

**MOTION BY SUPERVISORS HOLLY J. MITCHELL  
AND KATHRYN BARGER**

September 13, 2022

**Establishing a Countywide RV Encampment Pilot Program**

In some unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County (County), the presence of Recreational Vehicles (RV) has increased, posing a health and safety risk for the people living in and around the RV encampments. On January 11, 2022, the Board of Supervisors (Board) passed the [motion](#) “*Addressing RV Encampments During COVID-19 Recovery*” to address the challenges of providing direct engagement and connection to housing options for people living in RVs. The motion requested a report back including recommendations for establishing a Countywide RV encampment program inclusive of the removal of unsafe and inoperable RVs, the creation of safe parking sites, and best practices in encampment protocols.

In response to the motion, on August 12, 2022, the Chief Executive Office Homeless Initiative provided a [report](#) to the Board on a Countywide RV encampment program with an in depth data analysis related to RV encampments, including but not limited to the following: number of RVs in a census tract, crime rates in and around RV encampments, and County protocol to address encampments, along with recommendations on the creation of a new protocol to address hot spot areas with the highest number of dilapidated RVs and high crime zones. The report back indicates that

- MORE -

**MOTION**

SOLIS \_\_\_\_\_

KUEHL \_\_\_\_\_

HAHN \_\_\_\_\_

BARGER \_\_\_\_\_

MITCHELL \_\_\_\_\_

there are approximately 5,200 RVs being used as shelter in the County by people experiencing homelessness and recommends that the Board immediately address the identified high priority areas. These are areas where crime has increased exponentially over the past 12 and 24 months and includes elements that endanger both the unhoused residents living in RVs and the public health of those residing in high priority areas. The report includes RV data available at the time of the report. To develop the implementation plan, data from the 2022 Point-In-Time Homeless Count will need to be considered to update the hot spot areas, in consultation with each Supervisorial office.

On April 11, 2022, the Department of Public Works also provided a [report](#) to the Board on best practices from across the State that leverage parking regulations to reduce re-population of RVs in hot spot areas and around schools. The report found that parking regulations are not the sole solution to vehicular homelessness although it can be an effective tool in managing the presence of RVs in neighborhoods as part of a broader holistic program. The report highlights the importance of social and health services as well as alternative housing options for people living in RVs for the program to be effective.

The establishment of a Countywide RV encampment program expands the work of the County teams and advances the recommendations from the June 28, 2018, [report](#) recommendations that included: (1) the proper disposal of unclaimed, dilapidated, and hazardous RVs; (2) minimizing improper disposal of RV waste; and (3) the creation of safe parking for RVs.

**WE THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

1. Instruct the Executive Director of the Chief Executive Office Homeless Initiative (CEO-HI) to consult, within 30 days, with the Directors of the Department of Public Works (DPW), Department of Public Health (DPH), Department of Regional Planning (DRP), Department of Mental Health (DMH), and the Department of Health Services (DHS), and, in coordination with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD), the St. Joseph Vehicular Homeless Outreach Program (VHOP), and the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), to report back in writing within 120 days with an implementation plan for a 36-month pilot RV Program that includes and is not

limited to:

- a. Establishing a County apparatus (including protocol, staffing, and other necessary tools) for people living in RVs, prioritizing the hot spot areas.
  - b. Connecting people living in recreational vehicles to housing options inclusive of hotel vouchers.
  - c. Assessing and connecting people to appropriate support services, including existing County mainstream programs and services such as mental health, physical health, substance use disorder services and social services.
  - d. Establishing at least one Safe Parking RV site in each Supervisorial District informed by best practices for Safe Parking including support services and safety protocols. The Safe Parking RV sites selection should be informed by the 2022 Point-In-Time Homeless Count and in coordination with the respective Supervisorial offices.
  - e. Establishing guidelines, roles, and responsibilities for expediting the dismantling of RVs that are inoperable, that fail to meet current vehicle code, or are voluntarily surrendered by owner;
  - f. Establishing guidelines, roles, and responsibilities for ensuring proper disposal of RV waste; and
  - g. Establishing incentives for RV residents to transition to housing options such as temporary storage of their RV.
2. Instruct the Executive Director of CEO-HI to work in partnership with the Directors of DPW, DPH, DRP, DMH, and DHS to include a recommended project budget and funding sources in the implementation plan for the RV encampment pilot program with success measures and deliverable goals that include:
- a. A target to engage at least 500 people living in RVs annually and dismantling a minimum of 900 inoperable RVs during the 36-month pilot program.
  - b. Alignment and coordination of existing County programs and services

- for unhoused individuals; and
- c. In coordination with St. Joseph Center's VHOP team, LASD Homeless Outreach Service Team and all appropriate departments, determine the staffing needs to expand the VHOP model to all Supervisorial districts, following the recommendation in the report back to establish teams for the clean-up effort and of the RV encampment pilot program throughout the County.
3. Instruct CEO-HI and CEO Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations to help secure State and Federal dollars for the 36-month RV encampment pilot program by advocating through the annual state and federal budget processes and applying for existing State and Federal grant opportunities created to support such programs as the RV encampment pilot program. This includes the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's 2022 Special Notice of Funding Opportunity to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness, which is being coordinated locally by LAHSA, as well as Congress' Congressionally Directed Spending Requests.
  4. Instruct the Director of DPH to report back in writing in 120 days with recommendations to employ sustainable solutions for proper disposal of waste to assist Persons Experiencing Homelessness living in RVs including mobile disposal of RV waste during the 36-month pilot project.
  5. In support of the pilot project referenced in the 2<sup>nd</sup> directive, instruct the Director of DPW to collaborate with LASD and County Counsel to execute a contract to support the removal and dismantling of at least 900 impounded RVs in accordance with established County protocol for people living in recreational vehicles and abandoned RVs.
  6. Instruct the Director of DPW in consultation with the Director of the Department of Arts and Culture to collaborate with an Artist in Residence program to support creative and low-cost beautification interventions in hot spot areas to deter re-population of RV encampments.

7. Instruct the Director of DPW to collaborate with the State of California on the pursuit of beautification grant funding including but not limited to Clean California.
8. Direct the Executive Director of CEO-HI to engage Service Planning Area leads for input in the implementation plan for the RV encampment pilot program.
9. Direct the Executive Director of CEO-HI to engage with the Council of Governments and cities to develop a framework for participation and partnership in the Countywide RV encampment pilot program.

###

(IG/LS)