICE IS HEARD. I AM PROUD TO SEE YOU ARE ENGAGING WITH THIS BOARD, AND FOR SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF YOUR COMMUNITY. BUT BASED ON THE DISCUSSION TODAY, AND THE ANSWERS FROM THE COUNCIL AND THE DEPARTMENTAL STAFF, I BELIEVE C.E.Q.A. DETERMINATION WAS MADE APPROPRIATELY. WHILE I HEAR THE CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY, AND THAT IS WHY I BROUGHT IN 98-A, WHICH IS PUTTING TOGETHER AN ORDINANCE BECAUSE, AS THE GENTLEMAN SAID TOWARD THE END, I THINK ONE OF THE LAST STATEMENTS IS, "WE DON'T WANT IT CONCENTRATED IN ONE AREA." AND MY CONCERN IS THAT IS WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN, IF WE DO NOT DEVELOP AN ORDINANCE TO ADDRESS A NUMBER OF B.E.S.S. MOVING FORWARD, AND HAVE SITING FACTORS. AND IN THAT, I AM REQUESTING THAT THE STAKEHOLDERS FROM LABOR, INDUSTRY, COMMUNITY, AND OTHERS BE A PART OF THIS, TO SOLICIT FEEDBACK TO HELP INFORM ON THAT ORDINANCE, BECAUSE I DON'T WANT THIS TO BE HALF-BAKED. I WANT ALL STAKEHOLDERS-- BUT COMMUNITY, ESPECIALLY-- TO BE ABLE TO SIT AT THE TABLE AND PROVIDE THEIR INPUT BEFORE THIS ORDINANCE COMES FORWARD. SO WITH THAT, I JUST WANTED TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT ON THAT ISSUE, BECAUSE

THIS HAS BEEN APPROVED, I THINK, AS WAS NOTED, MINISTERIALLY, QUITE A WHILE AGO. THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. MR. SACHS SUBMITTED A SPEAKER SLIP, AND WE NEED TO HEAR HIS COMMENT BEFORE WE TAKE A VOTE. GO AHEAD, MR. SACHS.

ARNOLD SACHS: YES, THANK YOU. ARNOLD SACHS. I'D LIKE TO COMMEND YOU ON YOUR LASER-LIKE FOCUS ON THIS ITEM. IT'S AN UPLIFTING DISCUSSION, NAVIGATING THIS C.E.Q.A. SOMEBODY MENTIONED THAT THE COUNTY FLAG, THE GREEN, IS FOR GOING GREEN. THE BLUE IS FOR WHAT? I THINK IT'S FOR FEDERAL DOLLARS. HE SAID HE WENT OUTSIDE. HAVE YOU BEEN OUTSIDE? HAVE YOU SEEN THE METRO BUSES?

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: WE'RE FOCUSING ON THE APPEAL PROJECT, AS WELL AS THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE.

ARNOLD SACHS: I'M TALKING ABOUT C.E.Q.A., MA'AM. C.E.Q.A.'S THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT. YOU HAVE THE DIRTIEST AIR IN THE COUNTRY. THE BUSES THAT RUN ON THE STREETS SAY THEY'RE AMERICA'S LARGEST CLEAN AIR FLEET.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: ONCE AGAIN, WE'RE FOCUSING ON THE PROPOSED PROJECT, AND THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE.

ARNOLD SACHS: MA'AM, YOU KEEP CUTTING ME OFF.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: BECAUSE YOU'RE OFF TOPIC.

ARNOLD SACHS: THE AIR IS DIRTY. LITHIUM ION BATTERIES, IF THEY CATCH ON FIRE-- YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH EXIDE, ALREADY, WITH THE--

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU VERY MUCH. YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED. THANK YOU. WE'LL NOW GO TO A VOTE. ITEM 72 IS BEFORE US. MOVED BY SUPERVISOR BARGER, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR MITCHELL TO APPROVE THE ITEM. EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PLEASE CALL THE ROLL.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: ITEM 72 IS BEFORE YOU. SUPERVISOR SOLIS?

SUP. SOLIS: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR SOLIS, AYE. SUPERVISOR MITCHELL?

SUP. MITCHELL: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR MITCHELL, AYE. SUPERVISOR HAHN?

SUP. HAHN: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR HAHN, AYE. SUPERVISOR BARGER?

SUP. BARGER: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR BARGER, AYE. SUPERVISOR HORVATH?

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR HORVATH, AYE. MOTION CARRIES, 5-0.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: NEXT, ITEM 98-A, AS AMENDED, IS BEFORE US. MOVED BY SUPERVISOR BARGER, AND I WILL SECOND, TO APPROVE THE ITEM. EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PLEASE CALL THE ROLL.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: 98-A IS BEFORE YOU, AS AMENDED. SUPERVISOR SOLIS?

SUP. SOLIS: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR SOLIS, AYE. SUPERVISOR MITCHELL?

SUP. MITCHELL: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR MITCHELL, AYE. SUPERVISOR HAHN?

SUP. HAHN: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR HAHN, AYE. SUPERVISOR BARGER?

SUP. BARGER: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR BARGER, AYE. SUPERVISOR HORVATH?

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR HORVATH, AYE. MOTION CARRIES, 5-0.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. WE WILL NOW MOVE ON TO ITEM 53, REPORT ON THE SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTION CRISIS, WHICH I HELD FOR DISCUSSION. THIS WAS AN ITEM THAT WAS CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS. IF YOU ARE DEPARTING THE CHAMBERS, IF

YOU COULD PLEASE DO SO QUIETLY, SO WE CAN HAVE THIS DISCUSSION, I APPRECIATE IT. THANK YOU. FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ON THE TELEPHONE, PLEASE PRESS 1 THEN 0 NOW TO COMMENT ON THIS ITEM. DR. BARBARA FERRER, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH, AND MARIO PEREZ, DIRECTOR OF H.I.V. AND S.T.D. PROGRAMS, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH, WILL BEGIN WITH THE PRESENTATION. THANK YOU FOR BEING WITH US TODAY, AND FOR HELPING NAVIGATE THIS ALL-IMPORTANT CONVERSATION WE'VE BEEN HEARING ABOUT AT THE BOARD FOR QUITE SOME TIME NOW.

DR. BARBARA FERRER: THANK YOU, SUPERVISOR HORVATH, AND THE ENTIRE BOARD, FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE AN UPDATE ON THE LOCAL S.T.I. CRISIS, A CRISIS THAT IS GROWING IN TERMS OF IMPACT AND COMPLEXITY. I'M JOINED TODAY BY MARIO PEREZ, THE DIRECTOR OF OUR DIVISION OF H.I.V. AND S.T.D. PROGRAMS. WE CAN GO TO THE NEXT SLIDE. TODAY'S PRESENTATION WILL REVIEW TRENDS OVER THE PAST DECADE, TIED TO CHLAMYDIA, GONORRHEA, AND EARLY SYPHILIS INFECTIONS, WITH A FOCUS ON SYPHILIS AND CONGENITAL SYPHILIS, BOTH OF WHICH HAVE BEEN WORSENING AT A FASTER RATE IN RECENT YEARS. WE'LL BRIEFLY HIGHLIGHT THE INTERSECTING NATURE OF THE S.T.I. CRISIS WITH OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH CHALLENGES AND OUR CURRENT POLICY LANDSCAPE. WE'LL ALSO REVIEW THE MYRIAD OF INTERVENTIONS THAT ARE IN PLACE FOR S.T.I. PREVENTION, DIAGNOSIS, TREATMENT, ORGANIZED ACROSS 4 PROGRAMMATIC PILLARS. WE'LL SPEND A FEW MINUTES TO REVIEW THE

DIFFERENT REVENUE STREAMS THAT ARE IN PLACE TO TACKLE THE S.T.I. CRISIS, AND OUTLINE HOW THOSE RESOURCES ARE BEING INVESTED. AND WE'LL END WITH DISCUSSING SOME INNOVATIVE PROGRAMMING BEING IMPLEMENTED TO ADDRESS THE S.T.I. EPIDEMIC. NEXT SLIDE. IN L.A. COUNTY, REDUCING CASES OF CHLAMYDIA, GONORRHEA, AND SYPHILIS INFECTIONS, AND IMPROVING HEALTH OUTCOMES FOR PEOPLE WITH S.T.D.S, REMAINS A CHALLENGE AND A PRIORITY. AS SHOWN HERE, L.A. COUNTY HAS OBSERVED A STEADY INCREASE IN BOTH THE NUMBER AND RATE OF S.T.D.S OVER THE PAST 10-PLUS YEARS. THIS IS A SIMILAR PATTERN SEEN AROUND CALIFORNIA AND THE UNITED STATES. LEFT UNTREATED, S.T.D.S CAN LEAD TO LONG-TERM HEALTH PROBLEMS, INCLUDING CHRONIC PELVIC PAIN, INFERTILITY, AND POOR BIRTH OUTCOMES. THAT INCLUDES HAVING INFANTS DIE AT BIRTH. SYPHILIS, WHICH CARRIES THE MOST SEVERE HEALTH CONSEQUENCES, AND IS ASSOCIATED WITH H.I.V. RISK, WAS NEARLY ELIMINATED IN THE EARLY 2000'S, BUT HAS NOW REBOUNDED AT ALARMING RATES, WITH AN OVER TENFOLD INCREASE AMONG CISGENDER WOMEN, AND A TWENTYFOLD INCREASE OF CONGENITAL SYPHILIS CASES THIS PAST DECADE. NEXT SLIDE. THIS SLIDE SHOWS EARLY SYPHILIS RATES BY RACE AND ETHNICITY, OVER A 10-YEAR PERIOD. SYPHILIS RATES INCREASED ACROSS ALL RACIAL ETHNIC GROUPS DURING THIS PERIOD. BUT AS YOU CAN SEE, THE SHARPNESS OF THE INCREASE AND OVERALL RATES WERE HIGHEST AMONG AFRICAN AMERICAN AND NATIVE HAWAIIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER POPULATIONS, REPRESENTED BY THE BLUE AND RED LINES ON THIS CHART,

RESPECTIVELY. IN ADDITION TO THE RACIAL/ETHNIC DISPARITIES THAT ARE NOTED HERE, THE S.T.I. EPIDEMIC HAS DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECTED CERTAIN GROUPS BASED ON GENDER, AGE, AND SEXUAL ORIENTATION, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO GAY, BISEXUAL, AND OTHER MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN, TRANSGENDER PERSONS, AND IN THE CASE OF CHLAMYDIA IN PARTICULAR, YOUNG PEOPLE. NEXT SLIDE. THIS SLIDE SHOWS THE TENFOLD INCREASE IN FEMALE SYPHILIS CASES, AND THE MORE THAN TWENTYFOLD INCREASE IN CONGENITAL SYPHILIS CASES OVER THE LAST DECADE. IN 2022, WE HAD 136 CONGENITAL SYPHILIS CASES. IN 2021, OF THE 124 CONGENITAL SYPHILIS CASES THAT ARE SHOWN ON THIS SLIDE, 18 RESULTED IN A STILL BIRTH: A 15% FATALITY RATE. WE'LL GO TO THE NEXT SLIDE. S.T.I. RISK DOES NOT EXIST IN A VACUUM. INCREASINGLY, WE ARE RECOGNIZING THE IMPACT THAT OTHER EPIDEMICS ARE HAVING ON THE LOCAL S.T.D. CRISIS. WE ARE SEEING MORE AND MORE CASES OF SYPHILIS DIAGNOSED AMONG CISGENDER WOMEN OF REPRODUCTIVE AGE, WHO REPORT METHAMPHETAMINE AND OTHER SUBSTANCE USE, HOUSING INSTABILITY, AND SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS. WHEN THESE PEOPLE BECOME PREGNANT, THOSE FACTORS DIRECTLY AFFECT THEIR ABILITY TO ENGAGE IN PRENATAL CARE. AND ULTIMATELY, IF THEY AREN'T TREATED, THEIR CHILD IS DIAGNOSED WITH CONGENITAL SYPHILIS, WHICH CAN RESULT IN STILLBIRTH AND A RANGE OF NEUROCOGNITIVE DEVELOPMENTAL ISSUES. IN ADDITION, WE'VE LONG NOTED HOW CLOSELY H.I.V. AND SYPHILIS TRAVEL TOGETHER, AND IN 2022, THE MPOX OUTBREAK WAS FURTHER

INTRODUCED INTO VERY SIMILAR SOCIAL AND SEXUAL NETWORKS. THE POLITICAL AND POLICY LANDSCAPES SURROUNDING S.T.D. PREVENTION AND CONTROL CONTINUE TO BE CHALLENGING. COMPARED TO OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUES, RESOURCES FOR S.T.D. CONTROL AND SEXUAL HEALTH PROMOTION ARE CONSTANTLY UNDER THREAT AT ALL LEVELS, AND IMPROVEMENTS ARE DEFINITELY NEEDED. NEXT SLIDE. THIS SLIDE PROVIDES A SNAPSHOT OF THE PUBLIC-HEALTH-SUPPORTED S.T.D. CONTROL STRATEGIES, ORGANIZED, AS YOU CAN SEE, AROUND THE CORE PILLARS OF PREVENT, DIAGNOSE, TREAT, AND RESPOND. THESE ARE THE SAME PILLARS THAT GUIDE OUR ENDING THE H.I.V. EPIDEMIC INITIATIVE. NEXT SLIDE. UNDER THE PREVENT PILLAR, WE ARE PURSUING KEY ACTIVITIES TO PREVENT S.T.I.S. SOME OF THESE ACTIVITIES INCLUDE HELPING SCHOOLS PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE SEXUAL HEALTH EDUCATION, AND SUPPORTING OUR STUDENT WELLBEING CENTERS, ALONG WITH YOUTH LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS. WE CURRENTLY SUPPORT THE L.A. CONDOM CAMPAIGN, WHICH DISTRIBUTES FREE CONDOMS THROUGH MORE THAN 500 HUBS. WE'RE VERY EXCITED ABOUT THE POTENTIAL FOR BIOMEDICAL S.T.D. PREVENTION. THIS IS THROUGH DOXYCYCLINE POST-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS. IT'S CALLED DOXY-P.E.P. DOXY-P.E.P. IS USED LIKE THE MORNING AFTER PILL, AND IT'S BEEN SHOWN TO BE MORE THAN 65% EFFECTIVE AGAINST BACTERIAL S.T.I.S, AMONG MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN, AND EFFECTIVE AGAINST BACTERIAL S.T.I.S AMONG MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN AND TRANSGENDER WOMEN. THE DATA SUPPORTING ITS USE CAME OUT EARLIER THIS YEAR, AND WE'RE ACTIVELY RAMPING UP

EFFORTS IN L.A. COUNTY TO EXPAND ITS USE, LOCALLY. UNDER THE DIAGNOSE PILLAR, WE'RE PURSUING A RANGE OF EFFORTS TO EXPAND AND NORMALIZE S.T.D. TESTING. IN CLINICAL SETTINGS, LOW-BARRIER S.T.D. SCREENING AND TREATMENT PROGRAMS PROVIDE EASY AND CONFIDENTIAL SERVICES FOR THOSE STILL-STIGMATIZED DISEASES. IN ADDITION, MANY CLIENTS AT RISK COULD BE REACHED IF MORE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS OFFERED TESTING. NON-CLINICAL SETTINGS, INCLUDING OUR SCHOOL WELLBEING CENTERS, SYRINGE SUPPORT PROGRAMS, ARE ALSO GREAT VENUES IN WHICH TO REACH INDIVIDUALS WHO MAY NOT BE ENGAGED IN REGULAR HEALTHCARE. WE ALSO HAVE SELF-TEST KITS THAT ARE AVAILABLE THROUGH OUR DON'T THINK NO PROGRAM, TO DIAGNOSE CHLAMYDIA AND GONORRHEA, AND WE OFFER FREE H.I.V. SELF-TEST KITS, AVAILABLE THROUGH OUR TAKE ME HOME PROGRAM. SEPARATELY, WE ARE USING A RAPID SYPHILIS TEST TO IMPROVE SYPHILIS DIAGNOSIS RATES AMONG WOMEN, INCLUDING THROUGH STREET MEDICINE PROGRAMS AND AT THE COUNTY REGIONAL DETENTION FACILITY. I'M GOING TO TURN THE NEXT SET OF SLIDES OVER TO MARIO PEREZ. THANK YOU, MARIO.

MARIO PEREZ: THANK YOU, DR. FERRER. GOOD AFTERNOON, SUPERVISORS. WE KNOW THAT TREATING PEOPLE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER DIAGNOSIS ENSURES OPTIMAL TREATMENT, AND REDUCES THE FORWARD TRANSMISSION OF THESE INFECTIONS. AS NOTED BY DR. FERRER, WE ARE SEEING INCREASED CASES OF SYPHILIS AMONG MARGINALIZED WOMEN, SOME OF WHOM END UP DELIVERING A BABY WITH

CONGENITAL SYPHILIS. AS PART OF OUR RESPONSE, WE HAVE COME UP WITH NEW AND CREATIVE WAYS TO ENGAGE THOSE CLIENTS AND PROVIDE CARE IN THE STREETS, WHEN THEY WON'T COME INTO A CLINIC. WE ARE ALSO WORKING TO MAKE SURE PROVIDERS HAVE ACCESS TO BICILLIN TO TREAT SYPHILIS AMONG PREGNANT PERSONS. AND SEPARATELY, PROVIDERS CAN CALL US FOR S.T.D. CLINICAL CONSULTATION, 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK. EXPEDITED PARTNER THERAPY PROVIDES PATIENTS TREATMENT FOR THE SAME S.T.I. THEY ARE DIAGNOSED WITH, TO TAKE TO THEIR SEXUAL PARTNER: AN IMPORTANT TOOL TO TREAT PARTNERS WHO MAY NOT COME INTO A CLINIC, AND A TOOL TO MAKE SURE THAT PARTNERS DELIVERING THE TREATMENT PREVENT THEIR OWN REINFECTION. UNDER THE RESPOND PILLAR, OUR STRATEGIES FOR BOLSTERING S.T.D. CONTROL EFFORTS. WE RELY ON A ROBUST SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM AND A STRONG, EXPERIENCED WORKFORCE TO REACH OUT TO CLIENTS WITH HIGH-PRIORITY S.T.I.S, TO IDENTIFY POTENTIAL CLUSTERS OF TRANSMISSION. IN ADDITION, WE USE OUR SURVEILLANCE DATA TO INFORM DATA-DRIVEN ACTION, AND SHARE THE DATA ACTIVELY WITH PARTNERS, INCLUDING HEALTH PLANS AND COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS. FINALLY, WE ARE IMPLEMENTING STRATEGIES ACROSS THESE PILLARS TO FURTHER ENHANCE OUR IMPACT, PARTICULARLY RELATED TO POLICY CHANGE, SOCIAL MEDIA, AND MARKETING CAMPAIGNS, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND MOBILIZATION, TRAINING, AND PROGRAMMING AROUND PANDEMICS OR INTERSECTING EPIDEMICS

THAT, TOGETHER, AMPLIFY THEIR NEGATIVE EFFECTS. NEXT SLIDE, PLEASE. THIS IS A SUMMARY OF CURRENT S.T.D. REVENUE STREAMS.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: NEXT SLIDE, PLEASE. THANK YOU.

MARIO PEREZ: THANK YOU. THIS IS THE SUMMARY OF CURRENT S.T.D. REVENUE STREAMS AT THREE LEVELS: FROM THE FEDERAL CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION, THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH, AND FROM OUR COUNTY. ALL OF THESE STREAMS ARE CRUCIAL TO SUPPORTING THE STRATEGIES OUTLINED PREVIOUSLY. A LONG-STANDING CHALLENGE TIED TO S.T.D. REVENUE HAS BEEN THAT THE COMMITMENTS ARE OFTEN SHORT-TERM OR YEAR-TO-YEAR, IMPEDING OUR ABILITY TO BUILD A ROBUST SEXUAL HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE. THIS HAS BEEN IN CONTRAST TO EITHER LARGE FEDERAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE BLOCK GRANTS TO STATES, AND BY ASSOCIATION LOCAL JURISDICTIONS, OR STATEWIDE PROPOSITIONS TO SUPPORT MENTAL HEALTHCARE OR LONG-TERM MULTIPRONGED CONGRESSIONAL AUTHORIZATIONS, LIKE THE RYAN WHITE PROGRAM FOR H.I.V. AS YOUR BOARD IS AWARE, L.A. COUNTY, ALONG WITH 56 OTHER JURISDICTIONS, RECEIVED RESOURCES FROM OUR FEDERAL PARTNERS TO ENHANCE OUR DISEASE INTERVENTION SPECIALIST INFRASTRUCTURE, TO HELP DECREASE C.O.V.I.D., H.I.V., S.T.D., T.B., AND HEPATITIS RATES. AS PART OF THE RECENT FEDERAL DEBT CEILING NEGOTIATIONS, YEARS 4 AND 5 OF THIS 5-YEAR GRANT WERE RESCINDED. WHILE WE WERE NOT SUCCESSFUL, I DO WANT TO THANK

YOUR BOARD FOR YOUR ADVOCACY EFFORTS AND ATTEMPTS TO PREVENT THIS CUT. NEXT SLIDE, PLEASE. CURRENTLY, OUR COUNTY INVESTS MORE THAN $8 MILLION PER YEAR IN S.T.D.-RELATED CLINICAL SERVICES, DELIVERED BY A SMALL NETWORK OF COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS ACROSS THREE MODALITIES: TARGETED S.T.D. SCREENING, DIAGNOSIS, AND TREATMENT SERVICES IN DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED GEOGRAPHIC AREAS, SERVING SUBPOPULATIONS AT ELEVATED RISK FOR S.T.D.S; S.T.D. EXPRESS CLINICS, DESIGNED TO BE HIGH-VOLUME AND LOW-BARRIER; AND THE THIRD, S.T.D. SCREENING SERVICES IN THREE COMMERCIAL SEX VENUES, OPERATING LOCALLY. D.P.H. HAS BEEN WORKING WITH THESE PARTNERS TO MAXIMIZE THE EXPENDITURE OF THESE FUNDS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT, LIKE SO MANY EMPLOYMENT SECTORS, ESPECIALLY THE HEALTHCARE SECTOR, THAT HIRING THE FULL COMPLEMENT OF STAFF NEEDED TO DELIVER THESE SPECIALIZED SERVICES HAS BEEN DIFFICULT. AS PART OF THE PLANNED INVESTMENT OF ADDITIONAL TOBACCO SETTLEMENT FUNDS, AND FUTURE OF PUBLIC HEALTH FUNDS, OUR DEPARTMENT WILL BE INVESTING AN ADDITIONAL $3.2 MILLION PER YEAR WITH THESE PROVIDERS, TO FURTHER INCREASE THEIR SERVICE CAPACITY, EXPAND THEIR COMMUNITY-EMBEDDED DISEASE INTERVENTION SPECIALIST TEAMS, USE TECHNOLOGY TO IMPROVE VISIT EFFICIENCY AND DATA COLLECTION, AND IN SOME INSTANCES, IMPROVE THEIR IN-HOUSE LABORATORY INFRASTRUCTURE. NEXT SLIDE, PLEASE. PUBLIC HEALTH IS GRATEFUL FOR THE BOARD'S COMMITMENT TO S.T.D. FUNDING AT THE LOCAL LEVEL, AND RECENT ADDITIONAL INVESTMENTS

OF TOBACCO SETTLEMENT FUNDS, TO ENHANCE OUR LOCAL S.T.D. CONTROL EFFORTS. PUBLIC HEALTH HAS BEGUN THE INVESTMENT OF $4.5 MILLION, WITH CLINICAL PROVIDERS, MENTIONED IN THE PREVIOUS SLIDE. IN ADDITION, FUNDING WILL BE INVESTED IN NEW OR EXPANDED PARTNERSHIPS FOR SERVICES THAT ARE CRITICAL TO ENHANCING SYPHILIS CONTROL AMONG WOMEN, AND HELPING PREVENT CONGENITAL SYPHILIS. PUBLIC HEALTH ALSO INTENDS ON ENHANCING SYPHILIS AND DOXY-P.E.P. AWARENESS THROUGH MARKETING EFFORTS AND FURTHER EXPANDING OUR FREE S.T.D. TEST KIT AND CONDOM AVAILABILITY PROGRAMS. PUBLIC HEALTH WILL ALSO BE INVESTING IN OUR S.T.D. SURVEILLANCE AND DATA ANALYSIS INFRASTRUCTURE, FURTHER ENHANCING THE WORK OF THE SCHOOL WELLBEING CENTERS, AND MODERNIZING THE FUNCTION AND ASSETS OF OUR PUBLIC HEALTH SEXUAL CLINICS. NEXT SLIDE, PLEASE. I'D LIKE TO END WITH A BRIEF REVIEW OF SEVERAL INNOVATIONS TIED TO THE LOCAL S.T.D. CONTROL RESPONSE THAT PLAY A CRITICAL ROLE IN EXPANDING ACCESS TO CARE, REDUCING HEALTH DISPARITIES, AND ADDRESSING THE UNIQUE NEEDS OF VULNERABLE POPULATIONS. WE HAVE SHARED THE PROMISE AND POTENTIAL OF DOXY-P.E.P. TO HELP STEM THE TIDE OF S.T.I.S. PUBLIC HEALTH IS CURRENTLY WORKING ON EDUCATING PROVIDERS, TO INCREASE THEIR AWARENESS ABOUT THIS NEW TOOL. AND IN THE COMING MONTHS, WE WILL BE IMPLEMENTING A CAMPAIGN TARGETING AT-RISK POPULATIONS. OUR BICILLIN DELIVERY PROGRAM ENSURES PROMPT SYPHILIS TREATMENT AMONG KEY POPULATIONS, AND IS PARTICULARLY CRUCIAL IN SITUATIONS WHERE ACCESS TO CLINIC

SERVICES IS LIMITED, WHERE MEDICATION IS EITHER NOT ON HAND OR IN SHORT SUPPLY. PUBLIC HEALTH IS EXPANDING RAPID SYPHILIS TESTING WITH COMMUNITY AGENCIES, STREET MEDICINE TEAMS, AND MOBILE VACCINE UNITS, TO REDUCE TRANSMISSION AMONG MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES, INCLUDING PREGNANT WOMEN EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS. IN ADDITION, BROADENING OUR STREET MEDICINE FOOTPRINT TO ENGAGE THESE HARD-TO-REACH POPULATIONS WILL PROVIDE IMMEDIATE CARE AND RESOURCES TO VULNERABLE POPULATIONS, WHILE LINKING CLIENTS TO MORE STABLE AND COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH SERVICES. TELEHEALTH SERVICES IS ANOTHER KEY INNOVATION TO INCREASING IMPROVED SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICE DELIVERY. PUBLIC HEALTH IS IMPLEMENTING TELEHEALTH SERVICES FOR S.T.I. TREATMENT, FOR THOSE DIAGNOSED DURING OUR MOBILE TESTING OUTREACHES. PROMOTION OF MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS, DESIGNED TO REDUCE THE USE OF METHAMPHETAMINE BY PROVIDING INCENTIVES AND SUPPORT, HELPS MITIGATE THE UNDERLYING RISK FACTORS FOR SYPHILIS INFECTION, ULTIMATELY CONTRIBUTING TO ITS PREVENTION. FINALLY, TO COMPREHENSIVELY PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS, AND WOMEN, PUBLIC HEALTH IS ORGANIZING AND PARTNERING ON PROVIDING OUTREACH AT HEALTH FAIRS, TARGETING THESE COMMUNITIES. THE FOCUS IS TO INTEGRATE SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND S.T.D. PREVENTION WITHIN A HOLISTIC HEALTHCARE FRAMEWORK, AND ADDRESS PHYSICAL, AS WELL AS EMOTIONAL WELLBEING, IN A CULTURALLY COMPETENT MANNER. OUR COMMITMENT REMAINS TO CONSISTENTLY LEVERAGE EXISTING

RESOURCES, STRUCTURES, AND PROGRAMS, AS WELL AS ADOPT INNOVATIONS TO BETTER ADDRESS THIS CRISIS THROUGH A RANGE OF EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME, AND I'LL NOW PASS IT BACK TO DR. FERRER.

DR. BARBARA FERRER: WE'RE OPEN TO QUESTIONS.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU VERY MUCH. THANK YOU FOR THE PRESENTATION, AND FOR ADDRESSING THIS CRITICAL ISSUE. I HAVE FOUR QUESTIONS, AND THEN I'LL TURN IT TO MY COLLEAGUES. FIRST, I'M PLEASED TO SEE THE VAST MAJORITY OF THE $10 MILLION RECENTLY ALLOCATED BY THE BOARD IS GOING TO THOSE PROVIDERS AND SERVICES THAT PRIORITIZE OUR MOST HIGHLY IMPACTED COMMUNITIES. HOW IS THAT MONEY BEING SPENT, AND WHAT OTHER WAYS IS D.P.H. PROVIDING SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE TO OUR COMMUNITY PROVIDERS, TO ENSURE ALL OF THE MONEY IS BEING INVESTED IN ADDRESSING S.T.I.S? WE DON'T WANT TO HAVE AN UNDERSPEND HERE, GIVEN THE ISSUES THAT WE'RE SEEING. SO THAT'S QUESTION ONE.

MARIO PEREZ: THANK YOU, SUPERVISOR HORVATH, FOR THAT QUESTION. SO, WE ARE INVESTING IN SKILLS-BUILDING, TRAINING, AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WITH OUR PROVIDERS. AS I MENTIONED, WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE HEALTHCARE SECTOR HAS BEEN HEAVILY IMPACTED, FROM AN EMPLOYMENT STANDPOINT, SO WE'RE ALSO WORKING

WITH THEM TO TRY TO MAKE SURE THAT THEY CAN RECRUIT AND RETAIN STAFF TO PROVIDE THESE SERVICES. THEY ARE SENSITIVE, SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICES, AND SO WE NEED TO CONTINUE TO MAKE SURE THAT THE WORKFORCE IS RECRUITED AND RETAINED, TO HELP DO THE WORK.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: SO WE'LL SEE THAT $10 MILLION FULLY SPENT?

MARIO PEREZ: THAT IS ABSOLUTELY OUR EXPECTATION.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: OKAY. THE SECOND QUESTION IS, THE FUNDING STREAMS THAT YOU PRESENTED SHOW L.A. COUNTY IS INVESTING FAR MORE THAN OUR STATE AND FEDERAL PARTNERS IN THIS RESPONSE. HOW CAN WE ADVOCATE FOR MORE INVOLVEMENT FROM OUR STATE AND FEDERAL PARTNERS, AND HOW ARE WE PARTNERING WITH COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS TO SECURE MORE STATE AND FEDERAL FUNDING?

DR. BARBARA FERRER: YEAH, THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR THAT QUESTION, SUPERVISOR HORVATH, AND I DO WANT TO EXTEND MY DEEPEST APPRECIATION FOR THIS BOARD'S FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS, AS WELL AS THE LEADERSHIP ON THIS ISSUE. I THINK WHAT STANDS OUT TO ME IS WHAT MARIO HIGHLIGHTED, WHICH IS THE PIECEMEAL APPROACH AT BOTH THE STATE AND THE FEDERAL LEVEL TO S.T.I. PREVENTION AND CONTROL EFFORTS. AND WHILE WE APPLAUD THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION FOR CONSIDERING ADDITIONAL FUNDING, THIS IS NOT THE KIND OF

FUNDING THAT SHOULD BE UP FOR GRABS WHEN THERE ARE NEGOTIATIONS ON HOW TO CUT BACK ON SERVICES TO RESIDENTS, BECAUSE THE LONG-TERM IMPACT OF CUTTING BACK THESE SERVICES IS MORE INFECTIONS AND HIGHER COSTS FOR EVERYONE, BOTH AT A PERSONAL LEVEL, AND AT A SOCIETAL AND COMMUNITY LEVEL. I DO WANT TO NOTE THAT WE DO JOIN WITH OTHER COUNTIES IN ADVOCATING. SORT OF THE STRENGTH OF DIFFERENT COUNTIES COMING TOGETHER AT THE FEDERAL LEVEL HAS REALLY HELPED US. AND WE WANT TO THANK OUR OWN TEAM, OUR OWN L.A. COUNTY C.E.O. TEAM, THAT'S BEEN ADVOCATING FOR US THROUGH THE C.E.O.'S OFFICE AT THE STATE LEVEL, AS WELL AS ALL OF YOU. I DO THINK, AGAIN, EVEN THOUGH WE ARE LOOKING AT MORE DIFFICULT FINANCIAL TIMES AT THE STATE, INFECTIOUS DISEASES, COMMUNICABLE DISEASES, PLAY A UNIQUE ROLE IN DETERMINING SORT OF LONG-TERM IMPACTS FOR MANY, MANY YEARS TO COME. SO IT IS NOT WISE TO BE SACRIFICING THESE EFFORTS IN THE SHORT RUN, BECAUSE WE WILL END UP WITH HIGHER COSTS IN THE LONG RUN. AND WE'RE WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE STATE TO MAKE SURE THAT THEY UNDERSTAND SORT OF THE IMPLICATIONS OF NOT HAVING STABLE FUNDING. AND I WANT TO ALSO THANK AND RESPECT ALL OF OUR COMMUNITY-BASED PARTNERS WHO ARE DOING A LOT OF THIS WORK, AND SORT OF THE DIFFICULTY, AGAIN, OF NOT HAVING SUSTAINABLE FUNDING FOR SOMETHING THAT, AT THIS POINT, IS A CRISIS BECAUSE THERE HASN'T BEEN SUSTAINABLE FUNDING. I DON'T KNOW, MARIO.

MARIO PEREZ: YEAH. ABSOLUTELY, DR. FERRER. I WOULD ALSO ADD THAT, DOMESTICALLY, THERE HAS BEEN A DISPROPORTIONATE FOCUS ON THE C.D.C. TO FINANCE SEXUAL HEALTH IN AMERICA. AND WE HAVE OTHER AGENCIES WHO ARE PART OF THE FEDERAL S.T.D. STRATEGIC PLAN, INCLUDING C.M.S., H.R.S.A., AND S.A.M.H.S.A. THE INTERSECTIONS ARE CLEAR. THE FOLKS THAT THEY ARE SERVING WITH THOSE RESOURCES NEED TO BE LEVERAGED DIFFERENTLY, TO HELP ENHANCE THE $170 MILLION DOMESTIC APPROPRIATION FOR S.T.D. CONTROL IN AMERICA. WE HAD 2.5 MILLION CASES A YEAR, SO I THINK DIVERSIFYING THE FEDERAL FUNDING STREAMS WHO ARE COMMITTED TO THIS ISSUE IS ALSO REALLY IMPORTANT.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: SO IT'S CLEAR THERE IS A LOT THAT WE'RE DOING, AND WE HAVE AN OUTSIZED INVESTMENT IN DOING MORE EFFECTIVE WORK ON THE GROUND. AND YET, YOU HIGHLIGHTED THE ISSUE OF CONGENITAL SYPHILIS. THE C.D.C. RECENTLY RELEASED DATA THAT SHOWS A 755% INCREASE OF BABIES BOTH WITH SYPHILIS, OVER A 10-YEAR PERIOD. THE NUMBER OF BABIES BORN WITH SYPHILIS IS NOW GREATER THAN PEDIATRIC A.I.D.S. CASES AT THE HEIGHT OF THE A.I.D.S. EPIDEMIC IN THIS COUNTRY. SO, RECOGNIZING THAT, HOW CAN D.P.H. WORK MORE WITH D.M.H., D.H.S., AND THE AFRICAN AMERICAN INFANT AND MATERNAL MORTALITY INITIATIVE, TO MAKE CONGENITAL SYPHILIS CASES A RARITY IN OUR COUNTY? BECAUSE THERE IS CLEARLY A LOT OF WORK TO BE DONE THERE.

DR. BARBARA FERRER: YEAH, AND WE COMPLETELY AGREE WITH YOU. THIS IS A PROBLEM THAT WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO MANAGE AND, FRANKLY, ELIMINATE. THE NUMBERS ARE OUTSTANDING-- AND TERRIFYING, IN SOME WAYS-- BECAUSE OF THEIR IMPLICATIONS. BUT THE NUMBERS REPRESENT A SMALL NUMBER OF WOMEN THAT ARE VERY, VERY DISCONNECTED FROM CARE, AND THAT'S WHY I SAY THIS IS A SOLVABLE PROBLEM. OUR TEAM, I THINK, IS HARD AT WORK AT SOLVING THE PROBLEM, AND IT WILL BE COMPLICATED, BECAUSE AT THE ROOT OF THIS ARE WOMEN WHO TEND TO BE VERY DISCONNECTED FROM THE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM. AND BECAUSE THEY'RE SO DISCONNECTED FROM THE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM, WE HAVE TO DO A BETTER JOB ON THE OUTREACH EFFORTS IN NON-HEALTHCARE SETTINGS. WE CANNOT RELY ON WOMEN COMING IN FOR PRENATAL CARE AND GETTING THE KIND OF SCREENING AND TESTING THAT THEY NEED. NOW, OBVIOUSLY, WE HAVE TO DO A GREAT JOB THERE, AS WELL, SO THAT WHEREVER WOMEN ARE SHOWING UP FOR CARE, THEY'RE GETTING SCREENED AND TESTED, AND TESTED TWICE. BUT THE BIGGER CHALLENGE IS MEETING WOMEN WHERE THEY'RE AT. MANY OF THESE WOMEN MAY NOT BE SHOWING UP FOR HEALTHCARE, BUT THEY MAY BE SHOWING UP FOR OTHER SERVICES. THEY MAY BE SHOWING UP TO GET ASSISTANCE WITH FOOD SECURITY. THEY MAY BE SHOWING UP TO GET ASSISTANCE WITH HOUSING INSECURITY, BECAUSE THEY'RE EXPERIENCING OR ABOUT TO EXPERIENCE HOMELESSNESS, AND THEY MAY BE EXPERIENCING THE CO-OCCURRING DISORDERS OF EMOTIONAL WELLBEING PROBLEMS AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS. SO WE DO HAVE

OTHER PLACES AND OTHER TEAMS THAT NEED TO BE BROUGHT INTO THIS WORK. IT CANNOT JUST BE ONE TEAM THAT IS FOCUSED JUST ON S.T.D.S. IT HAS TO BE THE TEAMS OF FOLKS THAT ARE WORKING WITH PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS, THE TEAMS OF FOLKS THAT ARE WORKING WITH PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOUSING INSECURITY, WITH SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS, AND WE'RE ENGAGING ALL THOSE PARTNERS, BECAUSE IF PEOPLE ARE SHOWING UP FOR ANY KIND OF SERVICES OR SUPPORT-- OUR CLEAN NEEDLE EXCHANGE PROGRAMS, AND I THINK MARIO MENTIONED THAT, ARE PLACES WHERE, WHEN WE SEE WOMEN WHO MAY BE PREGNANT, WE NEED TO ENGAGE THEM AND NOT WAIT FOR THEM TO SHOW UP AT A CLINIC SETTING, A HEALTHCARE CLINIC SETTING.

MARIO PEREZ: AND I'LL JUST ADD, WE'RE REALLY GRATEFUL THAT D.H.S. IS WORKING WITH US TO SCREEN ANY PREGNANT PERSON COMING INTO AN E.D. FOR SYPHILIS. I THINK THAT'S GOING TO BE REALLY CRUCIAL. AND OUR PARTNERS AT D.M.H. HAVE REALLY LEANED IN, AND THEY'RE PROVIDING H.I.V. AND S.T.D. SCREENING AT MORE THAN 40 OF THEIR D.M.H. SITES. SO THOSE PARTNERSHIPS ARE BEING ESTABLISHED AND GROWING, AND WE WORK CLOSELY WITH OUR PARTNERS AT M.C.E.H. AS PART OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PERINATAL SERVICES PROGRAM.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: I WOULD ALSO SAY ANOTHER CULTURALLY COMPETENT HEALTHCARE SERVICE ISSUE IS RECOGNIZING THAT OUR

L.G.B.T.Q.+ COMMUNITY MEMBERS WILL HAVE PRIVACY CONCERNS ABOUT DISCLOSE. AND SO, IN ANOTHER SET OF ISSUES THAT WE NEED TO ADDRESS, WE NEED TO MAKE SURE THAT THE WAY THAT WE ARE SERVING OUR L.G.B.T.Q.+ COMMUNITY KEEPS THAT IN MIND, SO THEY ARE INCLINED TO COME FORWARD AND GET SERVICES THAT THEY ARE DUE. MY LAST QUESTION: AS WE ARE FACING THE WORST S.T.I. CRISIS IN OUR HISTORY, I'M VERY INTERESTED IN THE INNOVATIVE PREVENTION TOOLS THAT YOU HAD TALKED ABOUT, SPECIFICALLY DOXY-P.E.P. WE EXPERIENCED A VARIETY OF CHALLENGES IN PROVIDING EDUCATION, AWARENESS, AND ACCESS TO H.I.V. P.R.E.P., SO WHAT BEST PRACTICES CAN BE TAKEN FROM THAT EXPERIENCE, AS WE EDUCATE HIGH-RISK COMMUNITIES ABOUT THE AVAILABILITY OF DOXY-P.E.P.?

MARIO PEREZ: THANK YOU FOR THAT QUESTION. YEAH, WE'RE VERY EXCITED ABOUT THE POTENTIAL OF DOXY-P.E.P. I THINK THAT THE ROLLOUT OF A BIOMEDICAL H.I.V. PREVENTION TAUGHT US A LOT OF THINGS, INCLUDING WHAT TO AVOID. WE HAVE TO MAKE SURE THAT PROVIDERS FEEL COMFORTABLE PRESCRIBING DOXY-P.E.P. WE HAVE TO BUILD THEIR AWARENESS AND THEIR SKILL SET. WE HAVE TO MAKE SURE THAT CONSUMERS ARE COMFORTABLE ACCESSING AND ASKING FOR DOXY-P.E.P. WE CANNOT REPEAT THE PAST, WHEN WE STIGMATIZED H.I.V. P.R.E.P., AND THERE WERE SOME PROMINENT PERSONS WHO REALLY, I THINK, CAST A SHADOW ON THE BENEFIT OF H.I.V. P.R.E.P., THAT I THINK, IN MANY WAYS, STILL PLAYS OUT WITH THE DISPARITIES WE SEE AROUND H.I.V. IN THE BLACK AND BROWN

COMMUNITY, IN PARTICULAR. SO I THINK WE NEED TO MAKE SURE THAT PEOPLE UNDERSTAND THAT DOXY-P.E.P. IS EFFECTIVE. TWO VERY LARGE STUDIES; THE "NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE" COULDN'T BE MORE CLEAR ABOUT ITS EFFECTIVENESS. IT COULD HELP OVER 65% OF NEW S.T.D. INFECTIONS, IF TAKEN PROMPTLY, WITHIN 72 HOURS. WE ALSO NEED TO MAKE SURE THAT WE UNDERSTAND MEDICAL MISTRUST. SOME OF OUR COMMUNITIES WILL ASK IMPORTANT QUESTIONS AROUND ANY NEW MEDICATION, AND SO WE HAVE A DUTY TO MAKE SURE THAT OUR COMMUNITIES ARE INFORMED AND EMPOWERED TO ACCESS THIS SEXUAL HEALTH TOOL THAT COULD REALLY CHANGE THINGS FOR US IN L.A.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: AGAIN, IT SOUNDS LIKE THERE IS A LOT THAT'S GOING ON, AND YET WE STILL HAVE THIS CRISIS. SO, WHETHER WE'RE LOOKING AT NEW ADVERTISING AND COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGNS, EXPANDING COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS, MAKING SHIFTS IN CULTURAL COMPETENCY APPROACHES, THERE IS A LOT MORE WORK THAT WE HAVE DO. AND WE ALSO KNOW THAT, OVER THE LAST YEAR, WE'VE SEEN THE POLITICIZING OF SEXUAL HEALTH AND H.I.V./S.T.I. SERVICES. WE SAW CONGRESS NOT REAUTHORIZE P.E.P.F.A.R., THE PRESIDENT'S EMERGENCY PLAN FOR A.I.D.S. RELIEF, WHICH WAS ACTUALLY LED AND APPROVED UNDER A REPUBLICAN ADMINISTRATION, SO IT SHOULDN'T BE A PARTISAN ISSUE. P.E.P.F.A.R. SAVED APPROXIMATELY 25 MILLION LIVES AROUND THE WORLD, BY PROVIDING ESSENTIAL SERVICES TO PEOPLE LIVING WITH H.I.V./A.I.D.S., AND

IT'S NOW BEING HELD HOSTAGE IN THE HOUSE, AS WE KNOW. WE CANNOT POLITICIZE THESE LIFE-SAVING MEASURES AND DOLLARS, AND MAKE SURE THAT WE GET THOSE DOLLARS INVESTED IN PEOPLE'S SAFETY AND HEALTHCARE. YES, IT IS RACISM, YOU'RE RIGHT. AS WE ADDRESS THE S.T.I. CRISIS IN L.A. COUNTY, WE CAN'T FORGET TO SPEAK UP AND SPEAK OUT ABOUT CRITICAL PROGRAMS THAT IMPACT GLOBAL HEALTH EFFORTS, AS WELL, AND SO I KNOW WE'RE THINKING GLOBALLY, BUT WE'RE ACTING LOCALLY HERE IN L.A. COUNTY, THROUGH THE EFFORTS THAT YOU MENTIONED, AND WE HAVE TO DIG IN DEEPER, BECAUSE WHAT WE ARE SEEING REQUIRES EVEN MORE WORK. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. I'M NOW GOING TO TURN IT TO SUPERVISOR HAHN.

SUP. HAHN: THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR. THANK YOU, DR. FERRER AND MR. PEREZ, FOR THE PRESENTATION. AND CERTAINLY, JUST FOLLOWING UP ON MADAM CHAIRMAN'S LAST REMARKS, I MEAN, LOOKING AT THAT PRESENTATION, YOU'RE DOING A LOT. SEEMS LIKE YOU HAVE A VERY ROBUST BUDGET. YOU'RE DOING A LOT. YOU'RE LOOKING TO SOLVE THIS CRISIS. AND YET, HERE'S WHAT I'M HEARING, PARTICULARLY FROM MY COMMISSIONER, JUSTIN VALERO, WHO HAS BEEN ON THE COMMISSION ON H.I.V. FOR SEVERAL YEARS. HE HAS CONTINUED TO RAISE THE ISSUE ABOUT ACCESS TO CARE. THERE ARE 10 D.P.H. SEXUAL HEALTH CLINICS FOR A POPULATION OF 10 MILLION. MANY OF THESE CLINICS ARE ONLY OPEN A FEW DAYS A WEEK, FOR LIMITED HOURS. THERE'S NO SERVICES OFFERED ON FRIDAY AFTERNOONS, AND

NO WEEKEND AVAILABILITY. THERE ARE ONE TO TWO CLINICS IN EACH SERVICE PLANNING AREA, S.P.A.S; HOWEVER, THESE AREAS ARE HUGE, AND IT'S EASY TO BELIEVE THAT IT COULD TAKE SOMEONE A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF TIME TO GET TO ONE OF THESE CLINICS. THEN YOU THROW IN THE LIMITED HOURS, AND YOU CAN SEE HOW ACCESSING THIS CARE CAN BE OFF-PUTTING. THE COUNTY HAS A STRONG RELATIONSHIP WITH COMMUNITY PROVIDERS, WHO HELP WITH THE CHALLENGE OF DISTANCE, BUT STILL, THERE ARE SO MANY AREAS WITH LITTLE TO NO CARE, ESPECIALLY IN SUBURBAN AREAS. SO I HEAR WHAT YOU'RE BOTH SAYING, ABOUT TRYING TO-- WHEN THEY DO COME IN FOR VARIOUS REASONS, WHEN YOU GOT TO MAKE SURE WE'RE SCREENING WOMEN WHO ARE PREGNANT, OR PARTICULARLY THOSE WHO ARE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS, BUT AS YOU CAN SEE, A LOT OF PEOPLE, MAYBE, WOULD LIKE TO BE PROACTIVE AND SEEK TESTING OR TREATMENT, BUT ARE FINDING IT REALLY DIFFICULT. SO, DR. FERRER, I'M JUST GOING TO MAYBE THROW IT TO YOU, OR EITHER ONE OF YOU. SO, I MEAN, I THINK OUR GOAL WOULD BE TO MAKE SURE THAT A PERSON WHO WANTS TO SEEK TESTING OR TREATMENT CAN GET IT QUICKLY AND CONVENIENTLY, IN ALL AREAS OF L.A. COUNTY. SO, WHAT DO YOU PROPOSE TO FILL IN THAT GAP IN THESE SERVICES AREAS?

DR. BARBARA FERRER: THANK YOU SO MUCH, SUPERVISOR HAHN, AND I SHARE YOUR CONCERNS. I DO THINK, AS WE OUTLINED, WE'RE TRYING TO CLOSE THOSE GAPS IN PLACES WHERE IT'S BEEN HARD FOR PEOPLE

TO REACH CARE. BUT I 100% AGREE WITH YOU. IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR CARE, IT SHOULDN'T BE HARD TO FIND IT; NOT IN L.A. COUNTY. SO WE'RE WORKING ON A FEW FRONTS, AND I'LL LET MARIO TALK A LITTLE BIT MORE ABOUT SORT OF THE COMMUNITY PARTNERS, BECAUSE, OBVIOUSLY, WE CAN'T DO THIS ALONE. HUGE COUNTY. WE MADE A VERY BIG INVESTMENT IN COMMUNITY PARTNERS FOR A VARIETY OF REASONS, INCLUDING THAT THEY ARE VERY LOCAL AND CULTURALLY COMPETENT IN THEIR ABILITY TO BUILD TRUST, AND TO SERVE SPECIFIC COMMUNITIES, AND WE WANT TO SUPPORT THAT, AND WE WANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE NEED FOR THAT LEVEL OF DIVERSITY. I HAVE ASKED OUR TEAM TO START LOOKING AT THOSE CLINIC HOURS. I SHARE THE SAME CONCERN. BUT BECAUSE WE HAVE LIMITED CLINIC HOURS, WE ARE STARTING TO USE OUR MOBILE VACCINE TEAMS TO ACTUALLY DO MOBILE S.T.I. TESTINGS AND SCREENINGS. AND WE'RE ALSO USING, AS YOU HEARD FROM MARIO, TELEHEALTH. SO WE'RE TRYING TO LOOK AT SOME OF THE INVESTMENTS WE MADE WHEN WE DECIDED IT WAS REALLY IMPORTANT TO MAKE SURE EVERYONE HAD EASY ACCESS TO FREE VACCINES; THAT WE THINK SIMILARLY ABOUT ACCESS, PARTICULARLY AROUND TESTING AND TREATMENT. WE'VE HAD A LOT OF MEETINGS OVER THE LAST FEW MONTHS WITH OUR PROVIDER COMMUNITY, BECAUSE I WANT TO NOTE THAT WE HAVE A VERY VAST PROVIDER COMMUNITY; NOT JUST OUR FEDERALLY QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTERS AND THE COMMUNITY PROVIDERS WE'RE WORKING WITH, BUT WE HAVE LOTS OF OTHER PROVIDERS. AND MARIO HAS BEEN TRYING REALLY HARD TO FIGURE OUT HOW, WHEREVER YOU GO, TESTING IS EASY. THAT EFFORT AT THE

EMERGENCY ROOMS TOOK A LOT OF WORK, BUT IT, AGAIN, IS A PLACE WHERE PEOPLE WHO ARE MAYBE POORLY CONNECTED TO CARE ARE SHOWING UP, AND WE SHOULD MAKE IT VERY EASY AT THOSE SITES TO GO AHEAD WITH TESTING. WE'RE ALSO WORKING WITH SOME OF OUR FEDERALLY QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTERS, BECAUSE, FRANKLY, THEY'RE IN SOME OF THE COMMUNITIES WITH THE LEAST ACCESS TO TESTING AND TREATMENT, AND MANY OF THEM HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO OFFER EXPEDITED, EASY TESTING IN THEIR OWN SETTINGS, AND THEY NEED SOME SUPPORT, AND WE'RE HERE TO PROVIDE THAT SUPPORT, SO THAT THEY CAN GO AHEAD AND OPEN. I MEAN, I THINK THE BIG ISSUE RIGHT NOW IS, IT HAS TO BE VERY EASY TO GET TESTED, WITH AS FEW BARRIERS AS POSSIBLE, AND MANY, MANY DIFFERENT KINDS OF LOCATIONS WHERE THAT TESTING IS GOING TO BE AVAILABLE. AND, MARIO, IT WOULD BE GREAT IF YOU TALK ABOUT THE PROVIDER OUTREACH, BECAUSE THAT IS A BIG ISSUE FOR US, AS WELL.

MARIO PEREZ: SURE, ABSOLUTELY. YEAH, SO THE BEST CHOICE SHOULD BE THE EASIEST CHOICE: TO GET SCREENED AND DIAGNOSED AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. WE WANT TO USE TECHNOLOGY. WE WANT PRE-REGISTRATION. WE WANT PEOPLE TO BE ABLE TO GO IN AND OUT, GET THE RESULTS. IF THEY ARE REACTIVE, THEY GO BACK AND GET TREATED, AND THEY WALK OUT WITH TREATMENT FOR THEIR PARTNER, IF THEIR PARTNER'S NOT GOING TO COME IN. BUT WE NEED TO MULTIPLY THAT MODEL ACROSS MANY HEALTH SYSTEMS: LARGE HEALTH SYSTEMS; CERTAINLY, OUR PUBLIC HEALTH S.T.D. CLINICS. WE RELY

HEAVILY ON A NETWORK OF COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS, WHO PROVIDE ESSENTIAL SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICES THAT'S BARRIER-FREE, CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY SENSITIVE--

SUP. HAHN: I MEAN, I HEAR YOU, BUT MY COMMENTS WERE REALLY SPECIFICALLY-- I LAID OUT HOW DIRE SOME AREAS ARE, AND HOURS OF CLINICS. AND SO I HEAR YOUR MODEL, BUT WHAT DO YOU THINK WE CAN DO BETTER TO CLOSE THESE GAPS? AS YOU SAID, PEOPLE WHO WANT TO GET TESTED, WHO WANT THE TREATMENT, THEY'RE THE ONES I'M TALKING ABOUT. AND NO WEEKENDS, NO FRIDAYS, TAKING TRANSPORTATION SEVERAL CITIES APART. SO, WHAT'S YOUR SUGGESTION?

MARIO PEREZ: SO, THE PUBLIC HEALTH CLINICS ARE A VERY IMPORTANT SAFETY NET FOR FOLKS WHO DO NOT HAVE ACCESS, ROUTINELY. WE HAVE TO MAKE SURE THAT SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICES BECOME A MORE ROUTINE PART OF HEALTHCARE DELIVERY IN OUR COUNTY, AND WE HAVE TO CHANGE THE PARADIGM AROUND COMFORT AND TRUST WITH YOUR PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER. WE HAVE TO IMPROVE THE [INAUDIBLE] RATES THAT SAYS THAT ALL SEXUALLY ACTIVE YOUNG WOMEN, BETWEEN 16 AND 24, SHOULD GET A CHLAMYDIA TEST EVERY YEAR. THAT IS NOT HAPPENING IN THE HEALTH SYSTEM AT A LEVEL THAT WE NEED. AND SO I AGREE THAT THE PUBLIC HEALTH S.T.D. CLINICS NEED TO BE MODERNIZED, AND THERE IS AN EFFORT AFOOT TO DO SOME OF THAT MODERNIZATION, BUT IT NEEDS TO BE COMPLEMENTED

BY WHAT U.C.L.A. HEALTHCARE SYSTEM, AND WHAT THE KAISER SYSTEM, AND THE NETWORK OF F.Q.H.C.S, THE 65 THAT SERVE 2.2 MILLION RESIDENTS, WE HAVE ALSO REACHED OUT TO THEM. WE'VE TALKED TO L.A. CARE HEALTH PLAN AND HEALTH NET ABOUT IMPROVING HOW THEY APPROACH AND PRIORITIZE AND FINANCE SEXUAL HEALTH.

SUP. HAHN: SO THAT THESE BECOME A PLACE WHERE PEOPLE CAN GO FOR TESTING AND TREATMENT, AS OPPOSED TO JUST OUR CLINICS. THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE SAYING.

MARIO PEREZ: EXACTLY.

SUP. HAHN: HOW DO WE THINK WE GET THERE?

DR. BARBARA FERRER: WE'RE WORKING PRETTY HARD. I MEAN, I WILL SAY THE FINANCING IS DRIVING A LOT OF THIS, SO I WANT TO GIVE THE PUBLIC HEALTH TEAM A LOT OF CREDIT. WE SPENT THE LAST 6 MONTHS MEETING WITH THE LARGER HEALTH PLANS, LAYING OUT A SERIES OF SUGGESTED RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THEM. WE'VE HAD GREAT COOPERATION FOR THEM TO MOVE IN A DIRECTION THAT, AGAIN, MAKES IT EASY FOR PROVIDERS TO BE PAID FOR SERVICES THAT THEY DO, THAT MAY BE SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT THAN THE WAY THE BILLING CODES ARE SET UP NOW. SO, YOU KNOW, SOME OF THIS IS JUST THIS VERY DETAILED WORK ON HOW ARE PEOPLE GETTING PAID. SO, BUT WE SHARE YOUR CONCERN, AND ARE TRYING--

SUP. HAHN: MAYBE THE NEXT TIME YOU COME BACK, YOU CAN GIVE US SOME--

DR. BARBARA FERRER: MORE UPDATES ON SORT OF THESE OTHER--

SUP. HAHN: BECAUSE, OBVIOUSLY, YOU'VE GOT SORT OF A BLUEPRINT TO DO THIS. IT JUST FEELS LIKE IT'S NOT HAPPENING QUICK ENOUGH.

