



**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS
HOLLY J. MITCHELL
LINDSEY P. HORVATH
JANICE HAHN
KATHRYN BARGER

Correspondence Received

The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:				
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
26.		Oppose	Christine Gonzalez	I am submitting this written public comment on Agenda Item 26, because the presentation for November 18th shows that this ordinance amendment is directly tied to the creation of the new Department of Homeless Services and Housing (HSH), along with major structural changes to County-funded homelessness programs. The public deserves full transparency about how these changes will affect the actual workers who keep this system running. As shown in the slides presented to the Board, the County is: Establishing a brand-new department effective January 1, 2026 Allocating new ordinance positions and granting hiring authority immediately Beginning recruitment for administrative and specialty positions now Planning HSH program hiring in early 2026 Preparing to integrate County-funded LAHSA programs in Phase II Yet the same presentation says: "The recommendations do not relate to integration of LAHSA programs or staffing; that is Phase II targeted for July 2026." But at the same time, County-funded LAHSA programs are being defunded right now, and County-funded workers are being told to "reapply" for their own jobs. That contradiction is exactly why Item 26 requires more clarity and accountability. My sister is one of those workers. She has over a decade of experience in homeless services. She worked through the pandemic, housed thousands of people, and believed the County when leadership said Measure A would stabilize staffing and improve the system. She encouraged our whole family to vote yes. Now funding is being pulled from her program, and instead of stability, she and her coworkers are being told to simply reapply — as if a clerical process is a safety net. While the Board is presenting Item 26 as a routine Title 6 salary ordinance amendment, it is also being used to approve structural changes that impact real families, including mine. Supervisor Barger, as the representative for District 5, I am asking you to ensure that this transition does not harm the workforce that has held the homelessness response system together through crises, including COVID.

As of: 11/17/2025 7:00:15 PM



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	Workers should not lose their jobs quietly through administrative amendments that do not clearly disclose their impact. The Board has the authority — including under Chapter 56 3/4 of the County Charter — to prevent workforce displacement during restructuring. There must be clear protections, transparent communication, and genuine support for County-funded LAHSA staff as programs shift into HSH. I respectfully urge you to: Require full disclosure of the staffing impacts related to Item 26 Ensure no County-funded LAHSA workers are destabilized during this transition Protect the workforce as HSH is established, rather than leaving workers behind Honor the commitments made to voters who supported Measure A
Crystal Bocardo	Good afternoon, Supervisors. My name is Crystal, and I'm speaking today as a Los Angeles County resident and Measure A voter. When we voted for Measure A, we were told this new structure would make homelessness services more effective — not that it would cost dedicated workers their jobs. Voters supported it because we believed in continuity, accountability, and compassion. If County leaders move forward without protecting LAHSA's SEIU 721 workforce, it breaks faith with the people who voted yes. We didn't authorize layoffs — we authorized progress. Honor the intent of Measure A: build the new department with workers, not at their expense. Thank you.
E Abdel-Ghany	I oppose this item because it leaves LAHSA SEIU 721 employees at risk of losing jobs and possibly ending up on the streets. We are advocating for a transition that protects LAHSA bargaining unit employees, ensures job preservation, and guarantees that every employee moving into the new County structure maintains their pay, benefits and employee status with no displacement. We call on the Board of Supervisors to utilize Chapter 56 3/4 of the County's Charter to do a direct transfer of LAHSA staff. LA County do the right thing and protect SEIU 721 Union Homeless Services Jobs !
Gabriela Medina	Good afternoon, Supervisors. My name is Gabriela Medina, and I'm speaking today as a Los Angeles County resident and Measure A voter. With two million dollars, this County could have funded fifty shelter beds for an entire



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	year, beds that offer a place to stay off the street and the fundamental services our clients need. Instead, that money went toward a retirement payout for Fesia Davenport, while she continues in her role earning more than eight hundred thousand dollars in total compensation. At the same time, the Board has voted to defund LAHSA, eliminate union jobs, and undercut the very workforce that keeps shelters running, the workers who ensure compliance, pay the bills, and make sure clients are fed and treated with respect. We're asking you to honor Measure A's promise that no public employee will be displaced, and your own motion that LAHSA employees will be prioritized in the transition. Asking LAHSA staff to reapply for our their own jobs in a competitive process is not prioritization and it's not a transition.
Hattie Jane	Good afternoon, Supervisors. My name is Hattie Jane, and I'm speaking today as a Los Angeles County resident and Measure A voter. With two million dollars, this County could have funded fifty shelter beds for an entire year, beds that offer a place to stay off the street and the fundamental services our clients need. Instead, that money went toward a retirement payout for Fesia Davenport, while she continues in her role earning more than eight hundred thousand dollars in total compensation. At the same time, the Board has voted to defund LAHSA, eliminate union jobs, and undercut the very workforce that keeps shelters running, the workers who ensure compliance, pay the bills, and make sure clients are fed and treated with respect. We're asking you to honor Measure A's promise that no public employee will be displaced, and your own motion that LAHSA employees will be prioritized in the transition. Asking LAHSA staff to reapply for our their own jobs in a competitive process is not prioritization and it's not a transition.
Jacqueline Beltran	I oppose this item because it leaves LAHSA SEIU 721 employees at risk of losing jobs and possibly ending up on the streets. We are advocating for a transition that protects LAHSA bargaining unit employees, ensures job preservation, and guarantees that every employee moving into the new County structure maintains their pay, benefits and employee status with no displacement. We call on the Board of Supervisors to utilize Chapter 56 3/4 of the County's Charter to do a direct transfer of LAHSA staff. LA County do the right thing and protect SEIU 721 Union Homeless Services Jobs !
Jennifer Martinez	I oppose this item because it leaves LAHSA SEIU 721 employees at risk of losing jobs and possibly ending up on the streets. We are advocating for a transition that protects LAHSA bargaining unit employees, ensures job preservation, and guarantees that every employee moving into the new County structure maintains their pay, benefits and employee status with no displacement. We call on the Board of Supervisors to utilize Chapter 56 3/4 of the County's Charter to do a direct transfer of LAHSA staff. LA County do the right thing



