

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HILDA L. SOLIS

September 10, 2024

**Increasing our Capacity to Address Unsheltered Homelessness in Advance of Major Sporting and Entertainment Events**

Los Angeles County is a thriving sports and entertainment center with a rich history of accommodating major international sporting and entertainment events. Los Angeles has welcomed the world on multiple occasions, including during the 1932 and 1984 Summer Olympics, the 1994 FIFA Men’s World Cup, and the 1999 and 2003 FIFA Women’s World Cup, among many other major events. Beyond these campaigns, Los Angeles is a global hub for art, culture, industry, and innovation that attracts tourists and other entertainment-seekers from around the world.

In the coming years, Los Angeles County will be home to several major sporting events. These events include the 2026 FIFA Men’s World Cup, the 2027 Superbowl, as well as the Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2028, hosted by the Cities of Los Angeles, Inglewood, Long Beach, and other communities. Major international sports competitions like the FIFA World Cup and the Olympic and Paralympic Games impact

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the local and regional economy, environment, and culture. These events often lead to a surge in the number of tourists and visitors, resulting in elevated spending on hotels, restaurants, and other local businesses.

The surge in international tourism, and the need to establish adequate security perimeters, will also put pressure on the region to address homeless encampments near the venues and neighborhoods hosting these events. Efforts to address homelessness in advance of international sporting events in other jurisdictions have had uneven results, leading to accusations that governments are busing unhoused individuals to the outskirts of host cities without addressing the underlying lack of shelter capacity.

Los Angeles County already has several tools at its disposal to address encampments. The County's Pathway Home program has cleared 17 encampments and 465 recreational vehicles and moved 749 people into interim housing. The County also partners with the City of Los Angeles on Mayor Bass's Inside Safe program – a city-wide, housing-led strategy to bring people inside from tents and encampments and to prevent encampments from returning. Since its launch in late 2022, Inside Safe brought almost 3,000 Angelenos inside, and the County supports them with supportive service connections and access to permanent housing. These initiatives have shown how a humane approach centered on housing and services can be effective in addressing encampments across the County. In advance of the upcoming sporting events, it is imperative that Los Angeles County and our local jurisdictional partners have a plan to effectively and humanely address encampments, with a strategy that prioritizes housing and services for our most vulnerable residents.

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors direct the Chief Executive Office Homeless Initiative in partnership with the City of Los Angeles, LA 2028, the Executive Committee on Regional Homelessness Alignment (ECHRA), the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, homeless service providers, local governments, and other relevant stakeholders to:

1. Develop a written regional strategy by December 2025, with input from meetings with key stakeholders, to increase and sustain the capacity to address unsheltered homelessness around areas where major sporting events will take place, including:
  - a. An approach for events on County property, unincorporated areas, and contracted cities, as well as a strategy for regional partnership on events not directly under the County's jurisdiction,
  - b. An approach for determining which encampments need to be addressed in preparation for these events,
  - c. An assessment of tools and best practices the County can leverage and/or augment to address encampments,
  - d. An assessment of how these events could impact current strategies for utilizing hotels and motels for encampment resolution,
  - e. A proposal for supporting unhoused individuals living in these encampments, with an emphasis on permanent housing solutions,
  - f. A budget estimate associated with this strategy, and
  - g. Opportunities to engage the philanthropic community, corporate partners, hosting sites, sports associations, and coordinating entities to support

implementation of this strategy.

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