DR. BARBARA FERRER: YES. THANK YOU.

SUP. HAHN: BUT WHATEVER WE CAN DO TO SUPPORT THAT EFFORT, LET US KNOW.

DR. BARBARA FERRER: THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: SUPERVISOR BARGER?

SUP. BARGER: THANK YOU. AND, ACTUALLY, I WAS GOING TO ASK ABOUT THE HEALTH PLAN. SO, YOU ARE WORKING WITH L.A. CARE AND ALL, TO SEE HOW YOU CAN CAPITALIZE ON THAT. AND IF YOU ANSWERED THIS, I APOLOGIZE, BUT SERVICE PROVIDERS ARE ONLY UTILIZING 71% OF THEIR ALLOCATED FUNDS. WHY ARE THOSE FUNDS NOT FULLY UTILIZED?

MARIO PEREZ: IT'S MOSTLY STAFFING SHORTAGES AND STAFF VACANCIES THAT HAVE NOT ALLOWED THEM TO MAXIMIZE THOSE COMMITMENTS. AS PART OF THE MOST RECENT INVESTMENT OF RESOURCES MADE AVAILABLE BY YOUR BOARD-- THAT TOBACCO SETTLEMENT FUND-- WE MET WITH EACH PROVIDER, INDIVIDUALLY, TO TRY TO UNDERSTAND WHY THEIR SPENDING PATTERNS WERE WHAT THEY WERE. AND AS PART OF THE INVESTMENT OF ADDITIONAL RESOURCES, WE ALSO WANTED TO MAKE SURE THERE WAS A PLAN TO SPEND AT A FASTER CLIP, AND THAT OFTEN MEANT HIRING MORE STAFF. BUT WE'RE ALSO INVESTING IN TECHNOLOGY AND CHANGES TO E.H.R.S, TO MAKE ORDERING EXAMS MORE ROUTINE AND EASIER, AND SO WE'RE TRYING TO SUPPORT THEIR ACCESS TO TOOLS THAT MAKE THE VISITS AS EFFICIENT AS POSSIBLE. SO I TRUST THAT THOSE RESOURCES, THEY'LL CATCH UP AND SPEND, AND THEN THEY'LL ALSO SPEND THE NEW RESOURCES WE'RE INVESTING.

SUP. BARGER: THIS IS NOT AN "I AGREE OR DISAGREE." I JUST WANT TO UNDERSTAND THE THOUGHT BEHIND IT, BECAUSE I KNOW THAT WE'VE CHANGED HOW PROVIDERS BILL FOR INSURANCE, FOR TESTING AND RECOUPING. DO YOU THINK THAT'S HAD A NEGATIVE IMPACT, OR HAS THERE BEEN NO IMPACT, AS IT RELATES TO THEY HAVE TO BILL FOR LABS, CORRECT? AND PRIOR TO THAT, THAT WAS NOT THE CASE. DO YOU FOLLOW ME?

MARIO PEREZ: YEAH. SO, PREVIOUSLY, THERE WAS A SET-ASIDE TO HELP PROVIDERS OFFSET THE COSTS OF LABORATORY SPECIMEN PROCESSING. WE HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH THEM TO DEVELOP BILLING MECHANISMS, SO THAT WE BILL HEALTH PLANS FOR SERVICES THEY SHOULD BE COVERING. AND THAT GAP HAS NARROWED, IN TERMS OF WHAT THEY SPEND AND WHAT THEY ARE ABLE TO BILL, AND THERE ARE STILL SOME THINGS THAT WE'RE WORKING WITH THEM ON, BUT THE LABORATORY SPECIMEN PROCESSING IS A COST TIED TO THE S.T.D. VISIT, JUST LIKE THE VISIT COST IS.

SUP. BARGER: AND I'M GLAD YOU SAID THAT, MARIO, BECAUSE ONE OF THE THINGS THAT I QUESTIONED ON THAT WAS, IF WE'RE BILLING THE INSURANCE PROVIDER-- WHICH, YOU KNOW, THEY HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO PAY IT-- THE CONCERN IS CONFIDENTIALITY, AND WILL THAT PUSH AWAY PEOPLE FROM COMING AND GETTING TESTED? BECAUSE SOME WANT TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS, AND NOT HAVE THEIR INSURANCE BILLED.

MARIO PEREZ: YES, WE'RE AWARE OF THOSE CIRCUMSTANCES, AND WE WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT NO POLICY CHANGE THAT WE ADVANCE IMPACTS SOMEONE'S COMFORT GETTING A SEXUAL HEALTH VISIT. AND SO FOR SOME PROVIDERS, PARTICULARLY THOSE WHO SERVE YOUNG PEOPLE, WE'VE CREATED A LINE ITEM, SO THAT THAT LABORATORY COST IS COVERED, AND IT DOESN'T REQUIRE THE BILLING OF THE FAMILY HEALTH PLAN. AND SO, PARTICULARLY FOR PEOPLE UNDER 26, IT'S A VERY SENSITIVE ISSUE. WE'RE ALSO VERY GRATEFUL THAT

YOUR BOARD SUPPORTED A.B. 1645, THE BILL ADVANCED BY ASSEMBLYMAN ZBUR THAT WOULD HAVE ELIMINATED COPAYS AND PREMIUMS FOR ANYONE ACCESSING SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICES. THAT WOULD'VE BEEN ONE BARRIER REMOVED ALONG THE SAME LINES. THAT, UNFORTUNATELY, WAS VETOED BY THE GOVERNOR, BUT WE'RE TRYING TO ADDRESS SOME OF THOSE STRUCTURAL BARRIERS THAT IMPEDE SOMEONE'S COMFORT LEVEL WITH HAVING A SEXUAL HEALTH VISIT.

SUP. BARGER: YEAH, I THINK THAT IT'S HELPFUL, THEN, TO HAVE ALL THE STAKEHOLDERS DISCUSSING, FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR, NONPROFIT, AS WELL AS INTERNALLY, SO WE CAN GET SOMETHING THAT MAKES SENSE. SO I APPRECIATE THAT. AND THEN LAST, BUT NOT LEAST, I'M GLAD YOU BROUGHT UP THE WHOLE ISSUE OF THE NUMBER OF BABIES BEING BORN WITH SYPHILIS. I MEAN, I, UP IN THE ANTELOPE VALLEY, MET A WOMAN WHO CURRENTLY IS FOSTERING A BABY THAT WAS BORN WITH SYPHILIS, BUT ALSO METH AND OTHER ISSUES, AND ONE OF THE QUESTIONS THAT I HAD-- AND YOU'RE PROBABLY ALREADY DOING IT, BUT TO YOUR POINT, DR. FERRER, IT'S PROBABLY MORE OFTEN THAN NOT-- I MEAN, THE HOMELESS PEOPLE THAT I COME IN CONTACT WITH, THAT ARE PREGNANT, ARE USING. AND I HAVE TO WONDER IF WE MAYBE NEED TO DO AN ALL-HANDS-ON-DECK FRONTLOAD MEDICAL OUT FOR THESE WOMEN THAT ARE ON THE STREET, TO SEE IF WE CAN ADDRESS IT THERE, BECAUSE THERE IS A COMMON THEME, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE IS DEFINITELY ONE OF THEM. AND I'M SURE THAT THERE ARE OTHER LIFESTYLE CHOICES THAT ARE IMPACTING IT, AS

WELL. AND IT JUST BREAKS MY HEART, BECAUSE WE DON'T KNOW HOW THESE BABIES ARE GOING TO DEVELOP, AND I THINK IT-- I JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT WE'RE DOING EVERYTHING WE CAN.

DR. BARBARA FERRER: THANK YOU SO MUCH, SUPERVISOR BARGER, AND WE 100% SHARE THE CONCERN, AND HAVE DONE JUST THAT, EVEN INTERNALLY. WE HAVE A DEDICATED TEAM AT D.P.H. THAT IS SINGULARLY FOCUSED ON FINDING WOMEN WHO ARE UNHOUSED, AND MAKING SURE THAT, AS EARLY ON IN THEIR PREGNANCY AS POSSIBLE, WE'RE CONNECTING THEM TO A WHOLE HOST OF SERVICES THAT THEY WANT, AND SOME SERVICES THAT WE WOULD LIKE THEM TO MAKE USE OF. BUT WE'RE TRYING TO MEET PEOPLE WHERE THEY'RE AT, AND WE'RE TRYING TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT LIFE IS, JUST LIKE YOU SAID, FOR MANY OF THESE WOMEN, EXTRAORDINARILY COMPLICATED, AND SOME OF THEM HAVE ALREADY LOST A BABY PREVIOUSLY, OR HAVE EXPERIENCED HAVING A CHILD REMOVED. SO THERE IS A FAIR AMOUNT OF DISTRUST AMONG WOMEN WHO ARE PREGNANT, WHO ARE UNHOUSED, AND MAY BE FEELING VERY HESITANT TO ENGAGE WITH OUR TRADITIONAL TEAMS, WHICH IS WHY WE HAVE A SEPARATE TEAM THAT'S REALLY LASER-FOCUSED ON THIS. BECAUSE, AGAIN, AS WE SHOWED YOU, THE NUMBERS ARE SMALL ENOUGH THAT WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO FIND WOMEN, REASSURE THEM THAT OUR INTENT IS TO BE SUPPORTIVE, AND HELP CONNECT THEM TO THE KIND OF SERVICES THAT COULD LEAD TO A HEALTHY BIRTH.

SUP. BARGER: EXCELLENT. AND THEN I'LL JUST, IN CLOSING, SAY THAT I REMEMBER BACK IN THE EARLY 90'S, WHEN MACLAREN HALL WAS OPEN, AND WE WOULD HAVE LINES OF BASINETS, BUT THEN WE WOULD HAVE ROCKING CHAIRS. AND ALL THE BABIES WERE WRAPPED UP TIGHT, BECAUSE THEY WERE BORN ADDICTED TO CRACK. AND DR. BEAN, FROM MARTIN LUTHER KING HOSPITAL, WAS A CHAMPION ON ADDRESSING THE ISSUE, AS IT RELATED TO IMPACTING THE COMMUNITY SURROUNDING MARTIN LUTHER KING HOSPITAL. BUT I REMEMBER THE QUESTION: WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO WHEN THESE BABIES ARE OLDER? ARE WE PREPARED TO ADDRESS WHAT THE IMPACT MAY BE, OF THEM BEING BORN EXPOSED TO SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND CRACK? AND I GUESS I WOULD SAY THE SAME IN THIS SITUATION, TOO. I HOPE THAT WE-- AND I KNOW, SUPERVISOR MITCHELL, YOU ARE ON FIRST 5. WE HAVE OPPORTUNITIES TO MAKE SURE THAT WE FRONTLOAD, BECAUSE WE DIDN'T FRONTLOAD ON THAT. WE WERE NOT PREPARED FOR THESE BABIES THAT WERE BECOMING YOUNG TEENS. AND I JUST HOPE THAT, AS WE ADDRESS THESE ISSUES-- AND I'M JUST GOING OUT THERE, BECAUSE IT REALLY IMPACTED ME TO SEE THESE WOMEN THAT ARE PREGNANT ON THE STREET, WITHOUT GETTING PRENATAL CARE, AND THEN KNOWING THAT THERE COULD BE COMPLICATIONS. I, FOR ONE, AM GOING TO BE LOOKING AT THAT VERY CLOSELY, AND I WOULD BE HAPPY TO WORK WITH YOU, BECAUSE I KNOW YOU ARE A CHAMPION AT FIRST 5 ON THIS ISSUE. THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: SUPERVISOR SOLIS?

SUP. SOLIS: YES, THANK YOU. I WANT TO THANK YOU, DR. FERRER, AND YOUR TEAM FOR ALL THE WORK THAT YOU HAVE DONE. WE HAVE DONE SO MUCH ALREADY, I KNOW, IN THE PAST TWO YEARS ON MPOX, AND I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR THAT, BECAUSE THAT WAS SOMETHING THAT WE USED NONTRADITIONAL METHODS. IN FACT, I THINK THOSE ARE THE BEST THINGS, SOMETIMES, THAT CAN HELP GET THE WORD OUT. YOU ATTENDED SEVERAL EVENTS WE HAD IN EAST L.A., WITH THE QUEER MERCADO, AND WE HAD 250 PEOPLE COME IN THAT ONE SATURDAY TO GET THE MPOX. AND THAT WAS SO EFFECTIVE, BECAUSE THAT WAS ANOTHER OUTLET THAT REALLY CONNECTED OUR COMMUNITY. AND I WOULD WANT TO ENCOURAGE US TO DO MORE OF THAT, BECAUSE I KNOW YOU DON'T HAVE THE RESOURCES OR THE MANPOWER, BUT COMING UP WITH THOSE KINDS OF STRUCTURED EVENTS, AND KNOWING WHERE THEY ARE HAPPENING, BECAUSE THOSE GROUPS STILL MEET. BUT RIGHT NOW IS THE TIME TO DO IT, ESPECIALLY AS THE HOLIDAYS, NEW YEAR'S, EVERYONE'S GOING TO BE OUT CELEBRATING, A LOT OF THINGS HAPPENING. WE NEED TO GET THE WORD OUT. YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN? I MEAN THAT IN A POSITIVE WAY, BUT I ALSO AM CONCERNED ABOUT THE WHOLE ISSUE REGARDING HOMELESSNESS AND SKID ROW, BECAUSE NOW THAT I HAVE ALL OF IT, I'M VERY CONCERNED ABOUT WHAT WE ARE DOING THERE WITH L.G.B.T.Q., BUT ALSO WITH WOMEN, YOUNG WOMEN, AND HOW WE ARE CONNECTING WITH THE DOWNTOWN WOMEN'S CENTER AND WITH OUR PROJECT THAT WE HAVE ON SKID ROW, THAT'S ONGOING NOW. YOU'RE A PART OF IT. YOUR TEAM IS THERE, BUT JUST

MAKING SURE THAT THIS IS ALSO FRONT AND CENTER AS WE MOVE ALONG, BECAUSE I THINK IT IS REALLY IMPORTANT, AND ESPECIALLY FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE LIMITED ENGLISH, AND OTHER DISABILITIES, AS WELL. I DON'T JUST MEAN LANGUAGE, BUT DISABILITIES. I THINK THAT'S ALSO STIGMATIZED HERE. PEOPLE JUST DON'T WANT MORE ATTENTION. AND I WOULD HOPE THAT WE COULD GET OUR DEPARTMENTS, D.P.S.S., G.R. UNIT, WHATEVER IT IS, TO ALSO MAYBE PROVIDE SOME INFORMATION ABOUT THAT. I MEAN, BECAUSE PEOPLE AREN'T GOING TO SAY, "HEY, I HAVE AN S.T.D. ISSUE," OR, "I HAVE CHLAMYDIA." THEY'RE NOT GOING TO ALWAYS GIVE THAT INFORMATION UP, ESPECIALLY WOMEN, WHEN THEY'RE IN THIS PREDICAMENT. IF THEY ARE USING, WHATEVER IT IS, THEY'RE NOT NECESSARILY GOING TO DISCLOSE THAT. SO, WHAT METHODS? AND I GUESS MAYBE TODAY ISN'T THE DAY TO GET ALL THIS INFORMATION, BUT AT AN UPCOMING MEETING TO GIVE US AN ACTUAL PLAN, AND TELL US WHAT YOU HAVE DONE. AND IF WE CAN BE HELPFUL WITH OUR CONTACTS, AS WELL, I CERTAINLY WANT TO SEE THAT. AND I TOTALLY BELIEVE THAT THE MOBILE CLINICS, THE BOOTS ON THE GROUND, AND THE MEDICAL TEAMS ON SKID ROW, YOU KNOW, I WOULD LOVE TO KNOW WHAT THAT LOOKS LIKE, OR HOW THAT IS ROLLING OUT.

DR. BARBARA FERRER: WE ARE HAPPY TO PROVIDE MORE DETAILS BACK TO YOU. WE DON'T EVEN NEED TO WAIT FOR ANOTHER BOARD MEETING. WE CAN JUST GO AHEAD AND PUT TOGETHER THE DETAILS ON SORT OF THE CONNECTIONS, PARTICULARLY WITH PEOPLE WHO ARE EXPERIENCING

HOMELESSNESS, AND PEOPLE WHO MAY BE STRUGGLING WITH AN ADDICTION OR MENTAL HEALTH ISSUE, AND SORT OF WHAT OUR OUTREACH LOOKS LIKE IN THOSE COMMUNITIES. AND I LOVE WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT, "THIS CAN'T JUST BE ONE TEAM." WE HAVE TO HAVE A VERY COORDINATED EFFORT, WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE OTHER DEPARTMENTS. AND I WANT TO THANK THE OTHER DEPARTMENTS, BECAUSE WHENEVER WE REACH OUT TO THEM, THEY HAVE BEEN GREAT ABOUT SUPPORTING OUR REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE.

SUP. SOLIS: RIGHT. SO, IF YOU COULD PROVIDE IT AND DO IT BY DISTRICT, THAT WOULD BE GREAT. THANK YOU.

DR. BARBARA FERRER: ABSOLUTELY.

SUP. SOLIS: APPRECIATE IT.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: SUPERVISOR MITCHELL?

SUP. MITCHELL: THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MADAM CHAIR, AND THANK YOU FOR AGENDIZING THIS ISSUE. AND I APPRECIATE, DR. FERRER, YOUR COMMENT ABOUT A LACK OF CONNECTION TO CARE, BECAUSE I THINK THAT REALLY IS THE ROOT OF THE ISSUE. WHEN YOU LOOK AT THE ETHNIC POPULATIONS THAT ARE DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED BY THE CONGENITAL SYPHILIS, IT IS THE SAME POPULATION THAT ARE AT THE TOP OF THE CHARTS FOR EVERYTHING ELSE BAD, WITH REGARD TO

HEALTH OUTCOMES. AND SO IT IS THE SAME POPULATION THAT WE HAD TROUBLE CONNECTING DURING C.O.V.I.D. AND SO IT IS THE CONNECTION TO CARE. THAT'S THE ISSUE, AND TRAGICALLY, WHEN WE TALK ABOUT MEDICAL MISTRUST, "BLACK PEOPLE, MEDICAL MISTRUST, SYPHILIS," ALL IN THE SAME SENTENCE, MEANS LACK OF CONNECTION TO CARE, BECAUSE THAT IS THE DIRECT LINE THAT HAS LED TO MULTIPLE GENERATIONS OF MISTRUST. SO IN THIS, WE'RE REALLY BEHIND-- PARDON THE PUN-- THE EIGHT BALL, BECAUSE ANY TIME YOU TALK ABOUT SYPHILIS, IT EVOKES HORRIFIC MEMORIES IN THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY. IN AUGUST OF LAST YEAR, I FILED A MOTION THAT, AMONG OTHER THINGS, DIRECTED D.H.S. AND D.P.H. TO CONSIDER INCLUDING S.T.I. TESTING, INCLUDING ORAL, ANAL, URINE TESTING, BLOOD TESTS, AND BUNDLE TESTING, WITHIN D.H.S.-OPERATED URGENT CARE CENTERS AND EMERGENCY ROOM SETTINGS, ESPECIALLY THOSE LOCATED IN HIGH-STI-INCIDENCE REGIONS. SO, IN LISTENING TO SUPERVISOR HAHN'S QUESTIONS, RECOGNIZING, MR. PEREZ, THAT YOU SAY WE'RE SCREENING PREGNANT WOMEN, ARE WE NOT DOING THAT? IF SO, WHY? AND, YOU KNOW, PERHAPS WAITING FOR WOMEN TO BE PREGNANT TO TEST IS TOO LATE. WE NEED TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO GET THEM, PRE-PREGNANT.

DR. BARBARA FERRER: I MEAN, I THANK YOU SO MUCH, SUPERVISOR MITCHELL, FOR THE QUESTION, AND FOR ELEVATING THE ISSUE AROUND RACISM, AND WHAT IS BEHIND THE MISTRUST. IT DIDN'T COME OUT OF THE BLUE. THERE'S REALLY GOOD REASONS FOR MISTRUST. AND THE

ONLY WAY TO ACTUALLY DEAL WITH THAT IS TO ACKNOWLEDGE WHAT THE HISTORY ACTUALLY TOLD US, AND DID, AND THEN TO MOVE FORWARD BY LISTENING AND DEVELOPING THOSE RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS. SO I THINK WE TRY HARD, BUT IN THE MEANTIME, THE ISSUE OF MAKING SURE THAT, WITHIN OUR OWN COUNTY FAMILY, WE ARE DOING A BETTER JOB OFFERING TESTING AND REDUCING THOSE BARRIERS. I WANT TO THANK D.H.S. FOR WORKING WITH US ON THE EMERGENCY ROOMS. WE STILL NEED TO WORK WITH THEM ON URGENT CARE CENTERS. BUT, I MEAN, THEY HAVE BEEN A GOOD PARTNER, AGAIN, LIKE WITH EVERYTHING ELSE. IT SOUNDS VERY STRAIGHTFORWARD. IT IS ALWAYS A LITTLE BIT MORE COMPLICATED, BUT WE FEEL VERY CONFIDENT THAT THAT WILL, IN FACT, ROLL OUT WITHIN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS, IN MANY MORE OF THEIR SITES. AS I SAID, WE'D LIKE THIS TO BE PRETTY EASY FOR SITES TO DO, WHICH IS WHY WE ENGAGE WITH THE HEALTH PLANS, BECAUSE SOME OF THE REASONS WHY THIS HAS BEEN HARD HAS BEEN TIED TO THE FINANCING. SO I APPRECIATE THAT WE'VE BEEN WORKING CLOSELY WITH OUR LARGER HEALTH PLANS TO REALLY REDUCE THAT BARRIER, BECAUSE WE NEEDED SOME NEW BILLING CODES, TO BE HONEST.

SUP. MITCHELL: SO, I APPRECIATE THAT, AND I AM GOING TO FOLLOW UP WITH THE URGENT CARE CENTERS. AGAIN, THIS MOTION WAS AUGUST OF 2022. AND GIVEN THE NUMBERS, AND GIVEN THE INCREASE, WE ARE TALKING ABOUT PRIVATE INSURANCE, WHAT OTHER PEOPLE ARE DOING. ONE GROUP OF PEOPLE WE ARE IN CHARGE OF, AND THAT'S OURSELVES

AND COUNTY-OPERATED FACILITIES, SO LET'S MAKE SURE THAT WE'RE MAKING SURE WE'RE DOING ALL WE CAN IN OUR COUNTY-OPERATED FACILITIES. YOU KNOW, IT IS TRAGIC AT BEST, TO ME, AND TO HEAR, MR. PEREZ, AS YOU TALKED ABOUT ANNUAL CHLAMYDIA TESTING AND WHAT IS NOT HAPPENING. AND WHEN I THINK ABOUT MY OWN APPROACHING 60TH BIRTHDAY, AND WHEN I WAS IN THAT CATCHMENT AREA AGE, IT WAS AUTOPILOT IN MY EMPLOYER-BASED H.M.O. AND SO THEY WERE ABLE TO GET IT RIGHT, OVER 30 YEARS AGO. REALLY? AND SO THE REST OF THE COLLECTIVE HEALTHCARE DELIVERY SYSTEM HASN'T FIGURED OUT THAT BASIC, PREVENTATIVE, ASK THE QUESTIONS AND DO THE TEST EVERY YEAR, AS A PART OF A WOMAN'S PAP SMEAR EXAM?

MARIO PEREZ: YEAH, THE CHLAMYDIA SCREENING DOES NOT HAPPEN FOR 100% OF THE YOUNG WOMEN WHO ARE SEXUALLY ACTIVE IN THAT AGE GROUP. AND I THINK THAT THE [INAUDIBLE] THAT WAS DEVELOPED REALLY WAS DRIVEN BY AN INFERTILITY PREVENTION PROGRAM, WHICH IS IMPORTANT, BUT I REMINDED OUR STAKEHOLDERS THAT THE SOURCE OF CHLAMYDIA INFECTION, FOR MOST YOUNG WOMEN, IS A YOUNG MAN. AND YET, WE DO NOT HAVE A [INAUDIBLE] MEASURE TO SCREEN YOUNG MEN FOR CHLAMYDIA ONCE A YEAR, WHO ARE SEXUALLY ACTIVE, WHO ARE BETWEEN 16 AND 29. AND SO WE HAVE RATES OF REINFECTION, NOT JUST FOR CHLAMYDIA, BUT GONORRHEA AND SYPHILIS. AND SO THE SYSTEMS NEED TO BE UPDATED. THE EXPECTATIONS AROUND SCREENING NEED TO CHANGE. PROVIDERS NEED TO BE MORE COMFORTABLE. SO IT

IS AN ONGOING LIFT FOR US TO MAKE SURE THAT ALL CLINICAL PROVIDERS SERVING YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE A COMFORT LEVEL, BECAUSE WE WANT YOUNG PEOPLE TO START ACCESSING AND CONSUMING SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICES THAT ARE RESPONSIVE TO THEIR NEEDS FOR GENERATIONS TO COME. AND SO IT WILL REQUIRE US CHANGING THINGS STRUCTURALLY, AND FROM A POLICY STANDPOINT, AND FROM A REIMBURSEMENT STANDPOINT, AND ALSO FROM A SOCIAL IMPERATIVE STANDPOINT.

SUP. MITCHELL: AND THOSE ARE ANOTHER POPULATION THAT MAY NOT HAVE AN INNATE CONNECTION TO CARE, AND SO IF WE START THOSE PRACTICES EARLY, THEN WE WON'T CONTINUE TO HAVE TO FIGURE OUT UNIQUE WAYS TO OUTREACH, BECAUSE IT WILL BE KIND OF A PART OF THEIR EXPECTATION OF THEIR HEALTHCARE EXPERIENCE, AND THE DELIVERY. AGAIN, WE WILL BE FOLLOWING UP WITH REGARD TO URGENT CARE CENTERS AND WHATEVER WE CAN DO TO MAKE SURE THAT WOMEN, BEFORE BECOMING PREGNANT, HAVE ACCESS. BECAUSE I AGREE WITH YOU, AND I APPRECIATE HEARING DR. FERRER SAID, "THIS IS SOLVABLE." I THINK THE PROBLEM IS THE WORLD WAS OVERWHELMED BY THE CRACK EPIDEMIC, AND OUR RESPONSE WAS NOT FROM A PUBLIC HEALTH PERSPECTIVE; IT WAS PUNITIVE. AND SO THIS FEELS DIFFERENT TO ME, AND FEELS SOLVABLE, WHICH GIVES ME HOPE THAT WE DO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY, BUT AGAIN RECOGNIZING THE POPULATION THAT'S AT GREATEST RISK, IT'S A LACK OF CONNECTION, PERIOD, TO SERVICES, TO HOUSING, TO FOOD, TO EVERYTHING, UP TO

AND INCLUDING HEALTHCARE SERVICES. SO I THINK WE SHOULDN'T TALK ABOUT THIS IN ISOLATION FOR THOSE PREGNANT WOMEN WHO ARE UNHOUSED IN THE ANTELOPE VALLEY. IT IS A LACK OF CONNECTION TO A COLLECTION OF SERVICES THAT WE HAVE TO BE PREPARED TO STEP IN AND SOLVE FOR ALL OF THAT, FOR THEM TO TRUST AND BE WILLING TO RECEIVE OUR CARE. BUT I'M YOUR PARTNER IN THAT. THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR.

SUP. HORVATH, CHARI: THANK YOU. AND, EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PLEASE CALL THE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO HAVE SIGNED UP TO SPEAK ON THIS ITEM.

SPEAKER: WILL THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS PLEASE COME FORWARD: ANA ESTRADA, ANDREA FULLER, ANTIGONE ROBINSON, ARNOLD SACHS, CARLOS ORELLANA, CAROLINA GONZALES, CHRISTIAN ESPINOZA, DANIEL GONZALEZ, GENESIS DISCUA, JAMIE KENNERK, JESSICA PARELLE, LAUREN NATOLI, AND SYLVIA CASTILLO. PLEASE COME FORWARD AND STAFF WILL ASSIST YOU. AS A FINAL REMINDER FOR PARTICIPANTS ON THE TELEPHONE, IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS ITEM 53, IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO, PLEASE PRESS 1 THEN 0 NOW TO BE PLACED IN THE SPEAKING QUEUE. MODERATOR, MAY WE HAVE THE FIRST REMOTE SPEAKER, PLEASE?

MODERATOR: AND OUR FIRST SPEAKER WILL BE AMBER GUERRA. PLEASE GO AHEAD. I APOLOGIZE. PLEASE GO AHEAD, AMBER GUERRA.

AMBER GUERRA: SORRY, I WAS MUTED. THANK YOU, SUPERVISOR HORVATH, FOR HIGHLIGHTING THIS IMPORTANT SUBJECT. MY NAME IS AMBER GUERRA, AND I'M WITH VENICE FAMILY CLINIC, WHICH IS A COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER THAT SERVES 45,000 PATIENTS IN SANTA MONICA AND THROUGHOUT THE SOUTH BAY. VENICE FAMILY CLINIC STRONGLY SUPPORTS CONTINUED ACTION ON THE S.T.I. CRISIS, AND ESPECIALLY ADVOCACY FOR SYPHILIS TREATMENT. WE HAVE SEEN AN INCREASE IN POSITIVE SYPHILIS CASES, ESPECIALLY AMONG OUR UNHOUSED PATIENT POPULATION, SO IT IS REALLY IMPERATIVE THAT WE CONTINUE TESTING AND WE FIND A SOLUTION TO THE BICILLIN SHORTAGE, WHICH IS THE MOST EFFECTIVE TREATMENT. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR TIME.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT SPEAKER IS ROBERT CONTRERAS. PLEASE GO AHEAD. YOUR LINE IS OPEN.

ROBERT CONTRERAS: GOOD AFTERNOON. MY NAME IS ROBERT CONTRERAS. I'M PRESIDENT AND C.E.O. FOR BIENESTAR. WE SUPPORT SUPERVISOR HORVATH, ITEM 56, [INAUDIBLE] TO ADDRESS THE PRESENT ISSUE OF SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY. WE LAUNCHED CLINICA BIENESTAR SEVERAL YEARS AGO, AND TODAY, ONE IN THREE OF OUR PATIENTS SEEK TREATMENT FOR S.T.I.S. EACH

PATIENT REPRESENTS A CRUCIAL LINK BROKEN IN THE CHAIN OF INFECTION. THE MAJORITY OF THESE PATIENTS IDENTIFY AS L.G.B.T.Q.+ AND LATINX, WITH APPROXIMATELY HALF BEING SPANISH-SPEAKING, AND A SIGNIFICANT PORTION UNDOCUMENTED. OUR SUCCESS LIES IN OUR ABILITY TO OFFER A SAFE AND INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT, STAFFED BY BILINGUAL PROFESSIONALS, WHILE ENSURING THAT COSTS FOR VISITS, LAB WORK, AND TREATMENT ARE NEVER AN OBSTACLE. WE BELIEVE THAT IT IS IMPERATIVE FOR US TO COLLABORATE MORE CLOSELY AND PROMPTLY WITH THE COUNTY IN RESPONSE TO THE ESCALATING S.T.I. CRISIS.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: AND WE HAVE NO FURTHER SPEAKERS IN QUEUE.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. WE WILL GO TO IN-PERSON HERE. GO AHEAD.

ANDREA FULLER: HI. MY NAME IS ANDREA FULLER. I AM THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AT TARZANA TREATMENT CENTERS. WE SERVE, WITH DIGNITY AND RESPECT, A POPULATION THAT OFTEN GETS FORGOTTEN. WITH OUR SIX PRIMARY CARE CLINICS, BEHAVIORAL HEALTH UNITS, DETOX CENTERS, AND OUR PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL, WE ARE THE LAST LINE OF CARE FOR MANY. IN THE PAST

THREE YEARS, OUR S.T.D. RATES HAVE INCREASED DRAMATICALLY. WHAT USED TO BE A SPORADIC DIAGNOSIS IN OUR PRIMARY CARE CLINICS ARE NOW DAILY FINDINGS; IN PARTICULAR, SYPHILIS. SYPHILIS RATES HAVE INCREASED ACROSS ALL RACIAL AND ETHNIC GROUPS, BUT THE HIGHEST HAS BEEN AMONG BLACKS AND THE LATINX POPULATION. IN L.A. COUNTY, CASE NUMBERS HAVE GREATLY INCREASED AMONG SUCH GROUPS AS MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN. WE HAVE PARTNERED CLOSELY WITH L.A. COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH TO FIGHT THIS WAR. PLEASE APPROVE MOTION 53. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

CHRISTIAN ESPINOZA: GOOD AFTERNOON. MY NAME IS DR. CHRIS ESPINOZA. I AM THE DIRECTOR OF CLINIC OPERATIONS AT TARZANA TREATMENT CENTERS. AT TARZANA, WE HAVE A DAILY FIGHT WITH S.T.D.S. IN THE PAST SIX MONTHS, WE HAVE DIAGNOSED MORE S.T.D. CASES, INCLUDING LATENT SYPHILIS, THAN WE HAVE IN THE PAST THREE YEARS. THIS MEANS MANY CASES ARE STILL NOT BEING DIAGNOSED IN THE COMMUNITY. THIS IS GOING TO BE DETRIMENTAL IN THE FUTURE, DUE TO ALL THE HEALTH AND FINANCIAL COMPLICATIONS THAT WILL OCCUR. WE HAVE PARTNERED CLOSELY WITH PUBLIC HEALTH, AND FULLY SUPPORT DR. FERRER'S PLAN AGAINST THIS HEALTH CRISIS. EVEN THOUGH CLINICS LIKE OURS ARE DIAGNOSING AND TREATING PATIENTS, CUTS AND THREATS AT THE FEDERAL LEVEL, AND

CHALLENGES AT THE STATE LEVEL, WILL NO DOUBT WORSEN THIS EMERGENCY. PLEASE CONTINUE SUPPORTING MOTION 53. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

GENESIS DISCUA: HELLO, SUPERVISORS. MY NANE IS GENESIS DISCUA. I AM THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST AT PLANNED PARENTHOOD ADVOCACY PROJECT LOS ANGELES COUNTY. AS A YOUNG ANGELENO, MYSELF, I KNOW FIRSTHAND THAT THE S.T.I. CRISIS IN THIS COUNTY IS MORE THAN JUST A COLLECTION OF INCREASING NUMBERS. IT IS THOUSANDS OF REAL LIVES DEEPLY IMPACTED BY THE REALITIES OF LIVING WITH AN S.T.I. I WANT TO THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR PREVIOUS SUPPORT IN ADVANCING REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY, AND FOR HAVING THIS CONVERSATION HERE TODAY. IT REALLY DOES MEAN A LOT, AND I ASK FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT ON ITEM 53. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

ANA KAREN ESTRADA: HELLO. MY NAME IS ANA KAREN ESTRADA, AND I AM THE [INAUDIBLE] ORGANIZER FOR PLANNED PARENTHOOD ADVOCACY PROJECT LOS ANGELES COUNTY. IN LOS ANGELES, THE S.T.I. CRISIS HAS HAD A PROFOUND IMPACT ON OUR COMMUNITY, AFFECTING THOUSANDS OF LIVES, FAR BEYOND JUST BEING A SET OF STATISTICS. I AM HERE TODAY TO EXPRESS MY SUPPORT FOR ITEM 53. THANK YOU,

SUPERVISOR HORVATH, FOR PUTTING THIS ITEM ON THE AGENDA TODAY, AND TO THE BOARD AND L.A. COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S PARTNERSHIP IN ADDRESSING THE S.T.I. HEALTH DISPARITIES. TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE A SUBSTANTIAL IMPACT ON THE LIVES OF THOSE AFFECTED, AND COLLECTIVELY STRIVE FOR A HEALTHIER AND SAFER FUTURE FOR OUR COUNTY AND ITS RESIDENTS. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

ANTIGONE ROBINSON: GOOD AFTERNOON. MY NAME IS ANTIGONE ROBINSON. I WORK AT A.I.D.S. HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION, AND I AM HERE TO SPEAK ON ITEM 53 AND GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT. CONGENITAL SYPHILIS RATES HAVE INCREASED TENFOLD OVER THE PAST DECADE, YET SOME PREGNANT WOMEN HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO ACCESS SYPHILIS TREATMENT, DUE TO THE BICILLIN L.A. SHORTAGE. N.C.S.D. RECEIVED REPORTS, ABOUT A MONTH AGO, OF SEXUAL HEALTH CLINICS IN 13 DIFFERENT STATES, WHO COULD NOT PROVIDE SYPHILIS TREATMENT TO AT LEAST ONE PREGNANT WOMAN FOR UP TO 28 DAYS. IN FACT, ONLY 56% OF ALL 287 SEXUAL HEALTH CLINICS AND HEALTH DEPARTMENTS THAT COMPLETED THE N.C.S.D. BICILLIN SHORTAGE SURVEY COULD SAY THAT SYPHILIS TREATMENT WAS PROVIDED WITHIN ONE WEEK. 31% SAID IT TOOK BETWEEN 8 AND 28 DAYS. WE CANNOT AFFORD ANY MORE MISSED OPPORTUNITIES TO SCREEN AND TREAT CONGENITAL SYPHILIS. WE NEED TO INCREASE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN ALL PARTIES TO MANAGE THIS SHORTAGE. WE ASK L.A.C.D.P.H. AND

THE BOARD TO HELP FIND A WAY TO ENSURE CONGENITAL SYPHILIS TREATMENT IS AVAILABLE FOR THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT IS AT THE END OF THE MEETING, SO YOU CAN REQUEST THAT AT THE END OF THE MEETING, IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK FOR ANOTHER MINUTE. THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

JAMIE KENNERK: HI. JAMIE KENNERK, FROM PLANNED PARENTHOOD ADVOCACY PROJECT LOS ANGELES COUNTY, OR P.P.A.P., ECHOING MY COLLEAGUES' COMMENTS, THANKING YOU ALL FOR THIS FRUITFUL CONVERSATION TODAY. P.P.A.P. IS PLEASED TO SUPPORT SUPERVISOR LINDSEY HORVATH'S CONTINUED EFFORT TO INCREASE SUPPORT AND FUNDING TO COMBAT THE SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS CRISIS. AS A QUEER PERSON, I ESPECIALLY APPRECIATE THE NUANCE AND HIGHLIGHTS TO THE DISPROPORTIONATE DIFFICULTIES THAT OUR COMMUNITY WILL FACE, SEEKING THIS CARE. SO P.P.A.P. COMMENDS THE SUPERVISOR, THE REST OF THE BOARD, AS WELL AS THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH, FOR CONTINUING ITS ESSENTIAL, LONG-STANDING PARTNERSHIPS WITH COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS AND PROVIDERS. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: GOOD AFTERNOON. CARLOS ORELLANA, WITH A.I.D.S. HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION. S.T.I.S ARE AN EPIDEMIC. TESTING, TREATMENT, AND PUBLIC HEALTH MESSAGING ARE NEEDED TO COMBAT THE EPIDEMIC, AND ADEQUATE FUNDING IS NOW REQUIRED TO POWER THOSE SERVICES. FEDERAL FUNDING FOR S.T.I.S HAS DECREASED ACROSS THE COUNTRY, BUT UNILATERALLY, S.T.I.S ARE ON THE RISE. L.A. HAS A VERY HIGH RATE OF S.T.I.S., AND IT HAS TO BE ADDRESSED. I APPRECIATE THAT YOU TITLED THIS PRESENTATION "REPORT ON THE SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTION CRISIS," BECAUSE THIS IS TRULY A CRISIS. IT IS GOING TO BE VERY DIFFICULT TO FIX THIS IF WE'RE NOT FUNDING PREVENTION, TESTING, AND TREATMENT. UNFORTUNATELY, YOU MAY FIND THAT IF THE FEDERAL DOLLARS ARE NOT COMING IN, YOU MAY NEED TO FUND THE SOLUTION TO THIS CRISIS YOURSELF. THE $10 MILLION IN S.T.I. RESOURCES, OVER TWO YEARS, IS A DECENT START TO TURNING THIS TIDE ON THE CRISIS. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

LAUREN NATOLI: GOOD AFTERNOON. I'M LAUREN NATOLI, FROM A.I.D.S. HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR THIS PRESENTATION, AND WE APPRECIATE AND NOTICE THAT THE SUPERVISORS RAISED A LOT OF QUESTIONS AROUND TOPICS THAT WE BRING UP HERE ALL THE TIME, SO WE APPRECIATE THAT YOU ARE ADDRESSING THE REAL CONCERNS IN THE ROOM. S.T.I.S ARE

CONSTANTLY ON THE RISE, AND WE KNOW THAT IN 2018, THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REQUESTED QUARTERLY REPORTS ON THE STATE OF S.T.I.S AND THE EXPANSION OF FUNDING. AND IN REVIEWING THOSE REPORTS, IT SEEMS THAT THE RATES HAVE GOTTEN A LOT WORSE, AND THE TRAJECTORY OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON S.T.I.S HAS BEEN LACKING. I LOVE ALL THESE INNOVATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN BROUGHT UP HERE TODAY. THEY ARE REALLY FANTASTIC, AND IT'S BEEN NOTED BY THE C.D.C. AND C.S.D. THAT WE REALLY NEED TO MEET THE PEOPLE WHERE THEY'RE AT, AND ENGAGE WITH THE COMMUNITY ON A VERY PERSONAL LEVEL. THE PEOPLE WHO NEED THOSE SERVICES THE MOST ARE THE PEOPLE LEAST LIKELY TO ACCESS THEM, SO WE NEED TO BE DOING THAT OUTREACH. A RECENT STUDY FOUND THAT AMONG 4,000 PATIENTS VISITING 26 S.T.I. CLINICS ACROSS THE U.S., AROUND HALF HAVE INSURANCE, BUT ONLY HALF OF THOSE WERE WILLING TO USE IT. SO WE HAVE A REAL PROBLEM WITH PEOPLE WHO WANT TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS, BEING ABLE TO ACCESS THE CARE THAT WILL SERVE THEM BEST. SO THANK YOU SO MUCH.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER:

SPEAKER: HELLO. MY NAME IS CAROLINA GONZALEZ. I AM A PROGRAM MANAGER FOR THE A.I.D.S. HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION, AND I WILL SAY THAT S.T.I.S ARE ON THE RISE. SYPHILIS, IN PARTICULAR, HAS EXPLODED IN RECENT YEARS. IN THE EARLY 2000'S, SYPHILIS WAS NEARLY ERADICATED IN THE U.S., AND NOW IT IS A GROWING

EPIDEMIC THAT KILLED 15 NEWBORNS IN L.A. IN 2022. THE C.D.C. REPORTED LAST MONTH THAT, ACROSS THE U.S., OVER 3700 BABIES WERE BORN WITH SYPHILIS IN 2022, WHICH WAS MORE THAN TEN TIMES THE NUMBER OF CASES IN 2012. CONGENITAL SYPHILIS CAN CAUSE MISCARRIAGE, STILLBIRTHS, INFANT DEATHS, AND LIFELONG MEDICAL ISSUES. WE NEED PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEMS TO INTERVENE. SINCE THE S.T.I. RATES IN L.A. ARE SO DIRE, WHY WON'T YOU DEDICATE COUNTY DOLLARS? THE CRISIS DOES NOT HAVE TIME TO WAIT. THOSE PREGNANT PARENTS WITH UNDIAGNOSED SYPHILIS CANNOT BE PUT ON HOLD. THE ROLE OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND OUR LEADERS IS TO FIND SOLUTIONS. THE PUBLIC HEALTH INTERVENTIONS YOU DISCUSS TODAY NEED TO BE DELIVERED, WITH A FOCUS ON RESULTS.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: NEXT SPEAKER.

KATJA NELSON: GOOD AFTERNOON. MY NAME IS KATJA NELSON, AND I WORK AT A.P.L.A. HEALTH, AND I'M THE THIRD-DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE ON THE L.A. COUNTY COMMISSION ON H.I.V. I WANT TO START BY THANKING THE BOARD FOR PAST S.T.I. INVESTMENTS, AND D.H.S.P. FOR THEIR TIRELESS WORK THEY DO EVERY DAY TO SUPPORT PROVIDERS, COMMUNITY MEMBERS, AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS WORKING TO END THIS CRISIS. WE CLEARLY STILL HAVE A LOT OF WORK TO DO, AND AS YOU'VE HEARD, THIS ISSUE IS INCREDIBLY COMPLEX. I THINK ONE OF THE KEY TAKEAWAYS IS THAT CURRENT INVESTMENTS ARE JUST NOT MATCHING THE MAGNITUDE OF THE CRISIS,

AND WE REALLY LACK THE RESOURCES THAT WE NEED TO SUBSTANTIVELY ADDRESS ALL OF THE DIFFERENT THINGS WE'VE TALKED ABOUT TODAY. AND WE HAVE THINGS LIKE MISSED OPPORTUNITIES: THE GOVERNOR VETOING A BILL THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN REALLY INSTRUMENTAL IN INCREASING ACCESS TO S.T.I. TESTING AND TREATMENT. AND THOSE NEW INVESTMENTS THAT WE DO HAVE ARE INCONSISTENT, WHICH MAKES IT DIFFICULT TO MAKE THOSE INFRASTRUCTURE CHANGES THAT WE NEED TO SUPPORT ALL OF THESE ACTIVITIES, TO ADDRESS THE CRISIS AND REALLY START BENDING THE CURVE. SO WE URGE THE BOARD TO CONTINUE TO PRIORITIZE THIS ISSUE, AND TAKE ACTION STEPS, THINGS LIKE MAKE L.A. THE CHAMPION AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL FOR ENDING THIS S.T.I. CRISIS. PLEASE REACH OUT DIRECTLY TO STATE AND FEDERAL LEADERSHIP: THE GOVERNOR, DR. GHALY.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: HELLO. MY NAME IS JESSICA PARELLE, AND I AM A POLICY ADVOCATE WITH THE LOS ANGLES L.G.B.T. CENTER. I'M HERE TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE S.T.D. CRISIS IN L.A. COUNTY. WE ARE ASKING THAT THE BOARD WORK TO GET PRIVATE HEALTHCARE PLANS TO STEP UP THEIR EFFORTS TO ROUTINELY SCREEN, TEST, AND TREAT S.T.D.S. WE CANNOT RELY ON PUBLICLY FUNDED HEALTH SYSTEMS ALONE TO CURB THE S.T.D. EPIDEMIC. AT THE SAME TIME, I WANT TO ECHO WHAT KATJA SAID, AND URGE YOU TO ADVOCATE WITH CALIFORNIA

LEADERSHIP-- THE GOVERNOR, THE LEGISLATURE, AND OFFICIALS AT THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AS WELL AS SECRETARY BECERRA AND CONGRESS-- TO STRESS HOW IMPORTANT IT IS TO INCREASE INVESTMENT IN S.T.D. SERVICES. WHILE WE ARE EXTREMELY GRATEFUL FOR THE ADVOCACY DONE BY THE COUNTY'S LEGISLATIVE OFFICE, WE URGE YOU, AS BOARD MEMBERS, TO REACH OUT TO YOUR FELLOW ELECTED OFFICIALS TO HELP STEM THE CRISIS BY PRIORITIZING THE HEALTH OF OUR COMMUNITIES AND INVESTING IN THEIR LIVES. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: HI THERE. MY NAME IS DANIEL GONZALEZ. I AM WITH THE LOS ANGELES L.G.B.T. CENTER. FIRST, WE WANTED TO THANK SUPERVISOR HORVATH FOR REQUESTING THIS PRESENTATION ON THE CURRENT INVESTMENTS AND PROGRAMS THAT ARE BEING USED TO ADDRESS THE S.T.I. CRISIS IN LOS ANGELES. THE CENTER HAS A DEEP COMMITMENT IN ADDRESSING AND ENDING THE RISING SURGE OF S.T.I.S WE ARE SEEING ACROSS THE COUNTY. AS ONE OF THE LARGEST PROVIDERS OF S.T.I. TESTING AND TREATMENT IN THE COUNTY, WE SEE FIRSTHAND THE RISE OF S.T.I.S THAT HAVE BEEN HAPPENING OVER THE LAST DECADE. WE WANT TO THANK DR. FERRER AND MR. PEREZ FOR THIS INFORMATIVE PRESENTATION, AND AGAIN THANK SUPERVISOR HORVATH FOR CONTINUING TO HIGHLIGHT THIS ISSUE, AND

CONTINUING TO WORK TOWARDS ENDING THE CRISIS. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

SYLVIA CASTILLO: GOOD AFTERNOON. MY NAME'S SYLVIA CASTILLO, AND I AM WITH ESSENTIAL ACCESS HEALTH. WE CHAMPION AND PROMOTE QUALITY SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTHCARE FOR ALL. WE ARE ONE OF THE MANY ENTITIES WORKING TO URGE OUR STATE AND CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS, OUR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, TO INVEST MORE IN ADDRESSING THE CRISIS, NATIONWIDE. WE ARE PROUD TO WORK CLOSELY WITH THE L.A. COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH TO SUPPORT THE DELIVERY OF QUALITY CARE, AND PREVENT THE SPREAD OF S.T.I.S. THANK YOU, SUPERVISORS, FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP IN SHEDDING LIGHT ON THE S.T.I. CRISIS IN OUR COUNTY. THE ADDITIONAL INVESTMENTS MADE FOR S.T.I. PREVENTION OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS ARE A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION, BUT IT IS GOING TO TAKE A WHILE TO START TURNING THE TIDE AGAINST S.T.I. RATES. WE ARE GRATEFUL TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH FOR PRIORITIZING COUNTY RESOURCES ON ADDRESSING THE S.T.I. EPIDEMIC AMONG YOUTH, AND COMBATING CONGENITAL SYPHILIS RATES. THE DEPARTMENT OF STRATEGIC DIRECTION LED US TO PROVIDE DIRECT QUALITY-IMPROVEMENT SUPPORT TO COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS IN L.A., SEEKING TO INCREASE YOUTH-FRIENDLY SERVICES, EXPAND OUR YOUTH ENGAGEMENT WORK, SPECIFICALLY IN DISTRICT 2--

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

ARNOLD SACHS: YES, THANK YOU. IT IS TOO BAD THAT DR. GHALY LEFT. I'D LIKE TO GIVE THESE TWO ITEMS TO SOMEBODY.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: ABSOLUTELY.

ARNOLD SACHS: THIS IS THE LOGO FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH. IT IS IN BLACK. THIS IS A LOGO FOR PUBLIC HEALTH. IT'S IN WHITE. SO I AM WONDERING WHY YOU HAVE TWO DIFFERENT PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE COUNTY, WHEN YOU'RE LOSING FUNDS. YOU HAVE ONE IN BLACK, AND YOU HAVE ONE IN WHITE. WHY IS THAT? YOU MENTIONED M.L.K. HOSPITAL, BUT IT IS M.L.K. JUNIOR HOSPITAL, AND IT'S NOT PART OF THE COUNTY SYSTEM ANYMORE. WHAT HAPPENED WHEN IT WAS SHUT DOWN IN 2008?

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: WE ARE TALKING ABOUT S.T.I. FUNDING.

ARNOLD SACHS: YEAH, I KNOW WHAT YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT. WHY DON'T YOU TALK ABOUT S.D.T. FUNDING? YOU ALSO MENTIONED L.A. CARE. RIGHT? THIS IS L.A. CARE. THIS IS ALSO A LETTER FROM L.A. CARE. IT IS A LOCAL INITIATIVE. IT IS IN BLACK. THIS ONE IS IN WHITE. ARE THEY DIFFERENT L.A. CARES? IS IT PART OF OBAMACARE?

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: AGAIN, WE ARE FOCUSING OUR COMMENTS ON THE S.T.I. CRISIS AND WHAT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH IS DOING. THANK YOU. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS. YOUR TIME HAS NOW EXPIRED. THIS ITEM TODAY DOES NOT REQUIRE A VOTE BY THE BOARD, BUT WE WILL GET FURTHER REPORTING, AS DR. FERRER INDICATED, ON OUR QUESTIONS TODAY, FOR FUTURE ACTION. SO THIS REPORT IS RECEIVED AND FILED, AND HEARING NO OBJECTIONS, THAT WILL BE THE ORDER. AND PRESENTATIONS LIKE THIS ONE WILL NOW BE ON THEIR OWN MEETING, LIKELY THE FOURTH TUESDAYS OF THE MONTH, TO BE ABLE TO HAVE THESE CONVERSATIONS THAT ARE CLEARLY IMPORTANT, BUT OUTSIDE THE CONTEXT OF OUR REGULAR MEETINGS, SO WE CAN KIND OF KEEP THINGS MOVING ON THESE DAYS. SO, I REALLY APPRECIATE EVERYONE'S PARTICIPATION TODAY. WE WILL NOW MOVE ON TO ITEM 12, CREATING AN INDEPENDENT PROCESS FOR COMPLAINTS RELATED TO SCHOOL LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES, WHICH WAS HELD BY SUPERVISOR MITCHELL. FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ON THE TELEPHONE, PLEASE PRESS 1 THEN 0 NOW TO COMMENT ON THIS ITEM. SUPERVISOR MITCHELL?

SUP. MITCHELL: THANK YOU VERY MUCH. I'D FIRST LIKE TO PROVIDE SOME MUCH-NEEDED CLARITY ABOUT WHAT THE MOTION ACTUALLY DOES. THIS MOTION TAKES STEPS TOWARDS CREATING A PROCESS, INDEPENDENT OF THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT, FOR COMPLAINTS INVOLVING SHERIFF PERSONNEL, IN SCHOOLS THAT CONTRACT FOR LAW

ENFORCEMENT SERVICES. IT DOES NOT, IN ANY WAY, REDUCE OR ELIMINATE SERVICES. EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT WILL MAKE ITS OWN DECISION ABOUT WHETHER TO CONTRACT FOR SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT SERVICES. THIS MOTION ALSO INSTRUCTS THE PROBATION OVERSIGHT COMMISSION TO WORK WITH SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT TO AUGMENT, NOT DUPLICATE OR REPLACE, EXISTING COMPLAINT PROCESSES. LASTLY, WHILE THE PROBATION OVERSIGHT COMMISSION CAN REFER COMPLAINTS, THEY WILL NOT BE AUTHORIZED TO CONDUCT INVESTIGATIONS OR DISCIPLINE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL. SO, GETTING TO THE PURPOSE OF THE MOTION: OUR YOUTH DON'T GET TO CHOOSE THEIR COUNTY SUPERVISOR, BUT THEY WILL LIVE WITH THE LONG-TERM CONSEQUENCE OF OUR DECISIONS. AND WHEN IT COMES TO THEIR EDUCATION AND SAFETY, OUR DECISIONS CAN MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE. EVERY YOUNG PERSON HAS A RIGHT TO A QUALITY EDUCATION THAT PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY TO BUILD A LIFE OF DIGNITY AND PURPOSE, AND TO BECOME A CONTRIBUTING MEMBER OF OUR COUNTY. RELIANCE ON PUNITIVE PRACTICES, HOWEVER, CAN DEPRIVE A YOUNG PERSON OF THIS RIGHT, AND THE LIFE-CHANGING BENEFIT IT AFFORDS. PROVIDING A SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT IS SO CRITICAL FOR FULFILLING THE MISSION OF OUR PUBLIC EDUCATION SYSTEM. IT IS IMPORTANT TO PROTECT OUR YOUTH FROM THE HARMS OF THE SCHOOL-TO-PRISON AND SCHOOL-TO-DEPORTATION PIPELINE. AN OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL ANALYSIS FOUND THAT BLACK AND HISPANIC STUDENTS HAD DISPROPORTIONATELY HIGHER CONTACT WITH SCHOOL RESOURCE DEPUTIES, INCLUDING

THROUGH ARREST AND CITATION. I WAS PARTICULARLY DISTURBED TO READ THAT THE SCHOOL RESOURCE DEPUTIES HAD CONTACT WITH CHILDREN AS YOUNG AS FIVE TO SEVEN YEARS OF AGE. A REPORT BY THE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION HELPS ILLUSTRATE WHY SOME STUDENTS FEEL UNSAFE ABOUT MAKING A COMPLAINT. MOST STUDENTS REPORTED FEELING INTIMIDATED AND TARGETED FOR BEING THEMSELVES, OR FOR THEIR APPEARANCE. STUDENTS COMMONLY REPORTED THAT SCHOOL RESOURCE DEPUTIES ANTAGONIZED THEM TO GET A REACTION, AND CAUSED PROBLEMS TO ESCALATE. THOSE WERE QUOTES FROM THE REPORT. THESE RESPONSES UNDERSCORE THE NEED FOR A PROCESS THAT IS SAFE, RESPONSIVE, AND INDEPENDENT OF THE DEPARTMENT THAT COMPLAINTS ARE MADE AGAINST. I THINK IT'S VERY IMPORTANT THAT THIS PROCESS BE ADMINISTERED BY AN OVERSIGHT BODY THAT HAS DEEP EXPERTISE IN YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND YOUTH JUSTICE. AND GIVEN THEIR SPECIALIZATION IN THIS AREA, AS WELL AS ITS COMMUNITY-FACING, PERSON-CENTERED ORIENTATION, THE PROBATION OVERSIGHT COMMISSION IS BEST SUITED TO REFER THESE COMPLAINTS TO. A COMPLAINT PROCESS BY ITSELF IS NOT NEARLY ENOUGH TO ENSURE ACCOUNTABILITY AND THE PROTECTION OF STUDENTS. THE OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL AND THE SHERIFF'S CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT COMMISSION HAVE RECOMMENDED SEVERAL REVISIONS TO THE CONTRACTS FOR SCHOOL LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES. CLEARLY DEFINING THE LIMITED ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR SCHOOL RESOURCE DEPUTIES WILL BE CRITICAL, ESPECIALLY WHEN IT COMES TO THEIR INVOLVEMENT IN

DISCIPLINARY MATTERS. AN INDEPENDENT COMPLAINT PROCESS CAN HELP HOLD THE COUNTY AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS ACCOUNTABLE TO THE NEW AGREEMENTS. IN ADDITION, SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT, OFFICE OF VIOLENCE PREVENTION, AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS CAN HELP ENSURE THAT OUR YOUTH ARE APPROPRIATELY SERVED. AND SO I'D LIKE TO THANK OUR OVERSIGHT BODIES AND THE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION FOR DOING THE HARD WORK OF ENGAGING STAKEHOLDERS, ESPECIALLY OUR STUDENTS, IN THIS CONVERSATION. THANKS TO THEIR OUTREACH, OVER 1100 PUBLIC COMMENTS ABOUT SCHOOL RESOURCE DEPUTIES WERE SUBMITTED TO THE SHERIFF'S CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT COMMISSION, JUST THIS PAST SUMMER ALONE. AND WE TOOK THE PUBLIC'S INPUT SERIOUSLY, AND USED IT TO INFORM THIS MOTION. STRONGER ACCOUNTABILITY OF SCHOOL LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES IS IMPORTANT FOR PROTECTING OUR YOUTH FROM HARM, AND ENSURING THAT OUR SCHOOLS ARE SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENTS FOR LEARNING. AN INDEPENDENT, CONFIDENTIAL, AND RESPONSIVE COMPLAINT PROCESS IS CRITICAL FOR A FUNCTIONING SYSTEM OF OVERSIGHT FOR SCHOOL LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES. AND I'D LIKE TO THANK SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR JOINING ME AS CO-AUTHOR ON THE MOTION. THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: SUPERVISOR SOLIS?

SUP. SOLIS: YES, THANK YOU, SUPERVISOR MITCHELL, FOR ALLOWING ME TO CO-AUTHOR, AND I COULDN'T AGREE WITH YOU MORE, AND THAT'S WHY I AGREED TO BE CO-AUTHOR ON THIS ITEM, BECAUSE I DO THINK IT IS AN ISSUE THAT HAS COME TO OUR ATTENTION, AS OF LATE, AT SOME OF OUR SCHOOLS IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA. OVER THE YEARS, WE HAVE READ THE REPORTS AND STUDIES, AND WE HAVE HEARD ANECDOTALLY FROM STUDENTS AND PARENTS, ESPECIALLY B.I.P.O.C. STUDENTS AND PARENTS, ABOUT THE DISPROPORTIONATE CONSEQUENCES THEY RECEIVE, OR NEGATIVE ATTENTION BY SCHOOL RESOURCE DEPUTIES OR OFFICERS, COMPARED TO THEIR PEERS. SCHOOLS NATIONWIDE, WHICH SHOULD BE PLACES OF LEARNING AND GROWTH, CAN BE FOR SOME STUDENTS A PIPELINE TO OTHER SYSTEMS, NOT NECESSARILY HIGHER EDUCATION; RATHER, OUR JUSTICE SYSTEM. IN L.A. COUNTY, THE REPORT REFERENCED IN A MOTION NOTES THAT BLACK AND LATINO STUDENTS WERE DISPROPORTIONATELY CONTACTED AT HIGHER RATES, MORE THAN ANY OTHER RACIAL GROUPS, BY RESOURCE DEPUTIES. THERE WERE ALSO CHILDREN AS YOUNG AS FIVE AND SEVEN YEARS OF AGE WHO WERE CONTACTED BY THE SCHOOL RESOURCE DEPUTY. TO ME, I THINK THERE ARE BETTER RESOURCES FOR THESE CHILDREN AND STUDENTS, THAT DO NOT HAVE TO COME IN THE FORM OF A DEPUTY. WHEN IT COMES TO COUNSELING OUR STUDENTS, GUIDING OUR STUDENTS, AND REALLY UNDERSTANDING THE REASONS WHY OUR STUDENTS NEED THIS EXTRA HELP, IT OUGHT TO BE A SOCIAL WORKER, NOT A DEPUTY. THERE ALSO NEEDS TO BE AN EXTRA LEVEL OF ACCOUNTABILITY WHEN IT COMES TO HOW OUR STUDENTS ARE BEING

TREATED, AND IN WHAT KIND OF ENVIRONMENT OUR STUDENTS ARE IN. CREATING A SYSTEM FOR STUDENTS TO COMPLAIN TO AN INDEPENDENT ENTITY, LIKE THE PROBATION OVERSIGHT COMMISSION, I THINK CREATES TRUST AND TRANSPARENCY. IT IS VERY UNLIKELY THAT A STUDENT WILL FEEL COMFORTABLE COMPLAINING ABOUT THE MISCONDUCT OF A SCHOOL RESOURCE DEPUTY TO ANOTHER SCHOOL RESOURCE DEPUTY, OR EVEN TO A SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR. THIS PROPOSED PROCESS WOULDN'T PRECLUDE A STUDENT FROM GOING TO A SCHOOL RESOURCE DEPUTY WHO THEY TRUST, BUT THIS CAN PROVIDE DIFFERENT PATHWAYS TO CONVEY CONCERNS TO THOSE WHO NEED IT, JUST AS STUDENTS LEARN THROUGH DIFFERENT MODALITIES. THE MOTION ALSO MAKES CLEAR THAT THE ORDINANCE TO ALLOW THE PROBATION OVERSIGHT COMMISSION TO BE THIS ENTITY WOULD NOT GIVE IT AUTHORITY TO INVESTIGATE OR DISCIPLINE L.A.S.D. STAFF. I BELIEVE HAVING THIS ACCOUNTABILITY TOOL, WITH THE HELP AND KNOWING THAT, IN MANY WAYS, THIS IS UNDER-REPORTED, WILL ALSO HELP PROVIDE PROTECTIONS FOR OUR STUDENTS. SO I LOOK FORWARD TO THE REPORT BACK, AND I AM VERY SUPPORTIVE OF THIS MOTION. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: SUPERVISOR BARGER?

SUP. BARGER: THANK YOU, AND I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR THIS MOTION. EVERY CHILD HAS A RIGHT TO A QUALITY EDUCATION THAT IS PROVIDED IN A SAFE, SUPPORTIVE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT. I HAVE PERSONALLY WITNESSED THE GOOD THAT HAVING A DEPUTY OR OFFICER

ON A SCHOOL CAMPUS CAN PROVIDE. BUT I HAVE ALSO, ESPECIALLY IN MY DISTRICT, HEARD ABOUT THE PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH THOSE THAT ARE NOT BEING A VALUABLE RESOURCE. I AM CONCERNED WITH THE FINDINGS OF THE O.I.G. AND THE CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT COMMISSION RELATED TO SCHOOL RESOURCE DEPUTY CONTACTS, ESPECIALLY THOSE UP IN THE ANTELOPE VALLEY, AND THESE CONCERNS WERE BROUGHT TO MY ATTENTION BY COMMUNITY GROUPS, AND I HAVE ACTUALLY DISCUSSED THEM WITH THE SHERIFF, AS WELL, BECAUSE I HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT DEPUTIES BEING USED AS DISCIPLINARIANS. THAT IS NOT THEIR ROLE. AND UNFORTUNATELY, SCHOOL DISTRICTS WHO CONTRACT WITH THE SHERIFF ARE, IN SOME CASES, USING THEM AS THE DISCIPLINARIANS. IF A TEACHER DOES NOT LIKE THE WAY A STUDENT IS ACTING, OR FEELS IT IS INAPPROPRIATE, THEY WILL CALL IN THE SHERIFF. THAT IS NOT THE SHERIFF'S ROLE. THE INTERACTIONS THAT STUDENTS AND PARENTS HAVE WITH A DEPUTY SHOULD BE THE SAME, NO MATTER WHAT SCHOOL THEY ARE ASSIGNED TO. I KNOW MY STAFF HAS BEEN IN COMMUNICATION WITH THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT, AND HAS DISCUSSED THESE CONCERNS, AS I HAVE WITH OUR SHERIFF. I HAVE ALSO DIRECTLY COMMUNICATED WITH THE ORGANIZATIONS UP IN THE ANTELOPE VALLEY, THAT I UNDERSTAND AND VALIDATE THEIR CONCERNS, BECAUSE I HAVE BEEN AN ADVOCATE FOR SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS, WHEN USED APPROPRIATELY. MORE WORK NEEDS TO BE DONE TO MAKE SURE THE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF A DEPUTY IN A SCHOOL ARE CLEARLY DEFINED, AND THEN UNDERSTOOD, AND THEN ENFORCED, AND THAT THERE'S

MONITORING TAKING PLACE. THIS HAS BEEN ONE OF MANY RECOMMENDATIONS ISSUED BY THE O.I.G. AND THE CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT COMMISSION. I AM SUPPORTIVE OF THIS MOTION THAT WOULD CREATE ANOTHER INDEPENDENT AVENUE TO REPORT COMPLAINTS. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THOSE REPORTING FEEL SAFE REPORTING, AND HAVE TRUST IN THE PROCESS. AND WHEN I SAY "TRUST IN THE PROCESS," THAT MEANS CONFIDENTIALITY, AS WELL AS THOROUGH INVESTIGATION. SO I WILL BE SUPPORTING THIS MOTION TODAY, AND I APPRECIATE YOU BINGING IT FORWARD.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: SUPERVISOR HAHN?

SUP. HAHN: THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR. THANK YOU, SUPERVISOR MITCHELL. I, TOO, AM SUPPORTING THIS, BECAUSE, YOU KNOW, I AGREE WITH YOU, SUPERVISOR BARGER. I HAVE BEEN VERY SUPPORTIVE OF SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS, WHEN USED FOR THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH THEY EXIST, NOT TO DISCIPLINE OR, BY ANY MEANS, SAY DISPARAGING REMARKS TO YOUNG PEOPLE. AND IT MAKES SENSE THAT A LOT OF THESE YOUNG STUDENTS FEEL NERVOUS ABOUT FILING A COMPLIANT ABOUT A SCHOOL RESOURCE DEPUTY, DIRECTLY TO THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT, AND THIS MIGHT END UP DETERRING THEM FROM FILING A COMPLAINT IN THE FIRST PLACE. SO I THINK IT IS A GOOD IDEA TO GIVE EVERYONE ANOTHER WAY TO LODGE A COMPLAINT, THROUGH A THIRD PARTY. AND I AGREE THAT THE PROBATION OVERSIGHT COMMISSION IS A GOOD CHOICE TO RECEIVE AND TRIAGE

THESE COMPLAINTS, BECAUSE THEY HAVE THE EXPERTISE IN YOUTH DEVELOPMENT, AND HAVE ESTABLISHED THEMSELVES AS A TRUSTED PUBLIC-FACING COMMISSION. I LIKE THAT THIS MOTION INCLUDES A BIANNUAL REPORT BACK TO THIS BOARD, SO THAT WE CAN SEE THE DATA AND PICK UP ON ANY TRENDS THAT WE ARE SEEING IN COMPLAINTS, AND MAYBE THEN THAT WOULD REQUIRE US TO TAKE ACTION OR LOOK AT THE POLICY. BUT ONE OF THE THINGS I WAS THINKING ABOUT IS, I THINK THE BOARD DESERVES TO KNOW IN REAL TIME WHEN A DEPUTY AT A SCHOOL IN OUR DISTRICT MAYBE ACTS INAPPROPRIATELY, BECAUSE THAT HAPPENED IN ONE OF MY SCHOOLS, AND I WANTED TO KNOW, BECAUSE THE COMPLAINTS WERE COMING INTO MY OFFICE ABOUT IT. SO, I AM HOPING THAT THERE WOULD BE A WAY TO GET DISTRICT-SPECIFIC INFORMATION MORE FREQUENTLY THAN JUST TWICE A YEAR. AND I HAVE TALKED TO WENDE JULIEN, WHO IS THE DIRECTOR OF THE PROBATION OVERSIGHT COMMISSION, ABOUT THIS, AND SHE HAS AGREED TO LOOK INTO MAKING IT HAPPEN, AS LONG AS IT IS LEGALLY PERMISSIBLE. AND I CAN ONLY SPEAK FOR MYSELF. I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU ALL WOULD WANT TO GET THAT INFORMATION. BUT OUR STUDENTS DESERVE TO BE SAFE IN THEIR SCHOOLS, AND CERTAINLY, I CAN SAY HERE TODAY THAT THERE'S NO PLACE FOR DISCRIMINATION OR PREJUDICE INFLICTED ON YOUNG PEOPLE BY THE ADULTS IN ANY WALK OF LIFE AROUND THEM, WHO ARE SUPPOSED TO BE PROVIDING SUPERVISION AND PROTECTION, SO I WILL DEFINITELY SUPPORT THIS MOTION TODAY.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: AND I, TOO, INTEND TO SUPPORT THIS ITEM, FOR ALL THE REASONS THAT HAVE BEEN STATED, AND I WOULD SAY THAT THIS IS JUST A BEST-PRACTICES ISSUE. IF WE THINK ABOUT IT IN TERMS OF WORKPLACE SAFETY, WE KNOW THAT SEVERAL LINES OF REPORTING, SEVERAL DIFFERENT PLACES WHERE YOU CAN REPORT, CHANNELS OF REPORTING, ALLOWS PEOPLE TO FEEL SAFER IN COMING FORWARD WITH FEEDBACK. I SEE THIS PROCESS, REALLY, IN THAT SAME LIGHT. ARE WE CREATING A SAFE LINE OF COMMUNICATION FOR PEOPLE TO TELL THEIR TRUTH AND SHARE THEIR EXPERIENCE? SO I THINK ADOPTING THIS AS A BEST PRACTICE, TO EXPAND THE WAYS THAT WE ARE ALLOWING FOR COMMUNICATION, IS REALLY A SIGNIFICANT STEP FORWARD. I AM GLAD TO SEE THIS MOTION. THANK YOU TO MY COLLEAGUES FOR BRINGING IT FORWARD. AND, EXECUTIVE OFFICER, WE'LL NOW TURN TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO HAVE SIGNED UP TO SPEAK ON THIS ITEM.

SPEAKER: MADAM CHAIR, THERE ARE NO IN-PERSON SPEAKERS HERE THAT HAVE SIGNED UP FOR THIS ITEM. MODERATOR, MAY WE HAVE THE FIRST REMOTE SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR FIRST REMOTE SPEAKER IS WENDELYN JULIEN. PLEASE GO AHEAD. YOUR LINE IS OPEN.

WENDELYN JULIEN: WENDE JULIEN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE PROBATION OVERSIGHT COMMISSION. THANK YOU, SUPERVISORS

MITCHELL AND SOLIS, FOR THIS MOTION; THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT, CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT COMMISSION, INSPECTOR GENERAL, COUNTY COUNSEL, AND L.A.C.O.E., ALL WHO HELPED DESIGN AND IMPROVE THIS CONCEPT, AND ESPECIALLY TO THE MANY ADVOCATES, STUDENTS AND PARENTS, WHO PUSHED FOR REFORM TO ADDRESS THE MYRIAD ISSUES OF POLICING ON OUR SCHOOL CAMPUSES, THAT ARE HIGHLIGHTED IN THE INSPECTOR GENERAL'S REPORT. I FULLY SUPPORT THIS MOTION, AND I THINK IT MOVES US TOWARD YOUTH JUSTICE REIMAGINED. AS MENTIONED, THIS IS NOT CREATING A NEW BUREAUCRACY TO INVESTIGATE COMPLAINTS, BUT ALLOWS US, AS A P.O.C., TO RECEIVE AND REFER THEM TO THE SHERIFF AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS, TO BE INVESTIGATED THROUGH EXISTING PROCESSES. WE ALREADY HAVE A SMALL BUT MIGHTY OUTREACH TEAM, AND WE HAVE WORKED HARD TO WIN THE PUBLIC'S TRUST. WE CAN'T PROMISE SOLUTIONS TO INDIVIDUAL COMPLAINTS, BUT WITH A RELATIVELY SMALL INVESTMENT, WE CAN TRACK AND IMPROVE ACCOUNTABILITY, TRANSPARENCY, AND A SAFE PLACE. I LOOK FORWARD TO THIS WORK. THANK YOU.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT SPEAKER IS MEL BAILEY. PLEASE GO AHEAD.

SPEAKER: YES, GOOD AFTERNOON, EVERYONE, MADAM CHAIR, AND BOARD. A COUPLE THINGS. ONE, WHILE I HAVE THE UTMOST RESPECT

FOR WENDE JULIEN-- I THINK SHE DOES AN AMAZING JOB WITH THE P.O.C.-- IT'S A LITTLE CONFUSING, BECAUSE THIS SEEMS LIKE AN ITEM THAT WOULD BE BEST SLATED FOR YOUR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION, YOUR YOUTH OVERSIGHT COMMISSION; ALSO, YOUR CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT COMMISSION, SINCE THIS FALLS UNDER THEIR JURISDICTION. IT WOULD BE INTERESTING TO AT LEAST IDENTIFY WHY YOU THINK THE P.O.C. WOULD BE BEST SUITED FOR THIS, AND I SAY THAT BECAUSE IT IS PUTTING MORE ON THEIR PLATE. RIGHT NOW, YOU ARE MISSING YOUR REAL CHAIR. THE CHAIR THAT STANDS IN IS VERY RUDE AND CUTS EVERYBODY OFF, AND I BELIEVE, MS. MITCHELL, THE PERSON YOU APPOINTED IS BARELY AT ANY MEETINGS. SO YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE A REAL, FULL COMPLEMENT OF COMMISSIONERS, AND I JUST WOULD WANT TO NOT PUT ANYTHING ELSE ON THEIR PLATE, BECAUSE THEY ARE NEEDED IN OTHER AREAS, LIKE I SAID.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: ARE THERE ANY OTHER SPEAKERS?

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: NO OTHER SPEAKERS, MADAM CHAIR.

MODERATOR: WE HAVE NO REMOTE SPEAKERS IN QUEUE.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: OKAY, ARE THERE ANY SPEAKERS HERE? OKAY, GREAT, THEN ITEM 12 IS BEFORE US. MOVED BY SUPERVISOR MITCHELL, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR SOLIS TO APPROVE THE ITEM. EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PLEASE CALL THE ROLL.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: ITEM 12 IS BEFORE YOU. SUPERVISOR SOLIS?

SUP. SOLIS: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR SOLIS, AYE. SUPERVISOR MITCHELL?

SUP. MITCHELL: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA: SUPERVISOR MITCHELL, AYE. SUPERVISOR HAHN?

SUP. HAHN: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR HAHN, AYE. SUPERVISOR BARGER?

SUP. BARGER: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR BARGER, AYE. SUPERVISOR HORVATH?

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR HORVATH, AYE. MOTION CARRIES, 5-0.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: WE WILL NOW MOVE ON TO ITEM 14, EXPANDING CARE-FIRST VIOLENCE PREVENTION STRATEGIES IN COUNTY PARKS, WHICH WAS HELD BY SUPERVISOR MITCHELL. FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ON THE TELEPHONE, PLEASE PRESS 1 THEN 0 NOW TO COMMENT ON THIS ITEM. WE HAVE NORMA GARCIA-GONZALES, DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION, AVAILABLE, IF WE HAVE ANY QUESTIONS TO DIRECT TO HER. I KNOW THERE WERE SOME AT OUR LAST MEETING, AS WELL. SUPERVISOR MITCHELL, I WILL TURN IT TO YOU FIRST.

SUP. MITCHELL: THANK YOU VERY MUCH. I WANT TO APOLOGIZE. I THINK WE MAY HAVE LOST SOME ADVOCATES, WHO I THINK ASSUMED THAT WE WOULD GO IN NUMERIC ORDER, SO THEY THOUGHT WE WOULD TAKE THIS UP A LITTLE EARLIER. SO I WANT TO APOLOGIZE TO THOSE WHO MAY HAVE LEFT. I AM SORRY. I ALSO WANT TO THANK NORMA GARCIA FOR SPEARHEADING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF 64 COMMUNITY MEETINGS ACROSS L.A. COUNTY THIS PAST SEPTEMBER, TO HEAR COMMUNITY MEMBERS' CONCERNS AND PRIORITIES, AS IT RELATES TO THE PARKS. AND I KNOW THAT THE FEEDBACK FROM THESE MEETINGS, ALONG WITH THAT FROM STAFF, HAS ELEVATED THE ISSUE OF PARK

SAFETY, SO THANK YOU FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP AND BEING SO RESPONSIVE. I'D ALSO LIKE TO THANK THE PARKS TEAM, AND PARTICULARLY THE RECREATION STAFF, FOR ALL OF THEIR WORK, DAY IN AND DAY OUT, TO ENSURE OUR PARKS SUPPORT THE WELLBEING OF OUR COMMUNITIES. OUR RECREATION STAFF ARE TRULY FRONTLINE COMMUNITY WORKERS, PROVIDING IMPORTANT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES TO SO MANY ANGELENOS THAT RELY ON OUR COUNTY PARKS SYSTEM TO ACCESS NATURE, SUPPORT THEIR HEALTH, AND EXPERIENCE, TO JUST HAVE CONNECTION, AND TO HAVE EMPLOYMENT; MANY OF YOUR YOUTH PROGRAMS, PARKS AFTER DARK, SLEDDING ON THE SNOW THIS PAST WEEK. SO, WE APPRECIATE THEM ALL. IN FISCAL YEAR '22/'23 ALONE, THE PARKS DEPARTMENT REPORTED 288 SAFETY INCIDENTS, A TREND WHICH IS INCREASINGLY IMPACTING OUR STAFF, PARKS PATRONS, AND THE BROADER COMMUNITY, AND DISPROPORTIONATELY OCCURS IN LOW-INCOME COMMUNITIES OF COLOR THAT LACK ADEQUATE SAFETY-NET RESOURCES AND PROGRAMS. IN OUR PAST TWO BOARD MEETINGS, WE HAVE HEARD FROM PARK STAFF ABOUT HOW THESE INCIDENTS HAVE IMPACTED THEM, PERSONALLY; AND IN OUR LAST MEETING, WE ADOPTED THE PARK SAFETY ORDINANCE AS AN ADDITIONAL TOOL TO ADDRESS INCIDENTS WHEN THEY OCCUR, AND TO REDUCE REPEAT INCIDENTS. THIS MOTION ENSURES WE SIMULTANEOUSLY SYSTEMATIZE AND EXPAND OUR VIOLENCE PREVENTION, INTERVENTION, AND ALTERNATIVE RESPONSE TOOLS TO INCREASE INTERDEPARTMENTAL COORDINATION, STRATEGIC USE OF DATA, AND LEVERAGING COLLABORATIVE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES. WE KNOW THAT PARKS HAS

EFFECTIVELY COLLABORATED WITH OTHER DEPARTMENTS TO BRING IMPORTANT PROGRAMMING TO COMMUNITIES EXPERIENCING THE HIGHEST RATES OF VIOLENCE; EXAMPLE: THE SAFE PASSAGES PROGRAM, AND OUR S.P.O.T. TEEN PROGRAM. AS A COUNTY, WE NEED TO EXPLORE CREATIVE WAYS TO SUSTAIN AND EXPAND EFFECTIVE, PREVENTION-BASED PROGRAMMING, AND TO SUPPORT COUNTY PARKS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE, CARE-FIRST APPROACH THAT ADDRESSES THE ROOT CAUSES OF THE INCIDENTS THEIR STAFF AND ALL OF US ARE WITNESSING. THIS MOTION ALSO INSTRUCTS PARKS, IN COORDINATION WITH THE OFFICE OF VIOLENCE PREVENTION, THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT, AND A.R.D.I., TO REPORT BACK WITH A PLAN TO INCORPORATE COUNTY PARKS SAFETY DATA INTO A PUBLIC-FACING DASHBOARD THAT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED BY JULY 1, 2024. COMPILING THIS DATA IN ONE PLACE IS CRITICAL TO SEE THE BIG PICTURE OF WHAT PARK STAFF AND PATRONS ARE FACING WHEN IT COMES TO SAFETY INCIDENTS, AND TO EVALUATE OUR CURRENT APPROACHES. WITH THIS DATA, WE CAN BETTER INFORM STAFFING AND BUDGET DECISIONS, TARGET PROGRAMS, AND ULTIMATELY BE ACCOUNTABLE TO OUR PARK STAFF, AS WELL AS OUR PARK PATRONS. IT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE THAT EVERYONE WHO COMES TO OUR PARKS FEELS SAFE AND WELCOME, INCLUDING OUR STAFF, OUR YOUNG PATRONS, AND THOSE IN NEED. IN DOING SO, WE CAN ADVANCE OUR COMMITMENT TO A CARE-FIRST APPROACH, AND TRULY INVEST IN THE MISSION AND VISION OF OUR COUNTY PARKS SYSTEM. THANK YOU, SUPERVISOR SOLIS, FOR

CHOOSING TO JOIN WITH ME ON THIS MOTION. I APPRECIATE IT, AND ASK FOR AN AYE VOTE.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: SUPERVISOR SOLIS?

SUP. SOLIS: YES, THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR. AND THANK YOU, SUPERVISOR MITCHELL. YOU KNOW, AT OUR LAST BOARD MEETING, I THINK IT WAS LOUD AND CLEAR THAT WE ALL HEARD UNFORTUNATE TESTIMONIES FROM OUR PARK STAFF ABOUT THE HARASSMENT AND INCIDENTS THAT THEY FACE WHILE WORKING, THAT MAY HAVE MADE THEM FEEL UNSAFE, AND IN MANY WAYS TRAUMATIZED. I KNOW THAT THAT'S SOMETHING YOU CARE ABOUT, DIRECTOR GARCIA, AND I DO, TOO. AND I KNOW THAT, IN MANY WAYS, WE ARE DOWN ON STAFF. WE DON'T HAVE AS MUCH STAFF AS WE NEEDED, AND I KNOW IN SOME CASES WE HAVE TALKED ABOUT THAT, WHERE IT MAY NOT BE SUFFICIENT TO HAVE JUST ONE PERSON, ESPECIALLY A FEMALE, LATE AT NIGHT, WHEN IT IS DARK, AND SHE IS ASSIGNED TO CLOSE THE PARK. AND WE HEARD THAT REPEATEDLY, OVER AND OVER AGAIN, SO I HOPE WE CAN FIGURE OUT A WAY TO TRY TO EXPAND THAT, BUT I AM NOT JUST GOING TO LIMIT IT TO THAT. I THINK WHAT IS IMPORTANT IS THAT WE PARTNER WITH SOME OF OUR C.B.O.S, BECAUSE I KNOW IN MY AREA, WE USE DISCRETIONARY MONEY TO WORK WITH GROUPS LIKE [INAUDIBLE] AND OUTREACH GROUPS THAT WORK ON GANG PREVENTION, OUTREACH, COUNSELING, AND THEY HAVE WORKED WITH US AT SOME OF OUR PARKS IN EAST L.A. AND THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY. BUT I AM

JUST SAYING, IT MIGHT BE WORTHWHILE TO HAVE AN ADDITIONAL SET OF EYES AND HANDS OUT THERE THAT CAN ALSO HELP, BECAUSE THEY CAN ALSO PROVIDE PREVENTION, AND DECOMPRESS WHEN THERE ARE SITUATIONS THAT WE KNOW REQUIRE MORE THAN ONE INDIVIDUAL. SO I KNOW THAT THIS IS AN IMPORTANT ITEM FOR ALL OF US, AND WANT TO CONTINUE TO WORK WITH YOU, AND SEE HOW WE CAN EXPAND THESE EFFORTS. YOU HAVE BEEN THERE, EXPANDING PARKS AFTER DARK, AS WELL AS MANY OF THESE PROGRAMS TO KEEP OUR YOUTH ENGAGED IN THE EVENING WITH THEIR PARENTS, AND I LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING SUPPORT FOR THOSE EFFORTS, BECAUSE THEY DO HAVE RESULTS. AND I WAS GLAD TO SEE YOUR STAFF OUT THERE DURING OPERATION GOBBLE GOBBLE, BUT ALSO OUT THERE FOR CHRISTMAS, THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT, AND BEING OUT THERE IN OUR COMMUNITY, AND BEING VISIBLE, AND SEEING THE RECOGNITION FROM THE COMMUNITY ABOUT THE STAFF THAT YOU HAVE OUT THERE, BECAUSE THEY ARE YOUR EYES AND EARS, AND THEY REPRESENT US. SO I KNOW HOW IMPORTANT THAT IS, AND I DO WANT TO LET THEM KNOW THAT WE ARE SUPPORTIVE OF THE PARK STAFF. OKAY? THANK YOU. THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR.

SUP. HORVATH, CHARI: SUPERVISOR BARGER?

SUP. BARGER: THANK YOU. AND, NORMA, THANK YOU AND YOUR STAFF. THE TESTIMONY THAT WE HEARD WAS TRULY AN EYE-OPENER. WE'VE HEARD ABOUT THE PHYSICAL, THE VERBAL, AND THE EMOTIONAL VIOLENCE THEY'VE FACED IN THE LINE OF DUTY, AND HOW THEY

PRIORITIZED THE SAFETY OF OUR PATRONS IN EACH INSTANCE, AND THAT IS TRULY A PUBLIC SERVANT. BUT THEY SHOULD NOT BE PUT IN THESE SITUATIONS. AND I HAVE HEARD, IN FACT-- AND TELL ME IF THIS IS TRUE-- THAT SOME PARKS, YOU ARE HAVING A DIFFICULT TIME RECRUITING FOR THAT REASON.

NORMA GARCIA-GONZALEZ: THAT IS TRUE, SUPERVISOR.

SUP. BARGER: AND I AM SURE IT IS IN AREAS WHERE WE FOUGHT TO HAVE OPEN SPACE, GREEN SPACE, A PLACE FOR PEOPLE TO BE ABLE TO RECREATE, CORRECT?

NORMA GARCIA-GONZALEZ: CORRECT, IN THE HIGHEST-NEED COMMUNITIES.

SUP. BARGER: YEAH, IN THE HIGHEST-NEED COMMUNITIES. SO I BELIEVE IT IS VITAL AND INCUMBENT UPON US, AS A BOARD, TO ENSURE THAT THE ACCESS TO THESE AREAS IS MAINTAINED IN A SAFE WAY, FOR OUR EMPLOYEES, BUT ALSO FOR THE PATRONS, AND THE FAMILIES, AND ALL THAT WANT TO EXPERIENCE THE PARKS. IN MY PARK, IN PAMELA PARK, THE SHERIFF IS PULLING BACK ON THE YOUTH ATHLETIC LEAGUE DEPUTIES, BECAUSE OF A SHORTAGE. AND WE, TOO, IN THE PAST HAVE USED DISCRETIONARY, AND ARE LOOKING TO WORK WITH J.C.O.D. ON OPPORTUNITIES TO ACTUALLY BACKFILL. AND WITH EVERY DARK CLOUD, THERE'S A SILVER LINING. THIS COULD BE AN

OPPORTUNITY TO EXPAND ON SERVICES IN ALL OF OUR PARKS, ESPECIALLY IN AREAS WHERE WE KNOW THAT THERE'S BEEN ISSUES SURROUNDING GANG ACTIVITY AND ALL, SO THAT THESE KIDS KNOW THAT THERE ARE OTHER OPPORTUNITIES, AND CHANNEL THEIR ABILITY TO DO ART, ABILITY TO SING, ABILITY TO ACT, ABILITY TO PLAY BASKETBALL, BASEBALL, WHATEVER. BUT WE CAN'T DO THAT UNLESS OUR EMPLOYEES ARE SAFE, AND UNLESS OUR EMPLOYEES ARE WILLING TO SHOW UP. SO I APPRECIATE MOVING FORWARD THIS MOTION, BECAUSE I THINK IT'S IMPORTANT. BUT IN THE IMMEDIATE, NORMA, WHAT ARE WE DOING TO ENSURE THEIR PERSONAL SAFETY, ESPECIALLY IN THOSE AREAS WHERE THE STAFF HAVE COME FORWARD AND REALLY PUT US ON NOTICE, SO WE KNOW THAT THEY HAVE BEEN SUBJECTED TO DRIVE-BY SHOOTINGS, AND JUST OTHER THINGS? SO, WHAT ARE WE DOING RIGHT NOW TO ADDRESS THAT?

NORMA GARCIA-GONZALEZ: AND THANK YOU, SUPERVISORS, FOR JUST SHARING YOUR SUPPORT OF OUR PARK SAFETY. I KNOW IT IS VERY IMPORTANT FOR YOU, AND OUR PATRONS, AND OUR VISITORS, AND SPECIFICALLY OUR STAFF. IT'S ONE OF MY HIGHEST PRIORITIES. WE HAVE A VERY COMPREHENSIVE SAFETY PROGRAM FOR OUR PARKS. LAST BOARD MEETING, YOU APPROVED THE SAFETY ORDINANCE, WHICH WAS A BIG POLICY COMPONENT THAT WE HAVE BEEN WORKING ON FOR A WHOLE YEAR, BUT WE HAVE VARIOUS MEASURES THAT INCLUDE PARK SAFETY INFRASTRUCTURE. WE HAVE MADE A SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN REGARDS TO OUR LIGHTING PROGRAM. WE SPENT $3.2 MILLION OF

SALARY SAVINGS, IN FISCAL YEAR '22/'23, TO INSTALL 430 SAFETY SECURITY CAMERAS. THIS FISCAL YEAR, WE SPENT AN ADDITIONAL $700,000 ON SECURITY CAMERAS WITH SALARY SAVINGS. WE'VE ALSO PUT $650,000 WITH SALARY SAVINGS TO DO A COMPLETE LIGHTING STUDY, WHICH WAS A SIGNIFICANT PRIORITY IN THE COMMUNITY MEETINGS THAT WE HELD IN SEPTEMBER, 63 COMMUNITY MEETINGS; THAT PEOPLE WANTED TO SEE MORE LIGHT IN THE EVENING, WALKING FROM THE PARK BUILDINGS, OR TO THE BASEBALL FIELDS, OR TO THEIR PARKING LOTS, AND EVEN HELPING TO ILLUMINATE THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITY, SO THAT CHILDREN CAN WALK TO THEIR HOMES SAFELY. WE FINISHED THAT STUDY, AND WE ARE NOW IN THE PROCESS OF PRIORITIZING THAT LIGHTING, AS WELL. WHAT WE'VE ALSO DONE, FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS, IN PARKS WITH HIGH VIOLENCE SCORES AND HIGH CRIME RATES, WE'VE ACTUALLY ALLOCATED SALARY SAVINGS AND PROVIDED OVERTIME TO STAFF, SO THAT OUR HIGH-NEED PARKS HAVE TWO PEOPLE CLOSING THE PARKS. SO, IN OUR HIGH-NEED PARKS, BUT I THINK WHAT WE ARE ALSO SEEING, SUPERVISORS, IS THAT SOME OF THESE ISSUES HAVE EXPANDED, NOT ONLY TO OUR HIGHEST-NEED COMMUNITIES; WE ARE SEEING AN INCREASE OF PEOPLE EXPERIENCING MENTAL ILLNESS, HOMELESS, A LOT OF ISSUES IN OTHER PARKS THAT WERE NOT NECESSARILY OUR HIGH-NEED PARKS. AND SO WE ARE DEDICATING SALARY SAVINGS THIS FISCAL YEAR TO ACTUALLY HAVING TWO PEOPLE AT EVERY PARK, CLOSING, AND THAT IS EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1ST. SO, ACTUALLY, RIGHT NOW, WE HAVE GOTTEN ALL OF OUR SUMMER STAFF THAT HAVE WORKED IN OUR PARKS DURING

THE SUMMER, HAVE BEEN CALLING THEM TO COME BACK TO WORK DURING THE YEAR, AND ARE COMMITTING SALARY SAVINGS TO MAKE SURE THAT EVERY ONE OF OUR PARKS, REGARDLESS OF WHAT WE HAVE EXPERIENCED IN THE PAST, HAVE THOSE TWO PEOPLE CLOSING OUR PARKS.

SUP. BARGER: NORMA, THAT'S A LOT OF SALARY SAVINGS. HOW MANY SALARY SAVINGS POTS ARE YOU DRAWING FROM? BECAUSE IF YOU ARE DOWN STAFF, YOU'RE GOING TO NEED TO HIRE STAFF. AND SO I AM A LITTLE CONCERNED THAT A LOT OF THIS IS BEING BACKFILLED WITH SALARY SAVINGS.

NORMA GARCIA-GONZALEZ: SO I WILL TELL YOU, THE MONIES THAT WE HAVE PUT TOWARDS THE SECURITY CAMERAS AND THE LIGHTING STUDIES WERE IN THE PAST FISCAL YEARS. WE DO HAVE SOME SALARY SAVINGS FROM OUR AQUATIC DIVISION, AND BECAUSE WE DO HAVE A VACANCY RATE IN REGARDS TO OUR FULL-TIME STAFFING, WE DO HAVE SALARY SAVINGS. AND WE ARE PRIORITIZING OUR RECRUITMENT OF OUR AQUATIC STAFF, BUT WE ARE PRIORITIZING THAT WE HAVE THAT SALARY SAVINGS FOR OUR STAFF. SO, EVERY YEAR, WE HAVE HAD QUITE A BIT OF SALARY SAVINGS BECAUSE OF A HIGH TURNOVER OF OUR STAFF, BUT WE DO THAT ANALYSIS ON A MONTHLY BASIS SO THAT WE CAN BALANCE OUR BOOKS. SO I ASSURE YOU, SUPERVISOR, WE ARE NOT OVERSPENDING, BUT WE ARE UTILIZING OUR SALARY SAVINGS IN A WAY WHERE WE ARE PRIORITIZING THE NEEDS OF THE DEPARTMENT, AND OF OUR PARK STAFF, AND OF OUR PARK PATRONS.

SUP. BARGER: AND I APPRECIATE THAT. I JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT-- I MEAN, HAVING TWO ON SITE IS GOOD, BUT THAT'S NOT GOING TO CURE SOME OF WHAT AILS THESE PARKS. AND SO I JUST WANT US TO BE COGNIZANT OF THE FACT THAT IT IS PROBABLY MULTILAYERED, AS IT RELATES TO HOW WE'RE GOING TO ADDRESS THIS. AND THAT DOESN'T MEAN THAT ANY ONE OF THOSE OPTIONS IS WRONG. IT'S JUST THAT I DON'T THINK IT'S GOING TO BE AS SIMPLE AS JUST HIRING ANOTHER PERSON TO WALK WITH THEM TO THEIR CAR. BUT I THINK THAT'S A GOOD START.

NORMA GARCIA-GONZALEZ: WELL, SUPERVISOR, IT IS MULTILAYERED, AND I THINK I WANT TO ALSO MENTION, IN ADDITION TO THE INVESTMENTS IN STAFFING, THE ADDITIONS IN INFRASTRUCTURE, WE HAVE ALSO MADE A SIGNIFICANT INVESTMENT, ALSO, IN THE PROGRAMMING. YOU HAVE COMMITTED FOR OUR PARKS AFTER DARK PROGRAMMING; THAT IS NOW YEAR-ROUND. WE HAVE ALSO RECEIVED SIGNIFICANT GRANTS. WE HAVE 13 TEEN CENTERS. WE'VE HAD OVER 46,000 TEEN VISITS TO OUR PARKS. THAT IS 100% FUNDED BY S.A.P.C. FUNDING AND PROBATION FUNDING. WE ARE APPLYING FOR ANOTHER GRANT TO EXPAND THE TEEN CENTERS, AND THOSE TEEN CENTERS ARE LOCATED SPECIFICALLY IN COMMUNITIES WITH HIGH VIOLENCE SCORES, AS WELL AS HIGH SUBSTANCE ABUSE BY TEENAGERS. SO WE ARE SPECIFICALLY LOOKING AT DATA TO ACTUALLY PUT THE PROGRAMMING WHERE YOUTH AND COMMUNITIES NEED IT THE MOST. WE

HAVE AN AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMMING THAT IS FREE, THAT IS BEING IMPLEMENTED AT 63 PARKS. SO, IN THE TIMES WHEN CRIMES ARE COMMITTED, OR WHEN KIDS GET INTO TROUBLE, WE ARE PROVIDING THAT AFTERSCHOOL SAFETY PROGRAM. WE HAVE ALSO WORKED WITH OUR PARKS SHERIFF BUREAU, SO THAT WE'VE ALIGNED. WE WORKED WITH A.L.A.D.S. FOR A WHOLE YEAR TO ALIGN OUR SHERIFF CONTRACT, TO MAKE SURE THAT SHERIFF HOURS ARE ALIGNING WITH OUR PARK HOURS, AND WE HAVE DONE THAT. AND ONE MORE THING, THAT WE ARE ALSO EXPANDING OUR SAFE PASSAGE PROGRAM. SUPERVISOR SOLIS MENTIONED ABOUT OUR PARTNERS IN THE COMMUNITY. WE HAVE ACTUALLY APPLIED FOR A GRANT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND THE DEPARTMENT OF PROBATION. WE GOT THE FUNDING, AND WE'RE GOING TO BE EXPANDING FROM THREE PARKS TO NINE PARKS, SO THAT WE ARE WORKING WITH GANG INTERVENTIONISTS AT OUR PARKS. SO THIS IS A MULTILAYERED APPROACH. IT IS PROGRAMMING. WE HAVE HIRED 472 YOUTH. KIDS THAT ARE CAUGHT SMOKING WEED AT OUR PARKS, WHAT WE TURN AROUND IS WE GIVE THEM A YOUTH AT WORK APPLICATION. SO IT IS PROGRAMMING. IT IS PARTNERING WITH COMMUNITY. IT IS TALKING TO COMMUNITY, PARTNERING WITH OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND IT IS ALSO PUTTING SAFETY MEASURES SO THAT WE'RE NOT PUTTING OUR STAFF AT RISK.

SUP. BARGER: AND THAT'S WHY I SAY MULTILAYERED, BECAUSE I KNOW THERE'S A LOT OF MOVING PARTS. AND I LOVE THE WAY YOU ARE GOING ABOUT ADDRESSING IT, ESPECIALLY WITH INCORPORATING YOUTH

INTO THE PARKS. SO THANK YOU FOR THAT, AND THANK YOUR STAFF, AS WELL. THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR.

SUP. HORVATH, CHARI: SUPERVISOR HAHN?

SUP. HAHN: WELL, THANK YOU. I THINK EVERYBODY HAS REALLY SAID ALL OF OUR CONCERNS, AND APPRECIATE YOUR RESPONSES. I MEAN, OBVIOUSLY, I AM SUPPORTIVE OF THIS MOTION'S VISION FOR A PILOT PROGRAM TO LOOK AT VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND CARE-FIRST SERVICES TO THOSE WHO WE ARE DEEMING TROUBLED, AND I AM GLAD THAT WE HAVE THE ORDINANCE THAT WILL REMOVE SOME OF THESE FOLKS FOR UP TO 30 DAYS, BUT THAT'S NOT A LONG-TERM SOLUTION, RIGHT? SO I THINK WHAT YOU ARE HEARING FROM US-- I THINK WE WERE PRETTY HORRIFIED AT SOME OF THE TESTIMONY FROM YOUR STAFF. AND I THINK, AS WOMEN, PARTICULARLY, WE ARE RELATING, AND WE ARE SENSITIVE, PARTICULARLY, TO THE ONE THAT SAID, "I WAS ALONE AT 9:00 AT NIGHT, CLOSING." AND SO, EVEN THOUGH YOU ARE SHORT-STAFFED, I KNOW YOU'RE GOING TO FIGURE THAT ONE OUT AND JUST NEVER HAVE ONE PERSON ALONE AT NIGHT. I AM CURIOUS TO KNOW ABOUT THE LIGHT STUDY. HOW MUCH DID YOU SAY YOU SPENT ON THAT STUDY?

NORMA GARCIA-GONZALEZ: SO, WE SPENT $650,000. WE HAVE 183 PARKS, 40,000 ACRES, SO THE LIGHT STUDY--

SUP. HAHN: OKAY, BUT, I MEAN, TO BE HONEST WITH YOU, DID WE REALLY NEED A STUDY TO TELL US THAT LIGHT IS GOOD, AND THAT EVERYBODY WANTS LIGHTS, AND THEY WANT THEM IN THEIR NEIGHBORHOOD, AND THEY WANT THEM IN THEIR PARKS? I MEAN, I WAS A LITTLE SHOCKED BY THAT. I DON'T KNOW IF YOU NEEDED A STUDY FOR THAT, BUT MAYBE IT WAS MORE STRATEGICALLY, WHERE YOU'RE GOING TO PLACE THEM. EVERYBODY WANTS MORE LIGHTS; THAT IS A GIVEN. PEOPLE FEEL SAFER, AND BY THE WAY, PEOPLE ARE SAFER. I THINK LAW ENFORCEMENT WILL TELL YOU, PUTTING LIGHTS ANYWHERE INCREASES THE LEVEL OF SAFETY FOR PEOPLE. WHAT I, LISTENING TO YOU, REALIZE: THIS IS NOT A PARKS PROBLEM, RIGHT? YOU NEED HELP FROM J.C.O.D., FROM THE COMMUNITY C.F.C.I. INVESTMENT, FROM LAW ENFORCEMENT. THIS IS NOT A PARKS PROBLEM; THIS IS AN ALL OF OUR PROBLEM. PARTICULARLY, I AM CONCERNED ABOUT THE LIGHT. FOR SOME REASON, I AM HONING IN ON THOSE LIGHTS. THAT'S GOING TO BE EXPENSIVE, RIGHT? BUT I THINK WE WOULD ALL AGREE THAT THAT IS SOMETHING WE NEED TO DO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. AND MAYBE THE STUDY GAVE YOU A COST FIGURE FOR DOING IT, BUT I DON'T THINK THAT SHOULD NECESSARILY COME FROM YOUR BUDGET. I MEAN, THAT IS REALLY A SAFETY ISSUE THAT I THINK, AGAIN, LAW ENFORCEMENT WOULD TELL YOU THAT THAT MAKES THEIR JOB EASIER. THOSE OF US WHO ARE TRYING TO PREVENT VIOLENCE WOULD SAY THAT MAKES OUR JOB EASIER. J.C.O.D., AND THE INITIATIVE OF THIS BOARD FOR C.F.C.I., WOULD SAY THAT THAT'S OUR GOAL. SO MAYBE WE COULD FIGURE OUT HOW TO GET YOU MORE HELP THROUGHOUT COUNTY

DEPARTMENTS. WE ALL HAVE THE SAME GOAL. JUST BECAUSE THEY ARE IN YOUR PARKS, OR OUR PARKS, DOESN'T MEAN THAT SOMEHOW THAT'S SEPARATE FROM THEM BEING PART OF THE RESIDENTS OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES IN EVERY OTHER AREA OF THEIR LIVES. SO I FEEL LIKE-- YEAH, AND I'M A LITTLE NERVOUS ABOUT THE SALARY SAVINGS, TOO, BECAUSE YOU BETTER NOT TAKE IT FROM LIFEGUARDS. SO HELP US HELP YOU, I GUESS, IS WHAT I'M SAYING. AND IT'S AN AGGRESSIVE PROGRAM THAT I THINK WE'RE SUGGESTING, BUT ULTIMATELY, IT'S SAFETY FOR OUR RESIDENTS IN EACH ONE OF OUR DISTRICTS, THAT HAPPEN TO BE ENJOYING THEMSELVES IN OUR PARKS. SO LIGHTING IS KEY. LET US KNOW HOW WE CAN FIGURE THAT OUT. FESIA, I DON'T KNOW IF THAT'S A YOU QUESTION, BUT I JUST DON'T FEEL LIKE THAT SHOULD BE SOLELY NORMA'S BURDEN, TO CREATE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT. I THINK THAT THERE IS A LOT OF DEPARTMENTS THAT WOULD SHARE THAT RESPONSIBILITY, AND WOULD WANT TO SHARE THAT RESPONSIBILITY.

FESIA DAVENPORT, C.E.O.: SO, SUPERVISOR, WE KNOW THAT THE DEPARTMENT DOES HAVE A BUDGET UNIT THAT IS DEDICATED TO FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE, AND ALL OF THAT, AND I'M SURE IF YOU ASK NORMA, SHE WOULD SAY THAT HER NEED IS GREATER THAN THE AMOUNT OF THE BUDGET. SO WE ARE HAPPY TO WORK WITH NORMA AND FIGURE OUT IF WE COULD DO A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN. NO DEPARTMENT IS-- YEAH, NO ONE IS ALONE, AND I DON'T THINK THEY'RE GOING TO RUN TO OFFER UP FUNDING, BUT I THINK WE CAN WORK

COLLABORATIVELY, AND NEGOTIATE SOMETHING WITH RELEVANT DEPARTMENTS. AND WE NEED TO GET THE COST OUT, IF WE DON'T ALREADY HAVE THAT.

SUP. HAHN: I MEAN, EVERY TIME SHE MENTIONS VIOLENCE PREVENTION, SAFETY FOR WOMEN, I MEAN, EVERY TIME ONE OF THOSE WORDS IS MENTIONED, THAT IS ANOTHER INITIATIVE IN ANOTHER DEPARTMENT. AND AGAIN, LET'S GET OUT OF THE SILOS AND WORK TOGETHER TO ULTIMATELY KEEP, PARTICULARLY, WOMEN SAFE IN OUR PARKS.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: SUPERVISOR MITCHELL?

SUP. MITCHELL: THANK YOU. AS THE DIRECTOR WAS KIND OF TICKING THROUGH SOME OF THE PHYSICAL SAFETY ELEMENTS, I JUST WANTED TO REMIND US THAT THE ORDINANCE KIND OF TALKED ABOUT THAT, BUT THE POINT OF TODAY'S MOTION IS TO REALLY TALK ABOUT HOW WE OPERATIONALIZE A CARE-FIRST APPROACH TO PREVENTION, AND HOW WE SUPPORT IN PREVENTION-BASED PROGRAMMING, WHICH I WOULD AGREE IS NOT KIND OF ONE-TIME FUNDING. BUT I JUST WANTED TO MAKE SURE THAT WE WERE-- IT IS A LAYERING APPROACH, AND THAT THE FOCUS OF TODAY'S MOTION IS AROUND THE PREVENTION SERVICES. SO THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: ALONG THOSE LINES, I JUST WANTED TO ASK NORMA, HAVE YOU CONSIDERED THAT INVESTMENT GOING TO OUR YOUTH AT WORK PROGRAM, AND HIRING YOUNG PEOPLE INTO OUR PARKS? BECAUSE THE PROGRAMMING THAT'S IN OUR PARKS IS ONE INTERVENTION, BUT GIVING YOUNG PEOPLE A JOB, AND MAKING THEM RESPONSIBLE FOR KEEPING THEIR PARKS SAFE, BY THEIR PRESENCE, NOT FOR SOME OF THE SAFETY-- LET'S BE CLEAR. BUT I THINK GIVING THEM A ROLE IN KEEPING SAFE SPACES WITHIN THEIR COMMUNITY, ONE THAT PAYS THEM AND PUTS THEM ON A TRACK TO MAYBE WORKING WITH YOU SOMEDAY, IN A DIFFERENT CAPACITY, HAVE YOU CONSIDERED THAT AT ALL?

NORMA GARCIA-GONZALEZ: SUPERVISOR, WE ARE THE LARGEST EMPLOYER OF YOUTH AT WORK, FOR BOTH THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY. LAST YEAR, THIS LAST FISCAL YEAR, WE HIRED 472 YOUTH AT WORK. AND WHAT'S REALLY EXCITING IS WE DID A DIRECTIVE THAT EVERY ONE OF OUR PARKS HIRE FROM FIVE TO TEN YOUTH FROM THE LOCAL COMMUNITY. AND WHAT WE'VE ALSO DONE IS, OUT OF THE 472 YOUTH THAT WE'VE HIRED FROM YOUTH AT WORK, WE'VE HIRED 122, 26%, OF THOSE YOUTH AS PARK EMPLOYEES WITH THE DEPARTMENT. SO WE HAVE CREATED, NOW, THE LARGEST PATHWAY PROGRAM FOR YOUTH IN L.A. COUNTY PARKS, AND THAT IS PART OF OUR VIOLENCE PREVENTION STRATEGY. AS A MATTER OF FACT, HIRING THE LOCAL YOUTH TO PROVIDE AND HELP WITH OUR AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM, WITH OUR TEEN CENTERS, WE GO INTO THE HOUSING

PROJECTS AND ACTUALLY SET UP A TABLE, AND WE HIRE YOUTH BECAUSE WE ARE VERY COMMITTED IN MAKING SURE THAT THE HIGHEST-RISK YOUTH ARE WORKING IN OUR PARKS, AND CREATE A PATHWAY INTO EMPLOYMENT WITH OUR DEPARTMENT. SO THAT HAS BEEN ONE OF OUR STRONGEST INITIATIVES IN OUR DEPARTMENT; VERY PROUD OF THAT.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: GREAT. I AM GLAD TO HEAR IT, AND MAYBE IT IS SOMETHING WE CAN EVEN FURTHER EXPAND. I AM SURE THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE WHO WOULD LOVE TO BE PART OF THAT PROGRAM IF WE INVESTED DIFFERENTLY IN IT, SO I AM GLAD TO HEAR THAT IT IS SUCH A SUCCESS, ALREADY. THAT'S WONDERFUL. SUPERVISOR MITCHELL, ROUND THREE.

SUP. MITCHELL: RIGHT, AND I'M NOT GOING TO PUSH THIS BUTTON AGAIN UNTIL THE NEXT MOTION, MADAM CHAIR, BUT WHAT YOU JUST SAID TRIGGERED A THOUGHT, BECAUSE I AGREE. I CAN'T GO TO A PARK IN THE SECOND DISTRICT AND NOT MEET A PARKS STAFF THAT DOESN'T TELL THEIR STORY THAT THEY STARTED, AND PARTICULARLY THE LIFEGUARDS, SUPERVISOR HAHN. THEY ALL START AS YOUTH BEING HIRED. BUT WHAT YOUR QUESTION TRIGGERED FOR ME, AS I THINK BACK TO THE TESTIMONY FROM YOUR STAFF, IT WASN'T SO MUCH INTERACTIONS WITH YOUNG PEOPLE; IT WAS INTERACTIONS WITH OUR UNHOUSED AND OUR CONSTITUENTS WHO ARE SUFFERING FROM MENTAL ILLNESS. AND SO I GUESS THE QUESTION IS, WHEN WE LOOK AT PROGRAMS WITHIN THE COUNTY WHO CAN HIRE OUR FORMALLY UNHOUSED,

IS THAT AN AREA OF FOCUS, TOO? I THINK, HISTORICALLY, FOCUSING ON HIRING YOUTH IS KIND OF A NATURAL, ALWAYS. THAT'S WHERE WE WENT FOR JOBS. BUT WHAT ABOUT THE OTHER POPULATION THAT ARE PROBABLY CAUSING THE LION'S SHARE OF THE CHALLENGES YOUR EMPLOYEE ARE EXPERIENCING? IS THERE ANY CONNECTION THERE, IN TERMS OF HIRING AND CREATING OPPORTUNITIES?

NORMA GARCIA-GONZALEZ: WELL, SUPERVISOR, I ACTUALLY HAVE GONE OUT TO OUR PARKS, AS A MATTER OF FACT, DURING THE HOLIDAYS. I GO TO ALMOST ALL OUR PARKS, AND I HEAR, ACTUALLY, MIRACULOUS STORIES WHERE WE HAVE PEOPLE THAT ARE DISABLED, THAT HANG OUT AT THE PARK. THEY START AS A VOLUNTEER, AND THEN WE HIRE THEM AS A PARK AIDE. WE CREATED THAT CLASSIFICATION JUST LAST YEAR, SO THAT WE CAN CREATE AN ENTRY-LEVEL POSITION WITH ZERO EXPERIENCE, AND WE CAN HIRE. AND WE'RE NOW WORKING WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF D.H.R. TO ACTUALLY REMOVE THE MEDICAL CLEARANCE, SO THAT WE CAN HIRE, FROM THE LOCAL COMMUNITY, PEOPLE THAT ARE WITH DISABILITY. WE'VE ALSO HIRED, IN THE PAST, PEOPLE THAT HANG OUT AT THE PARK, THAT START OUT AS VOLUNTEERS, THAT WERE HOMELESS AND WERE VOLUNTEERING, AND WE'VE HIRED AT THE PARK. WE HAVE TO GO THROUGH THAT PROCESS, BUT WE ARE WORKING WITH D.H.R. TO ELIMINATE THOSE BARRIERS TO THAT ACCESS TO OUR EMPLOYMENT.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PLEASE CALL THOSE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO HAVE SIGNED UP TO SPEAK ON THIS ITEM.

SPEAKER: MADAM CHAIR, THERE ARE NO IN-PERSON SPEAKERS WHO HAVE SIGNED UP FOR THIS ITEM. AS A FINAL REMINDER FOR PARTICIPANTS ON THE TELEPHONE, IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS ITEM 14, AND IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO, PLEASE PRESS 1 THEN 0 NOW TO BE PLACED IN THE SPEAKING QUEUE. MODERATOR, MAY WE HAVE THE FIRST SPEAKER, PLEASE?

MODERATOR: OUR FIRST REMOTE SPEAKER IS BRIANNA CLARK. PLEASE GO AHEAD.

SPEAKER: HI. I JUST WANTED TO SPEAK ON A FEW THINGS. I WAS LISTENING TO NORMA WHEN SHE SAID A FEW THINGS THAT WERE GOING ON IN THE PARK. FOR ONE, ADMINISTRATION IS NOT UP TO PAR. STAFF IS OVERWORKED. THEY ARE NOT ALLOWING THEM TO DO ANYTHING. WHEN YOU MAKE A COMPLAINT, THERE IS RETALIATION. THE PARKS ARE DIRTY. HOMELESS PEOPLE. IT IS JUST NOT SAFE. THERE IS NO SAFETY AREAS FOR THE KIDS. LIKE I SAID, THE STAFF ARE OVERWORKED. IT IS JUST A LOT GOING ON. AND THEN, ALSO, WITH THE VOLUNTEERS, I HEARD NORMA SAYING THAT THEY WERE CALLING PEOPLE BACK, AND ET CETERA. ME, FOR EXAMPLE, I HAVE BEEN ON THE LIST FOR PROBABLY TEN MONTHS. NO ONE HAS CALLED. I WOULD

SAY THE PARKS ARE VERY HANDS-OFF AT THIS MOMENT IN TIME. SO I JUST WANTED TO LET THAT BE KNOWN, LET IT BE OUT THERE, THAT A LOT OF THE THINGS THAT ARE SUPPOSEDLY TAKING PLACE ARE NOT. I AM AT THE PARK. I AM IN THE COMMUNITY.

SUP. HORVATH, CHARI: THANK YOU. YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT SPEAKER IS NATALIE AGU. PLEASE GO AHEAD.

SPEAKER: HI. WITH DECADES OF EXPERIENCE IN COMMUNITY CONFLICT RESOLUTION, AND INCREASING PUBLIC SAFETY THROUGH COMMUNITY-BASED STRATEGIES, CENTINELA YOUTH SERVICES STRONGLY SUPPORTS THIS MOTION FOR EXPANDING CARE-FIRST VIOLENCE PREVENTION STRATEGIES IN COUNTY PARKS. PARK SAFETY MATTERS ARE CAUSED BY AN ARRAY OF ISSUES, MOST OF WHICH REQUIRE SOLUTIONS THAT OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES ARE NOT EQUIPPED TO PROVIDE. SO MUCH OF WHAT IMPACTS SAFETY-- OR THE PERCEPTION OF SAFETY-- ISSUES IN OUR PARKS ARE RELATED TO UNAUTHORIZED CAMPING BY UNHOUSED PERSONS, ADDICTION ISSUES, AND MENTAL HEALTH CRISES THAT LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES ARE NOT EQUIPPED TO ADDRESS. INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION AND TRANSPARENT, DATA-DRIVEN DECISION-MAKING ARE KEY TO INVOLVING PAST SIMPLISTIC USE OF CALLING THE POLICE TO ADDRESS ALL SAFETY MATTERS, AND GET US TO MORE EFFECTIVE SOLUTIONS THAT ADDRESS THE UNDERLYING CAUSES OF A WIDE ARRAY

OF CAUSES OF SAFETY CONCERNS. REAL COMMUNITY SAFETY COMES THROUGH ADDRESSING UNDERLYING NEEDS EFFECTIVELY FOR LONG-TERM IMPACT, NOT SHORT-TERM RESPONSES LIKE POLICING AND PARK EXPULSIONS, THAT LEAD TO THE--

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT REMOTE SPEAKER IS THERESA INDY. PLEASE GO AHEAD. YOUR LINE IS OPEN.

SPEAKER: 90011? HELLO?

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: HI. GO AHEAD.

SPEAKER: HELLO. AM I IN PUBLIC COMMENT?

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: NO, THIS ITEM IS ABOUT OUR CARE-FIRST VIOLENCE PREVENTION FOR PARKS.

SPEAKER: OKAY, WELL, I APOLOGIZE. I WANT TO BE PUT BACK IN QUEUE

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: NO APOLOGY NECESSARY. WE'LL PUT YOU BACK IN QUEUE FOR GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT. NO PROBLEM. THANK YOU. ARE THERE ANY OTHER SPEAKERS?

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: NO OTHER SPEAKERS, MADAM CHAIR.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THEN ITEM 14 IS BEFORE US. MOVED BY SUPERVISOR MITCHELL, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR SOLIS TO APPROVE THE ITEM. EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PLEASE CALL THE ROLL.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: ITEM 14 IS BEFORE YOU. SUPERVISOR SOLIS?

SUP. SOLIS: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR SOLIS, AYE. SUPERVISOR MITCHELL?

SUP. MITCHELL: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR MITCHELL, AYE. SUPERVISOR HAHN?

SUP. HAHN: AYE.

SUP. BARGER: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR HAHN, AYE. SUPERVISOR BARGER?

SUP. BARGER: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR BARGER, AYE. SUPERVISOR HORVATH?

SUP. BARGER: I VOTED FOR YOU, JANICE.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR HORVATH, AYE. MOTION CARRIES, 5-0.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: SUPERVISOR BARGER, HAVING AN IDENTITY CRISIS UP HERE. ALL RIGHT. NOW WE'RE MOVING ON TO ITEM 24, SILICOSIS PREVENTION EDUCATION, WHICH I HELD. FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ON THE TELEPHONE, PLEASE PRESS 1 THEN 0 NOW TO COMMENT ON THIS ITEM. ALL RIGHT. WE'RE ALL IN AGREEMENT ON THAT ONE, AND NOW I'D LIKE TO THANK ALL OF OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS, AND ALL OF OUR PARTNERS WHO HAVE DILIGENTLY BEEN WORKING ON SILICOSIS PREVENTION AND ADVOCACY, INCLUDING DR. FAZIO AND THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH, OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS, STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS, COUNTY DEPARTMENTS AND STAFF, AND MY COLLEAGUE SUPERVISOR MITCHELL, WHO HAS CO-

AUTHORED THIS SECOND MOTION ON THIS ALL-IMPORTANT ITEM. SILICOSIS IS AN OCCUPATIONAL LUNG DISEASE CAUSED BY INHALATION OF RESPIRABLE CRYSTALINE SILICA. MOST STONE CONTAINS SILICA; HOWEVER, ENGINEERED STONE IMPORTED AND SOLD IN THE U.S. TODAY MAY CONTAIN AS MUCH AS 95% SILICA. IN COMPARISON, GRANITE CONTAINS ABOUT 50% SILICA OR LESS, AND NATURAL STONE, SUCH AS MARBLE, CAN CONTAIN AN AVERAGE ONLY 2% SILICA. THE DISEASE TYPICALLY TAKES 10 TO 30 YEARS TO DEVELOP, AND THE HEALTH EFFECTS INCLUDE PULMONARY DISEASES, RESPIRATORY FAILURE, AND IN MANY CASES, DEATH. THERE IS NO CURE BEYOND A LUNG TRANSPLANT, WHICH MAY ONLY EXTEND SURVIVAL, ON AVERAGE, 5 YEARS POST-TRANSPLANT. AND ACCORDING TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, AS OF DECEMBER 14TH, 100 INDIVIDUALS HAVE DEVELOPED SILICOSIS, 4 HAVE RECEIVED LUNG TRANSPLANTS, 5 ARE UNDER EVALUATION, AND 10 HAVE DIED. THE NUMBERS ARE CONSISTENTLY GROWING. AT L.A. COUNTY OLIVE VIEW HOSPITAL IN MY DISTRICT, 57 WORKERS HAVE PRESENTED WITH SYMPTOMS OF THIS DISEASE. UNFORTUNATELY, THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY HAS BECOME GROUND ZERO FOR SILICOSIS CASES IN L.A. COUNTY, AND IN THE STATE, IN PART BECAUSE HUNDREDS OF ENGINEERED STONECUTTING AND FABRICATION BUSINESSES ARE CONCENTRATED IN THE REGION. IMPACTED INDIVIDUALS IN THIS INDUSTRY TEND TO BE YOUNG LATINO IMMIGRANTS FROM LATIN AMERICA. IT'S UNACCEPTABLE THAT HARDWORKING YOUNG MEN ARE EXPOSED TO HIGH LEVELS OF SILICA, OFTEN WITHOUT PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT, AND ARE BECOMING VICTIMS

OF THIS DISEASE, THE DEVASTATING CONSEQUENCES OF WHICH WERE MADE EXTREMELY CLEAR LAST WEEK, WHEN THE ENTIRE COUNTRY OF AUSTRALIA OUTLAWED THE SALE OF ENGINEERED STONE ALTOGETHER. THAT'S WHY I AUTHORED A MOTION JUNE 6TH TO EXPLORE HOW WE CAN ADDRESS THIS DEADLY DISEASE IN L.A. COUNTY. AND BASED ON A D.P.H. REPORT, WE KNOW THAT REGULATORY ACTION THE COUNTY TAKES WILL HAVE LIMITED IMPACT, AND WILL LIKELY PUSH SOME OF THESE ALREADY MARGINALIZED STONE FABRICATION SHOPS FURTHER INTO THE SHADOWS OF THE ECONOMY, HAVING THE EXACT OPPOSITE EFFECT THAT WE INTEND. LIKE AUSTRALIA, WE NEED STRONGER, COMPREHENSIVE REGULATIONS AT ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT. I APPLAUD THE STATE FOR STRENGTHENING STONE FABRICATION SHOP WORKPLACE REGULATIONS, WITH THE EMERGENCY TEMPORARY STANDARDS THAT ARE SET TO GO INTO EFFECT ON DECEMBER 29TH, 2023. THIS IS A GREAT STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION, BUT INVESTMENTS IN ENFORCEMENT AND EDUCATION MUST CONTINUE TO ALSO BE A PRIORITY. TODAY'S MOTION COMMITS ADDITIONAL FUNDING TO ENGAGE AND PREVENT INDIVIDUALS WORKING IN THE STONE FABRICATION SHOPS FROM DEVELOPING SILICOSIS. THIS INCLUDES EDUCATION ON THE DISEASE, HOW TO USE PROTECTIVE BEST PRACTICES, AND HOW TO ACCESS CARE AND RESOURCES AS NEEDED. IT ALSO PROVIDES EDUCATION AND SUPPORT TO THE STONE FABRICATION SHOPS, TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH LIFE-SAVING BEST PRACTICES AND EDUCATION. NOT ONLY WILL WE CONTINUE THIS IMPORTANT WORK, BUT WE WILL EXPAND IT TO THE ENTIRE COUNTY. WE CAN'T TACKLE THE CHALLENGE ALONE, AND

EVERYONE MUST COME TO THE TABLE TO ENSURE THAT WE WILL DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO PROTECT THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE POTENTIALLY AT RISK OF THIS DISEASE. AND I WANT TO THANK OUR PARTNERS AT THE STATE WHO, SINCE OUR MOTION HERE AT THE COUNTY, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THIS BOARD, HAVE ALSO TAKEN ACTION. WE WILL CONTINUE TO ADVOCATE AT THE STATE LEVEL FOR THESE COMPREHENSIVE REGULATIONS, TO ENSURE THE SAFETY REGULATIONS WE'RE EXPECTING. I ASK FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT IN ADVOCATING FOR THESE STRONGER REGULATIONS FOR ENFORCEMENT AND FOR EDUCATION, WHICH THIS MOTION WOULD APPROVE. AND I WILL TURN IT NOW TO SUPERVISOR MITCHELL.

SUP. MITCHELL: THANK YOU VERY MUCH, SUPERVISOR HORVATH, FOR YOUR OFFICE'S CONTINUED LEADERSHIP TO PROTECT OUR VULNERABLE WORKFORCE FROM THIS REALLY DREADED DISEASE. AND WE'RE LEARNING THAT IT'S A VERY COMPLEX PROBLEM. SOME BUSINESSES ARE TRYING TO DO THE RIGHT THING, AND ARE PROVIDING EDUCATION AND PROTECTIVE GEAR TO THEIR WORKERS, BUT THEY HAVE TO COMPETE WITH OTHER BUSINESSES WHO AREN'T PROTECTING THEIR WORKERS IN THE SAME WAY. SO ENFORCEMENT WILL CONTINUE TO BE A CRITICAL CHALLENGE, BUT A VERY IMPORTANT THING TO DO. SO I APPRECIATE THAT WE'RE TRYING TO LAND ON THE BEST APPROACH BY ENGAGING MULTIPLE DEPARTMENTS, MEDICAL EXPERTS, BUSINESS STAKEHOLDERS, LEGAL ADVOCATES, NONPROFIT AGENCIES, ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, THE WORKERS THEMSELVES, AS WELL AS CONSUMERS, BECAUSE, AGAIN,

FIGURING OUT A WAY TO ENFORCE THIS ACROSS THE BOARD IS WHAT WILL BRING THE WORKFORCE TRUE RELIEF. SO THANK YOU FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP IN TODAY'S MOTION.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. SUPERVISOR SOLIS?

SUP. SOLIS: YES, THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR, AND I ALSO WANT TO COMMEND YOU FOR BRINGING THIS MOTION FORWARD, BUT ALSO BUILDING ON THE WORK THAT YOU STARTED LAST JUNE, TO HELP RAISE AWARENESS REGARDING THIS DEADLY DISEASE. AS FORMER SECRETARY OF LABOR, BUT ALSO AS FORMER STATE SENATE CHAIR OF THE INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE, WE KNEW FIRSTHAND HOW CRITICALLY IMPORTANT IT WAS TO PROTECT WORKERS IN THESE VERY SERIOUS INDUSTRIES, WHERE HARM CAN HAVE LASTING IMPACT, AND EVEN IN SOME CASES LOSING YOUR LIVELIHOOD, IN ADDITION TO MANY OTHER THINGS. AND WORKPLACE OCCUPATIONAL HAZARDS CONTINUE TO ABOUND, AND I'M HAPPY THAT THE STATE HAS ALREADY BEGUN ACTING, AND CAL/O.S.H.A. IS IMPLEMENTING EMERGENCY TEMPORARY STANDARDS. AND I AGREE WITH YOU, SUPERVISOR MITCHELL, THAT ENFORCEMENT IS VERY IMPORTANT, PENALTIES, AND MAKING SURE THAT PEOPLE CAN REPORT THESE KINDS OF ABUSES ARE REALLY CRITICAL, AS WELL; EDUCATING THE PUBLIC ABOUT WHERE THINGS ARE GOING ON, IF THERE ISN'T DECENT PROTECTION FOR WORKERS IN THE WORKPLACE, AND THAT MEANS ARMING THEM WITH THE RIGHT RESPIRATORY EQUIPMENT AND CLOTHING, AND EVERYTHING THAT GOES INTO THAT.

AND I'M GLAD TO SEE THAT THIS EFFORT WILL REQUIRE COLLABORATION WITH ALL OUR HEALTH DEPARTMENTS AND OUR BUSINESS COMMUNITY, BUT KNOWING FULLY THAT, SOMETIMES, THERE ARE UNSCRUPULOUS EMPLOYERS WHO WILL DO THE WRONG THING, AND WON'T WANT TO GIVE THE KIND OF PROTECTION AND INFORMATION FOR EMPLOYEES. THAT HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE CASE. SO GETTING GOOD LAWS ON THE BOOK, AND GETTING ENFORCEMENT OUT THERE, AND THE EFFORTS THAT WE CAN WORK HAND-IN-HAND WITH THESE PEOPLE THAT ARE EMPLOYED IN THIS INDUSTRY IS VERY IMPORTANT. I AGREE WITH YOU THAT A MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE IN THIS AREA THAT WORK THERE-- STONECUTTERS, AND WHAT HAVE YOU-- ARE HEAVILY REPRESENTED BY THE LATINO COMMUNITY, ALSO IN OUR DISTRICTS, IN EAST LOS ANGELES AND IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS, AND I KNOW IN S.E.L.A., SO WE SHARE AN INTEREST HERE. SO THANK YOU FOR BRINGING THIS FORWARD. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. SEEING NO OTHER SPEAKERS IN THE QUEUE, EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PLEASE CALL THE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO HAVE SIGNED UP TO SPEAK ON THIS ITEM.

SPEAKER: MADAM CHAIR, THERE ARE NO IN-PERSON SPEAKERS THAT HAVE SIGNED UP FOR THIS ITEM. AS A FINAL REMINDER FOR PARTICIPANTS ON THE TELEPHONE, IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS ITEM 24, IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO, PLEASE PRESS 1 THEN

0 NOW TO BE PLACED IN THE SPEAKING QUEUE. MODERATOR, MAY WE HAVE THE FIRST SPEAKER, PLEASE?

MODERATOR: OUR FIRST SPEAKER IS JANE FAZIO. PLEASE GO AHEAD. YOUR LINE IS OPEN.

DR. JANE FAZIO: HI. THANK YOU. FIRST, I'D LIKE TO THANK THE BOARD FOR ALLOWING ME TO SPEAK. MY NAME IS JANE FAZIO. I'M A PHYSICIAN. I'M ACTUALLY THE PRIMARY LUNG DOCTOR THAT'S SEEN MANY OF THESE CASES OF SILICOSIS HERE IN THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY, UP AT OLIVE VIEW, AND I ALSO WORK AT U.C.L.A. SO, I JUST WANTED TO GIVE A QUICK COMMENT IN SUPPORT OF ITEM 24, THE SILICOSIS PREVENTION EDUCATION ITEM, AND A LITTLE BIT OF CONTEXT. TWO YEARS AGO, WE STARTED TO SEE AN UPTICK IN THE CASES OF SILICOSIS AMONG THOSE WORKING IN STONE COUNTERTOP FABRICATION, AND TODAY THE NUMBERS CONTINUE TO CLIMB. THEY'VE DOUBLED IN THE LAST YEAR TO OVER 100, AND I CONTINUE TO SEE LIVES LOST DUE TO DISEASE. I ALSO WANT TO SAY THAT I'VE BEEN ON THE GROUND WITH L.A.D.P.H. [INAUDIBLE], AS WELL AS MY RESEARCH TEAM, DOING OUTREACH, AND HAVE PERSONALLY BEEN TO THE SHOPS THAT ARE DOING THIS WORK, AND HAVE INTERVIEWED MANY WORKERS IN DEPTH. THE OUTREACH TEAM HAS GOTTEN THE WORKERS' ATTENTION. THEY'VE VISITED OVER 100 SHOPS, AND THE WORKERS NOW KNOW A LOT MORE ABOUT UNSAFE PRACTICES, BUT THIS NEEDS--

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED. MODERATOR, NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

DR. JANE FAZIO: THANK YOU SO MUCH.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT SPEAKER IS PAUL HENNESSY. PLEASE GO AHEAD. YOUR LINE IS OPEN.

SPEAKER: HI. I KNOW SOMEONE WITH SILICOSIS, AND AFTER WORKING WITH THIS DANGEROUS DUST, IT'S DAMAGED HIS LUNGS. SO, WHILE I SUPPORT THE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR EDUCATION, I ALSO WANT TO URGE THE NEED FOR CLEAN AIR TOOLS IN PUBLIC SPACES, WHICH WILL HELP REDUCE SILICA AND OTHER HARMFUL ELEMENTS IN THE AIR. MY FRIEND'S SILICOSIS WAS EXACERBATED BY A C.O.V.I.D. INFECTION, WHICH DAMAGED HIS LUNGS TO THE POINT OF NEEDING A PERMANENT OXYGEN TANK. SO IN TREATING THOSE WITH SILICOSIS, RESPIRATOR MANDATES IN HEALTHCARE NEED TO BE CONSIDERED, BECAUSE UNNECESSARY C.O.V.I.D. INFECTIONS HAVE BEEN PROVEN TO WORSEN THE SYMPTOMS OF SILICOSIS. CLEAN AIR IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND MEDICAL SETTINGS, ALONG WITH RESPIRATORS, WILL PROTECT THOSE WORKERS WHO ARE WORKING WITH THE DANGEROUS ELEMENT. THANK YOU.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT SPEAKER IS JIM HIEB. PLEASE GO AHEAD. YOUR LINE IS OPEN.

JIM HIEB: GOOD AFTERNOON. MY NAME IS JIM HIEB, AND I'M THE C.E.O. FOR THE NATURAL STONE INSTITUTE, A LEADING TRADE ASSOCIATION SERVING THE NATURAL STONE INDUSTRY, WITH THE LARGEST PORTION OF OUR MEMBERSHIP BEING COUNTERTOP FABRICATORS. WE PUBLISH TECHNICAL STANDARDS AND HAVE AN EXTENSIVE LIBRARY OF SAFETY TRAINING RESOURCES, AND HAVE BEEN A PARTNER WITH GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES FOR SEVERAL DECADES. I SPEAK IN SUPPORT OF SUPERVISOR HORVATH'S RECOMMENDATIONS TO PRIORITIZE WORKER SAFETY, AND ITEM 24 IS AN IMPORTANT STEP TOWARD ADDRESSING SILICOSIS PREVENTION THROUGH EDUCATION, OUTREACH, AND COLLABORATION WITH VARIOUS STAKEHOLDERS. THE DIRECTION YOU ARE MAKING TO INSTRUCT THE DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY TO CONVENE STAKEHOLDERS, WHICH INCLUDES INDUSTRY TRADE GROUPS, TO DISCUSS AND COORDINATE ADDITIONAL OUTREACH STRATEGIES IS CRITICAL. WHILE WE NEED MORE ENFORCEMENT WITH NEGLIGENT AND UNCOOPERATIVE FABRICATORS, THROUGH THIS OUTREACH OUTLINED IN ITEM 24, WE WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE TRAINING RESOURCES, WHICH INCLUDES ADHERENCE TO SAFETY PROTOCOLS, AIR TESTING, ENGINEERING CONTROLS, P.P.U.S, AND ET CETERA. WE ALSO SUPPORT--

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED. MODERATOR, NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

JIM HIEB: THANK YOU.

MODERATOR: AND WE HAVE NO FURTHER REMOTE SPEAKERS IN QUEUE.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. ITEM 24 IS BEFORE US. I WILL MOVE IT, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR MITCHELL TO APPROVE THE ITEM. EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PLEASE CALL THE ROLL.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: ITEM BEFORE IS BEFORE YOU. SUPERVISOR SOLIS?

SUP. SOLIS: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR SOLIS, AYE. SUPERVISOR MITCHELL?

SUP. MITCHELL: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR MITCHELL, AYE. SUPERVISOR HAHN?

SUP. HAHN: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR HAHN, AYE. SUPERVISOR BARGER?

SUP. BARGER: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR BARGER, AYE. SUPERVISOR HORVATH?

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR HORVATH, AYE. MOTION CARRIES, 5-0.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: I'M GLAD EVERYONE REMEMBERED WHO THEY WERE ON THIS TIME AROUND. THAT'S GREAT. AND NOW WE'LL MOVE ON TO AGENDA ITEM 27, DELAYING IMPLEMENTATION OF SENATE BILL 43 IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY, WHICH WAS HELD BY SUPERVISOR BARGER. FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ON THE TELEPHONE, PLEASE PRESS 1 THEN 0 NOW TO COMMENT ON THIS ITEM. I BELIEVE DR. WONG, FROM OUR DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH, IS AVAILABLE; DR. GHALY, FROM D.H.S.; DR. TSAI, OUR DIRECTOR OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION AND CONTROL, FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH, ARE ALL AVAILABLE IF WE HAVE QUESTIONS. I BELIEVE SUPERVISOR BARGER DOES HAVE A FEW, SO WE'LL GIVE THEM TIME TO TAKE THEIR SEATS, AND I'LL TURN IT OVER TO YOU, SUPERVISOR BARGER.

SUP. BARGER: THANK YOU, AND THANK YOU ALL. I KNOW IT'S LATE IN THE AFTERNOON, SO I'LL MAKE THIS QUICK. DR. WONG, COULD YOU BRIEFLY DISCUSS THE COUNTY'S HISTORY OF SUPPORTING THE GRAVE DISABILITY REFORM, AND OTHER STAKEHOLDER GROUPS, LIKE N.A.M.I., WHO HAVE SUPPORTED IT?

DR. LISA WONG: WE'VE HAD A HISTORY OF SUPPORTING L.P.S. REFORM, AND THE LAST TIME THERE HAVE BEEN SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES TO L.P.S. WAS ABOUT 60 YEARS AGO, SO WE KNOW THAT THERE IS A NEED FOR CARING FOR THE MOST VULNERABLE IN OUR COUNTY. AND I KNOW THAT OUR PARTNERS AT NAMI, MANY OF WHOM ARE PARENTS OF PEOPLE WHO ARE LIVING WITH SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS, ARE ALSO LOOKING FOR SOME RELIEF, IN TERMS OF L.P.S. CRITERIA.

SUP. BARGER: AND THEN, TO BOTH YOU AND D.P.H., I APPRECIATE THE REPORT YOUR DEPARTMENT COMPILED, OUTLINING THE CHALLENGES AND CHANGES IN INVESTMENTS THE COUNTY MUST TAKE TO APPROPRIATELY IMPLEMENT S.B. 43. COULD YOU EACH BRIEFLY WALK THROUGH WHAT THESE CHANGES ARE FOR US, SO THAT WE MOST EFFECTIVELY IMPLEMENT THIS LAW WHEN IT NEEDS TO BE CHANGED?

DR. LISA WONG: DO YOU WANT TO GO FIRST, DR. TSAI, OR DO YOU WANT ME TO? YOU CAN START WITH SUBSTANCE USE.

DR. GARY TSAI: SURE. SO, ONE OF THE EXPANDED COMPONENTS OF REDEFINING GRAVE DISABILITY UNDER SENATE BILL 43 IS THE INCLUSION OF SEVERE SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS. AND WE HAVE A LOT OF WORK THAT WE HAVE TO DO AROUND THAT, GIVEN THE FACT THAT THERE IS NO MODEL FOR INVOLUNTARY S.U.D. CARE. WHILE THERE ARE DRUG COURTS TODAY, DRUG COURTS ARE CONSIDERED VOLUNTARY. AND SO, FROM THE LICENSURE OF FACILITIES, FOR EXAMPLE, IN CALIFORNIA THERE ARE NO L.P.S.-DESIGNATED SPECIALTY SUBSTANCE USE TREATMENT FACILITIES. AND SO WE WOULD NEED TO EXPLORE, IF THERE'S GOING TO BE NEW CERTIFICATIONS FOR THAT, HOW WE WOULD BUILD THAT CAPACITY WITHIN LOS ANGELES COUNTY, FROM A TRAINING PERSPECTIVE. OUR WORKFORCE, ON ESPECIALLY THE SUBSTANCE USE SIDE, BECAUSE THERE IS NO INVOLUNTARY [INAUDIBLE] UNFAMILIAR WITH JUST GENERAL L.P.S. LAWS-- 5150'S, 5250'S-- THOSE ARE ALL ASPECTS OF TRAINING THAT WILL BE IMPORTANT FOR US, AND THEN WORKING WITH D.M.H. AROUND ENSURING APPROPRIATE CARE FOR PEOPLE WITH CO-OCCURRING CONDITIONS. THE OTHER THING THAT I WOULD JUST HIGHLIGHT IS ALSO THE IMPORTANCE OF IMPLEMENTING THIS EXPANDED GRAVE DISABILITY, THOUGHTFULLY. WE DO HAVE SOME SIGNIFICANT CONCERNS ABOUT DRIVING PEOPLE WHO USE DRUGS, AND PEOPLE WITH SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS, FURTHER INTO THE SHADOWS IF IT TURNS OUT THAT A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE BEING PLACED ON HOLDS INAPPROPRIATELY, OR THAT IT'S BEING DONE IN A WAY THAT'S NOT CONSISTENT WITH EQUITY. AND SO I THINK THAT THOSE ARE SOME

REALLY CRITICAL CONSIDERATIONS THAT WE'LL NEED TO APPROACH THOUGHTFULLY, AS WE MOVE FORWARD WITH IMPLEMENTATION.

SUP. BARGER: DOES THE STATE DO THE CERTIFICATION, OR DOES THE COUNTY CERTIFY FACILITIES?

DR. LISA WONG: THE STATE DOES THE...

SUP. BARGER: OKAY, SO I WOULD THINK THAT THAT'S NOT GOING TO BE INSURMOUNTABLE. BUT HAVING SAID THAT, I DO APPRECIATE WHAT YOU'RE SAYING REGARDING PUSHING THEM INTO THE SHADOWS, IN TERMS OF THOSE THAT HAVE SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROBLEMS. BUT MY IMPRESSION WAS THAT IT WAS A CHECKS AND BALANCE. YOU JUST CAN'T PUT SOMEONE INTO THE SYSTEM. THERE ARE SAFEGUARDS TO ENSURE THAT IT'S NOT USED AS A WEAPON, OR WEAPONIZED.

DR. GARY TSAI: THOSE ARE SOME OF THE DETAILS THAT I THINK WE NEED TO SORT THROUGH WITH IMPLEMENTATION, BECAUSE THE DEFINITION OF SEVERE SUBSTANCE ABUSE DISORDER IS ACTUALLY FAIRLY BROAD IN THE WAY THAT IT'S DEFINED IN THE BILL. AND SO I THINK THERE ARE SOME OPERATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS TO THAT.

DR. LISA WONG: AND WE HAVE SEEN, ALREADY, AMONGST THE DIFFERENT LAW ENFORCEMENT PARTNERS THAT WE HAVE, THERE'S ALREADY VARIED INTERPRETATIONS OF WHAT COMPRISES A VERY

SERIOUS SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER. SO I THINK ONE OF THE MAJOR TASKS THAT WE HAVE BEFORE US IS COMING TO AN AGREED-UPON, VERY CLEAR DEFINITION OF WHAT GRAVE DISABILITY IS GOING TO BE. SO THERE NEEDS TO BE AGREEMENT BETWEEN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, INCLUDING OUR PARTNERS AT S.A.P.C. AND THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC GUARDIAN, AS WELL AS OTHER ENTITIES, LIKE HOSPITALS, OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT PARTNERS, BECAUSE IT WOULD BE A VERY CHAOTIC SYSTEM IF, LET'S SAY, SOMEBODY USED ONE CRITERIA TO 5150 SOMEBODY, AND THEN THE PERSON AT THE HOSPITAL IS EVALUATING BY A DIFFERENT CRITERIA, AND THEN THEY COME UP FOR CONSERVATORSHIP, AND THE O.P.G. HAS A DIFFERENT CRITERIA. SO WE HAVE TO GET THOSE IN ALIGNMENT.

SUP. BARGER: AND I APPRECIATE IT, AND THAT'S A GOOD LEAD-IN TO THE QUESTION FOR YOU, DR. GHALY. BUT I WOULD ARGUE THAT, EVEN UNDER THE DEFINITION OF GRAVELY DISABLED NOW-- "A DANGER TO SELF OR OTHERS"-- WHEN YOU WANT TO 5150 SOMEONE, DIFFERENT AGENCIES WILL INTERPRET THAT BASED ON ACCESS TO BEDS. AND IF THEY TRULY ARE A DANGER TO THEMSELVES, THEY'LL TAKE THEM IN. BUT IF THEY FEEL THAT JUST DROP THEM AT A SHELTER AND THEY'LL BE OKAY, BECAUSE THEY KNOW THAT IF THEY TRY TO FIND A BED, IT'S GOING TO TAKE 8 HOURS, THEY MIGHT INTERPRET-- I MEAN, BECAUSE I'VE TALKED TO AGENCIES, AND EACH ONE WILL LOOSEN THE CRITERIA IF IT'S BASED ON RESOURCES. BUT HAVING SAID THAT, I RECOGNIZE THAT AN INCREASE IN CONSERVATORSHIPS WILL LEAD TO

MORE PATIENTS BEING PUT ON HOLD IN OUR HOSPITAL BEDS, BOTH OUR COUNTY HOSPITALS AND OUR PRIVATE HOSPITALS. AND MANY OF OUR PRIVATE HOSPITALS, WE'VE TALKED ABOUT, TRANSFER THEM TO THE COUNTY ONCE THEY STABILIZE THEM. AND SO CAN YOU SPEAK TO THE EXPECTED IMPACT ON HOW A DELAYED IMPLEMENTATION WILL HELP US BETTER PREPARE TO SERVE THESE PATIENTS?

DR. CHRISTINA GHALY: THANK YOU, SUPERVISOR. I THINK THE DELAY WOULD ALLOW OPPORTUNITY TO DO, REALLY, TWO KEY THINGS, AND ONE IS WHAT DR. TSAI AND DR. WONG WERE JUST REFERRING TO, WHICH IS CLARITY AND CLARIFICATION OF WHAT THE CRITERIA MEAN, AND TRYING TO PROVIDE SOME REAL-LIFE EXAMPLES AND CASE STUDIES, SO THAT THOSE CRITERIA CAN BE APPLIED AS CONSISTENTLY AS POSSIBLE BETWEEN SITES. I THINK YOU'RE RIGHT, THAT DIFFERENT HOSPITALS AND SITES AND CLINICS TEND TO HAVE DIFFERENT TEMPERAMENTS AND PERSONALITIES WHEN THEY'RE APPLYING THE CRITERIA, BASED ON A VARIETY OF FACTORS, AND IT WOULD BE NICE TO TRY TO GET CLARITY ABOUT WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO HAVE A SERIOUS SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER? WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO NOT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE FOR YOUR MEDICAL CARE? WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO NOT BE ABLE TO ENSURE YOUR PERSONAL SAFETY? AND TO HAVE SOME REAL-LIFE EXAMPLES, SO THAT THE CLINICIANS HAVE SOME GUIDELINES TO GO WITH. AND THEN THE SECOND THING THAT THE DELAY WILL BE ABLE TO DO, HOPEFULLY, IS TO BE ABLE TO BUILD UP THAT TREATMENT CAPACITY THAT'S SO DESPERATELY NEEDED WITHIN THE COMMUNITY. DR. TSAI MENTIONED

THIS, BUT THERE'S A LACK OF SUBSTANCE-USE-ONLY TREATMENT BEDS; TIME TO BUILD THOSE UP. AND THEN TIME, JUST AS THE COUNTY HAS ALREADY BEEN DOING, BUT PUTTING AN EMPHASIS INTO BUILDING UP THE SUBACUTE MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES THAT ARE NEEDED. BECAUSE WHAT HOSPITALS, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE, WILL BE EXPERIENCING IS MORE AND MORE PATIENTS BEING BROUGHT IN, POTENTIALLY MEETING CRITERIA FOR A HOLD, AND THEN HAVING A DECISION POINT WHERE THE PATIENT POTENTIALLY NEEDS TO BE ADMITTED FOR LONGER-TERM EVALUATION, BUT THERE'S NO BED AVAILABLE. AND THERE'S NO BED AVAILABLE BECAUSE THERE ARE SO MANY PATIENTS THAT ARE BACKED UP IN THE SYSTEM, BECAUSE THEY'RE UNABLE TO GET INTO A SUBACUTE PLACEMENT. SO THE COUNTY'S EMPHASIS, RIGHTLY SO, ON BUILDING UP THOSE SUBACUTE BEDS IS REALLY DESPERATELY NEEDED, SO THAT WE DON'T BACK UP ALL THOSE PATIENTS IN THE E.R., OR INAPPROPRIATELY DISCHARGE.

SUP. BARGER: SO THE QUESTION IS ACROSS THE BOARD. IT'S NOT JUST MENTAL HEALTH. HEALTH HAS CONCERNS, PUBLIC HEALTH HAS CONCERNS, ABOUT OUR ABILITY TO IMPLEMENT THIS. YOU KNOW, I WANT TO THANK THE STATE FOR PASSING THE LANDMARK LEGISLATION. CLEARLY, AS I'VE SAID, 20 YEARS AGO, YOU COULDN'T GET ANYONE TO EVEN DISCUSS, EVEN TALKING ABOUT REFORM L.P.S., AND NOW IT IS FRONT AND CENTER, IN TERMS OF WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE. AND THIS IS SOMETHING I'VE ADVOCATED FOR MANY YEARS, EVEN BEFORE I WAS ELECTED TO OFFICE. IF YOU SPEND ANY TIME WITH FAMILY

MEMBERS AND THOSE SUFFERING FROM SEVERE MENTAL ILLNESS, IT IS EVIDENT THAT THE EXISTING LAW GOVERNING MENTAL HEALTHCARE HAS BEEN INADEQUATE ENSURING NECESSARY CARE IS AVAILABLE TO ALL THAT NEED IT. IT IS IN THIS SPIRIT THAT 5 YEARS AGO, I AUTHORED A MOTION TO INITIATE THE COUNTY SPONSORSHIP OF LEGISLATION TO CHANGE THE L.P.S. SHORT ACT, AN EFFORT THIS COUNTY WAS STRONGLY BEHIND. WE ALSO RECOGNIZE THAT EXPANDING BED CAPACITY IS ESSENTIAL TO THIS, WHICH IS WHY I'M GLAD THAT THE STATE HAS SUBMITTED AN I.M.D. WAIVER APPLICATION TO BEGIN THE PROCESS OF REMOVING RESTRICTIONS ON OUR MENTAL HEALTH BED EXPANSION. THIS BOARD HAS TAKEN A POSITION IN SUPPORT OF APPLYING FOR AN I.M.D. WAIVER, AND I WOULD BRING IN A MOTION AT THE FIRST BOARD MEETING IN 2024 TO SUPPORT THE STATE'S I.M.D. WAIVER APPLICATION, BECAUSE I THINK IT'S IMPORTANT FOR US NOW TO ADVOCATE BACK IN WASHINGTON, BECAUSE I KNOW THAT THERE IS SOME PUSHBACK IN TERMS OF CONCERNS, BUT I WOULD ARGUE THAT WE CAN SHOW COST NEUTRALITY, WHEN YOU LOOK AT THE NUMBER OF VISITS AND THE REVOLVING DOOR WE'VE GOT GOING, AND THE FACT THAT MANY OF THESE PEOPLE END UP ON OUR STREETS. AND WITH THIS I.M.D. WAIVER, IT WILL ALLOW US TO ACTUALLY, AS I THINK YOU TALKED ABOUT, SUPERVISOR SOLIS, NOT ONLY IN-PATIENT, BUT BEYOND THE HOSPITAL, AND MAKING SURE THAT WE PROVIDE HOLISTIC SERVICES ACROSS THE BOARD, FIRST AND FOREMOST HOUSING. THE COUNTY KNOWS HOW DESPERATELY WE NEED THIS LEGISLATIVE CHANGE, AND WE HEAR DIRECTLY FROM OUR CONSTITUENTS HOW URGENT THE

MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS IS ACROSS OUR COMMUNITIES. BASED ON THE FEEDBACK FROM DEPARTMENTS, IT IS CLEAR THAT THERE IS UNCERTAINTY, AND I UNDERSTAND THAT, ON HOW LONG IT WILL TAKE TO BE READY FOR THE COUNTY SYSTEMS FOR THE CHANGE TO GRAVE DISABILITY. I'M TRYING TO RECONCILE SAN FRANCISCO AND SAN LUIS OBISPO. THE AUTHOR REPRESENTS SAN LUIS OBISPO. SAN FRANCISCO SAYS THAT THEY'LL BE READY TO BEGIN. AND I WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT THE BED CAPACITY IS NOT UNIQUE TO L.A. COUNTY. AND SO I GUESS MY LAST QUESTION WOULD BE, WHAT IS THE DOWNSIDE OF SAYING WE'RE GOING TO GO FORWARD WITH THE INTENTION WE'RE GOING TO START, AND IF WE CAN'T, WE CAN'T? BUT BY DELAYING TWO YEARS, ARE WE... I DON'T WANT TO SAY "KICKING THE CAN," BUT WHAT IS THE DOWNSIDE TO BEGINNING TO SLOWLY, PROGRESSIVELY, BRING IT ON BOARD?

DR. LISA WONG: I THINK THE DOWNSIDE, POTENTIALLY, IS THAT WE HAVE A VERY IMPACTED SYSTEM, ALREADY. SO IF WE FURTHER BRING IN THIS EXPANDED POPULATION, IT'S GOING TO CAUSE EVEN MORE OF A BOTTLENECK. AND WHAT I THINK WOULD BE HEARTBREAKING FOR ANY OF US TO SEE IS THOSE WHO ARE THE HIGHEST-ACUITY PEOPLE WAITING FOR A BED NOW, WHO WILL THEN HAVE MORE PEOPLE COMPETING FOR THAT SAME NUMBER OF BEDS. I THINK NONE OF US WANT TO SEE THIS PUT OFF, IN TERMS OF BEING ABLE TO HELP OUR HIGHEST-ACUITY FOLKS, BUT WE WANT TO GO ABOUT IT IN THE MOST, I THINK, RESPONSIBLE, THOUGHTFUL WAY POSSIBLE. AND I THINK

THAT'S ALSO WHY THIS LEGISLATION HAS THE LANGUAGE BUILT IN, TO ALLOW FOR 2026, BECAUSE IT'S SUCH A HUGE, LANDMARK CHANGE IN A GRAVE DISABILITY INTERPRETATION THAT IT'S GOING TO TAKE SOME TIME TO GET EVERYTHING TO A POINT WHERE WE CAN IMPLEMENT, I THINK, SAFELY AND EFFECTIVELY.

SUP. BARGER: AND I DON'T KNOW IF THIS WOULD BE YOU, AND THEN I'LL TURN IT OVER TO MY COLLEAGUES, BUT I KNOW THAT [INAUDIBLE] BROUGHT IN THE MOTION TO CONTRACT FOR 500 MENTAL HEALTH BEDS. WAS IT 500? AND I KNOW THAT WE ARE LOOKING AT CONTRACTING FOR BEDS IN THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY, WITH CHARTER OAKS. WHAT IS OUR ABILITY TO CONTRACT? I MEAN, WHERE ARE WE ON THE 500 BEDS? BECAUSE I FEEL LIKE WE'RE COMPETING FOR THE SAME BEDS. AND NOW WE ARE GOING TO BE LOOKING AT INCREASING FOR THIS POPULATION, AND I'M JUST WONDERING HOW WE'RE DOING ON THAT, AND IS THERE CAPACITY IN THE COMMUNITY?

DR. LISA WONG: I THINK THE CAPACITY IN THE COMMUNITY IS ALWAYS A CHALLENGE, ESPECIALLY BECAUSE THERE ARE SOME COMMUNITIES WHO DON'T WANT TO HAVE THESE KINDS OF FACILITIES IN THEIR SURROUNDS. THERE IS ROOM, THOUGH, TO EXPAND WHERE WE ALREADY HAVE A FOOTPRINT, AND WE ALSO ARE SPEAKING TO NEW PROVIDERS ALL THE TIME ABOUT, "WELL, WHAT WOULD IT TAKE FOR YOU TO BE ABLE TO STAND UP MORE?" FOR INSTANCE, JUST FROM JUNE 2022 UNTIL OCTOBER THIS YEAR, WE'VE ADDED OVER 800 BEDS TO OUR BEDS

IN D.M.H. SO WE HAVE A PLAN GOING FORWARD, A TIMELINE FOR WHEN ADDITIONAL BEDS WILL BE ADDED. WE ALSO HAVE FUNDING THAT'S COMING IN AT REGULAR INTERVALS, TO PAY FOR SOME OF THOSE ADDITIONAL BEDS. BUT IT'S NOT GOING TO BE IN TIME TO IMPLEMENT NEXT YEAR, OR EVEN 2025. I THINK A LOT OF OUR FUNDING IS GOING TO MEAN THAT OUR ADDITIONAL BEDS, SOME OF THEM, ESPECIALLY FOR THOSE HIGH-ACUITY SPOTS, WILL BE IN 2026 AND FURTHER BEYOND THAT.

SUP. BARGER: SO, BEYOND HOSPITALIZATION, AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY, AND THEN WHERE DO WE PLACE THEM, ONCE WE STABILIZE THEM? AND THEN I YIELD TO MY COLLEAGUES.

DR. LISA WONG: AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY IS VARIABLE, BECAUSE IT JUST DEPENDS ON THE INDIVIDUAL SITUATIONS. WE HAVE OUR CRISIS RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT PROGRAMS THAT CAN TAKE PEOPLE COMING OUT OF HOSPITALIZATION, WHO AREN'T QUITE STABLE YET, UP TO ABOUT 30 DAYS. THEY CAN BE EXTENDED A LITTLE BIT BEYOND THAT. A LOT OF IT IS, I THINK, DICTATED BY AVAILABILITY, UNFORTUNATELY, AND BY, AS YOU MENTIONED BEFORE, TEMPERAMENT. SO TO SAY WHAT SOMEBODY TRULY NEEDS, I THINK THAT PEOPLE TRULY DO NEED MORE CARE IN THAT IN-BETWEEN SPACE BETWEEN ACUTE CARE AND BEING ON THEIR OWN, AND I THINK THAT'S REALLY THE CHALLENGE FOR US, TO BUILD THAT OUT AND HAVE THE SERVICE CAPACITY TO BACK THAT UP.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: SUPERVISOR HAHN?

SUP. HAHN: THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR. I MEAN, I UNDERSTAND THAT EXPANDING THE DEFINITION OF THE GRAVELY DISABLED TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR CONSERVATORSHIP IS THE POINT OF THIS LEGISLATION, AND I REALIZE THAT THAT PRESENTS A HEAVY LIFT TO EVERYONE TO IMPLEMENT IT. BUT I THINK I SHARE THOSE WHO WERE BEHIND THIS, THAT IT DOES HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO SAVE LIVES. AND I KNOW YOU ALL AGREE WITH THAT, AS WELL. AND I SIT HERE TODAY AND AM WORRIED ABOUT THE CONSEQUENCES OF DELAYING THIS FOR TWO YEARS. THESE PEOPLE ARE FACING SEVERE MENTAL ILLNESS, SEVERE SUBSTANCE USE ADDICTION, AND WHO ARE ON OUR STREETS, AND ARE UNABLE TO TAKE CARE OF THEMSELVES, AND I'M NOT SURE THEY'RE GOING TO SURVIVE FOR TWO YEARS. SO LET ME JUST ASK SOME QUESTIONS, DR. TSAI. SO, ONE OF THE THINGS I WAS THINKING ABOUT, BECAUSE A COUPLE STORIES HAVE COME OUT, BEEN HEARING ABOUT IT RECENTLY, THAT FENTANYL IS NOW BECOMING THE LEADING CAUSE OF DRUG OVERDOSES IN L.A. COUNTY. SOME OF THESE PEOPLE ARE IN OUR JAILS, BUT MANY OF THEM ARE ON OUR STREETS. AND THE OVERALL NUMBER OF OVERDOSES HAS INCREASED EVERY YEAR, FOR THE LAST 7 YEARS. IN 2022, WE LOST OVER 3,200 L.A. COUNTY RESIDENTS TO DRUG OVERDOSES. AND I HEAR YOUR CONCERNS. I HEAR EVERYONE'S THOUGHTFULNESS ABOUT NOT WANTING TO IMPLEMENT THIS TOO SOON, BUT DON'T WE NEED TO WEIGH THAT AGAINST THE CONSEQUENCES OF DELAYING THIS AND CONTINUING? I'M

JUST GOING TO CALL IT: IT'S A STATUS QUO. AND I THINK THAT'S WHAT WE ARE ALSO HEARING FROM THE PUBLIC, IS THEY'RE LIKE, "WHATEVER YOU'RE DOING, IT'S NOT WORKING. WE'RE STILL SEEING PEOPLE ON OUR STREETS, SEVERELY CHALLENGED WITH MENTAL ILLNESS AND DRUG ABUSE." ARE YOU CONCERNED, DR. TSAI, THAT WAITING TWO YEARS, WE COULD LOSE LIVES?

DR. GARY TSAI: WE CERTAINLY FEEL THE URGENCY AROUND THE EVER-INCREASING DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS HAPPENING ACROSS THE COUNTY, AND WE CERTAINLY AGREE THAT THE STATUS QUO IS NOT ACCEPTABLE. THERE ARE A NUMBER OF NEW INITIATIVES AND APPROACHES THAT WE'RE TAKING, TO TRY TO TAKE A DIFFERENT APPROACH TO ADDRESS THIS LONG-STANDING ISSUE. ONE OF THEM HAS BEEN SUPPORTED BY THE BOARD, RECENTLY, IN TERMS OF BETTER REACHING THE 95% MOTION, WHICH FOCUSES ON HOW WE CONSTRUCT A SUBSTANCE USE SYSTEM THAT'S DESIGNED NOT JUST FOR THE 5% OF PEOPLE WITH SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS WHO ARE KNOCKING ON OUR TREATMENT DOORS, BUT FOR THE 95% OF PEOPLE WHO SHOULD BE, BUT AREN'T. AND THAT INVOLVES DOING MORE OUTREACH. THAT INVOLVES CREATING SETTINGS THAT PEOPLE WANT TO PARTICIPATE IN, SERVICES THAT PEOPLE ARE INTERESTED IN, AND ULTIMATELY EXPANDING A CAPACITY AND ACCESS TO SERVICES. I DO THINK THAT SENATE BILL 43, INVOLUNTARY SUBSTANCE USE SERVICES, CAN BE AN IMPORTANT COMPONENT OF THAT. I ALSO THINK THAT IT'S IMPORTANT HOW WE APPROACH THAT. SO, FROM A CLINICAL PERSPECTIVE, WHEN SOMEONE

IS INTOXICATED, IT'S VERY EASY TO DETERMINE THAT THEY'RE UNABLE TO MAKE REASONABLE HEALTH DECISIONS. HOWEVER, PEOPLE CAN BECOME SOBER RELATIVELY QUICKLY-- A MATTER OF HOURS, KIND OF DEPENDING ON THE SUBSTANCE-- AND AT THAT POINT, I THINK THAT THE QUESTION THAT WE'LL HAVE TO WORK THROUGH, IN TERMS OF SENATE BILL 43 IMPLEMENTATION IS, WHEN DO WE DETERMINE SOMEONE NO LONGER CAN MAKE REASONABLE HEALTH DECISIONS, EVEN IF THEY'RE NO LONGER INTOXICATED, AND CLEARLY ABLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS ABOUT WHERE THEY WOULD STAY, HOW THEY WOULD FEED THEMSELVES, HOW THEY WOULD CLOTHE THEMSELVES? THOSE ARE JUST ISSUES THAT WE HAVEN'T DEALT WITH. BUT I CERTAINLY RECOGNIZE THE BALANCE, IN TERMS OF WANTING--

SUP. HAHN: SO THE ANSWER IS NO, YOU'RE NOT CONCERNED THAT WE'RE GOING TO LOSE LIVES BY DELAYING THIS TWO YEARS.

DR. GARY TSAI: I THINK THAT WE DO FEEL URGENCY, AND WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT PEOPLE WHO ARE UNABLE TO ACCESS SERVICES, FOR WHATEVER REASON.

SUP. HAHN: RIGHT. OKAY. AND THAT'S WHAT I'M CONCERNED ABOUT. I KNOW, DR. WONG, YOU WERE SAYING PART OF WHY YOU WANT TO DELAY IT IS SO THAT WE CAN HAVE A BETTER SENSE OF THE DEFINITION, AND HAVE CONSISTENCY. BUT, AGAIN, I WOULD POINT TO SAN

FRANCISCO. HOW ARE THEY GOING FORWARD WITH THAT SPECIFIC THING, THE DEFINITION? HOW ARE THEY ABLE TO DO THIS?

DR. LISA WONG: THIS IS SOMETHING THAT SAN FRANCISCO HAS, I THINK, BEEN TRYING TO IMPLEMENT FOR A WHILE, SO THEY'VE HAD A LITTLE BIT MORE TIME WITH IT. BUT ALSO, THEY HAVE RECOGNIZED THAT THEY DON'T HAVE THE APPROPRIATE TREATMENT FACILITIES OR ANYTHING TO START WITH, SO THEY'RE NOT SURE HOW THEY'RE GOING TO HANDLE THIS WHEN IT IMPLEMENTS. AND I THINK, YOU KNOW, SAN FRANCISCO, AS A COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, IS ACTUALLY ONLY A CITY, AND IT'S A VERY DIFFERENT SCALE THAN WHAT WE HAVE HERE IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY. AND I THINK THAT, FOR US, THE IMPLEMENTATION MATTERS, NOT JUST BECAUSE OF FINDING A COMMON DEFINITION. IT REALLY IS THE COMMON DEFINITION, NECESSARY TRAINING, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, THE CAPACITY-BUILDING. WE CAN CERTAINLY START IN JANUARY, AND EXPAND THAT DEFINITION, AND START HAVING PEOPLE 5150'D FOR S.U.D. ONLY. BUT IF WE HAVE ONLY A FINITE NUMBER OF BEDS AT THIS POINT, THAT PERSON BEING HOSPITALIZED FOR THAT PURPOSE WILL NOT ONLY, PERHAPS, NOT GET THE APPROPRIATE TREATMENT, THEY WILL ALSO TAKE THE BED OF SOMEBODY ELSE WHO COULD BE HIGHER-ACUITY, AND ALSO IN DANGER OF HAVING AN ADVERSE OUTCOME, AND THAT'S NOT WHAT WE WANT TO SEE.

SUP. HAHN: I KIND OF FEEL LIKE WHENEVER WE IMPLEMENT THIS, WE'RE GOING TO HAVE THAT PROBLEM, BECAUSE WE ALL KNOW WE'RE NEVER GOING TO BE ABLE TO HAVE THE CAPACITY THAT WE SORT OF NEED FOR ALL OF OUR ISSUES. SO I KIND OF FEEL THAT'S GOING TO BE AN ISSUE, AND WE'RE JUST GOING TO ALL HAVE TO FIGURE THAT OUT. I MEAN, I THINK, SITTING HERE, I'M FEELING LIKE, YOU KNOW, WE DECLARED A STATE OF EMERGENCY IN THE COUNTY FOR THOSE LIVING IN OUR STREETS. THE CITY DID THE SAME THING. I FEEL LIKE C.A.R.E. COURT, SOME OF THESE OTHER THINGS, IS IN LINE WITH THIS IDEA THAT IT'S ALL HANDS ON DECK FOR THESE PEOPLE ON OUR STREETS, WHO ARE SEVERELY CHALLENGED WITH MENTAL ILLNESS AND DRUG ADDICTION, AND WE HAVE TO USE EVERY TOOL POSSIBLE TO HELP THESE PEOPLE. AND I KNOW THE LAW SAYS THAT-- I MEAN, WE ALL HAVE TO IMPLEMENT IT, RIGHT? EVERY COUNTY HAS TO IMPLEMENT THIS, BUT THE LAW ALLOWS US TO DELAY IT FOR TWO YEARS. BUT EVEN THE GOVERNOR, I THINK HE ISSUED A STATEMENT BEING DISAPPOINTED IN US AND THE COUNTIES THAT ARE NOT TREATING THE SITUATION WITH MORE URGENCY. AND I WILL SAY, TO THE BENEFIT OF ALL OF OUR COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, IT SEEMS LIKE WHEN WE GIVE OUR COUNTY DEPARTMENTS A DEADLINE, THEY MEET IT. I MEAN, IF IT'S TWO YEARS, YOU'RE GOING TO MEET IT. IF IT WAS ONE YEAR, I'M PRETTY SURE YOU WERE GOING TO MEET IT. C.A.R.E. COURT WAS A GOOD EXAMPLE. WE WEREN'T REALLY SURE IF WE WERE GOING TO BE ABLE TO DO IT, BUT EVERYBODY CAME TOGETHER, AND WE MET THAT DEADLINE. AND I THINK IT'S LIKE, IF WE GIVE YOU TWO YEARS, IT

WILL BE TWO YEARS. IF WE ONLY HAD GIVEN YOU ONE YEAR, I FEEL LIKE IT WOULD HAVE BEEN ONE YEAR THAT YOU WOULD HAVE COME TOGETHER AND FIGURED OUT HOW TO DO THIS. I'M JUST NOT COMFORTABLE, COLLEAGUES. I HAVEN'T REALLY SPOKEN TO THE REST OF YOU ABOUT THIS, BUT I'M NOT COMFORTABLE POSTPONING IT FOR TWO YEARS. I JUST FEEL-- AND I KNOW. IT'S NOT EVEN "FEEL." I KNOW THERE ARE PEOPLE ON OUR STREETS WHO ARE NOT GOING TO SURVIVE, AND MAYBE WOULD HAVE A CHANCE IF WE IMPLEMENTED THIS SOONER, TO HELP THEM GET THE TREATMENT THAT THEY NEED. SO I'M NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO SUPPORT THIS MOTION AS IT IS. I WISH THERE WERE ANOTHER OPTION ON THE TABLE TODAY. BUT TWO YEARS? I MEAN, JANUARY OF 2024 OR TWO YEARS? I THINK BOTH OF THOSE ARE BAD OPTIONS FOR US, SO I CAN'T SUPPORT THIS ONE AS IT IS. THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: SUPERVISOR MITCHELL?

SUP. MITCHELL: THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MADAM CHAIR. YOU KNOW, I JUST HAVE TO SAY, WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, I DON'T SEE THIS AS A DELAY AT ALL. HAVING BEEN A MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATURE, I KNOW THAT THERE ARE TIMES WHEN ANY ELECTED BODY SETS AN ARBITRARY DATE. IN MY OFFICE, WE WOULD CALL IT A "PULLYA." PULL IT OUT OF YOU-KNOW-WHERE. BECAUSE IN CREATING THE POLICY CHANGE, ARGUABLY THE MOST SIGNIFICANT CHANGE TO THE LANTERMAN-PETRIS-SHORT ACT SINCE IT PASSED ALMOST 60 YEARS AGO, THIS IS HUGE

AND SIGNIFICANT. YOU SAID, IN 20 YEARS IT COULDN'T PASS, WHEN I LEFT THE LEGISLATURE THREE YEARS AGO. SO THIS IS A LOT OF MOVEMENT IN A VERY SHORT PERIOD OF TIME, AND THAT'S WONDERFUL. I DON'T SEE IT AS A DELAY. I SEE IT AS OUR ABILITY TO PLAN FOR ITS SUCCESS. SO I WISH THAT THE TERM "DELAY" HADN'T-- I AGREE. I WISH IT HAD NOT BEEN ENTERED INTO OUR LEXICON, BECAUSE I JUST DON'T SEE IT AS A DELAY. I SEE IT AS A WAY THAT WE MAKE ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN THAT IT'S SUCCESSFUL. AT A RECENT PUBLIC MEETING WITH THE HEALTH DEPUTIES, THE HEALTH DEPARTMENTS IDENTIFIED VARIOUS OPERATIONAL ISSUES THAT MUST BE ADDRESSED BEFORE IMPLEMENTATION. THIS IS A PRETTY LONG LIST. THOSE ISSUES INCLUDE CLIENT FLOW, SYSTEM MAPPING, AND SYSTEM GUIDELINES, DESIGNATION AND TRAINING, TREATMENT AND CARE PLANNING, MANAGEMENT OF INDIVIDUALS INELIGIBLE FOR NEW CRITERIA, COURT PROCESSES, ADHERENCE TO COURT ORDERS, COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND COLLABORATION, STAFFING AND BUDGETARY ISSUES, MANAGED CARE PLAN COORDINATION, AND DATA COLLECTION OF DEMOGRAPHICS ON WHO IS BEING CONSERVED. AND MANY OF THESE ISSUES WERE IDENTIFIED IN THE BARGER-HAHN NOVEMBER 23RD WRITTEN REPORT, AS A RESULT OF YOUR MOTION. AND SO MY QUESTION TO ALL THREE DEPARTMENTS, OR TWO DEPARTMENTS THAT ARE PRESENT-- - TWO, THREE? THREE. DR. WONG, THE OCTOBER 2023 MOTION, BY BARGER AND HAHN, ASKED YOU TO CREATE A TIMELINE TO IMPLEMENT S.B. 43, AND TO REPORT BACK BIANNUALLY THEREAFTER. WILL THOSE FUTURE REPORTS INCLUDE CLEAR DELIVERABLES FOR EACH OF THE

OPERATIONAL ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENTS? AND THE REASON I'M ASKING IS, WE COULD DO THE SWEEPING MOTIONS. WE'RE GOING TO CLOSE SOMETHING, WE'RE GOING TO OPEN SOMETHING, WE'RE GOING TO START A NEW PROCESS. I WOULD HOPE THAT WE WOULD ALSO, AND WE AS A BOARD, ARE CLEAR ABOUT THE STEPS IT TAKES, BECAUSE WE CAN THEN LEAN IN ON THE ACCOUNTABILITY, THE BUDGET DECISIONS, THE POLICY DECISIONS WE MAY HAVE TO MAKE TO OPERATIONALIZE THIS SWEEPING MOTION. SO, WILL THOSE FUTURE REPORTS INCLUDE CLEAR DELIVERABLES FOR EACH OF THESE OPERATIONAL ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENTS, AND PROVIDE STATUS UPDATES ON PROGRESS ON ANY CHALLENGES THAT YOU MAY INCUR?

DR. LISA WONG: YES, SUPERVISOR, WE'RE READY TO DO THAT. IN FACT, WE HAVE A SEVEN-POINT IMPLEMENTATION PLAN ALREADY, WITH A TIMELINE. BECAUSE THIS WAS PART OF OUR PROCESS IN FIGURING HOW LONG AND WHAT IT WOULD TAKE TO IMPLEMENT THIS. BECAUSE I THINK, LIKEWISE, I DON'T SEE THIS AS A DELAY. I SEE THIS AS PHASES OF IMPLEMENTATION. AND IN FACT, S.B. 43, IT'S ONLY PART OF IT THAT IS SUBJECT TO DELAY TO 2026. THE OTHER PART OF IT STILL IMPLEMENTS JANUARY 2024.

SUP. MITCHELL: AND THOSE PARTS INCLUDE THE HEARSAY RULE CHANGES, THE REQUIREMENT THAT COUNTIES CONSIDER LEAST RESTRICTIVE ALTERNATIVES, NEW D.H.C.S. DATA REPORTING

REQUIREMENTS, AND PERHAPS SOME MORE. SO IT'S NOT THE WHOLE THING.

DR. LISA WONG: YES.

SUP. MITCHELL: BUT AGAIN, IT GIVES US TIME TO PLAN, IN THAT WE ARE THE LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT THAT HAS TO OPERATIONALIZE--

DR. LISA WONG: I THINK, PLAN AND TAKE ACTION, BECAUSE WE PLAN FOR EVERY STEP TO HAVE AN ACTION THAT WILL COME WITH IT, AND WE'RE HAPPY TO REPORT BACK TO THE BOARD ABOUT THAT.

SUP. MITCHELL: I THINK THE OTHER PIECE THAT CONCERNS ME, YOU ASK ABOUT LICENSING. AND IT WAS THE STATE, AND I'VE HAD A KIND OF VISCERAL RESPONSE KNOWING, BASED ON BUDGET CUTS OVER THE YEARS, AND STAFFING ISSUES AT STATE DEPARTMENTS, THE DELAY IN THE STATE LICENSING, SO MANY FACILITIES OVER THE YEARS THAT I WAS THERE, AND THIS IS NEW. AND SO, JUST BECAUSE IT'S NOT US HAVING TO LICENSE THIS, THE STATE DIDN'T GIVE ME ANY HIGHER LEVEL OF CONFIDENCE THAT THEY'LL BE ABLE TO DO IT SUPER, SUPER QUICK, EITHER. SO, AGAIN, I DON'T THINK IT'S A DELAY. I THINK THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO BE SMART AND STRATEGIC, AND INCREASE THE LIKELIHOOD THAT THE L.A. COUNTY EXPERIENCE OF 10 MILLION, COMPARED TO ANY OTHER COUNTY, IS A SUCCESSFUL ONE. THAT'S WHAT I WANT TO SEE HAPPEN, AND SO I'LL BE SUPPORTING

TODAY'S MOTION, SO WE CAN BE THOUGHTFUL, STRATEGIC, AND PLAN WELL. THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: SUPERVISOR BARGER?

SUP. BARGER: YEAH, I JUST HAD A QUICK CLARIFICATION. WHEN I LOOK AT THE MOTION, AND IT SAYS, "THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ADOPT THE TAX RESOLUTION DELAYING LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION OF SENATE BILL 43," IS THAT A REQUIREMENT THAT WE HAVE TO SUBMIT TO THE STATE?

DR. LISA WONG: YES, THERE HAS TO BE A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY THE BOARD.

SUP. BARGER: SO THIS IS THE RESOLUTION. BECAUSE, TO SUPERVISOR MITCHELL'S POINT, WE ARE ALREADY PLANNING AND TRYING TO IMPLEMENT, BUT WE HAVE TO BUILD THE CAPACITY, CORRECT? SO, "DELAY" SOUNDS TO ME LIKE WE ARE SAYING WE'RE NOT GOING TO DO ANYTHING, AND WE NEED UNTIL 2025. BUT IN FACT, AS WE BUILD CAPACITY, YOU ARE GOING TO START TO ROLL OUT, CORRECT?

DR. LISA WONG: YES.

SUP. BARGER: SO I THINK "DELAY" IS NOT AN ACCURATE-- BECAUSE I WILL BET YOU, IF I GO UP TO SAN FRANCISCO, EVEN THOUGH THEY

ARE AHEAD, I WILL BET YOU THAT THEY WILL NOT HAVE FULLY IMPLEMENTED THIS, AND I BET YOU SAN LUIS OBISPO HASN'T, EITHER. SO I AM JUST WONDERING, BECAUSE I HEAR A COMMITMENT BY EVERYONE ON THIS BOARD, AND BY YOU ALL, TO DO IT, BUT YOU WANT TO DO IT RIGHT. AND THERE ARE THINGS WE HAVE TO SEEK CLARIFICATION ON, FROM A LEGAL STANDPOINT, IN TERMS OF DEFINITION OF... ON THE SUBSTANCE ABUSE SIDE. WHAT DID YOU SAY, DOCTOR? YOU SAID WE NEED TO GET A CLARIFICATION SO WE'RE NOT CONSERVING PEOPLE AND USING THAT AS A WEAPON, WEAPONIZING THE WHOLE PROGRAM, THE C.A.R.E. COURT. SO... I DON'T KNOW. I MEAN, I JUST DON'T FEEL LIKE WE ARE DELAYING. I MEAN, I AM REALLY HAVING A TOUGH TIME WITH THIS, BECAUSE I AM AS ANXIOUS AS ANYONE TO GET THIS GOING; I MEAN, LIKE YESTERDAY. WE HAVE KNOWN ABOUT THIS PROBLEM FOR A LONG TIME. BUT I JUST DON'T WANT US TO LET OUR GUARD DOWN. AND THEN IT CONCERNED WHEN THE GOVERNOR CHASTISED COUNTIES WHO WERE DELAYING, BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO BE ONE OF THOSE COUNTIES WHO'S PART OF THE PROBLEM. I THINK WE ARE STRONG ON RECORD FOR BEING A COUNTY THAT STANDS TALL, AND RECOGNIZES, ESPECIALLY WHEN IT COMES TO THE UNHOUSED, THAT WE NEED TO ADDRESS THE SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND THE MENTAL HEALTH; OTHERWISE, WE'RE NOT GOING TO ADDRESS THOSE THAT ARE LANGUISHING ON OUR STREET. SO THAT'S ALL. I JUST WANTED TO GET A CLARIFICATION ON THAT. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: SUPERVISOR HAHN?

SUP. HAHN: THANK YOU. SO, YEAH. I MEAN, I UNDERSTAND WHAT EVERYBODY IS SAYING, BUT JUST TO BE CLEAR, WE ARE DELAYING. I MEAN, THAT'S THE NAME OF THIS MOTION. WE ARE DELAYING IMPLEMENTATION OF S.B. 43. AS DR. WONG SAID, WE HAVE TO SUBMIT SOMETHING SAYING WE ARE DELAYING. AND JUST TO BE CLEAR, THE REPORT BACK THAT SUPERVISOR BARGER AND I REQUESTED CAME BACK WITH A DATE OF 2025. SO IT WAS JANUARY 2025 IN THE REPORT BACK, BUT YOU HAVE SINCE CHANGED YOUR MIND AND ARE URGING US TO DELAY IT ANOTHER YEAR. AND JUST TO BE CLEAR, IT SOUNDS LIKE THERE'S GOING TO BE A LOT OF WORK DONE. YOU'RE NOT JUST STANDING STILL. BUT BY DOING THIS, WE WILL NOT START ACCEPTING PEOPLE UNDER THE NEW DEFINITION UNTIL JANUARY 2026.

DR. LISA WONG: YES, THAT'S CORRECT.

SUP. HAHN: OKAY, JUST TO BE CLEAR, EVERYBODY, THIS MEANS WE WILL BE DELAYING ACCEPTING PEOPLE UNDER THE NEWLY DEFINED GRAVELY DISABLED UNTIL JANUARY OF 2026. SO THERE'S WORK THAT'S GOING TO BE DONE; I GET THAT. AND WE'RE NOT STANDING STILL. BUT, BASICALLY, WE ARE DELAYING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STATE LAW THAT'S ASKING US TO BEGIN ACCEPTING PEOPLE WHO ARE GRAVELY-- THE EXPANDED DEFINITION. SO I GET IT. AND, EVERYBODY, WE WANT TO MOVE FORWARD. I THINK EVERYONE KNOWS ALL OF OUR COMMITMENTS TO THOSE WHO ARE STRUGGLING ON OUR STREETS,

BUT AGAIN, MAYBE IF IT WAS JANUARY 2025 I WOULD VOTE FOR IT, BUT I AM NOT IN FAVOR OF DELAYING THIS UNTIL JANUARY 2026.

DR. LISA WONG: AND I UNDERSTAND YOUR CONCERN, SUPERVISOR. I THINK IT IS REALLY A MATTER OF WHAT WE THINK, REALISTICALLY, WE CAN DO THIS RESPONSIBLY. AND OUT OF THE 58 COUNTIES IN CALIFORNIA, ONLY TWO HAVE OPTED TO NOT DELAY AT ALL, AND SO FAR, ONLY THREE TILL 2025. ALL THE REST HAVE BEEN, SO FAR, TILL 2026.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: SUPERVISOR HAHN, ARE YOU DONE? OKAY. SUPERVISOR SOLIS?

SUP. SOLIS: I JUST WANT TO SAY THAT I WAS ONE OF THE VOTES TO SAY, "LET'S GO FORWARD," INITIALLY. BUT HAVING HEARD FROM YOU ALL, AND KNOWING THE RELUCTANCE THAT YOU ALL HAD BACK THEN, AND WE HAVE HAD TIME TO NOW SETTLE IN AND FIGURE OUT WHERE THESE RESOURCES ARE GOING TO HAVE TO BE PLANNED OUT, AS WELL AS HOW FAST WE CAN GET BEDS UP. AND TODAY, WE JUST PASSED OUR RESTORATIVE CARE. IT HAS TAKEN A LONG TIME, EVEN TO SECURE FUNDING FOR THAT. WE ARE WAITING FOR THE STATE TO DO MORE, WE ARE WAITING FOR A LOT OF THINGS, BUT IT DOESN'T MEAN WE ARE GOING TO STOP. TODAY IS PROOF OF THAT. AND I KNOW THAT EVERYONE HERE IS WORKING ON TRYING TO DO SOMETHING TO CREATE BEDS, WHETHER IT'S EVEN IN OUR OWN FACILITIES, AND I HATE TO

EVEN ADMIT THIS, BUT EVEN IN THE JAIL. WE ARE DOING THAT. WE HAVE TO, BECAUSE WE HAVE OTHER FACTORS THAT ARE PRESSING AND PUSHING US IN THAT DIRECTION, BECAUSE OF LAWSUITS AND WHAT HAVE YOU. SO I GET IT, AND I'M FULLY SUPPORTIVE OF WHAT YOU ALL WANT TO RECOMMEND. AND THE URGENCY IS, IT IS HERE. IT'S BEFORE US. WE ARE GOING TO LOSE LIVES. I MEAN, WE ARE LOSING THEM NOW. RIGHT? SO I DON'T SAY THAT WITH ANY MAL INTENT, BUT TO SAY THAT WE KNOW THAT THERE'S A PROBLEM, AND WE WANT TO ADDRESS IT AS A BOARD. SO I AM WILLING TO GO THIS ROUTE AND SUPPORT THIS MOTION, BECAUSE I AM BASING IT ON THE EXPERTS, AND WHAT YOU ALL ARE PREPARED, AND CAN BE PREPARED, TO DO. BECAUSE WE CAN'T AFFORD, ALSO, TO END UP IN COURT. AND, AS MY UNDERSTANDING IS, THIS IS A VOLUNTARY PROGRAM. THERE ARE SO MANY PEOPLE, ALSO, OUT THERE THAT THINK THAT, "OH, I CAN JUST QUICKLY COME OUT AND SAY THAT THIS PERSON IS GRAVELY DISABLED AND HAS TO BE PUT UNDER CONSERVATORSHIP." THERE'S A WHOLE PROCESS, AND WE STILL DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT LOOKS LIKE. SO I THINK THAT'S ALSO GOING TO BE AN ISSUE WITH OUR COURTS, AND WITH OUR PUBLIC DEFENDERS, AND EVERYONE ELSE THAT HAS A SAY-SO HERE, AS WELL AS OUR COMMUNITY GROUPS, SOME OF WHOM MAY NOT EVEN WANT US TO DO ANY OF THIS, SO I UNDERSTAND THAT. SO THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR. I SUPPORT THE MOTION.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. AS THE AUTHOR OF THE MOTION, I HAVE A FEW QUESTIONS FOR OUR PANEL, AND THEN I WILL JUST OFFER

MY COMMENTS BEFORE WE GO TO PUBLIC COMMENT. FIRST, I UNDERSTAND OTHER COUNTIES ARE DELAYING THEIR IMPLEMENTATION. HOW MANY, AND WHICH ONES ARE THEY?

DR. LISA WONG: SO FAR, 45 COUNTIES HAVE OFFICIALLY BEEN APPROVED BY THEIR BOARDS TO DELAY TILL 2026. TWO COUNTIES HAVE BEEN 2025, TWO COUNTIES HAVE BEEN NO DELAY, AND THEN THE REST OF THE COUNTIES, THE REST OF THE 58, ARE STILL GOING BEFORE THEIR BOARDS.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: SO IT SOUNDS LIKE AN OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF COUNTIES WHO ARE ALSO RECOGNIZING THAT THEY MIGHT NEED THE HELP THAT YOUR DEPARTMENTS ARE REQUESTING, SO THIS ISN'T UNIQUELY A LOS ANGELES COUNTY REQUEST. AND YOU SAID THAT PART OF WHAT YOU WOULD NEED THIS TIME FOR IS ALIGNMENT, AND UNDERSTANDING THE IMPLICATIONS OF DIFFERENT DEFINITIONS, AND WHAT TERMINOLOGY YOU ARE USING, AND HOW IT WOULD BE APPLIED. THIS ALIGNMENT WAS REQUIRED BY THE LAW?

DR. LISA WONG: THIS ALIGNMENT WAS REQUIRED BY THE LAW, PREVIOUSLY, BUT WITH THIS CHANGE TO THE L.P.S. DEFINITION, THERE WOULD NEED TO BE A REALIGNMENT.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: OKAY, SO THE LAW PROVIDED A DEFINITION, BUT IT DIDN'T PROVIDE FOR THE ALIGNMENT THAT YOU NEED TO DO.

DR. LISA WONG: IT DIDN'T PROVIDE FOR CLARIFICATION, AND I THINK THAT'S WHY THE LAW HAS BUILT INTO IT THE POTENTIAL TO DELAY TILL 2026.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: AND IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT THE STATE HAS OBVIOUSLY, AS WE HEARD, BEEN PRESSURING COUNTIES TO IMPLEMENT AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE, AND THAT THE IMPLEMENTATION DATE IS JANUARY 1ST. SO WHAT WOULD YOU NEED TO DO IN 12 DAYS, IN ORDER TO BE FULLY READY TO IMPLEMENT?

DR. LISA WONG: LIVE IN AN ALTERNATE UNIVERSE? YEAH. I MEAN, I JUST WANT TO HIGHLIGHT THAT THE IMPLEMENTATION DATE, AS SET BY THE STATE, IS IN 12 DAYS, AND WE HAVE IDENTIFIED SOME OF THESE CHALLENGES THAT I JUST DON'T THINK WE'RE GOING TO BE ABLE TO OVERCOME IN THAT AMOUNT OF TIME. BUT ALSO, THE STATE DOESN'T HAVE POLICIES IN PLACE FOR LICENSED, LOCKED SUBSTANCE USE TREATMENT BEDS; AND YET, THIS LAW REQUIRES THOSE TO BE IN PLACE, IN ORDER TO FULLY IMPLEMENT. SO, HOW ARE THE TWO COUNTIES THAT ARE GOING TO IMPLEMENT ON JANUARY 1ST GOING TO DO THAT, IF THE STATE LAW DOESN'T PROVIDE THEM TO DO THE VERY THING THAT THIS LAW REQUIRES THEM TO DO?

DR. LISA WONG: THEY HAVE HAD NO CLEAR ANSWER ABOUT THAT.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: OKAY. SO THAT LEADS ME TO WHY I DECIDED TO BRING THIS FORWARD. I APPRECIATE THE SENTIMENT AROUND, "WE'RE NOT DELAYING, BECAUSE WE ARE TAKING ACTION," AND I WILL GET TO THAT. BUT WE ARE DELAYING, BECAUSE THE IMPLEMENTATION DATE IS JANUARY 1ST, AND THE STATE LAW DOESN'T EVEN PROVIDE FOR THE VERY THING THAT THIS LAW REQUIRES US TO DO. THAT KIND OF LACK OF CLARITY, AND THAT DISCONNECT IN LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT, IS EXACTLY WHAT FRUSTRATES PEOPLE, WHEN ANNOUNCEMENTS LIKE THE ONES THAT WERE MADE AROUND THIS BILL, AND EXPECTATIONS THAT WERE SET WITH THIS BILL, CANNOT BE FULLY REALIZED ON THE GROUND. IT IS ABSOLUTELY ABSURD THAT WE WOULD BE ASKED TO IMPLEMENT THIS BY JANUARY 1ST, WITHOUT THE KIND OF SUPPORT THAT WE NEED IN ORDER TO GET IT RIGHT. I KNOW OUR HOSPITALS AND OUR HEALTHCARE PARTNERS HAVE EXPRESSED OVERWHELMING GRATITUDE FOR THIS MOTION TODAY, BECAUSE THEY HAVE EXPRESSED THEY ARE NOT PREPARED. IN A CARE-FIRST COUNTY, OUR HEALTHCARE FACILITIES ARE NOT PREPARED FOR THE MAGNITUDE OF WHAT THIS RESPONSE COULD LOOK LIKE. AND I WANT TO BE VERY CLEAR: THIS COUNTY TAKING ACTION ON A DIFFERENT TIMELINE IS NOT NOT TAKING ACTION. D.H.S., THIS YEAR ALONE, JUST OFF THE TOP OF MY HEAD-- I WAS WRITING DOWN NOTES-- HAS AUTHORIZED OVER 1,000 NEW O.D.R. BEDS. D.M.H. IS MOVING FORWARD ON 3,000-PLUS NEW BEDS IN THE ALLIANCE SETTLEMENT, AND HAS ACCELERATED THE IMPLEMENTATION OF C.A.R.E. COURT ON AN ACCELERATED TIMELINE. S.A.P.C., IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THIS BOARD, AT OUR

DIRECTION, HAS ANNOUNCED THE REACHING THE 95% INITIATIVE. AND THESE ARE JUST A FEW OF THE THINGS THAT THIS COUNTY HAS PROACTIVELY DONE TO ADDRESS THE ISSUES THAT MOTIVATED THE DRAFTING OF THIS LEGISLATION. THERE IS NO QUESTION THAT ACTION IS REQUIRED, BUT IF WE DON'T BUILD OUT THE PROPER PROCESS AND SUPPORTS, WHAT THIS REALLY MEANS, IF WE IMPLEMENTED ON JANUARY 1ST, IS PEOPLE ARE GOING TO JAIL. AND I DON'T BELIEVE WE SHOULD BE INCARCERATING OUR UNHOUSED, INCARCERATING OUR IMPOVERISHED, INCARCERATING PEOPLE WHO ARE STRUGGLING WITH ADDICTION, INCARCERATING PEOPLE WHO ARE STRUGGLING WITH MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS, BECAUSE WE WANT TO MEET THIS ARBITRARY DEADLINE. DELAYING FULL IMPLEMENTATION DOES NOT MEAN WE ARE DELAYING ACTION, BUT IT COULD MEAN THAT WE ARE DELAYING, OR AVOIDING ENTIRELY, LIABILITY AND INCREASED INCARCERATION, BECAUSE WE ARE TAKING AWAY PEOPLE'S CIVIL RIGHTS. WE DO HAVE TO ACT SWIFTLY, BUT I DON'T THINK ONE OF THE TOOLS WE SHOULD BE USING IS OUR JAILS. AND IF OUR HEALTHCARE FACILITIES ARE TELLING US THAT THEY ARE NOT READY, THE JAILS ARE THE BACKUP. THAT'S WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN, AND THAT IS THE UNFORTUNATE REALITY. THINGS THEN FALL TO OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT PARTNERS, WHEN PEOPLE DON'T WANT TO DEAL WITH OTHER STUFF, AND THAT PUTS THEM IN A DIFFICULT SITUATION, TOO. SO I VERY MUCH BELIEVE THAT WE NEED TO DELAY IMPLEMENTATION OF SENATE BILL 43, UNTIL WE GET IT RIGHT, BECAUSE WE CANNOT AFFORD THE LIABILITY CASES AND THE RISK OF CIVIL RIGHTS VIOLATIONS, AND RISK GETTING THIS

WRONG. AND I DON'T BELIEVE THAT WAS THE AUTHOR'S INTENTION, EITHER. THEY WANT US TO GET IT RIGHT, AND WE WANT TO BE PARTNERS WITH THEM IN GETTING IT RIGHT, BECAUSE WE WANT TO BE PROVIDING CARE, BUT WE DON'T WANT TO BE A JAILS COUNTY. THAT'S WHY WE HAVE A CARE-FIRST POLICY HERE. SO WITH THAT, EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PLEASE CALL THE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO HAVE SIGNED UP TO SPEAK ON THIS ITEM.

SUP. BARGER: CAN YOU WRITE THE COVER LETTER TO THE STATE WHEN WE SEND THIS UP THERE?

SPEAKER: WILL THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS PLEASE COME FORWARD: CAROLINA VALLE, EMILY TRUONG, AND VANESSA RAMOS. PLEASE COME FORWARD, AND STAFF WILL ASSIST YOU. AS A FINAL REMINDER FOR PARTICIPANTS ON THE TELEPHONE, IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS ITEM 27, IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO, PLEASE PRESS 1 THEN 0 NOW TO BE PLACED IN THE SPEAKING QUEUE. MODERATOR, MAY WE HAVE THE FIRST REMOTE SPEAKER, PLEASE?

MODERATOR: OF COURSE. OUR FIRST SPEAKER IS LATANYA RI'CHARD. PLEASE GO AHEAD.

LATANYA RI'CHARD: I AM A CO-FOUNDER AND ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITIES VOICES. WE ARE A [INAUDIBLE] NONPROFIT THROUGHOUT CALIFORNIA. I AM ALSO A CERTIFIED MEDI-CAL PEER SUPPORT

SPECIALIST, CERTIFIED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVOCATE, AND CERTIFIED SEXUAL ASSAULT ADVOCATE, AS WELL AS A PERSON WHO HAS BEEN SEVERELY ABUSED BY THE MENTAL HEALTHCARE IN CALIFORNIA AND THE UNITED STATES. WITH THE HEARSAY PORTION OF THIS BILL, UNTIL LAST MONTH, I WOULD BE PUT INTO INVOLUNTARY COMMITMENT OR CONSERVATORSHIP, BECAUSE MY MEDICAL RECORDS SHOW THAT I WAS BIPOLAR AND SCHIZOPHRENIC, EVEN THOUGH I HAVE NEVER SHOWN SIGNS OF ANY OF THAT. FOR THE LAST 20 YEARS, I HAVE BEEN ON HUNDREDS OF MEDICATIONS FOR MENTAL HEALTH DISEASES I HAVE NEVER HAD, ONLY TO FIND OUT LAST MONTH, AFTER SO MUCH COMPLAINING AND ADVOCATING FOR MYSELF TO GET THE CORRECT MENTAL HEALTH DIAGNOSIS, TO SEE A NEUROPSYCHOLOGIST, I WAS DIAGNOSED AS A.D.H.D., AUTISTIC, P.T.S.D., AND BORDERLINE PERSONALITY DISORDER.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED. MODERATOR, NEXT SPEAKER PLEASE.

LATANYA RI'CHARD: THAT WAS NOT A FULL MINUTE.

MODERATOR: EVE GARROW, PLEASE GO AHEAD.

SPEAKER: GOOD AFTERNOON, SUPERVISORS. I AM EVE GARROW, A POLICY ANALYST WITH THE A.C.L.U. OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. I RESPECTFULLY ASK FOR YOUR AYE VOTE ON THE MOTION TO DELAY

IMPLEMENTATION OF S.B. 43. THE A.C.L.U. OPPOSED S.B. 43, WHICH EXPANDS ELIGIBILITY FOR INVOLUNTARY HOSPITALIZATIONS AND CONSERVATORSHIPS, AT THE SAME TIME THAT VOLUNTARY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING ARE OFTEN SO UNDERFUNDED THAT THEY ARE NOT ACCESSIBLE OR AVAILABLE. THIS YEAR MARKS THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH ACT, A POLICY THAT ENVISIONED A DIFFERENT WORLD, IN WHICH PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES WOULD HAVE ACCESS TO THE VOLUNTARY CARE AND HOUSING NEEDED TO LIVE FULLY AND EQUALLY IN THE COMMUNITY. IN SUCH A WORLD, FEWER PEOPLE WOULD DETERIORATE AND BE SUBJECTED TO INVOLUNTARY INTERVENTIONS. WE URGE YOU TO DELAY IMPLEMENTATION AND INVEST IN DESPERATELY NEEDED VOLUNTARY RESOURCES, WHICH CAN OFFSET THIS LAW'S ANTICIPATED STRAIN ON THE INVOLUNTARY SYSTEM, AND HELP CREATE THE THRIVING COMMUNITY WE ALL DESERVE. THANK YOU.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: NEXT, WE WILL GO TO ADENA TESSLER. PLEASE GO AHEAD.

ADENA TESSLER: GOOD AFTERNOON, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. I AM HERE ON BEHALF OF THE HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, REPRESENTING MORE THAN 170 HOSPITALS ACROSS SIX COUNTIES. WE ARE HERE TO SUPPORT TAKING THE TIME TO PLAN AND PREPARE FOR A SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF S.B. 43, BY 2026. HOSPITALS

FERVENTLY SUPPORT THE GOALS OF S.B. 43, AND ARE COMMITTED TO WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE COUNTY, AND COLLABORATING WITH THE COUNTY HEALTH PROVIDERS, LAW ENFORCEMENT, E.M.S., THE COURT SYSTEM, AND ALL STAKEHOLDERS NECESSARY TO SUCCESSFULLY IMPLEMENT THIS LAW. HOWEVER, WE ARE DEEPLY CONCERNED THAT OUR CURRENT SYSTEM IS NOT PREPARED TO SUPPORT THE INFLUX OF NEW PATIENTS MEANT TO BE SERVED BY THIS LAW, AND OUR HOSPITAL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS ARE NOT PREPARED TO HOLD AND CARE FOR THESE PATIENTS, UNTIL WE CAN IDENTIFY APPROPRIATE TREATMENT. WE URGE YOU TO GIVE OUR SYSTEM TIME TO DO THIS SUCCESSFULLY, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING COLLABORATIVELY WITH YOU. THANK YOU.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: NEXT, WE WILL GO TO JANET TENNYSON. PLEASE GO AHEAD.

JANET TENNYSON: HELLO. MY NAME IS JANET TENNYSON. I AM THE SENIOR COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER AT THE CALIFORNIA BLACK HEALTH NETWORK. I LIVE IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY. AS A PART OF A LARGE COALITION ON SEPTEMBER 11TH, 2023, C.B.H.N. SENT A COALITION LETTER TO GOVERNOR NEWSOM, ASKING HIM TO VETO S.B. 43. S.B. 43 SIGNIFICANTLY EXPANDS INVOLUNTARY CRITERIA, BY ALLOWING INDIVIDUALS WITH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ISSUES, INCLUDING SUBSTANCE

USE AND ALCOHOL USE DISORDER, TO BE DETAINED AND CONSERVED. AS A BLACK-LED ORGANIZATION, WE URGE THE LOS ANGELES SUPERVISORS TO DELAY THE IMPLEMENTATION OF S.B. 43, BY FOLLOWING THE FOOTSTEPS OF SACRAMENTO AND SAN DIEGO. WE ARE GRATEFUL TO LEARN THAT SUPERVISOR HOLLY MITCHELL AND MAYOR BASS ARE IN SUPPORT OF DELAYING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF S.B. 43, AND WE HAVE NO DOUBT THAT THEIR COLLEAGUES, TOO, WILL FOLLOW SUIT. S.B. 43 WILL LIKELY TARGET UNSHELTERED INDIVIDUALS--

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: NEXT, WE WILL GO TO HECTOR RAMIREZ. PLEASE GO AHEAD.

SPEAKER: BUENOS TARDES. MY NAME IS HECTOR RAMIREZ. I LIVE IN CHATSWORTH, AND I AM A CONSUMER OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH, AT THE WEST VALLEY MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC. I HAVE BEEN RECEIVING THE SERVICES OF THE DEPARTMENT FOR NOW ALMOST 24 YEARS. I REALLY WANT TO THANK SUPERVISOR HORVATH FOR THIS MOTION, AND THE SUPPORTING SUPERVISORS. AS A CONSUMER, I KNOW RIGHT NOW THAT THE DEPARTMENT ARE SO OVERWHELMED. THEY HAVE A SIGNIFICANT SHORTAGE OF STAFF IN ALL CAPACITIES, THAT NOT ONLY IS DELAYING THE AVAILABILITY OF SERVICES TO POTENTIAL CANDIDATES FOR C.A.R.E. COURT, BUT THE

QUALITY AND THE TIMELY ACCESS OF SERVICES CURRENTLY, RIGHT NOW. FOR CONSUMERS LIKE MYSELF, IT HAS BEEN SIGNIFICANTLY DISRUPTIVE. WE KNOW THAT THERE IS A LACK OF DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS. THERE'S A LACK OF SERVICES FOR OUR LATINO/HISPANIC INDIVIDUALS, AND FOR QUEER PEOPLE WITH SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS. [INAUDIBLE] I KNOW VERY WELL THAT THEY HAVE NOT BEEN WELCOME, AND TREATED HORRIBLY--

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

SPEAKER: -- SO THAT PEOPLE CAN HAVE BETTER SERVICES. THANK YOU.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: NEXT, WE WILL GO TO ALISON BIRNIE. PLEASE GO AHEAD.

ALISON BIRNIE: HI. THIS IS ALISON BIRNIE, AND I AM THE CLINICAL DIRECTOR AT HUNTINGTON HOSPITAL IN PASADENA, CALIFORNIA. I JUST WANTED, FROM A CLINICAL PERSPECTIVE, URGING THE SUPERVISORS TO VOTE TO DELAY. OUR HOSPITAL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT IS OVERRUN WITH PATIENTS. OUR TRAUMA VOLUME-- WE ARE A LEVEL-TWO TRAUMA CENTER-- HAS GONE UP 44%. AND HOLDING

THESE PATIENTS IN OUR EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT IS NOT THE BEST PLACE FOR THEM TO BE WHEN WE CANNOT PROVIDE WRAPAROUND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR THEM. APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT IN DELAYING S.B. 43. THANK YOU.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: NEXT, WE WILL GO TO SALAM ALIM. PLEASE GO AHEAD. ALEM, YOUR LINE IS OPEN.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: SALAM ALIM?

MODERATOR: YES, YOUR LINE IS OPEN.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: SORRY, I CAN'T HEAR THIS SPEAKER. OKAY, WE'RE GOING TO GO TO IN-PERSON SPEAKERS. GO RIGHT AHEAD.

CAROLINA VALLE: MY NAME IS CAROLINA VALLE, AND I AM THE SENIOR POLICY DIRECTOR WITH THE CALIFORNIA PAN-ETHNIC HEALTH NETWORK. WE ARE A STATEWIDE MULTICULTURAL POLICY ADVOCACY ORGANIZATION, AND WE ARE HERE TO VOICE OUR SUPPORT FOR THE DELAY OF S.B. 43. WE ARE PART OF A BROADER COALITION OF ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN OPPOSED TO S.B. 43, AND ARE SUPPORTIVE OF SUPERVISOR HORVATH'S MOTION. S.B. 43 WOULD EXPAND THE UNIVERSE OF PEOPLE WHO CAN BE DETAINED AND CONSERVED, AND IT COULD HAVE

POTENTIALLY DISASTROUS EFFECTS FOR PEOPLE OF COLOR IN LOS ANGELES, SHOULD THE LOGISTICAL AND EQUITY CONSIDERATIONS NOT BE IRONED OUT WELL IN ADVANCE. WE ARE URGING THE REST OF THE BOARD TO VOTE IN SUPPORT OF THE DELAY OF S.B. 43. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

VANESSA RAMOS: HI. MY NAME IS VANESSA RAMOS, AND I WORK FOR DISABILITY RIGHTS CALIFORNIA. I ALSO SERVE ON MANY COUNCILS, AND AM SO GLAD TO SEE FAMILIAR FACES HERE. I STRONGLY URGE THE BOARD TO POSTPONE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SENATE BILL 43. COUNTIES, INCLUDING LOS ANGELES, LACK THE NECESSARY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE FOR IMMEDIATE ENACTMENT. THERE HAVE BEEN 56 COUNTIES SEEKING THIS DELAY. LOS ANGELES COUNTY FACES A CRITICAL SHORTAGE, AS MENTIONED, FOR SPECIALIZED TREATMENT FACILITIES AND BEDS, PARTICULARLY FOR SEVERE SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS. EXPANDING THIS DEFINITION TO INCLUDE S.U.D. POPULATION IS NINE TIMES LARGER THAN THOSE WITH SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS. GROUPS ADVOCATING FOR S.B. 43'S IMMEDIATE EFFECT OFTEN FOCUS SOLELY ON SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS, LACKING EXPERIENCE IN SEVERE S.U.D. PLEASE CONSIDER THE DELAY.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

EMILY WU TRUONG: GREETINGS, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. MY NAME IS EMILY WU TRUONG, AND I AM A MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCATE FOR THE LAST 10 YEARS, AS A CONSULTANT TO L.A. COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH, AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF N.A.M.I., THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS, FACILITATING SUPPORT GROUPS SINCE 2016. AND I ALSO SERVE AS A STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBER AT THE NATIONAL ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER EMPOWERMENT NETWORK, N.A.A.P.I.E.N. TODAY, I SPEAK TO YOU AS A PERSON WHO ADVOCATES FOR MYSELF AND OTHERS WHO CALL THEMSELVES PSYCHIATRIC SURVIVORS. THE LAST TIME I WAS ACTUALLY HERE IN THIS ROOM, I WAS HONORED FOR MY GRASSROOTS MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCACY WORK ON MAY 9, 2017, WITH BARGER, WITH HAHN, WITH HILDA SOLIS. AND SO I AM SO HAPPY TO MEET YOU, SUPERVISOR HORVATH, TODAY. ON JULY 29TH OF THIS YEAR, AFTER CALLING 9-8-8, I WAS LEGALLY KIDNAPPED BY THE ARCADIA FIRE DEPARTMENT WITHOUT MY CONSENT, AND INVOLUNTARILY HOSPITALIZED AGAINST MY WILL BY THE ARCADIA POLICE DEPARTMENT. THE OFFICER DID NOT FOLLOW PROPER PROTOCOLS--

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU SO MUCH. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS TODAY. ARE THERE ANY OTHER SPEAKERS?

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: NO OTHER SPEAKERS, MADAM CHAIR

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: OKAY, THEN ITEM 27 IS BEFORE US. I WILL MOVE IT, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR MITCHELL TO IMPROVE THE ITEM. EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PLEASE CALL THE ROLL.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: ITEM 27 IS BEFORE YOU. SUPERVISOR SOLIS?

SUP. SOLIS: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR SOLIS, AYE. SUPERVISOR MITCHELL?

SUP. MITCHELL: AYE

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR MITCHELL, AYE. SUPERVISOR HAHN?

SUP. HAHN: I AM GOING TO VOTE NO.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR HAHN, NO. SUPERVISOR BARGER?

SUP. BARGER: HORVATH GOT ME. YES.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR BARGER, AYE. SUPERVISOR HORVATH?

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR HORVATH, AYE. MOTION CARRIES, 4-1.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU VERY MUCH. WE WILL NOW MOVE ON TO ITEM 45, REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATUS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES, WHICH WAS HELD BY SUPERVISOR MITCHELL. FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ON THE TELEPHONE, PLEASE PRESS 1 THEN 0 NOW TO COMMENT ON THIS ITEM. DR. GHALY-- STILL WITH US, SHE HASN'T GIVEN UP ON US YET-- AND ALLAN WECKER, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES, ARE BOTH AVAILABLE FOR QUESTIONS. SUPERVISOR MITCHELL, I TURN IT TO YOU.

SUP. MITCHELL: THANK YOU VERY MUCH, AND THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR BOTH OF YOU BEING HERE. I HELD THIS ITEM BECAUSE IT SEEMED TO ME THAT A REPORT FROM ONE OF OUR LARGEST AND MOST CRITICAL DEPARTMENTS, BASED ON THE ISSUES THAT HAVE JUST COME BEFORE US TODAY, WHICH BRINGS YOU HERE, THAT WE-- WHEN I SEE PHRASES LIKE "CONTINUED STRUCTURAL DEFICIT," AND, QUOTE, "SIGNIFICANT IMBALANCE BETWEEN ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES," IT FELT TO ME LIKE IT DESERVED A LITTLE FURTHER EXPLORATION. SO THANK YOU FOR CONTINUING TO RESPOND CREATIVELY TO VARIOUS PRESSURES ON YOUR DEPARTMENT BUDGET, AS WELL AS SIGNIFICANT STATE POLICY CHANGES, LIKE WE'VE JUST DISCUSSED. SO I WANTED

TO ASK YOU A FEW QUESTIONS, JUST SO I COULD GET SOME CLARITY, IF I MAY. OF COURSE, D.H.S. IS OUR PROVIDER OF LAST RESORT, SERVING THOUSANDS WHO WERE UNINSURED. WE NOW HAVE A MEDI-CAL EXPANSION OCCURRING WHERE, THEORETICALLY, EVERY COUNTY RESIDENT SHOULD BE ELIGIBLE FOR MEDI-CAL, AND HAS A CHOICE BETWEEN PUBLIC OR PRIVATE PROVIDERS. SO HOW DOES THIS CHANGE, I GUESS, D.H.S.'S PURPOSE, WHO YOU SERVE? HOW DOES THAT IMPACT YOU, DIRECTLY?

DR. CHRISTINA GHALY: THANKS, SUPERVISOR, FOR THE ATTENTION AND INTEREST IN D.H.S. WE APPRECIATE IT. I THINK THERE'S BEEN A LOT OF CHANGE IN THE ROLE OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS OVER THE LAST COUPLE OF DECADES. DECADES AGO, SEVERAL YEARS AGO, WE WERE A PLACE WHERE PEOPLE WENT TO IF THEY DIDN'T HAVE INSURANCE, BECAUSE THERE WERE SO MANY PEOPLE THAT WERE UNDERINSURED OR UNINSURED, BECAUSE OF ALL THE HOLES IN THE SAFETY NET. AND THEN WITH A VARIETY OF CHANGES, BUT REALLY, PARTICULARLY, WITH THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT AND THE MEDICAID EXPANSION, A LOT OF THOSE HOLES WERE FILLED. AND THAT'S A GOOD THING. THAT'S A GOOD THING FOR PEOPLE ACROSS THE BOARD. I THINK, BECAUSE OF THAT, PUBLIC HOSPITALS HAD TO ASK THEMSELVES SOME HARD QUESTIONS, AND COUNTIES HAD TO ASK HARD QUESTIONS ABOUT, REALLY, WHAT IS THEIR ROLE? AND I STILL THINK THERE ARE STRONG ROLES FOR PUBLIC HOSPITALS, BUT IT'S NOT SO MUCH ONLY THAT THEY MUST EXIST BECAUSE THERE'S THESE BROAD SWATHS OF

UNINSURED. AND I THINK IT IS A MORE NUANCED ANSWER. THERE STILL ARE LARGE SECTIONS OF THE POPULATION, SADLY, THAT ARE UNDERINSURED OR UNINSURED. THEY MIGHT BE ELIGIBLE FOR INSURANCE, BUT FOR A VARIETY OF REASONS, THEY DON'T HAVE INSURANCE. THEY HAVEN'T COMPLETED MEDI-CAL PAPERWORK, OR THEY ARE UNDOCUMENTED INDIVIDUALS, THOUGH THANFULLY, CALIFORNIA HAS ALSO CLOSED MANY OF THOSE HOLES [INAUDIBLE] ONLY MEDI-CAL EXPANSION. BUT PUBLIC HOSPITALS ALSO SERVE A LOT OF INDIVIDUALS THAT ARE NOT ADEQUATELY CARED FOR IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR; THAT THE PRIVATE SECTOR OFTEN, DEPENDING ON THE HOSPITAL OR THE CLINIC, MIGHT DISCHARGE EASILY. WE HAVE A LARGE NUMBER OF PROGRAMS THAT SERVE SPECIALTY POPULATIONS. WE OPERATE TWO OF THE LEVEL-ONE TRAUMA CENTERS IN THE COUNTY. WE HAVE A DISPROPORTIONATE SHARE OF TRAUMA SERVICES AND EMERGENCY SERVICES. WE OPERATE THE ONLY THREE LOCKED PSYCHIATRIC EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS IN THE COUNTY, AND THREE OF THE MAIN PSYCHIATRIC IN-PATIENT FACILITIES THAT SERVE PATIENTS, REALLY, THAT DON'T HAVE ANY OTHER PLACE TO GO, AND ARE EASILY DISCHARGED BY PRIVATE PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS: PATIENTS THAT ARE SENT TO US FROM JAIL, PATIENTS THAT ARE BROUGHT IN BY LAW ENFORCEMENT, PATIENTS THAT ARE WAITING FOR STATE HOSPITAL PLACEMENT. AND THE PATIENTS THAT ARE SEEN IN OUR PSYCH E.R.S AND OUR IN-PATIENT UNITS ARE REALLY CATEGORICALLY DIFFERENT FROM THOSE IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR. AT ONE OF OUR HOSPITALS, L.A. GENERAL, THERE'S ACTUALLY A JAIL WARD IN THE BASEMENT,

AND WE PROVIDE SPECIALTY CARE SERVICES, SO IT IS A COLLABORATION WITH CORRECTIONAL HEALTH SERVICES. AND WHAT WE FIND, AGAIN AND AGAIN, IS THAT THE PUBLIC HOSPITALS HAVE REALLY EMBRACED THE NEED TO BECOME A PROVIDER OF CHOICE, AND NOT JUST A PROVIDER OF LAST RESORT; THAT WE HAVE RETAINED A LARGE NUMBER OF PATIENTS THAT REALLY FEEL AT HOME IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR, AND FEEL AT HOME IN THE PUBLIC HOSPITALS AND CLINICS. AND WE ARE SO GLAD THAT THEY HAVE A CHOICE TO SEEK CARE IN A VARIETY OF PLACES, BUT WE BELIEVE THAT PUBLIC HOSPITALS REALLY CONSERVE THEIR NEEDS WELL BY FILLING THEIR WHOLE-PERSON NEEDS, ADDRESSING OFTEN COMPLEX PSYCHOSOCIAL ISSUES THAT CROSS OVER WITH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS, SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH, AND REALLY SEEK TO FULFILL THEIR COMPREHENSIVE CARE NEEDS.

SUP. MITCHELL: I APPRECIATE THAT, AND COULDN'T AGREE WITH YOU MORE. AND UNTIL MEDI-CAL REIMBURSEMENTS ARE HIGHER, MEDI-CAL IS A WONDERFUL BENEFIT PACKAGE, BUT IT DOESN'T ALWAYS INCLUDE EVERYTHING. I THINK, THIRDLY, I HEAR FROM CONSTITUENTS ALL THE TIME WHO TALK ABOUT THE HIGH CALIBER AND QUALITY OF THEIR EXPERIENCE AT A PUBLIC HOSPITAL, WHICH ALWAYS MAKES ME FEEL GOOD. SO I AM GLAD THAT YOU SEE, BECAUSE I SHARE YOUR PERSPECTIVE, THAT THERE IS AN ONGOING AND A CONTINUED ROLE. I NOTICE THAT THE BUDGET FORECAST DOESN'T INCLUDE THE COST OF THE M.C.O. TAX INCREASE. IS THERE A REASON?

DR. CHRISTINA GHALY: THE M.C.O. TAX WILL LEAD TO ADDITIONAL REVENUE THAT COMES TO HOSPITALS, BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE, AS WELL AS OTHER HEALTHCARE FACILITIES, SUCH AS CLINICS, BUT THERE'S NOT SUFFICIENT CLARITY INTO HOW THAT MONEY WILL BE DISTRIBUTED IN CALIFORNIA ACROSS THE VARIETY OF HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS, FOR US TO BE ABLE TO PUT A SPECIFIC ESTIMATE INTO THE FISCAL FORECAST.

SUP. MITCHELL: DO WE HAVE ANY IDEA WHEN THAT CLARITY-- WHEN SHOULD WE EXPECT THAT CLARITY? IS IT AFTER IT STARTS TO ROLL OUT, OR...

ALLAN WECKER: MY GUESS IS WE WILL HAVE IT SOMETIME AROUND THE SUMMERTIME.

SUP. MITCHELL: SO, IS THERE A FORMULA THAT THEY WILL BE FOLLOWING?

DR. CHRISTINA GHALY: THERE'S A COALITION THAT HAS SOUGHT TO REACH AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE ON A VARIETY OF DIFFERENT CATEGORIES, OR BUCKETS OF FUNDING. AND AT LEAST FOR THE FIRST YEAR, THERE ARE ALLOCATIONS ACROSS THOSE DIFFERENT BUCKETS. AND SO ONE THING THAT REMAINS TO BE SEEN IS WHETHER THOSE BUCKETS ARE IMPLEMENTED IN THE SAME WAY THAT THEY HAVE BEEN

AGREED TO, TO THIS POINT, AND THEN WHETHER THERE WOULD BE CHANGES IN THOSE BUCKETS OF FUNDING IN SUBSEQUENT YEARS. BUT THEN, EVEN AT THAT LEVEL, IT IS JUST A BUCKET OF FUNDING. SO, FOR EXAMPLE, THERE MIGHT BE A COUPLE OF HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS-- $300 MILLION, FOR EXAMPLE-- TO FILL A CERTAIN CLINICAL SERVICE FOR OBSTETRIC CARE OR EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS, ADDITIONAL PAYMENTS. BUT IT IS THEN UNCLEAR HOW ALL THAT MONEY WOULD THEN BE DIVIDED UP ON A PROVIDER-TO-PROVIDER BASIS, BECAUSE THE SPECIFIC CRITERIA AND DATA THAT WOULD HAVE TO GO INTO HOW THAT MONEY WOULD BE EARNED AND DRAWN DOWN ISN'T YET KNOWN. SO THERE'S A LOT OF DETAIL THAT NEEDS TO BE WORKED OUT WITH THE STATE, TO GET TO A PRECISE NUMBER.

SUP. MITCHELL: THAT HELPS ME, BECAUSE WHEN I CONSIDER ALL OF THE NEW FINANCIAL STRAINS THAT WILL IMPACT YOU, EVERYTHING FROM MEDI-CAL REDETERMINATION, WHICH CONTINUES TO MAKE ME NERVOUS, BUT I KNOW OUR COUNTY IS WORKING VERY HARD TO MAKE SURE THAT NOBODY LOSES THEIR COVERAGE, SO THEREFORE THEY DON'T FALL AND BECOME UNINSURED AND HIT US AGAIN; MANY OF YOUR COMMUNITY PROGRAMS, INCLUDING HOUSING FOR HEALTH, WHICH IS IMPORTANT; THE I.H.S.S. PROVIDER HEALTH PLAN THAT WAS NEGOTIATED AS A PART OF THEIR LABOR CONTRACT; OUR RECENT BOARD ACTIONS PROVIDING GOLD-STANDARD HEALTH COVERAGE TO CONTRACTORS; THE CHANGES TO HEALTHCARE MINIMUM-WAGE WORKERS, S.B. 525; THE COST FOR THE HARBOR-U.C.L.A. MEDICAL CENTER

REPLACEMENT. THE LIST GOES ON AND ON. THE CONVERSATIONS WE ARE HAVING ABOUT MARTIN LUTHER KING COMMUNITY HOSPITAL STABILIZATION COSTS, ADDITIONAL COSTS RELATED TO L.A. GENERAL HOSPITAL IMPROVEMENTS. I MEAN, THAT'S JUST KIND OF A SHORT LIST. SHOULD I, AS A BOARD MEMBER THAT WATCHES AND HAS TO VOTE ON BUDGET, HAVE A GROWING CONCERN ABOUT THE KIND OF ONGOING SHORTFALL IN YOUR DEPARTMENT? THE CONTINUED STRUCTURAL DEFICIT.

DR. CHRISTINA GHALY: I FEEL LIKE WE HAVE A VARIETY OF STEPS IN PLACE THAT ARE GOING TO PUT US IN A REASONABLE POSITION TO BE ABLE TO MANAGE THE STRUCTURAL DEFICIT, AND I WILL TALK THROUGH A COUPLE OF THOSE. THAT SAID, THE FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEM THAT IS LEADING TO THE STRUCTURAL DEFICIT IS PRETTY SIMPLE. IT IS THAT OUR COSTS RISE FASTER THAN OUR REVENUE. AND OUR COSTS ARE RISING FOR A VARIETY OF THE REASONS THAT YOU MENTIONED, AS WELL AS MANY OTHERS. AND WE DON'T RECEIVE INCREASED REVENUE FROM THE STATE OR THE HEALTH PLANS, WHICH ARE OUR MAJOR PAYORS, THAT KEEP PACE WITH THOSE COST INCREASES. AND SO THAT'S WHAT CREATES THE FUNDAMENTAL STRUCTURAL DEFICIT, AND WE ARE SEEKING TO ADDRESS THOSE. AGAIN, I'LL WALK, IF YOU WOULD LIKE, THROUGH A FEW OF THE CATEGORIES, LINE OF BUSINESS BY LINE OF BUSINESS, BUT IT ALSO MAKES THE EMPHASIS FOR US, REALLY, TO BE BOTH TO GO AFTER REVENUE OPPORTUNITIES, WHICH WE ALWAYS DO, BUT ALSO TO BE REALLY CAREFUL ABOUT OUR

EXPENDITURES, AND TO BE CAREFUL WITH OUR COSTS. WE DO, THOUGH, STILL NEED TO MAKE INVESTMENTS IN THE SYSTEM. WE HAVE PATIENTS THAT NEED CARE, AND WE NEED, SOMETIMES, CHANGES IN THE ITEMS THAT WE HAVE, OR WE NEED TO EXPAND ONE PROGRAM HERE, OR DIFFERENT TYPES OF STAFF HERE. SO THOSE ONGOING BUDGET REQUESTS THAT WE PUT THROUGH IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET PACKAGES ARE REALLY IMPORTANT FOR US TO CONTINUE TO OFFER THE HIGH-QUALITY SERVICES THAT WE DO, AND TO BE ABLE TO EVOLVE AND ADAPT TO JUST A CHANGING HEALTHCARE LANDSCAPE, AS IT ALWAYS IS. ON THE CATEGORIES OF THE STRUCTURAL DEFICIT, THEY REALLY FALL INTO A FEW BIG BUCKETS, THE BIGGEST OF WHICH IS MEDI-CAL MANAGED CARE. THE RATES FOR MEDI-CAL MANAGED CARE ARE INADEQUATE TO COVER THE COSTS OF PROVIDING CARE TO MANAGED-CARE PATIENTS IN THE MEDI-CAL SYSTEM IN CALIFORNIA. D.H.S.'S EXPERIENCE HERE IS NOT ALONE. THIS IS SOMETHING THAT VIRTUALLY ALL HOSPITALS STRUGGLE WITH, BUT IT PARTICULARLY HITS HOSPITALS HARD, LIKE D.H.S. AND MANY OTHERS IN THE SAFETY NET, THAT DON'T HAVE A HIGH COMMERCIAL VOLUME, AND SO THEY CAN'T CROSS-SUBSIDIZE WITH OTHER PATIENT POPULATIONS. SO, FOR D.H.S., MORE THAN 90%, MORE THAN 95% OF OUR PATIENTS, ARE MEDI-CAL OR UNINSURED, AND SO WE ARE HEAVILY DEPENDENT ON THOSE REVENUE STREAMS. WE'RE NOT LIKE SOME OF THE PRIVATE HOSPITALS, WHERE 50% OR MORE OF THE PATIENT BASE IS COMMERCIAL INSURANCE. AND SO WHEN THAT HAPPENS, YOU END UP WITH A HUGE STRUCTURAL DEFICIT BECAUSE OF MEDI-CAL MANAGED CARE. THE SOLUTION TO THAT IS FOR US, AS WELL

AS OTHER HOSPITALS AND CLINICS, TO WORK WITH THE HEALTH PLANS AND THE STATE TO ADVOCATE FOR FAIR AND ACTUARIALLY SOUND RATES THAT ADEQUATELY PAY US FOR THE SERVICES PROVIDED.

SUP. MITCHELL: WHICH I COMPLETELY SUPPORT, 100%, AND WHICH GIVES ME CONCERN WHEN WE HEAR FROM THE STATE THAT THE M.C.O. TAX IS GOING TO BE THE GREAT SAVIOR FOR ALL THINGS.

DR. CHRISTINA GHALY: IT WILL NOT COMPLETELY RESOLVE THAT PROBLEM. OUR DEFICIT ON MEDI-CAL MANAGED CARE RIGHT NOW IS SITTING AT MORE THAN $160 MILLION PER YEAR. WE DO NOT ANTICIPATE PULLING IN THAT AMOUNT OF REVENUE FROM THE M.C.O. TAX. AND THAT AMOUNT ALSO ESCALATES EVERY YEAR, BASED ON RISING COSTS FROM THINGS LIKE S.B. 525, OR OTHER THINGS THAT ARE ALSO PASSED AND APPROVED AT THE STATE LEVEL. OTHER BIG CATEGORIES THAT I SHOULD MENTION ARE THE OTHER SIDE OF MEDI-CAL. SO, AS YOU KNOW, SUPERVISOR, THERE'S TWO BIG CATEGORIES OF MEDI-CAL. THERE'S MANAGED CARE, AND THEN THERE'S FEE-FOR-SERVICE. WE DO RECEIVE COST-BASED REIMBURSEMENT FOR FEE-FOR-SERVICE ON AN OUTPATIENT BASIS. THAT'S SPECIFIC TO LOS ANGELES COUNTY, D.H.S., AND THAT'S BEEN VERY HELPFUL TO US OVER THE YEARS. HOWEVER, FOR IN-PATIENT, WE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR FUNDING THE NONFEDERAL SHARE OF THE LOCAL MATCH THAT'S NEEDED TO DRAW DOWN FEDERAL FUNDS FOR IN-PATIENT MEDI-CAL. AND BECAUSE OF THAT, WE HAVE ABOUT $150 MILLION IN LOSSES, BECAUSE WE DON'T

GET THE OTHER HALF. IT IS NOT ALWAYS EXACTLY HALF, BUT WE DON'T GET THE OTHER PORTION OF THE FUNDING, BECAUSE THE STATE DOES NOT PUT MONEY INTO THE IN-PATIENT BEDS FOR MEDI-CAL FEE-FOR-SERVICE. WE HAVE AN $85 MILLION GAP, ANNUALLY, FOR I.H.S.S. WE HAVEN'T HAD A RATE INCREASE THERE IN 15 TO 20 YEARS ON THE HEALTHCARE PREMIUMS, AND HEALTHCARE HAS GOTTEN MORE EXPENSIVE, SO OUR COSTS HAVE RISEN. BUT THE AMOUNT OF PREMIUM THAT WE'RE PAID THROUGH THE I.H.S.S. PROGRAM HAS NOT, SO WE ARE WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH C.E.O. AND THE HEALTH PLANS TO SEEK A RATE INCREASE THERE, TO HELP FILL THAT DEFICIT. AND THEN WE HAVE A SMALLER DEFICIT ON THE UNINSURED OF AROUND $50 MILLION. THAT NUMBER HOPEFULLY SHOULD GO DOWN, JUST AS THE NUMBER OF UNINSURED ALSO CONTINUES TO DECLINE. AND THEN THERE'S SMALLER STRUCTURAL DEFICITS ON THE OTHER LINES OF BUSINESS, BUT THOSE ARE THE MAJOR ONES.

SUP. MITCHELL: THAT WAS VERY HELPFUL. THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR COMING. THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: SUPERVISOR BARGER?

SUP. BARGER: FIRST OF ALL, ALLAN, I MEAN, WE ARE FORTUNATE TO HAVE YOU STILL ONBOARD, BECAUSE YOU WERE HERE WHEN WE WERE ON OUR CLIFF BEFORE, AND I THINK, ARGUABLY, WORKED ON THE 1115 WAIVER AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL TRANSFERS. BUT I AM SO HAPPY TO

SEE THAT HE'S STILL HERE, DR. GHALY, BECAUSE IT SEEMS LIKE HISTORY IS REPEATING ITSELF. AND MY QUESTION IS, WHEN I LOOK AT WHAT YOU ARE PROJECTING FOR FISCAL YEAR '26/'27, $528.6 MILLION-- ALLAN, DO YOU REMEMBER WHAT IT WAS WHEN WE WERE FACING THE BRINK OF COLLAPSE? WHAT WAS THE THRESHOLD?

ALLAN WECKER: I THINK IT WAS 650 SOMETHING.

SUP. BARGER: 650?

ALLAN WECKER: $655 MILLION.

SUP. BARGER: YEAH, SO I JUST WANT TO KIND OF DRIVE THAT HOME, BECAUSE THAT'S WHEN WE DID-- I MEAN, WE WERE IN PANIC MODE SATURDAYS, DOING CASCADING, MOVING STAFF, LAYING OFF. AND SO I THINK THAT I AM GLAD YOU HELD THIS, SUPERVISOR MITCHELL, BECAUSE I THINK IT IS IMPORTANT FOR US TO BE COGNIZANT OF THAT. BUT, DR. GHALY, WHEN WE TALK ABOUT THE WAIVER, IT SAYS THAT ACCOMMODATION OF 915-B AND 1115 WAIVERS, THAT THERE'S GOING TO BE $1.3 BILLION GROSS STATEWIDE ONE-TIME FUNDING, AND $298 MILLION GROSS STATEWIDE ONE-TIME FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY-BASED RESIDENTIAL-- IS THERE GOING TO BE A FORMULA WITH THAT, OR IS THAT ALREADY BAKED AND INCLUDED IN THE BUDGET? IT IS ON PAGE 5 AND 6 OF YOUR MEMO.

DR. CHRISTINA GHALY: ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT CALA.I.M.? FOR CALA.I.M.?

SUP. BARGER: CALA.I.M. BECAUSE IT'S TALKING ABOUT HOW THERE'S GOING TO BE-- SO, I AM JUST WONDERING IF THAT'S ALREADY INCLUDED, OR IS THAT WHAT YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT, IN TERMS OF THERE IS A LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL?

DR. CHRISTINA GHALY: BUT THIS IS THE ONE-TIME FUNDING THAT IS AVAILABLE THROUGH P.A.T.H., SO L.A. COUNTY, D.H.S., ALONG WITH SOME OTHER DEPARTMENTS, WILL RECEIVE A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF SET FUNDING ON A ONE-TIME BASIS FOR P.A.T.H., WHICH IS TRANSITION FUNDING, AS WE TRANSITION TO THE NEW SYSTEM, BUT IT'S NOT ONGOING FUNDS.

SUP. BARGER: GOT IT. AND THEN MY LAST QUESTION IS, FOR THE CORRECTIONAL HEALTH SERVICES, ARE WE TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THAT WE CAN NOW BILL FOR THE PRE-ADJUDICATED IN OUR JAILS? BECAUSE I DON'T SEE... UNLESS I AM NOT READING THIS RIGHT, BECAUSE I HAVEN'T BEEN DOING THIS.

DR. CHRISTINA GHALY: I'LL ASK ALLAN TO COMMENT ON WHETHER OR NOT THAT IS IN THE FORECAST, BUT OPERATIONALLY, THAT'S SOMETHING THAT WE ARE PREPARING FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF, AND IT IS SOMETHING THAT, AMONG MANY OTHER REASONS, WE WILL NEED OUR

NEW REVENUE CYCLE SYSTEM FOR, THAT WE'RE WORKING ON THE SOLICITATION FOR, BECAUSE WE NEED THAT SYSTEM TO BE ABLE TO IMPLEMENT THE BILLING IN C.H.S., CONSISTENT WITH THE 90-DAY PRE-RELEASE AND POST-RELEASE.

ALLAN WECKER: THE INFORMATION IS, WE HAVE NOT FORECASTED WHAT THE REVENUE WILL BE AT THIS MOMENT. WE ARE STILL WORKING WITH THE STATE TO COME UP WITH WHAT THE RATES ARE GOING TO BE. BUT AGAIN, WE DO NEED A PATIENT ACCOUNTING SYSTEM, IN ORDER FOR US TO DO THE BILLING, AND WE ARE PROBABLY LOOKING AT ABOUT A YEAR AND A HALF TO TWO YEARS TO HAVE IT OPERATIONAL.

SUP. BARGER: SO, BUT YOU'VE GOT THE FUNDING TO PUT THAT SYSTEM TOGETHER?

ALLAN WECKER: YES.

SUP. BARGER: BECAUSE, I MEAN, THAT WOULD BE A PRIORITY, FOR SURE.

ALLAN WECKER: YES.

SUP. BARGER: BUT I REALLY AM HAPPY THAT YOU HELD THIS. BUT ALL KIDDING ASIDE, TO MY COLLEAGUES, RIGHT THERE, AN AMAZING

FINANCIAL WIZARD WHEN IT COMES TO HEALTH SERVICES, AND IT IS GOOD TO SEE YOU, ALLAN.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: ANY OTHER QUESTIONS?

SUP. SOLIS: MADAM CHAIR, JUST A COMMENT. I WANT TO ALSO THANK CHRISTINA AND YOUR TEAM THERE, BECAUSE YOU DO SO MANY MORE THINGS THAT PEOPLE DON'T EVEN UNDERSTAND. YOU ALSO ARE A FACILITY, AMONGST OTHERS, THAT HELP TO TRAIN INTERNS AND MEDICAL FOLKS THAT ACTUALLY COME IN AND DO THE SERVICES, AND WE GET THAT AT A RATE. AND THEN WE ARE EXPECTED TO PROVIDE GOOD-QUALITY CARE. AND SOMETIMES THE PUBLIC MAY OR MAY NOT UNDERSTAND THAT, BECAUSE OF, YOU KNOW, WHATEVER, CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE, MAYBE, SOME PATIENTS, SOMETHING HAPPENED. BUT I THINK THAT'S AN ANOMALY BECAUSE, FOR THE MOST PART, YOU ALL HAVE STOOD UP A REALLY GOOD SYSTEM OF CARE, AND I SAW THAT THE FIRST TIME, DIRECTLY, WITH C.O.V.I.D. AND THE PANDEMIC. AND I REALLY WANT TO JUST SAY THANK YOU, AND TO THE STAFF, BECAUSE THE MORALE THERE, I THINK-- AT LEAST, I KNOW, FOR OUR HOSPITAL-- IS GOOD. AND I AM VERY THANKFUL, BECAUSE I, TOO, REMEMBER-- I WAS IN SACRAMENTO WHEN MOLINA WAS SITTING HERE, AND SHE WOULD GO UP EVERY WEEK, AND POUNDING THE PAVEMENT TO TRY TO GET THIS WAIVER THROUGH, AND ALL KINDS OF THINGS. SO I WILL NEVER FORGET WHAT COULD HAVE BEEN, AND HOW THAT WAS FENDED OFF. AND NOW WE ARE IN A DIFFERENT POSITION, BUT I

UNDERSTAND, SINCE I HAVE BEEN ON THE BOARD, THE STRUCTURAL DEFICIT HAS BEEN HERE, SO IT'S NOT AS THOUGH WE'RE GOING TO BE CRUSHED, BECAUSE YOU ALL ARE MANAGING THAT. AND I KNOW THAT THE C.E.O. AND EVERYONE HERE IS FULLY BEHIND YOU, SO THANK YOU.

DR. CHRISTINA GHALY: THANK YOU, SUPERVISOR. THE STAFF IN D.H.S. ARE AMAZING. THEY DO HARD WORK EVERY DAY, AND THEY DO IT REALLY, REALLY WELL. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: ALL RIGHT. SEEING NO OTHER COMMENTS, EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PLEASE CALL THE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO HAVE SIGNED UP TO SPEAK ON THIS ITEM.

SPEAKER: MADAM CHAIR, THERE ARE NO IN-PERSON SPEAKERS THAT HAVE SIGNED UP FOR THIS ITEM. AS A FINAL REMINDER FOR PARTICIPANTS ON THE TELEPHONE, IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS ITEM 45, IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO, PLEASE PRESS ONE THEN ZERO NOW TO BE PLACED IN THE SPEAKING QUEUE. MODERATOR, MAY WE HAVE THE FIRST REMOTE SPEAKER, PLEASE?

MODERATOR: OUR FIRST SPEAKER IS A SALAM ALIM. PLEASE GO AHEAD. YOUR LINE IS OPEN. SALAM, PERHAPS YOU HAVE YOUR MUTE BUTTON ON, AND WE CANNOT HEAR YOU.

SPEAKER: HOW ABOUT NOW?

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: WE CAN HEAR YOU NOW.

SPEAKER: CAN YOU HEAR ME?

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: YES.

SPEAKER: OKAY. SO, CAN I HAVE MY MINUTE FOR AGENDA 27, PLEASE?

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: WE ARE ON ITEM 45. SO IF YOU'D LIKE TO SPEAK ON THAT ITEM, YOU CAN SPEAK DURING PUBLIC COMMENT, WHICH IS IN JUST A COUPLE OF ITEMS. SO HOLD ON FOR JUST A LITTLE BIT LONGER.

SPEAKER: I AM GOING TO GO SEE MY DAUGHTER.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: OKAY, THAT MAKES SENSE. NEXT SPEAKER.

MODERATOR: AND WE HAVE NO FURTHER SPEAKERS IN QUEUE AT THIS TIME.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: ALL RIGHT. THIS REPORT IS RECEIVED AND FILED. HEARING NO OBJECTION, THAT WILL BE THE ORDER. WE WILL NOW MOVE ON TO ITEM 65 AND ITS RELATED ITEM, 103, COUNTY CODE

TITLE 16, HIGHWAYS AMENDMENT, WHICH WERE HELD BY SUPERVISOR MITCHELL. FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ON THE TELEPHONE, PLEASE PRESS 1 THEN 0 NOW TO COMMENT ON THIS ITEM. I WILL TURN IT TO SUPERVISOR MITCHELL TO PROVIDE COMMENTS.

SUP. MITCHELL: I GOT DISTRACTED BY STAFF WAVING. IF THAT WAS A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC...

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: SUPERVISOR MITCHELL?

SUP. MITCHELL: I WILL GO AHEAD WITH FOLLOWING YOUR LEAD, AND STOP LOOKING AROUND. OKAY. I'M SORRY, MADAM CHAIR.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THAT'S ALL RIGHT.

SUP. MITCHELL: IT IS THE SUGAR FROM THE CANDY. DON'T GIVE ME ANY MORE. DON'T LET ME HAVE ANY MORE. WITH THE TEMPORARY VERSION OF THE OUTDOOR DINING PROGRAM, I OBSERVED THAT, IN MY OWN DISTRICT, ZERO OUTDOOR DINING PERMITS WERE ISSUED, DESPITE BEING DISPROPORTIONATELY NEGATIVELY IMPACTED DURING THE PANDEMIC. SO LAST APRIL, WE DIRECTED DEPARTMENTS TO MOVE FORWARD ON CREATING A PERMANENT VERSION OF THE PROGRAM, WITH A FOCUS ON EQUITY. MINORITY-OWNED BUSINESSES AND BUSINESSES IN LOW-INCOME COMMUNITIES WITHIN THE COUNTY RECEIVED LITTLE TO NO SUPPORT THROUGH THE TEMPORARY PROGRAM, BUT I HAVE HIGH HOPES,

PARTICULARLY WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES INVOLVEMENT, THAT THE PERMANENT PROGRAM WILL BE DIFFERENT. SO I HAVE ASKED STAFF TO COME TODAY TO ANSWER A COUPLE OF QUESTIONS, AND I WILL START WITH, HOW WILL THE PROGRAM BE DELIVERED EQUITABLY, AND HOW CAN WE TRACK IT, THIS GO-AROUND?

JESSICA KIM: GOOD AFTERNOON. JESSICA KIM. I AM THE CHIEF DEPUTY OF D.E.O. THANK YOU FOR THE QUESTION. WE ARE GOING TO DEPLOY AN ACTIVE CAMPAIGN, WHERE WE WILL BOTH FOCUS ON THE DIGITAL AND THE IN-PERSON OUTREACH, WITH MEASUREMENTS THAT SEEK TO BOTH REACH THE COMMUNITY IN PERSON, ENGAGE OUR STAKEHOLDER GROUPS, AND ENSURE THAT WE ARE PARTNERING WITH FOLKS LIKE OUR RESTAURANT ASSOCIATIONS, OUR HOSPITALITY ASSOCIATIONS, AS WELL AS OUR CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND OTHERS. WE WILL ALSO BE TRACKING THE OUTREACH, AND SO WE WILL HAVE THOSE MEASUREMENTS MADE READILY AVAILABLE. AND WE WILL ALSO ENSURE THAT OUR OUTREACH IS DONE BOTH IN ENGLISH AND IN SPANISH. AND SO WE WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT IT IS ACCESSIBLE, AND THAT AS WE ARE DEMYSTIFYING ANYTHING AS WE THINK ABOUT THE LANGUAGE, AS WE THINK ABOUT HOW WE PRESENT THE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERMITTING PROCESS, AND THAT IT IS ALSO CLEAR. AND SO WE WILL BE ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY TO MAKE SURE OUR COMMUNICATION IS ALSO REALLY CLEAR.

SUP. MITCHELL: AND SO, ARE ENGLISH AND SPANISH OUR ONLY OPTIONS? I REPRESENT KOREATOWN, AND THE NUMBER OF KOREAN RESTAURANT ESTABLISHMENTS THAT ALSO WEREN'T INCLUDED IN THE OUTDOOR DINING PERMITS IN THE SECOND DISTRICT, BUT WANTED THEM.

JESSICA KIM: I APPRECIATE THAT, AND WE WILL ABSOLUTELY MAKE IT AVAILABLE IN OTHER LANGUAGES, AS WELL. AND SO, IF PEOPLE NEED LANGUAGE SERVICES, WE WILL SHOW UP IN THE COMMUNITY WITH THE APPROPRIATE LANGUAGE CAPABILITIES.

SUP. MITCHELL: EXCELLENT, EXCELLENT. AND SO I AM HOPING THAT IF THE PERMITS ARE CONNECTED TO ACTUAL ADDRESSES, WE WILL BE ABLE TO ALSO TRACK, FROM AN EQUITY LENS, WHERE PERMITS ARE BEING ISSUED.

JESSICA KIM: YES. AND IF I CAN ALSO JUST ADD, WE WILL ALSO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OTHER AVENUES THAT WE'VE DONE. SO, WITH OUR ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY GRANTS, WE HAD OVER 10,000 BUSINESSES APPLY FOR THE KEEP L.A. DINING, AND SO WE HAVE A GREAT LIST THAT WAS PRIORITIZED FOR THOSE MOST IN NEED, OF RESTAURANTS. AND SO WE PLAN ON LEVERAGING PAST EFFORTS, BUT ONGOING EFFORTS, LIKE SHOP LOCAL L.A., THAT ARE ALSO TARGETED FOR BUSINESSES MOST IN NEED, ALL THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY.

SUP. MITCHELL: GREAT, GREAT. AND I DON'T KNOW, WE COULD TALK OFFLINE ABOUT WHAT NUMBER WOULD WE DEEM KIND OF SUCCESS. BUT I THINK THE LIST YOU'VE TALKED ABOUT, THE PEOPLE THAT ARE ALREADY KIND OF IN OUR SYSTEM, IF THERE'S SOME TARGETED OUTREACH THERE, I THINK WE WILL DO BETTER, I THINK, THAN WE DID LAST GO-AROUND. I UNDERSTAND THE DEPARTMENTS OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC WORKS MADE A NUMBER OF CHANGES TO STREAMLINE THE PERMITTING PROCESS AND ALLEVIATE BURDENS ON INDIVIDUAL BUSINESSES. HOW WILL YOU ADVERTISE THOSE CHANGES TO BUSINESSES AND PROMOTE ANY SUPPORT COUNTY DEPARTMENTS CAN PROVIDE, IN TERMS OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, OR WHATEVER KIND OF SUPPORT AVAILABLE?

JESSICA KIM: THE DEPARTMENTS HAVE WORKED TOGETHER TO STAND UP A WEBSITE WHERE ALL INFORMATION WILL BE CENTRALIZED. WE WILL ALSO DEPLOY A SOCIAL MEDIA TOOLKIT TO MAKE SURE THAT INFORMATION IS SHARED BROADLY ACROSS THE REGION, AS WELL AS LEVERAGING ONGOING EFFORTS FOR OUTREACH.

MARK PESTRELLA: ADDITIONALLY, SUPERVISOR, WE HAVE COMBINED THE PERMITTING PROCESS UNDER EPIC L.A., THE ENTERPRISE PERMITTING SYSTEM FOR L.A. COUNTY, AND WE'VE BROUGHT MORE PARTNER AGENCIES INTO IT. THIS HAS BEEN GIVING PEOPLE MORE ACCESS TO ALL THE DEPARTMENTS, RATHER THAN JUST ONE, SO YOU ARE ABLE TO, LIKE, A ONE-STOP SHOP. WE REDUCED THE FEES FOR THE PERMITS, AS

WELL, THROUGH THAT PROCESS, BOTH THE FEE FOR A RESTAURANT, AS WELL AS THE FEE FOR ANY OTHER USE THAT'S GOING TO BE PUT ON THE SIDEWALK AS AN OUTDOOR FACILITY. SO WE JUST MADE IT EASIER AND MORE CONSOLIDATED. WE'VE CREATED A ONE-STOP SHOP THROUGH THE ENTERPRISE PROGRAM, AND THAT GIVES PEOPLE THE ABILITY, WITH D.E.O.'S HELP, TO WALK THEM THROUGH THE PROCESS, A STREAMLINED PROCESS, WITH ONE STOP AND A CHEAPER FEE. SO THAT'S A GOOD IMPROVEMENT TO WHAT WE WERE DOING PREVIOUSLY, WHERE IT WAS REALLY UNKNOWN HOW WE WERE GOING TO PERMIT THIS, AND YOU HAD TO GO TO EACH DIFFERENT DEPARTMENT TO KNOW WHAT THE RULES WERE.

SUP. MITCHELL: EXCELLENT, EXCELLENT. I KNOW THAT THERE ARE NUMEROUS EFFORTS TO HELP BUSINESSES AND EDUCATE THEM ON VARIOUS RELIEF PROGRAMS, SO CAN OUTDOOR DINING BE INCLUDED IN SOME OF THOSE OTHER EFFORTS, SO WE CAN KIND OF RIDE ON THE COATTAILS OF SOME OF THE EFFORTS THAT MIGHT BE BETTER KNOWN?

JESSICA KIM: ABSOLUTELY.

SUP. MITCHELL: OKAY, GREAT. I JUST THANK YOU FOR COMING AND WALKING US THROUGH THIS. KNOWING THE DIVERSITY OF RESTAURANTS IN UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE COUNTY, I WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT IT IS LINGUISTICALLY ACCESSIBLE. I APPRECIATE HEARING THAT THE PERMITTING FEES HAVE BEEN STREAMLINED,

SIMPLIFIED, AND THE FEES REDUCED TO REALLY ENCOURAGE THESE, IN MANY INSTANCES, MOM-AND-POP RESTAURATEURS HAVE EVERY ADVANTAGE THAT THEIR COMPETITION, IF YOU WILL, IN OTHER CITIES HAVE BEEN AFFORDED, AND CERTAINLY ACROSS THE SECOND SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT. SO THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MADAM CHAIR.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU VERY MUCH. SUPERVISOR BARGER?

SUP. BARGER: THANK YOU, AND I WANT TO THANK YOU. I KNOW THAT, ESPECIALLY IN MY UNINCORPORATED CITIES-- ALTADENA, IN PARTICULAR-- I MEAN, THEY HAVE REALLY EMBRACED THE OUTDOOR DINING. AND I KNOW THE RESTAURANTS, BECAUSE OF THE INCREASED COSTS TO RUN A RESTAURANT, IT'S BEEN INVALUABLE TO THEM, BECAUSE THEY HAVE BEEN ABLE TO AT LEAST OFFSET THE RISING COST BY PROVIDING MORE TABLES. BUT I GUESS, MARK, WHEN YOU TALK ABOUT THE PERMITTING, THESE ARE ALREADY IN EXISTENCE, SO ARE WE ADDING ANY LAYERS OF BUREAUCRACY THAT THEY'RE GOING TO BE REQUIRED TO DO, AS IT RELATES TO MOVING FORWARD, OR IS IT JUST FORMALIZING AND PERMITTING?

MARK PESTRELLA: SO, PREVIOUSLY-- WELL, THE BUILDING PERMIT PROCESS, AS YOU KNOW, SUPERVISOR, HAS BEEN COMPLICATED, AND IT GETS COMPLICATED WHEN WE PUT A NEW USE LIKE THIS IN PLACE. SO WHAT WE HAVE DONE IS ACTUALLY CREATED GUIDELINES FOR ANYONE THAT IS SEEKING TO HAVE THIS KIND OF USE IN L.A. COUNTY

UNINCORPORATED AREAS. WE CREATED ONE SIMPLIFIED DOCUMENT. WE CUT DOWN THE BUREAUCRACY BY APPOINTING AN ENTITY WITHIN EACH DEPARTMENT TO HAVE A SPECIFIC POINT OF CONTACT, AND THEN PUTTING IT INTO THE ENTERPRISE SYSTEM FOR PERMITTING.

SUP. BARGER: SO IF I APPLY TOMORROW, WHEN WILL I GET APPROVED? WHAT'S THE TURNAROUND?

MARK PESTRELLA: OH, THAT'S INTERESTING. YEAH. WELL, OUR TURNAROUND TIME ON RESIDENT-- I LIKE THAT. WE DO HAVE A TURNAROUND TIME ON SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL.

SUP. BARGER: NO, IF I AM A RESTAURANT IN ALTADENA, AND I HAVE BEEN OPERATING, AND I WANT TO GET THE PERMIT, AND I FILL OUT THE PAPERWORK, WHEN WILL I HEAR BACK FROM YOU ALL? AND CAN I OPERATE DURING THAT PERIOD OF TIME?

MARK PESTRELLA: I LIKE THE PERFORMANCE METRICS BEING ASKED OF ME, AND WHAT I WILL DO IS COME BACK TO YOU. BUT WHY DON'T YOU JUST CHALLENGE ME? SUPERVISOR, A THREE-WEEK TURNAROUND FOR THIS.

SUP. BARGER: TWO-WEEK?

MARK PESTRELLA: THREE-WEEK-- OH, YOU ARE BARTERING WITH ME.

SUP. BARGER: I THOUGHT YOU SAID TWO WEEKS. OH, I THOUGHT YOU SAID TWO.

MARK PESTRELLA: A THREE-WEEK TURNAROUND WOULD BE PRETTY AMAZING, AND I THINK IT IS SOMETHING WE COULD ACHIEVE.

SUP. BARGER: WELL, IF IT'S ONE PAGE. I MEAN, I AM JUST TRYING TO UNDERSTAND. AND BELIEVE ME, I AM EXCITED THAT YOU ARE BRINGING THIS FORWARD, SO I AM NOT CHASTISING YOU AT ALL. I JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT OUR EXPECTATIONS, AND THE EXPECTATIONS OF OUR UNINCORPORATED RESTAURANTS THAT WANT TO DO THIS, ARE THE SAME.

MARK PESTRELLA: IT MAKES SENSE. AND WHY DON'T I COME BACK TO YOU WITH A SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE MEASURE FOR PERMITTING OF THESE TYPES OF STRUCTURES IN L.A. COUNTY?

SUP. BARGER: AND THEN, I KNOW THAT I WORK CLOSELY WITH MY TOWN COUNCILS IN THE FIFTH. WE HAVE ELECTED TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS BY THE COMMUNITY, AND I JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE-- AND THE ONUS WILL BE ON US, AS WELL, TO MAKE SURE OUR TOWN COUNCILS ARE OFFERING ANY INPUT. BUT THAT'S ON US TO DO, BECAUSE WE WORK WITH OUR TOWN COUNCILS. BUT I REALLY AM EXCITED ABOUT THIS. THIS WAS, AGAIN, AN OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE SOMETHING SO NEGATIVE

OUT OF C.O.V.I.D., AND MAKE IT A POSITIVE. AND I KNOW PASADENA, ALSO, IS DOING THIS, AND SO IT IS A WIN-WIN. SO, THANK YOU.

MARK PESTRELLA: SUPERVISOR, CAN I MENTION SOMETHING? BECAUSE I JUST READ MY NOTES HERE.

SUP. BARGER: TWO WEEKS?

MARK PESTRELLA: WELL, I WANT TO MENTION THIS TO YOU. PREVIOUSLY, WE REQUIRED A PLAN REVIEW PROCESS. NOW IT IS SIMPLIFIED BECAUSE WE HAVE STANDARDIZED PLANS FOR THESE USES. SO YOU DON'T NECESSARILY HAVE TO HIRE AN ARCHITECT OR ENGINEER TO DO THE WORK. ESSENTIALLY, YOU ADOPT ONE OF OUR STANDARDIZED PLANS, AND YOU ARE GOOD TO GO.

SUP. BARGER: BUT IF I'M ALREADY DOING IT-- I MEAN, I AM NOT GOING TO NAME A RESTAURANT, BUT LET'S SAY I AM FILL-IN-THE-BLANK RESTAURANT, AND I'VE ALREADY GOT THE OUTDOOR DINING FROM C.O.V.I.D. AM I GOING TO HAVE TO MODIFY THAT, OR IS THAT BUILT IN, OR IS THAT ALREADY--

MARK PESTRELLA: YOU ARE ALREADY GOOD. YOU'RE GOOD TO GO IN THAT SITUATION, YEAH.

SUP. BARGER: OKAY, THANK YOU.

SUP. BARGER: SUPERVISOR HAHN?

SUP. HAHN: THANK YOU. DO YOU GUYS KEEP BARGERISMS, LIKE I DO? I WRITE DOWN LITTLE-- EVERY TIME SHE SAYS-- SHE'S LIKE, YOU KNOW, THINGS LIKE, "WITH EVERY DARK CLOUD, THERE'S A SILVER LINING." YOU SAID THAT EARLIER TODAY. I LIKED IT WHEN YOU SAID, "AND IT WON'T CURE WHAT AILS THESE PARKS." AND YOU JUST SAID, "TAKE A NEGATIVE AND MAKE A POSITIVE." THERE'S A BUNCH OF THEM. YOU GUYS SHOULD START-- I HAVE A WHOLE LITTLE DRAWER OF BARGERISMS. BUT ON THAT NOTE OF TAKING A NEGATIVE AND MAKING IT POSITIVE, OR WITH EVERY DARK CLOUD THERE'S A SILVER LINING, THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT OUTDOOR DINING REALLY IS, THAT CAME OUT OF THE PANDEMIC, AND THOSE RESTAURANTS THAT WERE ABLE TO PIVOT AND DO OUTDOOR DINING WERE THE ONES THAT WERE SUCCESSFUL. I MEAN, WE ALL SAW COMPLETE DINING ROOMS BEING SET UP IN A PARKING LOT, WITH A FEW TABLES AND SOME PLANTS. AND IT WAS SAD BECAUSE SOME OF THE RESTAURANTS THAT WERE UNABLE TO PIVOT TO OUTDOOR-- SOME THAT WEREN'T WHERE A PARKING LOT WAS, OR HAD NO SIDEWALK SPACE-- WERE SOME OF THE ONES THAT DIDN'T SURVIVE. SO I THINK THIS IS GREAT. SO, I WAS NOTICING THAT THERE'S NO ACTIVE PERMITS IN MY DISTRICT TO APPLY FOR THIS, AND JUST KIND OF WONDERING, HOW ARE YOU DOING YOUR OUTREACH? HOW ARE YOU ENGAGING SOME OF THESE BUSINESSES, TO LET THEM

KNOW THAT WE NOW WILL BE HAVING THIS OUTDOOR DINING PERMANENT ORDINANCE?

JESSICA KIM: THERE'S BEEN ENGAGEMENT WITH BUSINESSES SO FAR, BUT THERE ABSOLUTELY WILL BE ONGOING AND ADDITIONAL BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT. AND SO WE PLAN ON DOING IT IN PERSON. ONE, WE KNOW WE NEED TO GO INTO THE COMMUNITY, AND SO WE WILL TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OPPORTUNITIES, AND PLAN AND STRATEGICALLY IDENTIFY ESPECIALLY HIGH-DENSITY AREAS, WHERE WE KNOW OUR SMALLEST OF RESTAURANTS, TOO, WHO STRUGGLE AT TIMES TO STEP AWAY FROM THEIR BUSINESS TO COME AND LEARN, WE WANT TO GO TO THEM AND MAKE THE INFORMATION ACCESSIBLE. WITH THAT, WE'LL ALSO PROVIDE THEM WITH A CONCIERGE TYPE OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. IN SOME OF THE WORK THAT LED UP TO THIS, WE IDENTIFIED THERE ARE FINANCIAL BARRIERS, THERE ARE WORKFORCE ISSUES, AND OTHER THINGS THAT PREVENTED MANY OF THE BUSINESSES FROM DOING OUTDOOR DINING. AND SO WE KNOW THAT JUST GETTING A PERMIT ISN'T GOING TO SOLVE THE ISSUE FOR MANY OF OUR SMALL BUSINESSES AND OUR RESTAURANTS, SO WE'RE GOING TO COME WITH THE FULL SWEEP OF THE SERVICES THAT OUR OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS AND OUR ENTREPRENEURSHIP CENTER CAN PROVIDE TO THE BUSINESSES, AND MAKE SURE THAT THEY HAVE THAT ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE.

SUP. HAHN: I KNOW IN MY DISTRICT, AND I KNOW SOME OF OUR OTHER DISTRICTS, WE HAVE SPANISH-SPEAKING BUSINESS OWNERS. HOW ARE YOU MAKING SURE THAT YOUR INFORMATION IS NOT ONLY IN SPANISH, BUT IN OTHER LANGUAGES?

JESSICA KIM: WE THANKFULLY HAVE STAFF, BUT WE WILL ALSO RELY ON MANY OF OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS AS WE DO OUR ECONOMIC WORK. WE ALWAYS RELY ON OUR PARTNERS TO COME OUT WITH US, AND DO IT IN PARTNERSHIP WITH OUR COMMUNITY.

SUP. HAHN: THANK YOU. AND AGAIN, THANK YOU TO MARK AND YOUR DEPARTMENT FOR REALLY PIVOTING DURING C.O.V.I.D. AND DOING THE INTERIM ORDINANCE TO ALLOW FOR THIS. IT WAS SOMETHING WE HAD NEVER DONE BEFORE, BUT I THINK IT REALLY WENT A LONG WAY TO HELPING THE RESIDENTS. ONE OF THE SUGGESTIONS I MIGHT MAKE IS TO WORK WITH THE CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE. I MEAN, I THINK THEY'RE A REALLY GOOD-- EVERY ONE OF OUR DISTRICTS HAS MULTIPLE CHAMBERS, AND THEY DO A GOOD JOB OF GETTING THE INFORMATION OUT, AT LEAST TO THEIR MEMBERS. I MEAN, IF YOU'RE NOT A MEMBER OF THE CHAMBER, THEN YOU WOULDN'T GET IT. BUT I DO THINK IT'S KIND OF LET THEM DO SOME OF THE WORK FOR YOU, BECAUSE THEY HAVE A VERY GOOD NETWORK OF COMMUNICATING WITH THEIR BUSINESSES.

JESSICA KIM: GREAT IDEA, AND WE'VE ENGAGED SOME, BUT THERE'S DEFINITELY MANY MORE, TOO. THANK YOU.

SUP. HAHN: YEAH, WE WOULD BE HAPPY-- PARTICULARLY IN MY DISTRICT, WE'LL BE REALLY HAPPY TO GIVE YOU THE NAMES AND NUMBERS AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS. I THINK THEY WOULD REALLY APPRECIATE BEING YOUR PARTNER IN HELPING TO GET THE INFORMATION OUT, BECAUSE THEY KNOW IT'S GOOD FOR THE RESTAURANTS.

JESSICA KIM: ABSOLUTELY.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: ALL RIGHT. SEEING NO OTHER SUPERVISORS IN THE QUEUE, EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PLEASE CALL THE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO HAVE SIGNED UP TO SPEAK ON THIS ITEM.

SPEAKER: MADAM CHAIR, NO IN-PERSON MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HAVE SIGNED UP FOR THIS ITEM. AS A FINAL REMINDER FOR PARTICIPANTS ON THE TELEPHONE, IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS ITEM 65, RELATING TO ITEM 103, AND IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO, PLEASE PRESS 1 THEN 0 NOW TO BE PLACED IN THE SPEAKING QUEUE. MODERATOR, MAY WE HAVE THE FIRST REMOTE SPEAKER, PLEASE?

MODERATOR: OUR FIRST REMOTE SPEAKER IS BEA CORRELL. PLEASE GO AHEAD. YOUR LINE IS OPEN.

SPEAKER: I WISH TO BE MOVED TO PUBLIC COMMENT. I APOLOGIZE. I WAS ON THE QUEUE TOO EARLY.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: IT'S OKAY. WE'RE GETTING SO CLOSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT. KEEP HANGING WITH US. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT SPEAKER IS PAUL HENNESSY. PLEASE GO AHEAD. YOUR LINE IS OPEN.

SPEAKER: YEAH, DEFINITELY SUPPORT CUTTING ANY RED TAPE FOR THIS. YOU KNOW, THE OUTDOOR DINING HAS PROVIDED SUCH A VIBRANCY TO L.A., AS WELL AS SAFETY FOR THOSE WHO DON'T WANT TO EAT INDOORS, AND A LOT OF DIFFERENT OPTIONS. SO IT'S GREAT FOR BUSINESS, GREAT FOR THE LOOK OF L.A., AND, YEAH, JUST GREAT FOR THE RESIDENTS, AS WELL. SO, ANYTHING YOU CAN DO TO EXPEDITE APPROVALS, TO CUT THROUGH RED TAPE, DEFINITELY SUPPORT THAT. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. ITEM 65 IS BEFORE US. MOVED BY SUPERVISOR MITCHELL, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR BARGER TO APPROVE THE ITEM. EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PLEASE CALL THE ROLL.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: ITEM 65 IS BEFORE YOU. SUPERVISOR SOLIS?

SUP. SOLIS: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR SOLIS, AYE. SUPERVISOR MITCHELL?

SUP. MITCHELL: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR MITCHELL, AYE. SUPERVISOR HAHN?

SUP. HAHN: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR HAHN, AYE. SUPERVISOR BARGER?

SUP. BARGER: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR BARGER, AYE. SUPERVISOR HORVATH?

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR HORVATH, AYE. MOTION CARRIES, 5-0.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: ITEM 103 IS BEFORE US. MOVED BY SUPERVISOR HAHN, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR SOLIS TO APPROVE THE ITEM. EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PLEASE CALL THE ROLL.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: ITEM 103 IS BEFORE YOU. SUPERVISOR SOLIS?

SUP. SOLIS: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR SOLIS, AYE. SUPERVISOR MITCHELL?

SUP. MITCHELL: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR MITCHELL, AYE. SUPERVISOR HAHN?

SUP. HAHN: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR HAHN, AYE. SUPERVISOR BARGER?

SUP. BARGER: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR BARGER, AYE. SUPERVISOR HORVATH?

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR HORVATH, AYE. MOTION CARRIES, 5-0.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT THERE ARE NO SPECIALS TODAY. WE WILL NOW GET TO PUBLIC COMMENT. FOR ALL OF YOU WHO HAVE BEEN HANGING IN, WE ARE EXCITED TO HEAR FROM YOU. WE'LL NOW HEAR FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON ALL REMAINING ITEMS NOT HELD BY SUPERVISORS, AND GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT. FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ON THE TELEPHONE, PLEASE PRESS 1 THEN 0 NOW TO COMMENT ON THESE ITEMS. YOU MUST INDICATE THE AGENDA ITEM NUMBERS THAT YOU WISH TO ADDRESS, INCLUDING GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT, IN ORDER FOR US TO ALLOCATE THE APPROPRIATE AMOUNT OF TIME. EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PLEASE CALL THOSE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO HAVE SIGNED UP TO SPEAK ON THE REMAINING ITEMS, AS WELL AS GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT. EXECUTIVE OFFICER, I KNOW YOU DON'T WANT TO LEAVE US, BUT MAYBE YOU WANT TO KEEP THIS PART GOING. WE DON'T REALLY WANT YOU TO LEAVE, EITHER, BUT WE MIGHT WANT TO END THIS MEETING SOON.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: WHY DON'T WE GO ON THE TELEPHONE? MODERATOR, MAY WE HAVE THE FIRST TELEPHONIC SPEAKER, PLEASE?

MODERATOR: YOUR FIRST SPEAKER IS JOE REINSTEIN. PLEASE GO AHEAD. YOUR LINE IS OPEN.

JOE REINSTEIN: HELLO, CAN YOU HEAR ME?

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: YES, WE CAN.

JOE REINSTEIN: THANK YOU. AND ALSO, I'M SO SORRY, DO I HAVE ONE MINUTE OR TWO?

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: WHAT ITEMS ARE YOU SPEAKING ON?

JOE REINSTEIN: ITEM NUMBER 8.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: YOU HAVE ONE MINUTE.

JOE REINSTEIN: OKAY. MY NAME IS JOE REINSTEIN, AND I LEAD THE DIGITAL RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION, A COALITION OF RESTAURANTS ADVOCATING FOR A MORE FAIR RESTAURANT TECHNOLOGY ECOSYSTEM. WE COMMEND THE BOARD FOR TAKING THE INITIATIVE TO PROTECT LOCAL RESTAURANTS, BUT ADDITIONAL PROTECTIONS ARE REQUIRED TO ENSURE THIS DOESN'T HAVE UNINTENDED NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES FOR RESTAURANTS AND CUSTOMERS. WE HAVE SEEN THIS EXACT SAME PROPOSAL IN CITIES LIKE WASHINGTON, D.C., AND SAN FRANCISCO, WITH DEVASTATING EFFECTS ON LOCAL RESTAURANTS. WHEN THESE

CITIES REPLACED THEIR FEE CAPS WITH THE ABILITY FOR DELIVERY PLATFORMS TO CHARGE FOR "OPTIONAL ADDITIONAL SERVICES," RESTAURANTS THAT REFUSE TO PAY FOR THE ADDITIONAL SERVICES SAW THEIR VISIBILITY ON THE PLATFORMS DRAMATICALLY DECREASE, AND ORDER VOLUMES AND REVENUE PLUMMET. IF BIG DELIVERY PLATFORMS WANT NO LIMITS ON ADDITIONAL FEES, THEN THEY NEED TO TRANSPARENTLY--

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT SPEAKER IS BEA CORRELL. PLEASE GO AHEAD. YOUR LINE IS OPEN.

SPEAKER: GOOD EVENING, MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. I'M CALLING IN AS A TRANSGENDER NONBINARY SOCIAL WORKER, CURRENTLY WORKING IN S.D. 2 WITH THE TRANSLATINA COALITION. I WANT TO FIRST THANK THE BOARD MEMBERS FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT TO OUR COMMUNITY. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO URGE THE BOARD TO CONSIDER ADOPTING A TRANSGENDER WELLNESS AND EQUITY FUND. I'VE SEEN EVERY SINGLE BOARD MEMBER TAKE A STANCE TOWARDS ADDRESSING CRITICAL ISSUES SUCH AS HOMELESSNESS, SUBSTANCE USE, AND MENTAL HEALTH, AND AS WE TAKE TIME TO STRATEGIZE HOW TO BEST OPTIMIZE OUR COUNTY DEPARTMENTS FOR THE NEED IN L.A. COUNTY, AND HOW TO BEST BUILD CAPACITY, I URGE YOU ALL TO

CONSIDER THE GAPS THAT TRANSGENDER PEOPLE FACE WHEN ACCESSING SERVICES. I SERVE AS A TRAINING COORDINATOR AT THE TRANSLATINA COALITION, AND WE [INAUDIBLE] CAPACITY-BUILDING AND TRAINING SESSIONS TO ORGANIZATIONS WHO PROVIDE HOMELESSNESS SERVICES. AND I HAVE SEEN THE POTENTIAL THAT THESE TYPE OF PROGRAMS ARE ABLE TO PROVIDE, HOW GRATEFUL SERVICE PROVIDERS ARE FOR THE KNOWLEDGE AND THE EXPERTISE THAT WE'RE ABLE TO GIVE THEM. BUT I'VE ALSO HAD PEOPLE IN MY TRAINING WALK OUT ON ME.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED. MODERATOR, NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

SPEAKER: AND SO I PLEASE URGE YOU TO--

SPEAKER: NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT SPEAKER IS THERESA INDY. PLEASE GO AHEAD. YOUR LINE IS OPEN.

SPEAKER: YES, HELLO. CAN YOU HEAR ME?

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: YES, WE CAN.

SPEAKER: HELLO? OH, THANK YOU. SO, DO I GET ONE MINUTE, OR HOW MANY? GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON ALL ITEMS, PLEASE.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT IS ONE MINUTE.

SPEAKER: OKAY, SO I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT I, AGAINST MY WILL, INHALED METHAMPHETAMINE SMOKE ON THE M.T.A. TRAIN, THE "A" LINE AND THE RED LINE. I'VE HAD TO QUIT A JOB BECAUSE OF BEING EXPOSED, AGAINST MY WILL, TO DRUGS IN OPEN AIR. THE POLICE ARE NOT HELPING. I THINK YOU THINK THAT YOU HAVE THE MEDIA TO BELIEVE THAT HAVING THE POLICE HAS DONE A BETTER JOB. IT'S NOT. I WANT TO BE FOLLOWED UP WITH AFTER THIS CALL BY HOLLY MITCHELL'S OFFICE. THE POLICE ARE JUST-- THE PEOPLE ON THE TRAINS JUST AVOID THEM. YOU NEED UNDERCOVER OFFICERS. I WANT EACH OF YOU TO RIDE THE TRAIN FOR A WEEK WITH NO SECURITY, AND SEE WHAT THE ACTUAL EXPERIENCES ARE. I WANT YOU TO PLEASE GET IT SAFER. THERE'S MENTAL AND VIOLENT INCIDENTS, AND--

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU VERY MUCH. YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION WILL BE PROVIDED TO SUPERVISOR MITCHELL'S OFFICE, SO HER STAFF CAN FOLLOW UP DIRECTLY WITH YOU. THANK YOU FOR CALLING IN. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT SPEAKER IS PAUL HENNESSY. PLEASE GO AHEAD.

SPEAKER: HI. I'M COMMENTING ON ITEMS 51, 53, AND GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT. THE U.S. HAS REPORTED A RECORD IN SYPHILIS CASES. IT'S RUNNING OUT OF DRUGS TO TREAT THESE SYPHILIS CASES. THEY'RE AT THE HIGHEST THEY'VE BEEN IN 70 YEARS. UNSURPRISINGLY, S.A.R.S.-C.O.V.-2 CAUSES IMMUNODEFICIENCY, AND THEN WE'RE LEFT MORE SUSCEPTIBLE TO RECURRENT VIRAL, BACTERIAL, FUNGAL, AND PARASITIC INFECTIONS. THAT'S WHY THERE'S PNEUMONIA OUTBREAKS IN CHINA, AS WELL. LYMPHOCYTOPENIA IS MOST OFTEN DUE TO A.I.D.S. AND S.A.R.S.-C.O.V.-2. IS THAT NOT ENOUGH FOR YOU? C.O.V.I.D. ALSO CONFUSES BRAIN CELLS, EVEN IN THE VACCINATED. SO GET READY FOR MORE MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS IN THE COMING YEARS, AS WELL. ADDITIONALLY, THERE IS A NEW SUPERBUG STRAIN OF GONORRHEA WHICH IS OUTSMARTING ANTIBIOTICS. OUR HEALTHCARE SYSTEM IS FACING UNNECESSARY STRAIN FROM LACK OF MEDICATIONS. WE HAVE BEEN BEGGING PUBLIC HEALTH TO MANDATE RESPIRATORS IN HEALTHCARE. UNMITIGATED SPREAD IN MEDICAL SETTINGS, PHARMACIES, PUBLIC TRANSIT, AND PUBLIC SPACES HAS CONTRIBUTED TO NOT JUST UNNECESSARY C.O.V.I.D. INFECTIONS, BUT ALSO TO LONG-TERM ISSUES LIKE LYMPHOCYTOPENIA. LAST YEAR, NEARLY 4,000 BABIES WERE BORN WITH EYE SYPHILIS, OVER 10 TIMES THE NUMBER IN 2012. SO IMAGINE YOUR CHILD BEING BORN WITH CONGENITAL SYPHILIS, AND WHILE BEING TREATED FOR IT IN A HOSPITAL, THEY CATCH C.O.V.I.D. FROM AN UNMASKED HEALTHCARE WORKER. PUBLIC HEALTH AND, BY EXTENSION, THIS BOARD HAS

ALLOWED, FOR MONTHS, FOR C.O.V.I.D. TO SPREAD UNMITIGATED IN HOSPITALS, SCHOOLS, AND PUBLIC SPACES. WE WERE TOLD MASKS WOULD BE MANDATED IN HEALTHCARE WHEN C.O.V.I.D. CASES WERE HIGH. NOW THAT C.O.V.I.D. IS ONCE AGAIN SURGING, WHERE ARE THE MANDATES? THE LATEST C.O.V.I.D. VARIANT HAS INCREASED IMMUNOEVASIVENESS AND TRANSMISSIBILITY. YOU COULD HAVE PREVENTED SO MANY UNNECESSARY INFECTIONS WITH SIMPLE MITIGATIONS. I BEG YOU TO TAKE THIS VIRUS SERIOUSLY AND MANDATE RESPIRATORS FOR ALL PATIENTS, STAFF, AND VISITORS, REGARDLESS OF VACCINATION STATUS. ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS FOR YOU TO DO SOMETHING, ANYTHING, TO PROTECT ANGELENOS FROM AIRBORNE ILLNESS. THANK YOU.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT SPEAKER IS MINCHI MARAKAMI. PLEASE GO AHEAD. YOUR LINE IS OPEN.

SPEAKER: HI. MY NAME IS MINCHI MARAKAMI, AND I'M SPEAKING ON PUBLIC COMMENT, ITEM 10, AND ITEM 31. AND I'M JUST HERE TO ASK YOU TO PLEASE REINSTATE MASK REQUIREMENTS IN HEALTHCARE FACILITIES IN L.A. COUNTY. I ALREADY KNOW A HANDFUL OF PEOPLE WHO ARE GETTING C.O.V.I.D., AND THEY ARE PEOPLE WHO DON'T EVEN TALK ABOUT IT, AND THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO ARE GETTING OTHER RESPIRATORY ILLNESSES. I KNOW THOSE PEOPLE. NOW, YOU,

SUPERVISORS, MUST ALSO PERSONALLY KNOW SOME PEOPLE WHO ARE GETTING C.O.V.I.D. RIGHT NOW. NOW, IT'S EVERYWHERE. I DON'T KNOW HOW BAD IT HAS TO BE FOR YOU TO REINSTATE MASK REQUIREMENTS IN HEALTHCARE. MY SON, WHO IS 16 YEARS OLD, HAS BEEN MASKING SINCE HE WAS 3 YEARS OLD, AND HE HAS BEEN [INAUDIBLE] WITH ME EVERY WEEK TO REINSTATE MASK REQUIREMENTS IN HEALTHCARE NOW. HE'S BECOMING MORE AND MORE AWARE OF WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE WORLD. HE ASKED ME, "DADDY, WHY DON'T PEOPLE WEAR MASKS?" AND I HAVE TO TELL HIM, "WELL, BECAUSE PEOPLE CANNOT DO THE RIGHT THING, OR PEOPLE DON'T CARE TO DO THE RIGHT THING." EITHER WAY, THAT'S WHY I'M CALLING IN RIGHT NOW. THAT'S WHY WE PROCESS, BECAUSE WE NEED RULES IN PLACE. WE NEED POLICIES TO KEEP PEOPLE SAFE, BECAUSE IT'S A BASIC HUMAN RIGHT TO SAFELY ACCESS HOSPITALS, HEALTHCARE, DOCTORS. SO, PLEASE, MAKE THAT HAPPEN. AND I'M GOING TO FINISH WITH WHAT PAUL WAS SAYING: ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS MASKS IN HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS. THAT'S WHAT I WANT. THANK YOU VERY MUCH, AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: HAPPY HOLIDAYS. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT SPEAKER IS VILMA ASCENCIO. PLEASE GO AHEAD.

SPEAKER: [SPEAKS SPANISH].

TRANSLATOR: YES, GOOD AFTERNOON. MY NAME IS VILMA ASCENCIO, AND I'M CALLING ON ARTICLE 54-A. WE NEED HEALTHY LIVING IN THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES. WE NEED THESE OWNERS TO REPAIR OUR HOMES SO THAT WE HAVE A HEALTHY SPACE TO LIVE FOR OUR CHILDREN, AND FOR OUR FAMILY. THANK YOU.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE. WILL THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS PLEASE COME FORWARD AND STAFF WILL ASSIST YOU: FREDERICK GRIFFIN, BOANERGEZ MARTINEZ, RAYMOND SHEPPARD, TAWNY LOFTESS, CHARLEE TANDANA, CINDY SHORTT, ALLEN BURNETT, BOBBY KIMBROUGH, JACK MCFADDEN, ASHLEY MCGOWAN, HABEN BERHE, BELES MALDANADO, OSCAR ZARATE, FLOR ROSALES, MARIANA LUNA, DEMETRIUS SCOTT, CECELIA ANDRADE, EMILY WU TRUONG, CHRISTOPHER AGGIE, MONTSERRAT MORALES, STEWART SELECHA, MITU AVILAS, SILVIO HOOPER, MATTHEW ENAGUE, SARA REYES, ANA GONZALES, ARBERTA FRANKLIN, AND FRIDA FRIOS. PLEASE COME FORWARD AND STAFF WILL ASSIST YOU. MODERATOR, MAY WE HAVE THE NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE?

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT SPEAKER IS SONIA ROMAN. PLEASE GO AHEAD. YOUR LINE IS OPEN.

SPEAKER: GOOD AFTERNOON, EVERYONE. MY NAME IS SONIA ROMAN. I'M A RESIDENT OF UNINCORPORATED EAST L.A., AND HAVE BEEN LIVING IN MY HOME FOR 11 YEARS, AND MY HUSBAND IS A NATIVE HERE OF

EAST L.A. FOR 45 YEARS. TODAY, I'M HERE TO URGE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO PASS THE COUNTY'S PROPOSED SHORT-TERM RENTAL ORDINANCE, BECAUSE IT WORKS TO PRESERVE HOUSING FOR LONG-TERM TENANTS AND HOMEOWNERS. FOR THE PAST YEAR AND A HALF, I HAVE BEEN DEALING WITH THE EFFECTS OF UNHOUSED AND SHORT-TERM RENTALS IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD. EVERY WEEK, NEW PEOPLE ARE COMING IN. THERE IS NOISE, DAY AND NIGHT. I ALSO HAVE NOTICED INCREASE OF TRASH IN THE SHORT-TERM RENTAL, BECAUSE THE HOSTS DO NOT LIVE IN OUR COMMUNITY. SHORT-TERM RENTALS STOP US FROM BEING ABLE TO BUILD RELATIONS WITH OUR NEIGHBORS. BECAUSE WE DO NOT HAVE THE RELATIONSHIP, THERE IS A LACK OF SAFETY IN THE COMMUNITY, AND PUTTING A DISCONNECTION TO THE PLACE WE LIVE IN. I AM SUPPORTING THE ORDINANCE BECAUSE IT WILL MAKE THE COMMUNITY SAFER, AND HELP TO PROTECT LONG-TERM HOUSING FOR MY NEIGHBORS. FOR THESE REASONS, I STRONGLY ENCOURAGE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO SUPPORT THE SHORT-TERM RENTAL REGISTRATION ORDINANCE SOON, TO PROTECT THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF OUR NEIGHBORS OF WORKING CLASS AND THOSE THAT ARE 60 YEARS AND OVER. PLEASE, I ASK THAT FOR NEXT YEAR--

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED. MODERATOR, NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT SPEAKER IS JULEP THOMAS. PLEASE GO AHEAD. YOUR LINE IS OPEN.

SPEAKER: HI. MY NAME IS JULEP THOMAS, AND I, ALONG WITH MANY OTHER COMMUNITY MEMBERS WITH ACTION CARE EQUITY, HAVE BEEN CALLING AND PROTESTING AND WRITING LETTERS TO THE BOARD FOR OVER HALF OF A YEAR TO BRING BACK THE MASK MANDATE IN HEALTHCARE SPACES. I DON'T KNOW WHAT ELSE NEEDS TO BE DONE TO PROTECT THE COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN THIS COUNTY. I DON'T HAVE ANY MORE COMMENTS ABOUT THIS. WE HAVE BROUGHT PLENTY OF COMMENTS SUPPORTING THE NEED FOR MASKS IN HEALTHCARE FORWARD. I JUST HAVE QUESTIONS NOW. I WANT TO KNOW, WHAT IS THE THRESHOLD FOR ACTION? BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S OWN DATA, IT SHOWS C.O.V.I.D. HOSPITALIZATIONS HAVE TRIPLED IN THE PAST MONTH'S TIME. SO WHAT METRIC IS IT THAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR, WHEN YOU SAY, "WE'RE KEEPING A CLOSE EYE ON THIS SITUATION"? HOW MANY PEOPLE--

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED. MODERATOR, NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT SPEAKER IS MARCIA COHEN ZAKAI. PLEASE GO AHEAD.

SPEAKER: HELLO, SUPERVISORS. LIKE SO MANY WHO SPOKE BEFORE ME, I WANT TO KNOW, WILL YOU CONTINUE TO STAND BY AND WATCH MORE RESIDENTS GET SICK, BECOME DISABLED, DEVELOP NEW CHRONIC

ILLNESSES, AND DIE BECAUSE THEY ACQUIRED C.O.V.I.D.-19 WHILE SEEKING HEALTHCARE? OR WILL YOU DEMAND THAT L.A. PUBLIC HEALTH IMPLEMENT THE AIRBORNE MITIGATIONS WE KNOW DECREASE TRANSMISSION AND ALL THE HEALTH HARMS FROM S.A.R.S.-C.O.V.-2, FROM THE ACUTE PHASE TO LONG-TERM CONSEQUENCES? JUST TODAY, THE W.H.O., WHILE UPDATING THE PUBLIC ON THE VARIANT JN.1, ADVISED UNIVERSAL MASKING IN ALL HEALTHCARE, ALONG WITH IMPROVED VENTILATION. WILL L.A. PUBLIC HEALTH FOLLOW THE W.H.O.'S ADVICE AND REJECT THE CURRENT EITHER/OR VAX-OR-MASK POLICY THAT FLIES IN THE FACE OF BOTH SCIENCE AND EQUITY?

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED. MODERATOR, NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT SPEAKER IS HEATHER DETWEILER. PLEASE GO AHEAD.

SPEAKER: I'M COMMENTING ON 8, 10, AND GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT. I'M CALLING AGAIN TO URGE YOU TO BRING BACK UNIVERSAL MASK REQUIREMENTS IN HEALTHCARE SETTINGS. THE MAJORITY OF PEOPLE SUPPORT THIS. "UNIVERSAL" MEANS MASKS FOR EVERYONE IN HEALTHCARE, NOT JUST THE WORKERS, AND NOT JUST FOR THE UNVACCINATED, BECAUSE VACCINATION DOESN'T PREVENT YOU FROM GETTING C.O.V.I.D. OR SPREADING IT. IT DOESN'T PREVENT LONG C.O.V.I.D., WHICH WE HAVE NO TREATMENTS FOR. MASKS SHOULD BE

REQUIRED, NOT JUST DURING RESPIRATORY VIRUS SEASON, BECAUSE S.A.R.S.-2 IS AROUND ALL YEAR LONG, AND NOT JUST IN SOME AREAS OF A BUILDING, BUT NOT OTHERS, BECAUSE S.A.R.S.-2 IS AIRBORNE AND SPREADS LIKE SMOKE. IT CAN TRAVEL THROUGH VENTS, UNDER DOORS, AND LINGERS IN THE AIR FOR HOURS. S.A.R.S.-2 IS STILL KILLING AND DISABLING PEOPLE. STILL. NUMBERS ARE ALMOST AS HIGH AS THEY WERE WHEN OMICRON STARTED, MAYBE EVEN AT THAT LEVEL NOW, AND POSITIVITY RATES AND HOSPITALIZATIONS ARE CONTINUING TO GO UP. MASKS SHOULD BE REQUIRED, NOT JUST RECOMMENDED, BECAUSE MOST PEOPLE WON'T DO THE RIGHT THING UNLESS THEY ARE MADE TO. GOOD MASKS ARE EFFECTIVE IN PROTECTING AGAINST AIRBORNE TRANSMISSION, BETTER THAN VACCINATION. KEEPING MASKS IN HEALTHCARE WILL NOT ONLY PROTECT--

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED. MODERATOR, NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

MODERATOR: OUR NEXT SPEAKER IS PAUL DARRIGO. PLEASE GO AHEAD.

PAUL DARRIGO: HI. I'M PAUL DARRIGO, WITH C.H.U.L.A., CITIZENS FOR A HUMANE LOS ANGELES. I'M COMMENTING ON ITEM 74 AND PUBLIC COMMENT. PART OF THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING ISSUE IS-- AND LET THE BOARD BE AWARE-- THAT WE HAVE EVIDENCE THROUGH A LAWYER THAT THEY ARE SEWING DRUGS, FENTANYL, INTO ANIMALS, AND BRINGING

THEM ACROSS THE BORDER AS PART OF THIS HUMAN TRAFFICKING. AND WHAT THEY DO IS THEY CUT THE DOGS OPEN WHEN THEY GET HERE, TO TAKE THE DRUGS OUT, AND SOMETIMES WITHOUT ANESTHESIA. I'D LIKE YOU FOLKS TO BE AWARE OF THAT. WE ALSO HAVE, AS YOU KNOW, A CRISIS IN OUR SHELTERS. I'M REQUESTING AN AGENDA ITEM FOR EACH DISTRICT TO CREATE AN AD HOC COMMITTEE TO CREATE SPECIFIC TASKS, COMMUNITY MESSAGING, INTERDEPARTMENTAL COLLABORATION OF DISSEMINATING THOSE MESSAGES. AND I'D ALSO LIKE A TOWN HALL WITH MARCIA MAYEDA'S OFFICE, SO PEOPLE CAN ACTUALLY PARTICIPATE IN THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS, AND CONVEY THEIR GRIEVANCES, AND TO BE HEARD. WE NEED MORE COLLABORATION. WE NEED MORE PEOPLE TO BE ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE PROJECTS. WE NEED TO SAY, "HERE'S THE JOB, AND HERE'S HOW IT GETS DONE." WE HAVE ENOUGH GOOD IDEAS. I'VE BEEN DOING THIS 15 YEARS. SO I REQUEST AN AGENDA ITEM, AND I REQUEST A TOWN HALL. THANK YOU.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: I THINK WE'RE GOING IN PERSON NOW, SO WE'LL START WITH YOU. GO AHEAD.

DR. SEON KUM: HI. MY NAME IS DR. SEON KUM. I'M SPEAKING ON ITEM 98-C, MAKING A GENERAL COMMENT.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: OKAY.

DR. SEON KUM: SO, THANK YOU, YOUR HONORS SUPERVISOR MITCHELL, SUPERVISOR BARGER, CHAIRWOMAN HORVATH, SUPERVISOR SOLIS, AND SUPERVISOR HAHN. IT WAS NICE TO SEE YOU BOTH IN PERSON, SUPERVISORS HAHN AND BARGER, AGAIN. SO, I AM A DOCTOR, A PSYCHIATRIST, AT PALMDALE MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC, AND I AM SPEAKING TO OPPOSE ITEM 98-C, WHICH WOULD ESSENTIALLY CREATE UNLIMITED USE OF CONTRACTORS WITHIN THE COUNTY. AND CONTRACTORS, ESSENTIALLY, ARE INDEPENDENT WORKERS. THEY HAVE 1099 ITEMS. THEY COME FROM VARIOUS PARTS OF THE WORLD, THE STATE, OUT OF STATE. THEY ARE NOT FAMILIAR WITH OUR COMMUNITIES. SO HAVING THIS ITEM GO FORTH WOULD GO AGAINST PATIENTS WHO ARE THE MOST VULNERABLE WITHIN THE COUNTY. I WORK WITH BLACK, INDIGENOUS, PEOPLE OF COLOR, L.G.B.T.Q., THE VULNERABLE OF THE VULNERABLE, THE SICK OF THE SICK, WHO NEED DOCTORS WHO CARE AND ARE IN THE COMMUNITY, AND ARE L.A. COUNTY DOCTORS, WHO ARE COMMITTED TO THEIR PATIENTS. IT WOULD GO AGAINST DOCTORS WHO ARE ESSENTIALLY STAYING FOR THE PATIENTS. AND WHEN THESE DOCTORS COME AND GO, THESE CONTRACTORS COME AND GO, THEY DO NOT HAVE A GOOD TRACK RECORD OF STAYING. SO PLEASE VOTE AGAINST THIS ITEM, PLEASE. THANK YOU.

SUP. BARGER: THANK YOU FOR YOUR WORK UP IN THE ANTELOPE VALLEY.

DR. SEON KUM: YEAH, IT'S ALWAYS A PLEASURE SEEING YOU. I THINK THIS IS MY FOURTH TIME INTERACTING WITH YOU, AND I THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY, SUPERVISOR BARGER.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

CINDY SHORTT: HI. MY NAME IS CINDY SHORTT, AND I'M THE CLINICAL DIRECTOR AND CO-FOUNDER OF THE PRISM WAY, AND I'D LIKE TO SPEAK IN SUPPORT OF ITEM 5, AND GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT. I'D LIKE TO THANK SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR AUTHORING ITEM NUMBER 5, ADDRESSING IN-CUSTODY OVERDOSE DEATHS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY JAILS. HER MOTION COULD TRANSFORM THE LIVES OF INDIVIDUALS GRAPPLING WITH SUBSTANCE USE DEPENDENCIES WITHIN OUR COUNTY'S INCARCERATED POPULATION, WHILE FOSTERING REHABILITATION AND COMMUNITY REINTEGRATION. THE PROPOSED MOTION IS ROOTED IN EVIDENCE-BASED STRATEGIES, PAIRING INDIVIDUALS AT RISK OF SUBSTANCE USE DEPENDENCIES WITH CUSTOMIZED TREATMENT PLANS. UPON INTAKE, PROVIDES THE EARLY IDENTIFICATION AND TARGETED INTERVENTIONS THAT HAVE BEEN SHOWN TO EFFECTIVELY CURB THE PROGRESSION OF DEPENDENCIES, THUS REDUCING ASSOCIATED HARMS, SIGNIFICANTLY. MOREOVER, THE MOTION ADVOCATES FOR A PEER SUPPORT MODEL. INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS WITH LIVED EXPERIENCE SERVE AS VALUABLE MENTORS AND SUPPORT SYSTEMS FOR OTHERS FACING SIMILAR CHALLENGES. THIS INITIATIVE CREATES A NURTURING AND MORE COMPASSIONATE ENVIRONMENT WITHIN

OUR CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES, WHICH IS VITAL TO RECOVERY. BY PAIRING INDIVIDUALS WITH EVIDENCE-BASED TREATMENT PLANS RIGHT FROM THE START, WE CAN SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECT THEIR TRAJECTORY TOWARDS RECOVERY. DEVELOPING COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMMING, SUCH AS THAT PROPOSED, WILL CATER TO THE DIVERSE NEEDS OF INDIVIDUALS AT DIFFERENT POINTS ALONG THE SPECTRUM, AND AN INITIATIVE SUCH AS THIS CREATES A SUPPORT NETWORK FOR INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS WITH SUBSTANCE USE DEPENDENCIES. AND WE HAVE ALREADY SEEN THE POSITIVE PROMISE AND INCREDIBLE SUCCESS OF A PEER-BASED MENTAL HEALTH MODEL, SUCH AS THE F.I.P. STEP-DOWN MODEL PROGRAM. BY ENDORSING THIS MOTION, THE BOARD TAKES YET ANOTHER PROACTIVE STANCE, PROVIDING HOPE AND OPPORTUNITY FOR TRANSFORMATION TO THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST. I HUMBLY URGE THE BOARD TO SUPPORT ITEM 5, AS IT PAVES THE WAY FOR A MORE COMPASSIONATE AND EFFECTIVE APPROACH TO ADDRESSING IN-CUSTODY OVERDOSE DEATHS AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE. THANK YOU SO MUCH.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

RAYMOND SHEPPARD: HELLO. MY NAME IS RAYMOND SHEPPARD. I'M A PEER SUPPORT SPECIALIST FOR THE PRISM WAY. I WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK ON ITEM NUMBER 5 AND GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT. THANK YOU, SUPERVISOR SOLIS, FOR THIS MOTION. I THINK IT'S VERY IMPORTANT TO ADDRESS THE IN-CUSTODY OVERDOSE DEATHS IN THE LOS ANGELES

COUNTY JAILS. AS A MAN WHO HAS SPENT MOST OF HIS LIFE INCARCERATED, AND WHO HAS STRUGGLED WITH THE DISEASE OF ADDICTION, I FIRSTHAND UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF PROGRAMS AND SERVICES THAT ADDRESS THIS DEADLY ISSUE. TODAY, I AM A GRADUATE OF THE TARZANA TREATMENT CENTER COLLEGE, AS A PEER SUPPORT SPECIALIST. AND THOSE OF US WITH LIVED EXPERIENCE, COMBINED WITH EDUCATION, HOLD THE SOLUTION, BECAUSE WE'RE CLOSEST TO THE PROBLEM. WHEN YOU COMBINE PROGRAMMING, SERVICES, AND PEER SUPPORT SPECIALISTS, WHICH ITEM NUMBER 5 ADDRESSES, I BELIEVE IT IS A NECESSARY RECIPE TO HELP CURB AND HOPEFULLY PREVENT MORE OVERDOSE DEATHS. BECAUSE OF THE WORK THAT WE DO AT THE PRISON, WE ARE IN CONTACT WITH MEN AND WOMEN IN BOTH THE COUNTY JAILS AND THE PRISON SYSTEM, AND I'M SAD TO REPORT THAT, JUST LAST NIGHT, I WAS TOLD OF THREE POSSIBLE OVERDOSE DEATHS IN THE MEN'S CENTRAL JAIL, ON THE [INAUDIBLE] FLOOR. AND THESE ARE POSSIBLE FENTANYL OVERDOSES. SO THAT IS WHY I STRONGLY SUPPORT THE PASSING OF ITEM NUMBER 5, SO THAT SUPERVISOR SOLIS'S VISION CAN HELP SAVE LIVES. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: HI. MY NAME IS CHARLIE PROPARANANDA. I'M WITH THE PRISM WAY. I WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK IN SUPPORT OF ITEM NUMBER 5, AND GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT. THANK YOU, SUPERVISOR SOLIS, FOR THE MOTION, AND FOR YOUR DEDICATION. AS A FORMALLY

INCARCERATED PERSON, THE NEED FOR THESE PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER AND OVERDOSES IN JAILS AND PRISONS IS SOMETHING VERY CLOSE TO ME. WHEN I WAS INCARCERATED, DRUGS PLAYED A PART IN MY INCARCERATION, AND THE LACK OF PROGRAMS WHILE I WAS INSIDE WAS DISHEARTENING, AS IT SENT A MESSAGE THAT I WAS NOT VALUED ENOUGH TO RECEIVE HELP FOR MY ADDICTION. AS A PEER SUPPORT SPECIALIST FROM TARZANA TREATMENT CENTER, I BELIEVE THESE PROGRAMS ARE VITAL, BOTH IN JAILS AND PRISONS, AS WELL AS FOR PEER SUPPORT PROGRAMS THAT ARE VERY IMPORTANT. THESE PROGRAMS SEND A MESSAGE TO THOSE STRUGGLING WITH SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER THAT THEY ARE SEEN, AND THEIR NEEDS HAVE BEEN HEARD. I AM A FIRM BELIEVER THAT ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS. ITEM NUMBER 5 SAYS, THROUGH ACTION, THAT WE VALUE PEOPLE WHO STRUGGLE WITH ADDICTION, AND ARE WILLING TO HELP. THIS IS ALSO WHY PEER SUPPORT PROGRAMS ARE IMPORTANT. I THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND YOUR SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

JACK MCFADDEN: GOOD EVENING. MY NAME IS JACK MCFADDEN, AND I'M WITH THE PRISM WAY, AND I WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK IN SUPPORT OF ITEM NUMBER 5, AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT. FIRST, I'D LIKE TO SAY THANK YOU TO SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR AUTHORING ITEM NUMBER 5, ADDRESSING IN-CUSTODY OVERDOSE DEATHS IN THE LOS ANGELES

COUNTY JAIL. MY COWORKERS DISCUSS ALL THE STATISTICS, AND WHERE WE WORK, AND WHAT WE DO AS PEER SUPPORT SPECIALISTS, BUT I'D LIKE TO BRING A MORE PERSONAL POINT TO IT. I'VE WATCHED PEOPLE, AS A FORMERLY INCARCERATED PERSON, AND SEEING MEN BEING TAKEN OUT ON STRETCHERS, THAT NEVER COME BACK, SOME OF THE ONES THAT WERE TAKEN OUT ON STRETCHERS THAT DO COME BACK, AND THE SHAME AND THE SORROW ON THEIR FACES. AND YET, THEY'LL GO RIGHT BACK TO THE SAME DRUGS, OVER AND OVER AGAIN. I'VE SEEN ONE PERSON TAKEN OUT THREE DIFFERENT TIMES, ALL FROM FENTANYL, OVER AND OVER AND OVER AGAIN. THESE THINGS HAPPEN, SO THAT THE NEED FOR TREATMENT, THE NEED FOR SOMETHING ELSE, OTHER THAN WHAT'S GOING ON NOW. RIGHT NOW, IT FEELS LIKE EVERYBODY IS JUST STANDING AND WATCHING AND WONDERING WHAT TO DO NEXT. SO RIGHT NOW, WHAT I WANT TO DO IS MAKE SURE THAT EVERYBODY UNDERSTANDS THESE ARE PEOPLE, AND NOT JUST NUMBERS; THAT SOMEONE ELSE CARES, AND SOMEONE ELSE WANTS TO HELP THEM. THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR TIME.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

ASHLEY MCGOWAN: I'D LIKE TO SPEAK ON AGENDA ITEM 5, AND PROVIDE GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT. MY NAME IS ASHLEY MCGOWAN, AND I AM THE PROGRAM CHAIR FOR THE PEER TRAINING PROGRAMS AT TARZANA TREATMENT CENTER'S COLLEGE. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK SUPERVISOR SOLIS FOR AUTHORIZING ITEM 5, ADDRESSING IN-CUSTODY

OVERDOSE DEATHS IN THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY JAIL. HAVING THIS INFORMATION AND DATA WILL SUPPORT IN CREATING NEW PROGRAMMING FOR ACCESSIBLE TREATMENT SERVICES IN CUSTODY. ADDITIONALLY, I SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PEER SUPPORT MODELS TO ADDRESS THE MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS AND SUBSTANCE USE DEPENDENCIES. AS AN ADMINISTRATOR FOR A PEER SUPPORT TRAINING PROGRAM THAT HAS SUCCESSFULLY IMPLEMENTED A PROGRAM IN COUNTY AND STATE FACILITIES, I'VE SEEN THE IMPACT HAVING THIS OPPORTUNITY CAN HAVE. IMPLEMENTING THE PEER MODELS IN OUR LOCAL JAILS WILL PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR NATURAL SUPPORTS TO THOSE WHO ARE NOT GETTING ENOUGH MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES, OR DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO QUALITY TREATMENT OPTIONS. THIS WILL GIVE US AN OPPORTUNITY TO PREVENT THESE OVERDOSES, BUT WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND THE GRAVITY OF THE SITUATION, FIRST AND FOREMOST. I'VE SAT IN THIS MEETING FOR THE PAST FEW HOURS, AND HAVE HEARD SEVERAL BOARD MEMBERS REFER TO THE COUNTY AS A CARE-FIRST COUNTY. IN ORDER FOR THAT TO BE TRUE, CARE MUST BE ACCESSIBLE TO ALL, INCLUDING OUR INCARCERATED RESIDENTS. OUR INCARCERATED COMMUNITY MEMBERS DESERVE TREATMENT, THEY DESERVE SERVICES, AND ULTIMATELY, THEY DESERVE TO BE SEEN. NOT SUPPORTING THIS MOTION CONTINUES TO LEAVE OUR INCARCERATED COMMUNITY MEMBERS STRUGGLING WITH SUBSTANCE USE IN THE DARK. TO THAT END, I RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THE BOARD'S SUPPORT OF SUPERVISOR SOLIS'S MOTION NUMBER 5. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

HABEN BERHE: HI. MY NAME IS HABEN BERHE. I'M THE DEPUTY PROVOST AT TARZANA TREATMENT CENTERS COLLEGE, AND I WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK ON ITEM 5 AND GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT. THANK YOU. SUPERVISOR SOLIS'S GROUNDBREAKING MOTION FOR ITEM NUMBER 5 SETS THE STAGE FOR A MOMENTUM SHIFT IN ADDRESSING IN-CUSTODY OVERDOSE DEATHS. THIS VISIONARY PROPOSAL GOES BEYOND THE SURFACE, DIVERTING INTO CORE ISSUES BY REQUESTING VITAL DATA ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF DRUG [INAUDIBLE] TOOLS, SEEKING UPDATES ON THE TROUBLE STATUS AND IN-CUSTODY OVERDOSE DEATH. WHAT SETS THIS MOTION APART IS THE COMMITMENT TO THE ACCOUNTABILITY, INVOLVING THE L.A.S.D. OVERSIGHT ENTITY. BUT IT DOES NOT STOP AT DATA. THIS MOTION PROPELS US INTO ACTION BY INSTRUCTING COUNTY DEPARTMENTS TO DEVELOP ROBUST PROGRAMMING, AND PROVIDE ESSENTIAL SUPPORTIVE SERVICES. AMONG THESE INITIATIVES IS THE CREATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR THE PEER SUPPORT PROGRAM. THE REHABILITATION PROGRAM IS TAILORED FOR INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS WITH SUBSTANCE USE DEFICITS. OUR INSTITUTION, TARZANA TREATMENT CENTERS COLLEGE, HAS ALREADY PIONEERED A PILOT OF PEER SUPPORT SPECIALIST TRAINING PROGRAMS WITHIN JAILS AND PRISONS, DEMONSTRATING THE TRANSFORMATIVE IMPACT SUCH INITIATIVE CAN HAVE. THIS SUCCESSFUL STORY NOT ONLY VALIDATES THE NEED FOR CHANGE, BUT ALSO UNDERSCORES THE POTENTIAL FOR MEANINGFUL REHABILITATION

WITHIN THE INCARCERATION POPULATION. BY ENDORSING THIS MOTION, THE BOARD HAS A CHANCE TO CHAMPION A COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY FOR ADDRESSING THE ROOT CAUSE OF IN-CUSTODY OVERDOSE DEATH. IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT DIRECTIVES; IT'S ABOUT CREATING A FUNDAMENTAL SHIFT IN HOW WE APPROACH REHABILITATION ALTOGETHER WITH INCARCERATED FACILITIES. LET'S EMBRACE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ADVOCATE FOR THE WELLBEING OF THOSE IN CUSTODY--

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

SPEAKER: GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT. UTILIZING AN EQUITY LENS, PLEASE NOTE THE URGENCY TO ADOPT A CODE ENFORCEMENT SYSTEM TO HOLD LANDLORDS ACCOUNTABLE FOR BREACH OF HABITABILITY NOW. I'M DEMETRIUS SCOTT, A BLACK FEMALE HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD, TENANT, AND CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER, LIVING WITH MY TWO DAUGHTERS AND THREE-YEAR-OLD GRANDDAUGHTER IN THE WESTMONT AREA OF UNINCORPORATED LOS ANGELES, 90044. I'M ALSO A S.A.J.E. COMMITTEE MEMBER FOR HEALTHY HOUSING, AS EVIDENCED BY QUALITATIVE RESEARCH, COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENTS, AND MY OWN PERSONAL EXPERIENCE LIVING WITH TOXIC HABITABILITY CONDITIONS, SUCH AS MOLD, OUTDATED AND INOPERABLE WALL HEATERS RED-TAGGED BY THE GAS COMPANY, HAZARDOUS ELECTRICAL PANELS AND OUTLETS, PLUMBING LEAKS, BROKEN DRY-ROTTEN WOODEN WINDOWS, CRACKED CEILINGS AND FLOORS AND WALLS, TO NAME A FEW, SINCE 2019.

THROUGHOUT C.O.V.I.D. PANDEMIC SHUT-IN AND TO DATE, LANDLORDS-- - [INAUDIBLE], OPRAH, AND PASTOR MAXWELL NELSON OKEKE-- CONTINUE TO BREACH WARRANTY OF HABITABILITY BY FAILING TO COMPLETE REQUESTED REPAIRS, IMPACTING MYSELF AND MY FAMILY'S MENTAL AND PHYSICAL WELLBEING AND SAFETY.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU SO MUCH. YOUR TIME IS EXPIRED, BUT WE CAN CONNECT YOU. IF YOU'D LIKE TO GO TO THE CORNER WHERE IT SAYS "CONSTITUENT ASSISTANCE TEAM," WE CAN HAVE SOMEBODY HELP YOU, TODAY, TO FILE THE CLAIM THAT YOU WERE JUST TALKING ABOUT. YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY WELCOME. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

SPEAKER: GOOD AFTERNOON. MY NAME IS FLOR, AND I'M A MEMBER OF S.A.J.E. I'M HERE TODAY TO PLEASE ASK, IN THE MOST RESPECTFUL MANNER, TO HELP WITH THE MOLD ISSUE IN THE COMMUNITY. I SUFFER ASTHMA, AND I REALLY WOULD LIKE TO CHANGE, AND OUR VOICES TO BE LISTENED. OUR FAMILIES DESERVE SO MUCH BETTER, A HEALTHY LIFE. OUR DIGNITY SHALL COUNT, AS A RESIDENT OF THE COMMUNITY, WHERE I WOULD LOVE OTHERS AND MYSELF TO FEEL ALIVE AND SAFE. I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A SYSTEM THAT HELPS US GET REPAIRS WITH CONSISTENT FOLLOW-UPS AND SHORT WAIT TIMES. WE CAN'T HAVE LANDLORDS JUST PAINT OVER MOLD, AND CONSIDER THAT AN ACCEPTABLE REPAIR. WE, AS S.A.J.E. MEMBERS, WANT OUR LANDLORDS TO TAKE ACTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, WITHOUT POSTING OVER AND

OVER WHAT THEY ARE SUPPOSED TO DO. THANK YOU SO MUCH. YOU ALL HAVE A GOOD EVENING, AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: HAPPY HOLIDAYS. THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: I'M HERE IN FAVOR OF AGENDA ITEM 15 AND 73, SO I THINK I HAVE TWO MINUTES, AT LEAST.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THAT'S RIGHT, TWO MINUTES.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU SO MUCH. AND SO I ALSO WANTED TO CONTINUE FROM WHAT I SAID EARLIER, ABOUT MY 5150 FROM JULY 29TH. THE ARCADIA P.D., THIS IS HOW THEY INFORMED ME THAT I WAS 5150. THEY SAID, "I'M SORRY TO HAVE TO DO THIS TO YOU, BUT DO YOU KNOW YOU'RE BEING 5150'D?" AND TO ME, THAT SOUNDS LIKE THEY'RE SAYING, "SURPRISE! YOU'RE IN JAIL IN THE U.S.C. ARCADIA HOSPITAL FOR THE NEXT 72 HOURS, AND YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO LEAVE THIS PLACE." I WAS NEVER INFORMED OF MY PATIENT'S RIGHTS AT U.S.C. ARCADIA HOSPITAL, AND I WAS TREATED TERRIBLY INSIDE THE E.R. AND KAISER MENTAL HEALTH CENTER ON COLLEGE STREET. MY LIFE TURNED UPSIDE DOWN. I EXPERIENCED A LIVING NIGHTMARE FOR 50 HOURS. I LITERALLY FELT LIKE I WAS IN A SCENE OF A MOVIE, LIKE "ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST," WITH JACK NICHOLSON, BUT THERE WAS NO MOVIE DIRECTOR TO SAY, "CUT!" I FELT HELPLESS. I FELT HOPELESS. I COME TO YOU, PLEADING FOR

ANSWERS. I DO NOT KNOW HOW TO NAVIGATE THIS SYSTEM. I DO NOT HAVE DISABILITY. I HAVE A TERRIBLE PRIVATE HEALTHCARE INSURANCE CALLED KAISER. TO THIS DAY, I DO NOT HAVE A PUBLIC DEFENDER, NOR PATIENT'S RIGHTS ADVOCATE, TO HELP ME COPE WITH THIS SYSTEM FAILURE. I AM A MINORITY OF MINORITIES, AND I DO NOT WANT THIS EXPERIENCE TO HAPPEN TO ANYONE ELSE. I DO NOT APPRECIATE BEING INVOLUNTARILY HOSPITALIZED, AND THEN FINANCIALLY BURDENED WITH BILLS THAT AMOUNT TO OVER $3,300. AND I KNOW THAT MY VOICE SHAKES, BUT R.B.G., I AM WEARING HER T-SHIRT RIGHT NOW, AND IT SAYS, "FIGHT FOR THE CAUSE THAT YOU BELIEVE IN." AND SHE ALSO SAID, "SPEAK, EVEN THOUGH YOUR VOICE SHAKES." AND I HAVE ANOTHER T-SHIRT THAT SAYS, "TAKE BREAKS, BUT STAY WOKE." DO NOT LET PSYCHIATRIC SURVIVORS NOT GO UNPROTECTED, JUST LIKE THE SENIORS IN THE ELDERLY HOMES. WE NEED YOUR HELP, AND THERE NEEDS TO BE ACCOUNTABILITY. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU.

SUP. BARGER: DO YOU LIVE IN ARCADIA? ARE YOU AN ARCADIA RESIDENT?

SPEAKER: YES.

SUP. BARGER: I'LL HAVE SOMEONE COME OUT, AND WE'LL SEE IF WE CAN GET YOU SOME HELP, OKAY?

SPEAKER: THANK YOU SO MUCH.

SUP. BARGER: THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU, SUPERVISOR. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

SPEAKER: HI. I'LL BE SPEAKING ON ITEM 98-C, ITEM 45, AND PUBLIC COMMENT. I AM CHRISTOPHER IGE, FROM THE UNION OF AMERICAN PHYSICIANS AND DENTISTS. WE OPPOSE 98-C, SINCE WE WERE NOT NOTIFIED OF THE ITEM, NOR DID WE MEET AND CONFER ON THE IMPACTS OF IT. WE HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT HOW THIS MOTION DOES NOT HAVE A TIME LIMITATION TO CONTRACT OUT OUR JOBS. WE HAVE A RIGHT TO STRIKE ON DECEMBER 27TH. WE DON'T WANT RETALIATION BY CONTRACTING OUT OUR JOBS IN THE FUTURE. WE STRONGLY URGE THE BOARD TO LIMIT THE USE OF CONTRACTORS FOR 5 DAYS. ITEM 45, D.H.S. THAT'S THE D.H.S. BUDGET ITEM. D.H.S. HAS OVER $1.5 BILLION IN RESERVES, AND NEXT FISCAL YEAR, IT'S PROJECTED AT $1.75 BILLION. IF YOU LOOK AT THE PAST 10 YEARS, IT HAS GROWN EVERY YEAR, EVEN THOUGH ALL THOSE REPORTS FROM THE PAST 10 YEARS SAID THAT THE FOURTH FISCAL YEAR, THAT THEY WON'T HAVE ANY MONEY, WHICH ISN'T TRUE. OUR MEMBERS DESERVE BETTER

BENEFITS TO RECRUIT AND RETAIN MEMBERS. D.H.S. REVENUES COME FROM A [INAUDIBLE] RATE, WHICH MEANS THE MORE DOCTORS THERE ARE, THE MORE PATIENTS THAT CAN BE SERVED. THERE'S A 30% VACANCY RATE, AND IF YOU FILL THOSE VACANCIES, PROVIDING DECENT BENEFITS, THOSE REVENUES WILL GO UP. IF YOU LOOK AT THE JAILS, THERE'S A 70% VACANCY RATE FOR PSYCHIATRISTS. AT THE A.C.N.S, THERE'S A 30% VACANCY RATE THERE. PATIENTS ARE NOT BEING SEEN. PER CAPITA RATES AREN'T COME IN. REVENUES AREN'T COMING IN. WE NEED TO FILL THOSE POSITIONS, BUT IT'S NOT THE RIGHT STRATEGY TO SAY, "YOU'RE VERY IMPORTANT TO COME AND WORK FOR THIS COUNTY, BUT OUR RECRUITMENT IDEA IS, YOU'RE GOING TO GET LESSER BENEFITS THAN EVERYBODY ELSE, THAN MANAGERS WHO DON'T SEE PATIENTS." OUR MEMBERS SAW PATIENTS DURING C.O.V.I.D. THEY WERE THERE IN THE FACILITIES. IF THEY CAUGHT C.O.V.I.D., THEY WOULD HAVE HAD TO TAKE TIME OFF ON THEIR OWN. WE WEREN'T COVERED UNDER THE C.O.V.I.D. SICK TIME. THAT DIDN'T COVER US. WE DON'T HAVE SHORT-TERM DISABILITY. THAT'S NOT FAIR. BUT YOU'RE HAVING THOSE MANAGERS TELL OUR MEMBERS, "GO SEE THESE PATIENTS." THEY HAVE THE SHORT-TERM DISABILITY, THE MANAGERS DO. OUR MEMBERS DON'T. IT'S NOT FAIR. IT'S NOT A GOOD IDEA ON RECRUITMENT, AND HOPEFULLY, WE'LL FIX THIS. HOPEFULLY. THANKS.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE. WAIT. HOLD ON, JUST ONE SECOND. WE CAN'T HEAR YOU. LET'S TRY IT AGAIN.

SPEAKER: READY?

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: YES.

SPEAKER: PERFECT. THAT'S BETTER. GOOD EVENING, SUPERVISORS. MY NAME IS MIRO VELEZ, AND I'M HERE WITH TRANSLATINA COALITION, A CONSTITUENT OF S.D. 3, AND HERE TO SPEAK ON GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT. THIS EVENING, I'M STANDING ALONGSIDE OUR T.G.I. COMMUNITY OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY. WITH THAT BEING SAID, WE, AS A COMMUNITY, HAVE COME TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND MADE PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THE T.G.I. WELLNESS AND EQUITY FUND NUMEROUS TIMES, AND IT WON'T STOP. AS YOU KNOW, THE T.G.I. COMMUNITY ARE UNDER ATTACK IN THIS COUNTY. WE HAVE STOOD HERE WITH EXTREME PATIENCE, WAITING FOR PROGRESS. IT'S NOW THE END OF THE YEAR, AND WE'RE STILL HERE, TALKING ABOUT THE SAME THING. WE WOULD LIKE PROACTIVENESS, AND NOT TO BE OVERLOOKED. WE HAVE SHARED OUR EXCITEMENT TO WORK WITH EACH OTHER AND EVERY ONE OF YOU. WE CONTINUE TO WANT TO WORK WITH YOU, AND MY SINCERE HOPE IS THAT WE CAN START THAT WORK THIS YEAR. ALL I WANT FOR THE HOLIDAYS IS FOR THE T.G.I. COMMUNITY TO FIND CHAMPIONS IN EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO HAVE THIS HAPPEN DURING--

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: YES. MY NAME IS ARBERTA FRANKLIN, AND I WORK WITH THE TRANSLATINA COALITION. I AM PART OF HOLLY MITCHELL'S DISTRICT 2, IN KOREATOWN. THE T.G.I. COMMUNITY HAS LONG FACED CHALLENGES AND DISCRIMINATION. AND NOW, MORE THAN EVER, IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT WE RAISE AWARENESS AND STAND IN SOLIDARITY. ALL THE LOCAL, STATE, AND NATIONAL LEVELS, T.G.I. INDIVIDUALS CONTINUE TO EXPERIENCE DISCRIMINATION, HOMELESSNESS, VIOLENCE, AND A LACK OF ACCESS TO ESSENTIAL SERVICES. FINDINGS FROM THE U.S. TRANSGENDER SURVEY, AND THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR TRANSGENDER EQUALITY, REVEALS HIGH RATES OF HOMELESSNESS, HOUSING DISCRIMINATION, AND ECONOMIC HARDSHIPS. WE ARE THANKFUL TO THOSE IN THE COUNTY THAT SINCERELY SEE THE FIGHT FOR RADICAL IMMIGRATION AND L.G.B.T.Q.I.A. RIGHTS FOR ALL CONNECTED, AND T.G.I. PEOPLE NEED THE COUNTY TO--

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU VERY MUCH. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: HELLO. MY NAME IS SILVIO HOOPER. I'M THE POLICY ASSOCIATE FOR THE TRANSLATINA COALITION, AND I'M SPEAKING IN SUPPORT OF THE T.G.I. WELLNESS AND EQUITY FUND. SO, I'M ACTUALLY ORIGINALLY FROM TEXAS. I MOVED TO L.A. BECAUSE OF THE PERCEPTION THAT THERE WERE GOING TO BE MORE RESOURCES FOR TRANSGENDER INDIVIDUALS LIKE MYSELF. AND WHILE THERE ARE MORE RESOURCES, THEY'RE NOT PARTICULARLY WELL FUNDED, SO THEY'RE

NOT PARTICULARLY ABLE TO GET TO THE COMMUNITIES AND SERVE IN THE WAYS THAT THEY NEED TO. BY GIVING FUNDS TO TRANSGENDER-LED ORGANIZATIONS, YOU'RE BENEFITING ALL COMMUNITIES, RIGHT? BECAUSE TRANSGENDER PEOPLE ARE IN EVERY COMMUNITY. THEY'RE IN COMMUNITIES OF COLOR. THEY'RE IN ALL RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES. SO YOU'RE NOT PARTICULARLY JUST SERVING THE T.G.I. COMMUNITY; YOU'RE BENEFITING ALL PEOPLE. AND THESE ORGANIZATIONS ALSO PROVIDE SERVICES THAT ARE PRIORITIES OF THE COUNTY, LIKE SUBSTANCE ABUSE SUPPORT AND HOMELESSNESS SUPPORT, SO YOU WOULD REALLY BE BENEFITING THE ENTIRE COUNTY BY PROVIDING THIS FUND.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: HI. MY NAME IS MATT, AND I'M HERE FOR GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT. I'M STANDING HIRE AS AN ADVOCATE, AS A FRIEND TO THE T.G.I. COMMUNITY. MY NAME IS MATT. I AM 24 YEARS OLD, AND I USE HE/HIM PRONOUNS. I'M HERE, REALLY, ADVOCATING FOR THE T.G.I. WELLNESS AND EQUITY FUND THAT WE'RE TRYING TO ESTABLISH HERE AT THE COUNTY. THIS MONEY, IF ESTABLISHED, WOULD SUPPORT AS THE 1, 2, 3, 4, AND 5, IN THE FORM OF GRANTS, IN THE FORM OF HOUSING, HEALTHCARE, JUST HOW WE DID IT AT THE STATE LEVEL. WE REALLY WANT THE COUNTY TO STEP UP, TO REALLY SHOW T.G.I. RESIDENTS, WHO HAVE BEEN HISTORICALLY NEGLECTED, TO NOT ONLY SURVIVE, BUT THRIVE, RIGHT? THAT'S SOMETHING THAT BAMBI ALWAYS SAYS. AND WE REALLY WANT TO MAKE AN EFFORT TO WORK WITH EACH

OF YOUR OFFICES TO REALLY MAKE THIS A DREAM COME TRUE, RIGHT? SO I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOUR STAFF AND ANYONE WHO WANTS TO JOIN US, TO REALLY ACCOMPANY US ON THIS MISSION. SO THANK YOU SO MUCH.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: I'M HERE TO DO A PUBLIC COMMENT. GOOD AFTERNOON, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. MY NAME IS ANA MARIA GONZALES, AND I WORK AT THE TRANSLATINA COALITION IN DISTRICT 2. I ASK YOU TO PLEASE INVEST IN T.G.I. COMMUNITY. AND PLEASE, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, ESTABLISH THE T.G.I. WELLNESS AND EQUALITY FUND, 2023. THE L.A. COUNTY MUST INVEST IN THE LIVES OF T.G.I. PEOPLE IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY, BY EXPANDING HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH, ANTI-VIOLENCE, CREATIVE HEALING, SOCIAL-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS. OUR T.G.I. PEOPLE NEED YOUR SUPPORT.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

SPEAKER: HI. I'M A LITTLE NERVOUS. HELLO. MY NAME IS [INAUDIBLE] MALDANADO, AND I STAND HERE BEFORE YOU, URGENTLY SEEKING YOUR HELP FOR MY GRANDDAUGHTER, KAYLANI, WHO IS JUST 6 YEARS OLD.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: CAN SOMEONE GIVE HER SOME TISSUE, PLEASE?

SPEAKER: AND DESPITE THE EVIDENCE OF-- DESPITE THE MOTHER'S ASSOCIATION WITH THE ABUSER, THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES DISMISSED MY CONCERNS. THE UNPROFESSIONAL AND BIASED TREATMENT IS ALARMING, AND I ASK THAT YOU PRIORITIZE MY GRANDDAUGHTER KAYLANI'S WELLBEING, AND CONDUCT A THOROUGH REVIEW. I HAVE PAPERWORK PROVIDING A MORE COMPREHENSIVE UNDERSTANDING OF THIS CASE. YOUR ATTENTION TO THIS MATTER IS CRUCIAL, AND I DEEPLY APPRECIATE IT.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: WHICH DISTRICT DO YOU LIVE IN? DO YOU KNOW?

SPEAKER: I LIVE IN AGOURA HILLS.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: OKAY, THAT'S MY DISTRICT.

SPEAKER: BUT SHE'S OUT OF COMPTON. THE MOM LIVES OUT OF COMPTON, SO IT'S COMPTON. AND I HAVE THE PAPERWORK HERE. MAY I?

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: IF YOU GIVE IT TO OUR ASSISTANT RIGHT THERE, SHE CAN GIVE US THE PAPERWORK. AND IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK WITH SOMEONE ON OUR CONSTITUENT ASSISTANCE TEAM, THERE ARE FOLKS IN THE CORNER. AND SHE'S A RESIDENT OF COMPTON, SO I

BELIEVE THAT'S DISTRICT 2. YOUR SUPERVISOR IS SUPERVISOR MITCHELL. OR HER SUPERVISOR; I'LL SAY IT THAT WAY. OKAY. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

SPEAKER: [SPEAKS SPANISH].

TRANSLATOR: GOOD EVENING. MY NAME IS FRIDA FIEROS, AND I AM A TRANS WOMAN. I'M A VOLUNTEER WITH THE TRANSLATINA COALITION. I'M HERE TO ASK THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO TAKE URGENT ACTION TO ADDRESS THE CRISIS FACING OUR TRANS, GENDER-EXPANSIVE, AND INTERSEX T.G.I. COMMUNITY. THE T.G.I. PEOPLE ARE UNDER ATTACK AT THE LOCAL, STATE, AND NATIONAL LEVELS. THIS YEAR, WE HAVE SEEN AN ALARMING INCREASE IN THE MURDERS OF TRANS AND NONBINARY PEOPLE. LACK OF HOUSING AND EMPLOYMENT ESPECIALLY AFFECTS T.G.I. PEOPLE, AND IN THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY, ACCESS TO SHELTER IS A CRITICAL CHALLENGE. IN ADDITION, NEARLY ONE-THIRD OF T.G.I. PEOPLE LIVE IN POVERTY, DUE TO EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION. THANK YOU, AND MERRY CHRISTMAS.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: MERRY CHRISTMAS. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: GOOD AFTERNOON. BYRON JOSE. AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 5 AND GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT. I AM A CONSTITUENT OF S.D. 2, AND I AM PART OF THE TRANSLATINA COALITION. SO, WE ARE CLOSING ANOTHER

CALENDAR YEAR, AND WHILE MOST OTHER COUNTIES, $43 BILLION BUDGET IS STILL GOING TO CARCERAL SYSTEMS AND INSTITUTIONS THAT CONTINUE TO LEAD TO A RISE IN OVERDOSE DEATH IN JAILS AND ON THE STREET, HOUSELESSNESS, HATE CRIMES, LACK OF HEALTHCARE, AND MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS, AND RESOURCES. IT'S JUST THAT COMPOUNDS AND DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTS TRANS, GENDER-EXPANSIVE, AND INTERSEX COMMUNITIES. BY TAKING THE HISTORIC STEP TO ESTABLISH THE T.G.I., THE TRANS, GENDER-EXPANSIVE, AND INTERSEX WELLNESS AND EQUITY FUND, THIS BOARD, UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF CHAIR HORVATH, WILL CONTINUE TO BUILD OFF OF THE 2022 T.G.I. NEEDS ASSESSMENT MOTION, AND ENSURE AN EQUITABLE AND SUSTAINED INVESTMENT IN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES. THIS $7 MILLION TO ESTABLISH THIS FUND FOR HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES PROGRAMS, PROVIDED BY T.G.I.-LED ORGANIZATIONS, THROUGH THE USE OF P.S.R.T., THE PUBLIC SAFETY REALIGNMENT TEAM, OR A.B. 109 FUNDS, AS WELL AS FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS AS SET FORTH BY THE G.R.A.C., THE GENDER-RESPONSIVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE, AS WELL AS THE N.C.C. WHY NOT? WHY NOT USE IT IN THE COUNTY FUNDS THAT CONTINUE TO GO TO THE [INAUDIBLE] UNIT IN THE MEN'S CENTRAL JAIL? ALL OF THESE FUNDINGS WILL CONTINUE TO GO TO BEDS, HEALTH, AND COMMUNITY-BASED DIVERSION, REENTRY, AND WELLNESS SERVICES. WE LOOK FORWARD TO LAUNCHING 2024 WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE T.G.I. WELLNESS AND EQUITY FUND, AS WE CONTINUE TO ENGAGE COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN THE COUNTY'S BUDGET PROCESS, AS WELL AS CARE-FIRST

INITIATIVES, AND IT CAN SUSTAIN AN EQUITABLE INVESTMENT IN T.G.I. COMMUNITIES. THANK YOU, BOARD, FOR YOUR TIME.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: OKAY, I AM MISS LORETTA LORRAINE. I AM PUBLIC COMMENT AND COMMENT 5. I AM THE MOTHER OF ALL THE GIRLS AND QUEENS. THERE'S CHILDREN THAT ARE COMING OUT OF JAIL, AND COMING ALSO- - THERE'S ONE RIGHT NOW, FIGHTING FOR THEIR LIFE, BECAUSE THEY GOT MENINGITIS IN THE HOSPITAL RIGHT NOW. SHE IS IN A COMA, AND SHE IS HOMELESS. AND RIGHT NOW, SHE DOESN'T HAVE NO-- THEY ARE GOING TO PULL THE PLUG OFF OF HER. AND THAT'S SAD, BECAUSE THERE'S SO MANY CHILDREN THAT NEED A HOME, AND NEED A PLACE TO STAY, AND THEY COME OUT OF JAIL. AND THEN, WHEN THEY GET TURNED DOWN, THEY GO TO DRUGS. AND THE TRANSLATINA ORGANIZATION, AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, SHOULD BE HAVING FUNDS TO HELP THOSE CHILDREN, TO GET THEM OFF THE STREET. AND ME, I AM STILL ALIVE. I'M STILL HERE. I TOLD YOU, I'M GOING TO BE COMING, LADIES. BUT I AM TELLING YOU, WE ALWAYS GOT TO HELP OUR CHILDREN, NO MATTER WHAT COLOR, WHAT GENDER, WHAT LIFE, WHO THEY ARE, BECAUSE THEY ARE JUST TRYING TO BE THEM. AND THEN GIVE THEM A CHANCE, AND GIVE THEM A HOME AND A SPACE WHERE THEY CAN BE COMFORTABLE, IN A PLACE WITH A BED. THEY ALL WANT A BED. THAT'S ALL THEY WANT. THEY WANT TO GET OFF THE TENT. IF THAT GIRL HAD A BED, SHE WOULDN'T HAVE MENINGITIS

RIGHT NOW. DO YOU KNOW WHAT MENINGITIS IS? IT IS THE FEVER IN THE BRAIN. IT GOES TO THE BRAIN, AND THEN SHE STARTED BLEEDING, AND NOW SHE IS IN HER DEATHBED. AND SHE IS A YOUNG KID, TOO, A YOUNG LADY. AND I DON'T WANT TO SEE ALL MY CHILDREN LEAVING EARTH BECAUSE OF MISTAKES THAT WE DO, AS OLDER PEOPLE, AND ALSO BECAUSE OF DISCRIMINATION, OR WHO THEY ARE, OR WHAT COLOR, OR WHAT GENDER THEY ARE. IT SHOULDN'T MATTER, BECAUSE WE ARE CHILDREN OF GOD. HE MADE US, OUR MOTHERS MADE US, AND OUR FATHER, AND WE SHOULD BE HERE. Y'ALL OUR MOTHERS, AND Y'ALL SHOULD UNDERSTAND. AND HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: MERRY CHRISTMAS. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

SPEAKER: GOOD AFTERNOON, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. MY NAME IS SARA REYES, AND I AM HERE, AS WELL, WITH THE TRANSLATINA COALITION, PROVIDING GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT. THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND PARTNERSHIP THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, AS WELL. I AM HERE, HOWEVER, TO URGE THE BOARD TO TAKE ACTION AND ADDRESS THE CRISIS FACING OUR TRANS, GENDER-EXPANSIVE, AND INTERSEX COMMUNITIES, AS WELL. AS WE WRAP UP THIS YEAR, WE HAVE SEEN A DISTURBING INCREASE IN THE MURDERS OF OUR COMMUNITY. HOMELESSNESS, HEALTHCARE ACCESS, WORKPLACE DISCRIMINATION, AND HARASSMENT, AS WELL, DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECTS OUR T.G.I. PEOPLE. I URGE YOU TO ESTABLISH THE T.G.I.

WELLNESS AND EQUITY FUND IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY. HAVE A BLESSED HOLIDAY SEASON, AND OF COURSE, HAPPY 2024.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: SAME TO YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

SPEAKER: HI. MY NAME IS MARIANA LUNA, AND I AM A COMMUNITY ORGANIZER WITH S.A.J.E. I AM A RENTER, AND I ALSO WORK WITH FAMILIES LIVING IN L.A. CITY, L.A. COUNTY, AND UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF L.A. COUNTY. IN ALL OF THEM, WE ARE SEEING A DEVASTATING AMOUNT OF UNINHABITABLE AND SUBSTANDARD CONDITIONS, INCLUDING MOLD, INFESTATION OF RATS, COCKROACHES, AND TERMITES, DEFECTIVE ELECTRICITY, JUST TO NAME A FEW. WE SEE THAT, ALL TOO OFTEN, WHEN TENANTS FILE HABITABILITY COMPLAINTS TO COUNTY AGENCIES, THERE ARE LONG WAIT TIMES, INCONSISTENT FOLLOW-UP, AND/OR LACK OF ACCOUNTABILITY, AND A LACK OF LANDLORD COMPLIANCE. WE URGE YOU TO PRIORITIZE THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF OUR COMMUNITY BY SUPPORTING AN IMPROVED CODE ENFORCEMENT SYSTEM. WE WANT TO SEE THE COUNTY ACT AND ADOPT THE RENTAL HOUSING HABITABILITY PROGRAM. OUR COMMUNITY DESERVES TO LIVE IN HEALTHY AND SAFE HOMES, AND WE DESERVE AN ACCESSIBLE AND ROBUST SYSTEM TO ACHIEVE THIS. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: HI. MY NAME IS MONTSERRAT, AND I AM AN ORGANIZER IN SOUTH L.A., AND I AM HERE WITH S.A.J.E. I AM HERE TO URGE YOU TO ADDRESS THE CRISIS OF UNHEALTHY AND UNSAFE HOUSING IN OUR COMMUNITIES. TOO OFTEN, TENANTS HAVE TO FILE HABITABILITY COMPLAINTS, AND ALSO HAVE TO ENDURE EXTENDED WAIT TIMES, INCONSISTENT FOLLOW-UPS, AND INADEQUATE COMPLIANCE FROM THEIR LANDLORDS. I HAVE WORKED WITH TENANTS THAT HAVE DEALT WITH HABITABILITY ISSUES, LIKE MOLD AND ROACH INFESTATIONS SO SEVERE THAT IT HAS HAD AN EFFECT ON THE RESPIRATORY HEALTH OF THEIR FAMILIES, ESPECIALLY AFFECTING THEIR CHILDREN. UNFORTUNATELY, THERE ARE NO CURRENT STRONG MECHANISMS TO HOLD LANDLORDS ACCOUNTABLE FOR THEIR NEGLIGENCE, WHICH IS WHY IT IS SO IMPORTANT FOR THE COUNTY TO ADOPT A RENTAL HOUSING HABITABILITY PROGRAM THAT WILL INCREASE INSPECTIONS FOR BUILDINGS, AND WILL BETTER PROTECT TENANTS AGAINST NEGLIGENCE AND HARASSMENT. EVERY TENANT DESERVES TO LIVE IN A SAFE AND HEALTHY HOME. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER.

SPEAKER: [SPEAKS SPANISH].

TRANSLATOR: GOOD EVENING. MY NAME IS CECILIA ANDRADE, AND I AM HERE AS THE TENANT OF EAST LOS ANGELES. I AM WITH THE ORGANIZATION S.A.J.E., AND WHAT THEY DO IS THEY GIVE

INFORMATION ON HOUSING. SO I AM ALSO HERE, AND I THOUGHT IT WAS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT, OR THE INVITATION WAS INTERESTING, AS WELL, AS WE ARE TALKING ABOUT HOUSING, AND ALSO TO SUPPORT AND APPROVE THE R.H.H.P. MOTION. I ALSO FEEL THAT HEALTHY LIVING AND HOUSING IS SOMETHING THAT WE NEED. I HAVE BEEN SUFFERING FOR TWO YEARS TO HAVE A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT, HEALTHY LIVING. MY HUSBAND JUST PASSED AWAY, AND THAT WAS MY SUPPORT, MY PILLAR, AND I AM LEFT WITH MY KIDS AND MY GRANDCHILDREN. HELLO, SUPERVISOR SOLIS.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: I AM SO SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK WITH SOMEONE ABOUT IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE, YOU CAN GO SPEAK WITH OUR CONSTITUENT ASSISTANCE TEAM.

SUP. SOLIS: [SPEAKS SPANISH].

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: OKAY. THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

SPEAKER: OKAY, AWESOME. HI, BOARD. MY NAME IS OSCAR. I AM AN ORGANIZER WITH S.A.J.E., AND A RENTER IN UNINCORPORATED WILLOWBROOK. IT IS ACTUALLY MY MOM'S BIRTHDAY, SO I AM GOING TO SHOUT OUT MY MOM. HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MOM. AND RIGHT TO THE POINT. SO, UNINCORPORATED L.A. COUNTY IS GRAPPLING WITH A CRISIS OF SUBSTANDARD HOUSING. LANDLORDS ARE NEGLECTING TIMELY AND RESPONSIBLE REPAIRS, AND THE CODE ENFORCEMENT SYSTEM IS

FAILING TO HOLD THEM ACCOUNTABLE. OUR TENANT CLINIC AT S.A.J.E. HAS WITNESSED NUMEROUS CASES OF HABITABILITY ISSUES, AS PEOPLE HAVE MENTIONED, RIGHT? CECILIA HAS BEEN SUFFERING FOR TWO YEARS. LOURDES, WHO YOU ARE GOING TO HEAR ABOUT, HAS GONE THROUGH 22 INSPECTIONS, AND NO RESOLUTIONS. THAT IS UNACCEPTABLE IN A COUNTY SO RICH AND SO RESOURCE-HEAVY AS L.A. COUNTY. TO HAVE MOTHERS THAT CAN'T HAVE HOT WATER, THAT HAVE TO WAKE UP WITH COCKROACHES IN THEIR HAIR? THAT'S SHAMEFUL. I URGE THE BOARD TO ACT SWIFTLY IN IMPLEMENTING A RENTAL HOUSING HABITABILITY PROGRAM THAT OUR COMMUNITY URGENTLY NEEDS AND DESERVES. I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING THIS ITEM COME TO THE BOARD IN THE NEW YEAR.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

SPEAKER: HELLO.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: HI.

SPEAKER: MY NAME IS JADE, AND ME AND MY FAMILY HAVE BEEN GROWING UP WITH RATS AND ROACHES EVERY SINGLE DAY, AND WE'D REALLY LIKE SOME REPAIRS FROM THE LANDLORD, AND HE HASN'T MADE THEM AT ALL.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: ARE YOU FINISHED?

SPEAKER: YES.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: I DIDN'T WANT TO INTERRUPT YOU. I AM SO SORRY TO HEAR THAT. THERE IS SOMEONE IN THE CORNER OVER THERE, WHERE IT SAYS "CONSTITUENT ASSISTANCE TEAM." CAN YOU RAISE YOUR HAND? IF YOU GO TALK TO THAT GENTLEMAN, HE WILL HELP YOU. OKAY? YOU ARE SO BRAVE TO BE HERE TODAY. WE THANK YOU FOR SPEAKING UP. VERY, VERY PROUD OF YOU FOR BEING HERE. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.

SPEAKER: GOOD EVENING, EVERYONE. CAN YOU HEAR ME?

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: GOOD EVENING. IF YOU GET A LITTLE CLOSER TO THE MIC, WE WILL HEAR YOU BETTER.

SPEAKER: GOOD EVENING, EVERYBODY. I AM LEE VARGAS. I AM A MEMBER WITH S.A.J.E. I AM HONORED TO MEET YOU, MS. HOLLY MITCHELL. CHILDREN'S NIGHTS SHOULD CONSIST OF NIGHTTIME STORIES, NOT PREPARING BY BRAIDING OUR HAIR TO PREVENT ROACHES FROM GETTING CAUGHT IN IT. I DON'T WANT TO WAKE UP WITH RAT POOP IN OUR PILLOWCASES ANYMORE. WE NEED HOT WATER. OUR LANDLORD HAS REFUSED TO OBTAIN THE PERMITS THAT HAVE BEEN REQUESTED, IN ORDER TO GIVE US HOT WATER. MY SISTER HAS A RARE

FORM OF MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY, AND SHE NEEDS HOT WATER. THANK YOU.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: OKAY. SAME DIRECTION. IF YOU HEAD TO THE CORNER, WE HAVE ADDITIONAL STAFF. THE CONSTITUENT ASSISTANCE TEAM WILL HELP YOU ON THIS ISSUE, IMMEDIATELY.

SUP. MITCHELL: MADAM CHAIR, IF I JUST MAY, I WANTED TO THANK ALL THE MEMBERS OF S.A.J.E. FOR COMING. AND I KNOW THAT MY TEAM, AND PERHAPS EVERYONE'S STAFF, HAS BEEN TALKING TO THEM. AND WE KNOW THAT THERE'S AN ORDINANCE THAT WILL BE COMING FROM, I THINK, PUBLIC HEALTH VERY, VERY SOON, BUT WANT TO THANK THEM ALL FOR COMING AND REMINDING US OF WHY IT IS VERY IMPORTANT. APPRECIATE IT.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. MR. SACHS, YOU ARE NEXT.

ARNOLD SACHS: I AM GOING TO SPEAK ON PUBLIC COMMENT AND THE ITEMS THAT ARE PENDING. SO I SHOULD GET THREE MINUTES. THANK YOU. OKAY, LET'S SEE. WHEW. YOU DID A LOT OF TALKING ABOUT L.A. CARE TODAY. SO I AM WONDERING, BECAUSE THE STATE SUED L-PERIOD-A-PERIOD CARE, BACK IN 2022. NOW, I KNOW THERE'S A BUILDING OVER HERE AT 707 STREET, THE 11TH FLOOR. THERE'S AN OFFICE THAT'S OWNED BY L-PERIOD-A-PERIOD CARE. THEY HAVE 2 MILLION PEOPLE ENROLLED. THE PROBLEM IS, SOMEBODY CHANGED

MEDICAL-- M-E-D-I-C-A-L-- TO MEDI, M-E-D-I, DASH CAL. NOW, I KNOW WHO DID THAT. THE PROBLEM IS, WE LOST TWO PEOPLE THAT ARE VERY IMPORTANT TO THE COUNTY: GENERAL JEFF AND GENERAL DOGON. AND IT WAS THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT THAT WAS PASSED BY BARACK OBAMA, BACK IN 2008, AND THEY SIGNED UP 15,000 PEOPLE ON SKID ROW. I AM SORRY I AM BORING YOU, MRS. MITCHELL. MAYBE YOU SHOULD WEAR A DASHIKI.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: UNACCEPTABLE. THAT'S UNACCEPTABLE. YOU CAN'T ANTAGONIZE.

ARNOLD SACHS: THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR LIMITING THIS AGENDA TO 104 ITEMS. YOU CANCEL TWO MEETINGS EVERY MONTH. YOU [EXPLETIVE] YOUR CONSTITUENTS. THAT'S HOW BAD YOU ARE. OH, STOP IT. PEOPLE HAVE COME IN HERE AND SAID TEN TIMES WORSE. THEY SAY TEN TIMES WORSE AT CITY HALL. IT IS THE SHUTDOWN. IT IS THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT. IT WAS SOMEBODY'S PRIVATE CONTRACT. YOU HAD TO CHANGE IT TO ACQUIRE, WHAT, G.R. THEN YOU HAD TO CHANGE IT A SECOND TIME. AND BY THE WAY, THEY HAD AN ANNOUNCEMENT FOR KENNETH HAHN. AND KENNETH HAHN-- YOU'RE NOT RELATED TO THE HAHNS, JANET. YOU KNOW THAT? HE IS NOT RELATED TO YOU. IT IS RELATED CAUSE. HE IS NOT YOUR FATHER. AND MAYOR JAMES HAHN IS NOT RELATED TO YOU, EITHER. AND YOUR COUSIN, GORDON HAHN--

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: IT IS AGAINST OUR CODE OF CONDUCT TO MAKE PUBLICLY TARGETED COMMENTS. IF YOU CAN FOCUS ON AGENDA ITEMS OR GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT, THAT WOULD BE GREAT.

ARNOLD SACHS: OKAY, SO, ANYWAY...

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: I AM CLEAR WHAT YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT.

ARNOLD SACHS: SO, ANYWAY, LET'S SEE. THERE WAS AN ARTICLE IN THE L.A. TIMES WRITTEN ABOUT A WRITER THAT SAID MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS WAS SUPPOSED TO PROVIDE CARE, LOW-INCOME CARE, TO THE PEOPLE IN THIS DISTRICT. BUT HE DID AWAY WITH THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT IN 2017. YET, THIS LETTER, THIS COMPANY THAT'S AT AT 700 EAST SEVEN STREET, THEY HAVE--

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED. NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE. GO AHEAD.

SPEAKER: GOOD EVENING, EVERYONE.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: IF YOU COULD SPEAK DIRECTLY INTO THE MIC, PLEASE, SO WE CAN HEAR YOU. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

SPEAKER: GOOD EVENING, EVERYONE. BLESSED TO MEET YOU, MS. HOLLY MITCHELL. SINCE 10/30/2020, WE ARE NOW WELCOMING 2024.

ALMOST FOUR YEARS. THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN NOTIFIED, HAS BEEN MADE AWARE OF NUMEROUS VIOLATIONS AT MY PROPERTY, AND WE HAVE HAD OVER 22 INSPECTIONS. NOTHING HAS BEEN DONE. FAKE REPAIRS. BAND-AID REPAIRS. PAINTED-OVER MOLD. OUR WINDOWS DO NOT OPEN. WE HAVE TO SMELL THE MOLD. OUR NOSE, OUR THROAT, IS RAW. OUR EYES ARE ITCHING. THESE CHILDREN THAT WERE STANDING HERE ARE MY CHILDREN. ONE KID HAS ASTHMA. I TAKE HIM OUT OF MY HOUSE AROUND 1:00, 2:00 A.M., BECAUSE HE IS STRUGGLING TO BREATHE. HE IS GRASPING FOR AIR.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE TODAY. YOUR CHILDREN ARE IMPRESSIVE, AND THAT'S A TESTIMONY TO YOUR STRENGTH AS A MOTHER. THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE. VICTOR IS HERE TO HELP YOU AND DOCUMENT WHAT IS GOING ON WITH YOU, IF YOU WOULD LIKE SOME ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE. DO WE HAVE ANY MORE SPEAKERS HERE TODAY?

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: NO OTHER SPEAKERS, MADAM CHAIR.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: VICTOR, IF YOU COULD PLEASE OFFER ASSISTANCE HERE. WITH THAT, EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PLEASE INDICATE THE AGENDA ITEMS ON WHICH WE WILL BE VOTING.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE BEFORE YOU: 1, 3 THROUGH 5, 7, 8 AS REVISED, TO ADD DIRECTIVE NUMBER 4 TO

CONDUCT ADDITIONAL STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH, INCLUDING TO LOCAL SMALL RESTAURANTS, TO INCORPORATE ROBUST CONSUMER AND SMALL BUSINESS PROTECTION, ITEMS 10 AND 11, 13, 15 THROUGH 23, 25 AND 26, 28 THROUGH 33, 34, WITH SUPERVISOR HORVATH RECUSING HERSELF FROM THE VOTE, PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 84308, 35 AND 36, 37, WITH SUPERVISOR HAHN RECUSING HERSELF FROM THE VOTE, PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 84308, 38 THROUGH 43, 46 THROUGH 52, 54 THROUGH 64, 66 THROUGH 70, 71, WITH SUPERVISOR HORVATH AND SUPERVISOR MITCHELL RECUSING THEMSELVES FROM THE VOTE, PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 84308, 73 THROUGH 75, 76, WITH SUPERVISOR HAHN RECUSING HERSELF FROM THE VOTE, PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 84308, 79, WITH SUPERVISOR HORVATH VOTING NO, 80 THROUGH 97, 98-B, 98-C, WITH SUPERVISOR HAHN VOTING NO, 101 AND 102, 104, 1-D THROUGH 5-D.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: MOVED BY SUPERVISOR HAHN, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR MITCHELL TO APPROVE THESE ITEMS, WITH THE EXCEPTIONS NOTED BY THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER. EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PLEASE CALL THE ROLL.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR SOLIS?

SUP. SOLIS: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA: SUPERVISOR SOLIS, AYE. SUPERVISOR MITCHELL?

SUP. MITCHELL: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR MITCHELL, AYE. SUPERVISOR HAHN?

SUP. HAHN: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR HAHN, AYE. SUPERVISOR BARGER?

SUP. BARGER: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: SUPERVISOR BARGER, AYE. SUPERVISOR HORVATH?

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: AYE.

CELIA ZAVALA: SUPERVISOR HORVATH, AYE. MOTION CARRIES, 5-0.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU VERY MUCH. PICKING UP ON THIS MORNING'S COMMENTS, BEFORE WE GET TO ADJOURNMENTS, I WILL TURN TO MY COLLEAGUES. I KNOW THERE WERE REQUESTS TO MAKE COMMENTS ABOUT OUR OUTGOING EXECUTIVE OFFICER. I'LL TURN FIRST TO SUPERVISOR BARGER.

SUP. BARGER: THANK YOU. AND, CELIA, I WOULD LIKE TO ECHO MY COLLEAGUE'S SENTIMENT EARLIER, IN THANKING YOU FOR YOUR TREMENDOUS SERVICE TO THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, ESPECIALLY TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. I HAVE WATCHED YOU GROW UP IN THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE. YOU HAVE BEEN WITH THEM FOR MANY YEARS, OFFERING A DEPTH OF INSTITUTIONAL KNOWLEDGE WHICH HAS BEEN INVALUABLE TO ALL OF US. DURING YOUR TENURE, YOU LED SEVERAL STRATEGIC INITIATIVES TO IMPROVE THE FUNCTION OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE, INCLUDING ADVANCING ONLINE SYSTEMS FOR AUTOMATING SOCIAL PROGRAM AGREEMENTS, SOMETHING THAT WE ALL DEAL WITH CONSTANTLY, AND ARE ALWAYS LOOKING TO MAKE THEM MORE STREAMLINED AND MORE EFFICIENT. YOU HAVE WORKED TO ENHANCE ACCESSIBILITY AND TRANSPARENCY FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC, AS WELL. I CAN SPEAK FOR MY STAFF: YOU HAVE BEEN A GREAT COLLABORATOR. YOU WORK NOT ONLY WITH ALL OF OUR OFFICES, BUT ALSO WITH THE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, WHICH IS AN IMPORTANT ROLE FOR THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER, AND SO I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR THAT. I AM EXCITED FOR YOUR NEW CHAPTER. I KNOW THIS WAS A DIFFICULT DECISION, BECAUSE YOU LOVE DOING WHAT YOU ARE DOING. BUT THIS IS YOUR TIME, AND I JUST HAVE TO THANK YOU FOR BEING A DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVANT, AND REALLY RAISING THE BAR HIGH, AS IT RELATES TO EXPECTATIONS FOR YOUR STAFF. SO I THANK YOU. I KNOW WE'LL BE IN TOUCH. I'M HOPING AND WISHING YOU A HAPPY, HAPPY RETIREMENT.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: SUPERVISOR SOLIS?

SUP. SOLIS: THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR. CELIA, THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR ALL THE WORK THAT YOU HAVE DONE. I HAVE KNOWN YOU, NOW, FOR THE LAST NINE YEARS. AND YOU HELPED TO ONBOARD, ALONG WITH SACHI, MY OFFICE, AND IT WAS REALLY CRITICAL FOR ME, BECAUSE WE ACTUALLY CAME IN, LITERALLY, WITH VERY LITTLE. WE DIDN'T EVEN HAVE ALL OUR SUPPLIES. THEY WERE JUST-- THEY WERE NOT THERE. YOU DID A LOT MORE THAN THAT, THOUGH. YOU HELPED TO BE A WARM HAND, AND KIND TO MY STAFF, AND TO ME, AND ALWAYS WILLING TO STEP UP AND DO MORE. AND IT SHOWS. AND YOU REALLY, FOR ME, STEPPED UP DURING C.O.V.I.D., THE PANDEMIC, BECAUSE THAT WAS CRITICAL WHEN THE TRANSITION WAS OCCURRING WITH SUPERVISOR BARGER AND MYSELF. SHE WAS A CHAIR, AND I FOLLOWED HER. WE HAD TO DO SO MANY THINGS THAT WERE CREATING A NEW BOOK, A BOOKLET, OF HOW TO DO THINGS, AND PEOPLE WERE WATCHING US. AND YOU HELPED TO CREATE AND MODERNIZE THIS OFFICE, THIS WHOLE BUILDING HERE, THIS FLOOR, INCLUDING EVERYTHING THAT WE ARE SEEING HERE. AND THAT TOOK A LOT OF WORK, AND YOU DID IT, AND YOU KEPT AT IT. AND YOU HAD YOUR STAFF WORKING THERE, AND YOU HAVE A TREMENDOUS STAFF. I WANT TO SAY THANK YOU TO THEM, BECAUSE THEY ARE VERY LOYAL TO YOU, AND I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO WORKING WITH THEM AS THEY HELP US MOVE ON. BUT I ALSO WANT TO SAY HOW IMPORTANT IT IS HOW YOU TREATED EVERYBODY WITH RESPECT, INCLUDING MY RESIDENTS AND PEOPLE WHO CAME UP HERE,

AND THAT, TO ME, IS A SIGN OF PROFESSIONALISM. AND YOU DID MORE THAN JUST THAT. YOU HELPED US TO ONBOARD OUR COMMISSIONS. AND WE HAVE A WHOLE BUNCH OF NEW COMMISSIONS THAT WE JUST STARTED, INCLUDING ONES THAT HAVE BEEN AROUND THE OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL, THE SHERIFF'S OVERSIGHT COMMISSION, THE PROBATION OVERSIGHT COMMISSION, THE YOUTH CLIMATE COMMISSION, AND MOST RECENTLY, THE L.G.B.T.Q.+ COMMISSION. AND IT DIDN'T STOP THERE. YOU ARE STILL HELPING US WITH A LOT OF OTHER THINGS, AND YOUR ROLE IS REALLY TO PROVIDE THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND THE CLERICAL, AND TO ALSO BE-- HOW COULD I SAY?-- CONFIDENTIAL, IN TERMS OF WHAT WE DO, AND WHAT THE BOARD MEMBERS DO, AND YOU HAVE ALWAYS UPHELD THAT. AND I AM SURE ALL OF US-- I KNOW I HAVE-- PRESSED YOU, BUT YOU ARE GOOD. YOU ARE VERY GOOD AT YOUR WORK. SO I WANT TO SAY THAT YOU DID YOUR JOB WELL, AND WE'RE GOING TO MISS YOU. AND I KNOW YOUR FAMILY'S GOING TO BE HAPPY TO SEE YOU, BECAUSE YOUR CHILDREN ARE NOW A LOT OLDER, AND THEY ARE IN OTHER PLACES, SO YOU'LL GET TO GO VISIT THEM. AND HOPEFULLY, YOU WILL HAVE A GOOD, PEACEFUL TIME REFLECTING AND DOING WHATEVER YOU WANT TO DO. SO THANK YOU. GOD BLESS YOU. AND MY OFFICE, WE REALLY DO CARE ABOUT YOU, SO THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR SERVICE. GOD BLESS. BYE.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: SUPERVISOR HAHN?

SUP. HAHN: THANK YOU. OH, I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE IT. IT'S LIKE I CAN'T BELIEVE TODAY IS HERE. THAT'S WHY THIS MEETING WAS SO LONG, BECAUSE WE JUST COULDN'T FACE YOU LEAVING. AND YOUR OFFICE DOES SO MUCH. I THINK MOST PEOPLE DON'T EVEN KNOW ALL THE THINGS THAT ARE UNDER THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE. BUT FOR ME, I JUST REALLY WANTED TO TALK ABOUT YOUR PRESENCE HERE ON TUESDAY MORNINGS. I MEAN, THAT'S, I THINK, WHERE YOU HAVE SUCH A GIFT. YOU ARE SO PROFESSIONAL. AND I REMEMBER WHEN I CAME IN, AND LORI WAS SITTING IN YOUR SPOT. AND THEN, WHEN SHE LEFT, WHICH I THOUGHT WAS SORT OF ABRUPT, YOU WERE SO QUICK AND SO READY TO STEP IN. AND THEN, WHEN I BECAME CHAIR, YOU OF COURSE WERE THE PERSON SITTING THERE FOR THE ENTIRE YEAR THAT I WAS CHAIR. AND I KNOW, SUPERVISOR HORVATH, YOU ARE SENSING THAT NOW, HOW IMPORTANT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER IS WHEN YOU ARE CHAIR. YOU KEPT MY SCRIPT UPDATED. YOU MADE SURE I WAS FOLLOWING IT, AND I KNEW EXACTLY WHERE WE WERE IN THE MEETING ORDER. YOU'RE VERY DIPLOMATIC ABOUT TELLING US, AS THE DAY GETS LATER AND LATER AND LATER. YOU WHISPER IN OUR EAR HOW MANY MORE SPEAKERS THERE ARE, JUST SO WE CAN BE PREPARED FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO COME AND ADDRESS US. AND YOU WERE ALWAYS SO POSITIVE, AND YOU ALWAYS HAD A PEP IN YOUR STEP, WHEN YOU WALKED INTO THIS HEARING ROOM. AND I THINK THAT WAS GOOD FOR ALL OF US, AND IT WAS GOOD FOR THE PUBLIC TO SEE THAT SOMEONE LIKE YOU, IN THE POSITION THAT YOU HAVE, WAS SO CHEERFUL ALL THE TIME, AND CLEARLY LOVED YOUR JOB. AND AGAIN, YOUR STAFF IS WONDERFUL. YOU ALWAYS GAVE

EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THEM THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHINE, AND TO ALSO GROW IN THE JOB, AND SO YOU WERE KIND OF CREATING A BENCH FOR THE DAY WHEN YOU WOULD LEAVE. SO THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR SERVICE TO L.A. COUNTY. THANK YOU FOR ALWAYS THINKING ABOUT THINGS THAT WE DIDN'T EVEN THINK ABOUT. AND AGAIN, AS SUPERVISOR SOLIS SAID, JUST THE REARRANGING OF THIS DAIS, MAKING IT MORE ACCESSIBLE, NOT JUST FOR US, RIGHT? MORE ACCESSIBLE FOR THE PUBLIC. IT IS EASIER TODAY FOR THE PUBLIC TO COME AND ADDRESS US, BOTH IN PERSON AND ON THE TELEPHONE, AND I THINK YOU HAVE MADE THAT A MODEL FOR OTHER JURISDICTIONS WHO ONE DAY MAY WANT TO DO THIS HYBRID VERSION. SO THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE. WE'RE REALLY GOING TO MISS YOU, BUT I KNOW YOUR FAMILY, YOUR PARENTS, ARE REALLY GOING TO APPRECIATE YOUR FOCUS ON THEM NOW. SO, HAVE A GOOD LIFE.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: SUPERVISOR MITCHELL?

SUP. MITCHELL: THANK YOU. YOU KNOW, IT'S FUNNY. I HAVE THESE MIXED FEELINGS ABOUT PEOPLE SAYING, "OH, DON'T GO." I AM SO HAPPY FOR YOU. AS A PUBLIC SERVANT THAT HAS NOT EARNED A PENSION IN FAR TOO MANY YEARS, I AM THRILLED FOR YOU. GO LIVE, FOR ME. ENJOY. SO I AM HAPPY FOR YOU. I AM HAPPY THAT, AS A WOMAN, AT YOUR AGE, THAT YOU HAVE THE OPTION TO RETIRE, AND DO WHAT YOU WANT TO DO, AND SUPPORT YOUR FAMILY. SO, CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU AND TO THE COUNTY FOR AFFORDING YOU

THAT OPPORTUNITY. LET ME SAY, I APPRECIATE THE SUPPORT THAT YOU PROVIDED ME, ONBOARDING. I DON'T KNOW THAT PEOPLE THINK ABOUT, HOW DO NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS GET ONBOARDED TO THE JOB? THIS IS MASSIVE, A MASSIVE UNDERTAKING, AND I ONBOARDED IN THE MIDDLE OF C.O.V.I.D., WHERE THE BOARD MEMBERS WERE MEETING REMOTELY. I THINK, WHEN I CAME ON, THE CAMERAS WEREN'T EVEN ON. I COULDN'T EVEN SEE FACES. I WAS LIKE, "WHERE AM I, AND WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO?" AND YOU SUPPORTED ME IN THAT, AND I APPRECIATE THAT. AS I THINK BOTH HAHN AND SOLIS MENTIONED, YOU KNOW, IT WAS YOUR JOB TO PREPARE US TO RETURN. THAT WAS MY CHAIR YEAR, AND IT WAS REALLY KIND OF A MIXED BAG IF PEOPLE WANTED TO COME BACK OR NOT. WE WERE STILL IN C.O.V.I.D., AND PEOPLE HAD FEELINGS ABOUT WHETHER WE SHOULD COME BACK. BUT YOU DID ALL THAT YOU COULD, AND I APPRECIATE THAT ON BEHALF OF US, THE STAFF, AND THE PUBLIC, TO MAKE SURE THAT WHEN WE CAME BACK, WE CAME BACK THE BEST, MOST APPROPRIATE WAY. SO, AS IT WAS PREVIOUSLY SAID, YOU WERE NAVIGATING INTERESTING WATERS, THINGS THAT HAD NEVER BEEN DONE BEFORE, BUT OUR UPDATED SYSTEM, OUR UPDATED LOOK, I THINK, IS GOING TO CONTINUE TO PROPEL THIS BOARD INTO THE FUTURE. AND YOU SHOULD BE PROUD AS YOU ARE SITTING ON THE BEACH WITH YOUR FEET KICKED UP, LOOKING AT THE WAVES ROLL IN, THAT YOU KNOW THAT YOU SET US UP TO BE ABLE TO DO THIS, AND FUTURE BOARD MEMBERS ALIKE. SO, THANK YOU. I COMPLETELY AGREE: THE GENERAL PUBLIC HAS NO IDEA THE COMPLEXITIES OF WHAT IT MEANS TO GOVERN

AND SUPPORT A BOARD, AS IN THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE. IT IS A COMPLICATED JOB, AND I APPRECIATE YOUR YEARS OF SERVICE, AND YOU SHOULD FEEL CONFIDENT THAT WE ARE GOING TO BE OKAY. WE'RE NOT ON THE BEACH WITH YOU. SOME OF US HAVE TO STILL COME TO WORK, BUT WE ARE GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT. THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. SHE DID SET A HIGH BAR IN THAT TRANSITION, I WILL SAY. NO ONE SHOULD HAVE TO TRANSITION IN EIGHT WORKING DAYS, FROM WHATEVER THEIR LIFE IS PRIOR TO BEING A SUPERVISOR TO BEING A SUPERVISOR, BUT YOU HELPED ME BE ABLE TO DO IT, AND I WILL NEVER FORGET IT. THANK YOU VERY, VERY MUCH, AND I KNOW WHOEVER FOLLOWS IN YOUR FOOTSTEPS WILL HAVE VERY BIG SHOES TO FILL. AT THIS TIME NOW, IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO HEAR ADJOURNMENTS, AND SUPERVISOR HAHN WILL BEGIN.

SUP. HAHN: THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR. I WOULD LIKE TO MOVE THAT WHEN WE ADJOURN TODAY, WE ADJOURN IN THE MEMORY OF ELDA HUBERT, WHO WAS MY NEIGHBOR ON MY BLOCK. SHE WAS A LIFETIME SAN PEDRO RESIDENT. SHE PASSED AWAY RECENTLY, BUT SHE GRADUATED FROM SAN PEDRO HIGH SCHOOL IN 1946. SHE IS ALSO SURVIVED BY HER DAUGHTER JOAN, HER THREE GRANDCHILDREN, HER TWO GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN, FIVE NIECES AND NEPHEWS, AND NINE GREAT-NIECES AND -NEPHEWS. YOU KNOW HOW YOU ALWAYS HAVE THAT

ONE PERSON ON THE BLOCK THAT WALKS UP AND DOWN ALL THE TIME, KEEPS THEIR EYE ON EVERYONE. SHE WOULD PUT MY TRASH CANS IN AFTER THEY WERE PICKED UP, IF I WAS GETTING HOME LATE AT NIGHT. SHE WOULD RETRIEVE MY MAIL AND PACKAGES IF I DIDN'T DO IT SOON ENOUGH. SHE WOULD SCOLD ME WHEN THE CITY OF L.A. GAVE YOU TWO DAYS A WEEK TO WATER YOUR LAWN. EVEN THOUGH I WAS DOING IT TWO DAYS A WEEK, IT WAS THE WRONG DAY, AND SHE MADE A POINT OF COMING AND TELLING ME THAT. BUT SHE LOVED ALL OF US ON THE BLOCK, AND REALLY WILL MISS ELDA. SHE WAS A DEAR, DEAR, SWEET HUMAN BEING, AND MAY SHE REST IN PEACE. I ALSO MOVE THAT WHEN WE ADJOURN, WE ADJOURN TODAY IN THE MEMORY OF MELODY SMITH. ON DECEMBER 6TH, THE DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL EXAMINER UNEXPECTEDLY LOST ONE OF ITS OWN TEAM MEMBERS, MELODY SMITH. SHE JOINED THE DEPARTMENT IN OCTOBER 2006, AND WAS AN INTEGRAL MEMBER OF THE TEAM. SHE WORKED AS A SENIOR TYPIST CLERK, PRIMARILY IN PROCUREMENT AND FACILITIES. SHE HANDLED EVERY PURCHASE IN RESPONSE TO ANY FACILITY ISSUES FOR THE DEPARTMENT, BIG OR SMALL, FROM MICROSCOPES FOR THE DEPUTY MEDICAL EXAMINERS, TO REFLOORING AND PAINTING PROJECTS, TO DEPARTMENT CELL PHONES AND IPADS, TO NEW SIGNAGE DISPLAYING THE NEW DEPARTMENT NAME. SHE WAS ALSO INSTRUMENTAL IN IMPLEMENTING THE AMAZON PURCHASE PILOT PROJECT FOR THE DEPARTMENT. SHE ALWAYS HAD A POSITIVE SPIRIT, A CAN-DO ATTITUDE, AND SHE WILL BE GREATLY MISSED. MELODY IS SURVIVED BY HER HUSBAND, HER FOUR CHILDREN, AND ONE GRANDCHILD. AND AS

A COUNTY EMPLOYEE, I WOULD HOPE THAT WE WOULD HAVE ALL MEMBERS ON THAT ONE. I ALSO MOVE THAT WHEN WE ADJOURN TODAY, WE ADJOURN IN THE MEMORY OF MIGUELANGEL CAMACHO, WHO WAS ONLY 42 YEARS OLD. HE WAS THE YOUNGEST OF FOUR SIBLINGS, INCLUDING HIS BROTHER, PICO RIVERA COUNCILMEMBER GUSTAVO CAMACHO. YES, HE LOVED HIS FAMILY, ESPECIALLY HIS NIECES AND NEPHEWS, WHO HE TREATED AS HIS OWN. HE WAS VERY PROUD OF HIS MEXICAN HERITAGE, OFTEN TRAVELING TO SAN MARTIN, HIS PARENTS' HOMETOWN, TO VISIT FAMILY. MIGUELANGEL WAS A CARING PERSON WHO ALWAYS SAW THE GOOD IN OTHERS. HE WAS ALWAYS WILLING TO LEND A HELPING HAND, AND DID IT WITH A SMILE, AND NEVER COMPLAINED. HE WORKED IN THE LOGISTICS INDUSTRY, PRIMARILY IN GOODS MOVEMENT, MOVING CARGO FROM THE PORTS TO THEIR FINAL DESTINATION. HE WAS AN AVID DODGERS, LAKERS, AND RAIDERS FAN. HE IS SURVIVED BY HIS PARENTS, HIS THREE SIBLINGS, HIS NIECES AND NEPHEWS, AND MANY OTHER FAMILY AND FRIENDS WHO KNEW AND LOVED HIM. OUR HEARTS BREAK FOR THIS TRAGEDY, FOR OUR FRIEND GUSTAVO, AND I KNOW THAT HE TOOK IT VERY, VERY HARD, AND IT WILL BE A LONG TIME TILL HE GETS OVER IT. THEY WERE VERY, VERY CLOSE. AND HE PASSED AWAY IN AN UNFORTUNATE MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENT.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: I THINK WE ALL WANT TO JOIN IN THAT. OKAY. SUPERVISOR BARGER?

SUP. BARGER: THANK YOU. I MOVE THAT WHEN WE ADJOURN TODAY, WE DO SO IN MEMORY OF GOR ADAMYAN, WHO WAS FOUR YEARS OLD WHEN HE TRAGICALLY LOST HIS LIFE IN A ROAD RAGE ACCIDENT, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15TH, IN LANCASTER. GOR WAS A VIBRANT CHILD. GOR'S PARENTS WERE EN ROUTE TO PURCHASE GROCERIES WHEN THE ENCOUNTER WITH ANOTHER DRIVER TURNED INTO AN UNEXPECTED TRAGEDY. THE OTHER DRIVER OPENED FIRE ON THE FAMILY'S VEHICLE, FATALLY INJURING GOR, WHO DIED AT THE HOSPITAL SATURDAY MORNING. HIS FAMILY AND THE COMMUNITY ARE DEVASTATED. GOR WILL BE SORELY MISSED. HE IS SURVIVED BY HIS PARENTS, MERI AND LEVON, ALONG WITH HIS BROTHER, NAREK SARKASIAN. ALSO, THAT WE ADJOURN IN MEMORY OF DR. THEODORE NORMAN HACKETT JR., A LONGTIME RESIDENT OF SIERRA MADRE, WHO PASSED AWAY ON DECEMBER 5TH. DR. HACKETT GRADUATED FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH SCHOOL OF MEDICINE IN 1976. FOR MORE THAN 25 YEARS, HE PRACTICED EMERGENCY MEDICINE AT U.S.C. VERDUGO HILLS HOSPITAL. HE MET HIS WIFE, NAOMI HACKETT, IN THE EMERGENCY ROOM, WHERE SHE WAS A NURSE, AND THEY MARRIED IN 1996. IN 2014, HE RETIRED AND DEDICATED A LOT OF HIS TIME TO HIS FAMILY AND HOBBIES. DR. HACKETT WAS FASCINATED BY PLANETS AND STARS, AND OFTEN PLANNED TRIPS TO WITNESS ASTROLOGICAL EVENTS. EARLIER THIS YEAR, HE TRAVELED TO ALBUQUERQUE TO WITNESS THE ECLIPSE. HIS FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND COLLEAGUES REMEMBER HIM AS FUNNY, KIND, GENEROUS, AND EXTREMELY CARING. HE ADORED HIS CATS SO MUCH, AND THEY LOVED HIM TOO. DR. HACKETT ENJOYED TENNIS, BADMINTON, FENCING, AND

TRAVELING WITH HIS WIFE. DR. HACKETT WILL BE DEEPLY MISSED. HE IS SURVIVED BY HIS WIFE, NAOMI HACKETT, HIS SONS NATHAN AND PATRICK, HIS DAUGHTER SARAH, AND HIS SEVEN GRANDCHILDREN. ALSO, WE ADJOURN IN MEMORY OF CLAUDIA HELLER, BELOVED SAN GABRIEL VALLEY COLUMNIST AND LONGTIME RESIDENT OF DUARTE, WHO PASSED AWAY ON DECEMBER 11TH AT THE AGE OF 79. CLAUDIA WAS BORN AND RAISED IN HOLLYWOOD, AND GRADUATED FROM LOS ANGELES CITY COLLEGE WITH A DEGREE IN JOURNALISM. SHE MET HER HUSBAND, ALAN, AS A FRESHMAN AT HOLLYWOOD HIGH. THE HIGH-SCHOOL SWEETHEARTS GOT MARRIED AND ESTABLISHED THEIR HOME IN DUARTE IN 1980, WHERE THEY BECAME INTEGRAL PARTS OF THE COMMUNITY FABRIC. SHE WAS A DEDICATED COMMUNITY LEADER, SERVING AS PRESIDENT OF THE DUARTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND THE DUARTE WOMEN'S CLUB. HER COMMITMENT EXTENDED TO STEWARDING THE CITY'S HISTORICAL MUSEUM, LEAVING AN INDELIBLE MARK ON ITS PRESERVATION. FROM 1991 TO 2022, CLAUDIA CONTRIBUTED HER INSIGHTFUL PERSPECTIVES THROUGH A COLUMN FOR THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA NEWS GROUP. SHE AND ALAN COLLABORATED ON THREE BOOKS: "LIFE ON ROUTE 66," "DUARTE CHRONICLES," AND "CURIOSITIES OF THE CALIFORNIA DESERT." "LIFE ON ROUTE 66" WAS THE RESULT OF THE 2,400-MILE ROAD TRIP THE COUPLE TOOK WHEN THEY RETIRED; NOT COINCIDENTALLY, AT THE AGE OF 66. CLAUDIA'S UNWAVERING SUPPORT FOR LOCAL HISTORY, AND HER ABILITY TO INSTILL A PROFOUND APPRECIATION FOR THE DUARTE COMMUNITY, WERE HALLMARKS OF HER LEGACY. SHE WILL BE DEEPLY MISSED. SHE IS

SURVIVED BY HER HUSBAND, ALAN, AND THEIR TWO CHILDREN. ALSO, WE ADJOURN IN MEMORY OF DR. JOHN BROOKS SLAUGHTER, 11TH PRESIDENT OF OCCIDENTAL COLLEGE, WHO PASSED AWAY DECEMBER 6TH AT THE AGE OF 89. JOHN WAS BORN IN TOPEKA, KANSAS, ON MARCH 16, 1934. HE RECEIVED HIS B.S. IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING AT KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY IN 1956. HE THEN RECEIVED HIS M.S. IN ENGINEERING FROM U.C.L.A. IN 1961, AND HIS PH.D. IN ENGINEERING SCIENCE FROM U.C. SAN DIEGO IN 1971. HE RECEIVED HONORARY DEGREES FROM 25 INSTITUTIONS, INCLUDING OCCIDENTAL, IN 1999. IN APRIL OF 1989, HE WAS INAUGURATED AS PRESIDENT AT OCCIDENTAL COLLEGE. HIS TALENT LED THE COLLEGE THROUGH THE FORMULATION OF A WIDELY ACCEPTED STRATEGIC PLAN AND MISSION STATEMENT THAT HAS MADE OCCIDENTAL ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S MOST DISTINCTIVE LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGES. DURING HIS TENURE AS PRESIDENT, APPLICATION RATES ROSE TO RECORD LEVELS, AS THE COLLEGE ACADEMIC PROGRAMS DREW NATIONAL RECOGNITION. HE WAS PRAISED BY STUDENTS AND FACULTY FOR HIS FRIENDLY, POSITIVE LEADERSHIP, GRACIOUSNESS, AND STRONG SENSE OF PERSONAL INTEGRITY. HE OVERSAW "COMPASS FOR A NEW CENTURY: THE CAMPAIGN FOR OCCIDENTAL," WHICH RAISED A RECORD $72 MILLION FOR A VARIETY OF ACADEMIC PROGRAMS, CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS. AFTER HIS RETIREMENT FROM OCCIDENTAL, HE DEDICATED HIS TIME TO TEACHING COURSES IN DIVERSITY AND LEADERSHIP AT U.S.C., LATER ACCEPTING THE POSITION OF PRESIDENT AND C.E.O. OF THE NATIONAL ACTION COUNCIL FOR

MINORITIES IN ENGINEERING, IN 2000. HE RETURNED TO U.S.C. IN 2010, AS A PROFESSOR OF EDUCATION AND ENGINEERING, AND RETIRED IN 2022. U.S.C. VITERBI SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING DEDICATED THE NEW JOHN BROOKS SLAUGHTER CENTER FOR ENGINEERING DIVERSITY IN SEPTEMBER. JOHN IS SURVIVED BY HIS WIFE, DR. BERNICE SLAUGHTER; SON, JOHN II; AND DAUGHTER, JACQUELINE. AND LAST, I MOVE THAT WE ADJOURN IN MEMORY OF TERRENCE WILLIAMS, BELOVED COMMUNITY MEMBER AND LONGTIME RESIDENT OF MONROVIA, WHO PASSED AWAY ON DECEMBER 14TH AT THE AGE OF 60. TERRENCE DEDICATED HIS TIME AND PASSION TO MONROVIA UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD, SERVING DILIGENTLY FROM 2013 TO 2018. HIS COMMITMENT EXTENDED BEYOND THE BOARDROOM, AS HE ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED IN NUMEROUS ORGANIZATIONS, SUCH AS THE MONROVIA KIWANIS CLUB, MONROVIA COMMUNITY COORDINATING COUNCIL, AND MONROVIA PARENT TEACHER STUDENT ASSOCIATION. HE SERVED AS VICE PRESIDENT OF THE MONROVIA ARCADIA DUARTE-- BETTER KNOWN AS M.A.D.-- TOWN COUNCIL FOR OVER TEN YEARS. TERRENCE WAS A STRONG ADVOCATE FOR SPECIAL-EDUCATION STUDENTS. HIS IMPACT REACHED FAR AND WIDE, LEAVING A LASTING LEGACY OF SERVICE AND DEDICATION. HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY WILL ALWAYS BE REMEMBERED, AND HE WILL BE DEEPLY MISSED. TERRENCE IS SURVIVED BY HIS WIFE, BOBBIE, AND THEIR FIVE CHILDREN. THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. SUPERVISOR SOLIS?

SUP. SOLIS: THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR. I ALSO MOVE THAT WHEN WE ADJOURN TODAY, WE ADJOURN IN THE MEMORY OF JOSEPH GANDARA. JOSEPH, KNOWN AS JOE, WAS BORN ON AUGUST 29, 1960, AND PASSED AWAY ON NOVEMBER 3, 2023, AT THE AGE OF 63. JOE WAS A DEDICATED AND COMPASSIONATE INDIVIDUAL WHO WORKED FOR THE COUNTY'S MEDICAL EXAMINER FOR FOUR YEARS, AND THEN SERVED AS A FIREFIGHTER PARAMEDIC IN EAST LOS ANGELES FOR FIRE STATION 3, BATTALION 3. HE RETIRED IN 2020 AFTER 33 YEARS OF UNWAVERING SERVICE WITH THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT. JOE WAS KNOWN FOR HIS ENTHUSIASM FOR LIFE, EXEMPLIFIED THROUGH HIS PARTICIPATION IN VARIOUS SKIING, SNOWBOARDING, AND COOKING. HE LEFT AN INCREDIBLE MARK ON THE COMMUNITY OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY. HIS COMMITMENT TO PUBLIC SAFETY AND HIS EXEMPLARY CAREER WILL FOREVER BE ETCHED IN OUR HEARTS. JOE IS SURVIVED BY HIS BELOVED SPOUSE, ELISA GANDARA, WHOM HE MET WHILE ANSWERING A CALL FOR PARAMEDIC SERVICE FOR ELISA'S MOM. THEY WERE MARRIED 11 YEARS LATER. HE ALSO IS SURVIVED BY HIS FIVE CHILDREN, FOUR GRANDCHILDREN, AND EXTENDED FAMILY. MAY HE REST IN PEACE. I THINK EVERYONE MAY WANT TO JOIN, BECAUSE HE'S A COUNTY EMPLOYEE. THANK YOU AGAIN, MADAM CHAIR. I MOVE THAT WHEN WE ADJOURN TODAY, WE ADJOURN IN THE MEMORY OF ALAN KIYOJI TERAKAWA. ALAN WAS BORN IN POSTON INTERNMENT CAMP, LOCATED IN YUMA COUNTY, IN SOUTHWESTERN ARIZONA. THE POSTON INTERNMENT CAMP WAS THE LARGEST OF THE TEN AMERICAN CONCENTRATION CAMPS OPERATED BY WORLD WAR II RELOCATION AUTHORITY. HIS FAMILY WAS

RELEASED FROM THE POSTON INTERNMENT CAMP WHEN ALAN WAS THREE YEARS OLD. THEN THEY MOVED AND SETTLED IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA. ALAN FIRST JOINED THE COUNTY FAMILY IN 1967, WORKING IN THE PUBLIC GUARDIANS OFFICE. WHILE THERE, HE ATTENDED AND GRADUATED FROM LAW SCHOOL. ALAN THEN PURSUED A CAREER IN LAW, AND JOINED THE OFFICE OF COUNTY COUNSEL, FIRST PRACTICING IN THE GENERAL LITIGATION DIVISION, AND LATER IN THE M.T.A. DIVISION, WHERE HE OVERSAW LITIGATION, AS WELL AS TRAINED YOUNGER ATTORNEYS. IN 2005, HE RETIRED AFTER 38 YEARS OF COUNTY SERVICE. ALAN WAS KNOWN FOR HIS EVER-SMILING FACE, HIS LOVE FOR GOLF-- WHICH HE NEVER REALLY MASTERED, BUT ALWAYS PLAYED WITH GLEE-- EXCELLENT FOOD, AND SPECIAL WINES. MOST OF ALL, HE WAS KNOWN FOR HIS DEVOTION FOR HELPING AND MENTORING OTHERS. HE HAD AN ACTIVE ROLE IN THE JAPANESE AMERICAN REDRESS UNDER PRESIDENT REAGAN, TESTIFYING AT THE HEARINGS BEFORE THE COMMISSION ON REPARATIONS FOR JAPANESE AMERICAN WORLD WAR II INTERNEES, AND JOINING THE LEGAL TEAM WHO SUCCESSFULLY ELEVATED THE MATTER TO THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT. ALAN PASSED AWAY ON DECEMBER 5TH, 2023. HE IS SURVIVED BY HIS WIFE, ANA MARIA, WHO IS A PRINCIPAL DEPUTY FOR COUNTY COUNSEL; HIS SISTER; AND MANY COUSINS, NEPHEWS, AND NIECES. I EXTEND MY DEEPEST CONDOLENCES TO HIS FAMILY. MAY HE REST IN PEACE. AND I BELIEVE, ALSO, ALL MEMBERS WANT TO JOIN ON THAT. THANK YOU. THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: SUPERVISOR MITCHELL?

SUP. MITCHELL: THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MADAM CHAIR. AND I MOVE THAT WHEN WE ADJOURN TODAY, WE ADJOURN IN THE MEMORY OF LEONARD CLIFFORD TIBBS, JR. MR. TIBBS WAS BORN ON MARCH 3, 1934, HERE IN LOS ANGELES, AND PASSED AWAY ON NOVEMBER 22, AT THE AGE OF 89. HE WAS THE BELOVED LIFE PARTNER OF INGLEWOOD CITY COUNCILWOMAN GLORIA GRAY. HE WAS A PROUD RESIDENT OF SOUTH LOS ANGELES. MR. TIBBS GRADUATED FROM MANUAL ARTS HIGH SCHOOL, AND STUDIED BUSINESS AT U.C.L.A. MR. TIBBS BEGAN HIS PROFESSIONAL CAREER AT MCDONALD DOUGLAS, AND PLAYED A PIVOTAL ROLE IN THE CENTURY FREEWAY COMMITTEE. HIS BUSINESS ACUMEN AND WORK ETHIC CONTRIBUTED TO SEVERAL SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS ENTERPRISES, WHICH INCLUDED REAL ESTATE INVESTING, A CATERING BUSINESS, A RETAIL VENTURE, AND OWNING A RESTAURANT: TIBBS TACOS. MR. TIBBS WAS ALSO THE CREATIVE FORCE BEHIND A HAIR PRODUCT, MOTHER'S SECRET FORMULA, MANUFACTURED BY WORLD OF CURLS, CRAFTING, MANUFACTURING, AND DISTRIBUTING THE PRODUCT. THROUGH HIS WORK, HE WAS ABLE TO OFFER MENTORSHIP AND JOBS THROUGHOUT HIS COMMUNITY. IN 1999, HE MET GLORIA BY THE INTRODUCTION OF A MUTUAL FRIEND, AND THE TWO BUILT A RELATIONSHIP OF LOVE, RESPECT, TRUST, AND COMMITMENT. THEY ENJOYED TRAVELING THE WORLD, VISITING OVER A DOZEN COUNTRIES TOGETHER. THEY ALSO JOINED AN R.V. CLUB, EXPLORING CALIFORNIA AND SEVERAL OTHER DESTINATIONS WITH MUTUAL R.V. ENTHUSIASTS.

MR. TIBBS WAS A MAN OF FEW WORDS, BUT HE WAS ALSO CHARMING AND FRIENDLY. HE ENJOYED GOLF, BOATING, FISHING, AND DEEP-SEA DIVING. HE'LL BE REMEMBERED PROUDLY AS A LOVING PARTNER, FATHER, AND GRANDFATHER. HE IS SURVIVED, AND WILL BE DEEPLY MISSED AND FOREVER CHERISHED, BY GLORIA; HIS DAUGHTER, ALLISON; HIS BONUS DAUGHTERS, MONICA AND DENISE; 5 GRANDCHILDREN; 5 GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN; AND A HOST OF EXTENDED FAMILY AND FRIENDS. PLEASE. HAPPY TO HAVE SUPERVISOR HAHN JOIN. THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MADAM CHAIR.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: THANK YOU. AND NOW I HAVE TWO ADJOURNMENTS. FIRST, I WOULD MOVE THAT WHEN WE ADJOURN TODAY, WE ADJOURN IN MEMORY OF CARI BEAUCHAMP, WHO PASSED AWAY ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14TH, AT THE AGE OF 74. SHE WAS A RESIDENT OF WEST LOS ANGELES. BEAUCHAMP WAS A RESPECTED FILM HISTORIAN, AUTHOR, EDITOR, AND DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKER, WHO CHRONICLED THE HISTORY OF HOLLYWOOD. SHE INTRODUCED COUNTLESS PEOPLE TO THE MAGIC OF HOLLYWOOD. IN 1973, SHE WAS THE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S POLITICAL CAUCUS OF CALIFORNIA. SHE SERVED AS SAN JOSE MAYOR JANET HAYES' CAMPAIGN MANAGER, AND CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR JERRY BROWN'S PRESS SECRETARY. SHE MOVED TO LOS ANGELES 9 YEARS AFTER, TO BECOME A FULL-TIME WRITER. IN HER LIFE, BEAUCHAMP CONTRIBUTED TO MANY PUBLICATIONS, LIKE THE NEW YORK TIMES, THE L.A. TIMES, AND "VARIETY." SHE WAS ALSO A FEATURED SPEAKER AT CANNES, AND OUR VERY OWN LOS ANGELES

COUNTY MUSEUM OF ART. SHE WILL BE REMEMBERED FOR HER COMMITMENT TO PRESERVING THE STORIES OF ALL THOSE WHO HELPED TO MAKE HOLLYWOOD'S FILM AND TELEVISION WORLD THE RENOWNED PLACE IT IS TODAY. EARLIER THIS YEAR, SHE WAS ON HOLLYWOOD REPORTER'S "100 GREATEST FILM BOOKS OF ALL TIME" LIST, THANKS TO HER NOVEL "WITHOUT LYING DOWN: FRANCES MARION AND THE POWERFUL WOMEN OF EARLY HOLLYWOOD," WHICH LATER WAS MADE INTO A DOCUMENTARY. BEAUCHAMP CHAMPIONED THE WORK OF FEMALE SCREENWRITERS, MAKING SURE THEIR STORIES WERE ALWAYS TOLD. THROUGH THE RESEARCH SHE DREW FROM LETTERS, SPEECHES, AUTOBIOGRAPHIES, AND COUNTLESS INTERVIEWS WITH HOLLYWOOD'S OWN, SHE MADE SURE THEY WOULD LIVE ON CONCURRENTLY WITH HOLLYWOOD'S OWN LEGACY. SHE IS SURVIVED BY HER SONS, JAKE AND TEO. AND WORDS WILL NOT DO THIS HUMAN JUSTICE, BUT I'M GOING TO GIVE IT A SHOT. I MOVE THAT WHEN WE ADJOURN TODAY, WE ADJOURN IN MEMORY OF NORMAN LEAR. NORMAN LEAR PASSED AWAY ON DECEMBER 5TH, AT THE AGE OF 101, AT HIS HOME IN LOS ANGELES. HE WAS AN EMMY AWARD-WINNING WRITER-PRODUCER AND SOCIAL ACTIVIST, WHO WAS A TREASURED TELEVISION ICON FOR HIS WORK CREATING POPULAR 70'S SITCOMS. LEAR WAS BORN IN NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT, THE GRANDSON OF RUSSIAN JEWISH IMMIGRANTS. AFTER SERVING IN THE ARMY AFTER WORLD WAR II, LEAR MOVED TO LOS ANGELES IN 1949, WITH HIS WIFE, CHARLOTTE, HIS DAUGHTER ELLEN, TO TRY TO FIND A PUBLICITY JOB. HIS COUSIN'S HUSBAND, ED SIMMONS, HAD ALSO MOVED OUT WEST TO BE A COMEDY WRITER. ONE

NIGHT, THEY SOLD A SONG PARODY TO A NIGHTCLUB ENTERTAINER FOR $40, AND FROM THEN ON BEGAN TO SPEND THEIR EVENINGS WRITING JOKES, COMEDY ROUTINES, AND MUSICAL PARODIES. LEAR AND SIMMONS WERE HIRED TO WRITE SEVERAL COMEDY SHOWS. LEAR AND SIMMONS PARTED WAYS, AND LEAR LEANED MORE INTO PRODUCING AND DIRECTING, AS WELL. LEAR BECAME WIDELY KNOWN FOR THE SUCCESS OF SITCOMS "ALL IN THE FAMILY" AND "ONE DAY AT A TIME." HE WROTE ABOUT CONTROVERSIAL TOPICS IN HIS SHOWS, SHINING A LIGHT ON L.G.B.T.Q.+ RIGHTS, ABORTION RIGHTS, CIVIL RIGHTS, AND OTHER CONSTITUTIONAL FREEDOMS. HE SHAPED COMEDY IN A WAY THAT IS STILL RELEVANT TODAY. HE CONTINUED TO WORK WELL INTO HIS 90'S, RECEIVING MANY AWARDS AND MUCH-DESERVED RECOGNITION ALONG THE WAY, INCLUDING AN EMMY AWARD IN 2019, AT THE AGE OF 97. AND WE ALL KNOW HIS FAMOUS-- AND INFAMOUS-- POLITICAL WORK. LEAR IS SURVIVED BY HIS WIFE, LYN DAVIS, 6 CHILDREN, AND MANY GRANDCHILDREN.

SUP. SOLIS: MADAM CHAIR, CAN I JOIN YOU? I WANTED TO...

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: ABSOLUTELY. I'LL TURN IT TO YOU, SUPERVISOR SOLIS.

SUP. SOLIS: THANK YOU SO MUCH. I'M HONORED TO ALSO HAVE KNOWN HIM, IN A VERY DIFFERENT LIGHT. HE'S KNOWN FOR "ALL IN THE FAMILY," "THE JEFFERSONS," "ONE DAY AT A TIME," AND "DIFF'RENT

STROKES," BUT HE ALSO HELPED TO ESTABLISH AND WAS A STRONG SUPPORTER OF THE IMAGEN FOUNDATION, AN ORGANIZATION WHICH HELPED TO SHOWCASE LATINO ARTISTS AND PRODUCERS. HE ACTUALLY HELPED TO FUND IT AND SET THAT UP. MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW THAT. I WAS ABLE TO ATTEND AN AWARD CEREMONY WHERE THEY CELEBRATED HIM ON HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY. THROUGH THE IMAGEN FOUNDATION, HE ENSURED TO AMPLIFY LATINO ACTORS IN HIS PRODUCTIONS. MOST RENOWNED WAS NORMAN'S REBOOT OF THE SITCOM "ONE DAY AT A TIME" IN 2017, WHICH HAD ALL LATINX ACTORS, AND DEPICTS THE EVERYDAY LIFE OF CUBAN-AMERICAN FAMILIES. AS A LIBERAL ACTIVIST WITH AN EYE FOR MAINSTREAM ENTERTAINMENT, NORMAN WAS AN INNOVATIVE WRITER WHO BROUGHT REALISM TO TELEVISION. NORMAN PROVIDED THE PLATFORM FOR LATINO FAMILY STORIES TO BE TOLD TO THIS COUNTRY. HE WILL BE DEARLY MISSED, AND MAY HE REST IN PEACE. THANK YOU MUCH, MADAM CHAIR.

SUP. HORVATH, CHAIR: OF COURSE. THANK YOU. AND WE WILL TAKE ALL THE MOTIONS AS SECONDED. IF THERE IS NO OBJECTION TO A UNANIMOUS VOTE, THAT WILL BE THE ACTION. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND COLLEAGUES, WE'RE NOW GOING INTO CLOSED SESSION. WHILE WE ARE IN CLOSED SESSION, WE'LL BE SHOWING VIDEO PRESENTATIONS. SUPERVISOR HAHN HAS A VIDEO PRESENTATION RECOGNIZING THE PAWS FOR LIFE PROGRAM AT BARRY J. NIDORF, AND SUPERVISOR BARGER HAS A VIDEO PRESENTATION RECOGNIZING THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AUTRY MUSEUM, AND PRESENTING A SCROLL TO STEPHEN ARON, THE

PRESIDENT AND C.E.O. OF THE AUTRY MUSEUM. EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PLEASE READ US INTO CLOSED SESSION.

CELIA ZAVALA, E.O.: IN ACCORDANCE WITH BROWN ACT REQUIREMENTS, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WILL CONVENE IN CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS ITEM CS-1, CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR FESIA DAVENPORT AND DESIGNATED STAFF, AS INDICATED ON THE POSTED AGENDA.

SUP. HAHN: WELL, HERE WE ARE TODAY AT BARRY J. NIDORF JUVENILE FACILITY, AND I'M HERE SPECIFICALLY TO LOOK AT THE PAWS FOR LIFE PROGRAM, WHICH I REALLY CHAMPIONED ON THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO COME INTO THIS FACILITY. AND I WAS ABLE TO SEE YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE IN OUR JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ACTUALLY INTERACTING WITH THE DOGS, TRAINING THE DOGS, AND THE GOAL IS FOR SOME OF THESE VERY HARD-TO-ADOPT DOGS TO BE TRAINED HERE BY THE YOUNG PEOPLE, AND THEN PUT THEM UP FOR ADOPTION. AND IT ALSO HAS SO MANY OTHER BENEFITS, THESE YOUNG PEOPLE WE'RE TALKING ABOUT, HOW IT HELPED THEIR SELF-ESTEEM, HOW IT HELPED THEIR PATIENCE, HOW IT HELPED THEM STICK WITH A JOB THAT SOMETIMES WAS DIFFICULT OR UNCOMFORTABLE, AND HOW IT REALLY TURNED THEIR LIFE AROUND. MANY OF THEM WERE TELLING STORIES THAT THEY WERE ON A VERY DIFFERENT TRACK, BUT BECAUSE OF THE PAWS FOR LIFE PROGRAM, THEY HAVE NEW PURPOSE, THEY HAVE NEW DETERMINATION, AND HOPEFULLY, WHEN THEY ARE FINALLY RELEASED

FROM THIS FACILITY, THEY WON'T COME BACK, BUT THEY'LL BE ON ANOTHER PATHWAY. AND WE ACTUALLY MET SOMEBODY WHO WAS FORMALLY INCARCERATED AND WENT THROUGH THE PAWS FOR LIFE PROGRAM HERE, AND NOW ACTUALLY WORKS FOR THE ORGANIZATION.

SPEAKER: SO, I GOT INTO THE PROGRAM WHEN I WAS LOCKED UP IN JUVENILE HALL. I TOOK SOME TRAINING COURSES FOR THESE DOGS, OF COURSE. WE HAD DOGS IN THE CELLS, AND WE WOULD TRAIN THEM. IT REALLY HELPED THROUGHOUT MY LIFE. EMOTIONALLY, IT SUPPORTED ME A LOT WHILE I WAS INCARCERATED. IT WAS REALLY A BIG STEP, BECAUSE WHEN I CAME HOME, I WAS ABLE TO GET THIS JOB AS SOON AS I CAME HOME, AND IT'S REALLY BEEN HELPING ME EVER SINCE. I'VE BEEN COMING HERE EVERY DAY, CONSISTENTLY, AND IT JUST MAKES ME APPRECIATE FREEDOM.

SUP. HANN: AND SO IT'S A GREAT PROGRAM, AND I'M REALLY GLAD THAT I CHAMPIONED IT, AND I'M REALLY GLAD THAT EVERYBODY HAS EMBRACED IT. IT'S GOOD FOR THE DOGS, AND IT'S GOOD FOR THE YOUNG PEOPLE WHO GO THROUGH THE PROGRAM.

SUP. BARGER: HI. I'M LOS ANGELES COUNTY SUPERVISOR KATHRYN BARGER. I'M EXCITED TO BE HERE AT THE FAMOUS AUTRY MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN WEST, IN THE BEAUTIFUL GRIFFITH PARK, WHICH I'M PROUD IS IN THE HEART OF THE FIFTH DISTRICT. FOR 35 YEARS, THE AUTRY MUSEUM HAS FEATURED STORIES OF THE WEST THAT CONNECT US

WITH THE PAST, AND RECOGNIZE THOSE WHO HAVE MADE A DIFFERENCE THROUGHOUT OUR HISTORY. THE MUSEUM IS HOME TO AN IMPRESSIVE COLLECTION OF MORE THAN 500,000 ART PIECES AND ARTIFACTS. THEY HAVE ONE OF THE LARGEST AND MOST SIGNIFICANT COLLECTIONS OF NATIVE AMERICAN MATERIALS IN THE UNITED STATES, AND A STRONG PARTNERSHIP WITH NATIVE VOICES, WHO PRODUCE PLAYS BY INDIGENOUS PLAYWRIGHTS AND ACTORS. IN ADDITION TO THEIR PERMANENT COLLECTIONS, THE MUSEUM HOUSES INNOVATIVE EXHIBITS THAT FEATURE EVERYTHING FROM FASHION AND POP CULTURE, TO EDUCATION AND SCIENCE. THEIR TEAM HOSTS LECTURES, FILM SCREENS, PLAYS, FESTIVALS, FAMILY ACTIVITIES, AND MUSIC EVENTS THAT INVITE COMMUNITY MEMBERS OF ALL AGES TO LEARN AND ENGAGE. TO CELEBRATE ALL THE INCREDIBLE WORK THAT'S UNDERWAY HERE AT THE AUTRY, IT IS MY PRIVILEGE TO PRESENT PRESIDENT AND C.E.O. STEPHEN ARON WITH THIS SCROLL, ON BEHALF OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR 35TH ANNIVERSARY, AND THANK YOU AND YOUR DEDICATION TO MAKE THE AUTRY ACCESSIBLE TO ALL OF OUR COMMUNITIES. WITH THAT, I'D LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO SAY A FEW WORDS.

STEPHEN ARON: THANK YOU SO MUCH, SUPERVISOR BARGER, FOR BEING HERE. WE ARE DELIGHTED TO WELCOME YOU, DELIGHTED TO HAVE YOU HERE TO CELEBRATE 35 YEARS. YOU MENTIONED THAT YOU WERE HERE ALMOST AT THE OUTSET, AND WE'RE DELIGHTED TO HAVE YOU, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU BACK ANY TIME YOU WOULD LIKE. I

CAN'T SPEAK ENTIRELY ABOUT WHAT WILL HAPPEN OVER THE NEXT 35 YEARS AT THE AUTRY, BUT I HOPE, OVER THE NEXT 5 YEARS, CERTAINLY, THE AUTRY WILL CONTINUE TO DO ALL THE THINGS THAT YOU SAY WE DO, AND EVEN MORE SO, TO EMBED OURSELVES IN AND FOR THE COMMUNITY OF LOS ANGELES. SO THANK YOU SO VERY, VERY MUCH.

SUP. BARGER: THANK YOU, AND I WOULD ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO COME, BRING YOUR FAMILY. IT IS TRULY A REMARKABLE, REMARKABLE MUSEUM, AND IT REALLY DOES BLEND THE OLD WITH THE NEW. AND HERE IS THE PROCLAMATION FOR YOU.

THE BOARD OF
SUPERVISORS

CLOSED SESSION ITEMS
FOR DECEMBER 19, 2023

CS-1. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS
(Government Code Section 54957.6)

Agency designated representatives: Fesia Davenport, Chief Executive Officer, and designated staff.

Employee Organization(s) for represented employees: Union of American Physicians & Dentists (UAPD). (23-4430)

No reportable action was taken.

I, JENNIFER A. HINES, Certified Shorthand Reporter Number 6029/RPR/CRR qualified in and for the State of California, do hereby certify:

That the transcripts of proceedings recorded by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors December 19, 2023, were thereafter transcribed into typewriting under my direction and supervision;

That the transcript of recorded proceedings as archived in the office of the reporter and which have been provided to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors as certified by me.

I further certify that I am neither counsel for, nor related to any party to the said action; nor in anywise interested in the outcome thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 8th day of January 2024, for the County records to be used only for authentication purposes of duly certified transcripts as on file of the office of the reporter.

JENNIFER A. HINES

CSR No. 6029/RPR/CRR