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	and protect SEIU 721 Union Homeless Services Jobs !
Jorge Barajas	Good afternoon, Supervisors. My name is Jorge Barajas, and I'm speaking today as a Los Angeles County resident and Measure A voter. With two million dollars, this County could have funded fifty shelter beds for an entire year, beds that offer a place to stay off the street and the fundamental services our clients need. Instead, that money went toward a retirement payout for Fesia Davenport, while she continues in her role earning more than eight hundred thousand dollars in total compensation. At the same time, the Board has voted to defund LAHSA, eliminate union jobs, and undercut the very workforce that keeps shelters running, the workers who ensure compliance, pay the bills, and make sure clients are fed and treated with respect. We're asking you to honor Measure A's promise that no public employee will be displaced, and your own motion that LAHSA employees will be prioritized in the transition. Asking LAHSA staff to reapply for our their own jobs in a competitive process is not prioritization and it's not a transition.
Kami Brooks	I oppose this item because it leaves LAHSA SEIU 721 employees at risk of losing jobs and possibly ending up on the streets. We are advocating for a transition that protects LAHSA bargaining unit employees, ensures job preservation, and guarantees that every employee moving into the new County structure maintains their pay, benefits and employee status with no displacement. We call on the Board of Supervisors to utilize Chapter 56 3/4 of the County's Charter to do a direct transfer of LAHSA staff. LA County do the right thing and protect SEIU 721 Union Homeless Services Jobs !
Katie Sheng	We are asking the Board of Supervisors to exercise its authority under Charter Section 56 ¾ to transfer LAHSA staff directly into the new Department of Homeless Services and Housing (DHS). Specifically, we are requesting that current LAHSA employees be moved into the new department with no interruption in pay or benefits, and with the full retention of their years of service. This is not an unprecedented request. As noted in the County's feasibility study (pg. 5), the County has used this exact approach before: "This approach was utilized during the integration of Los Angeles County Development Authority (LACDA) employees into Workforce Development, Aging, and Community Services. In January 2022, the County entered into an agreement with LACDA - a public entity that is separate from the County but overseen by the Board of Supervisors serving as its Board of Commissioners - pursuant to which the functions and personnel of LACDA's Economic Development Unit were transferred to the County. The agreement established the terms upon which these staff were to enter County civil service, including those related to salary placement, seniority, leave, and other benefits." Charter Section 56 ¾ has not only been implemented before, but in this specific case was passed by four of the five current Supervisors: Supervisor Solis, Supervisor Hahn, Supervisor Barger and Supervisor Mitchell (Supervisor Horvath was not on the Board at this time).

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	We are asking for a similar, thoughtful approach here. This transition should not be rushed, and it must not result in replacing union positions with contracted, unrepresented roles. LAHSA workers deserve stability and respect as the County builds a stronger homelessness response system. Thank you.
Lauren N Gutierrez	I am submitting this comment regarding Agenda Item 26, because Title 6 "Salary Ordinance Amendments" are routinely used to implement workforce changes, position deletions, and structural shifts tied to budget cuts — without clearly describing these impacts to the public. At the previous Board meeting, this item was held, and it has now been reintroduced under vague administrative language that makes it impossible for the public to understand what changes are actually being enacted. This lack of transparency is directly contributing to the anxiety and job insecurity that frontline homeless services workers are facing today. My family member has worked in homeless services in Los Angeles County for over a decade. She worked through the pandemic, helped house thousands of people, and believed so strongly in the County's commitments that she encouraged our entire family to vote YES on Measure A. She believed County leadership would stabilize the system and protect the workforce. Instead, funding has been pulled from key programs, positions have been destabilized, and workers are being told to "just reapply" for their own jobs. That is not a meaningful process, nor is it what voters were promised when the County asked for support. If Item 26 includes position deletions, frozen or eliminated classifications, or any workforce-related changes tied to these funding cuts, then presenting it under broad administrative language is unacceptable. The public deserves transparency. The Board has the authority — including the ability under Chapter 56 3/4 of the County Charter — to protect critical staff and prevent unnecessary workforce disruption. These workers are the backbone of the County's homelessness response and should not be harmed by administrative decisions hidden inside a salary ordinance amendment. I urge the Board to disclose the true workforce impact of Item 26, protect frontline staff, and honor the commitments made to voters and to the workers who carried this system through the pandemic. Thank you.
Laurence J Gutierrez II	My name is Laurence, and I live in Norwalk, in Supervisor Hahn's district. I'm speaking today as a brother who is watching something happen to my sister that should never be happening in Los Angeles County.



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	My sister has worked in homeless services for over a decade. She worked through the pandemic, face-to-face with people when the rest of us were told to stay home. She helped house thousands of people across this county. And she did it because she believed in this system and believed in the leadership behind it. She believed so much in the County's promises that she made sure everyone in our family voted YES on Measure A. She told us to trust the process — that this measure would stabilize the homeless services system and protect the workforce. I trusted her, and we all voted yes. Now she's facing job insecurity and possibly even homelessness herself. And the same leaders who pushed this measure are ignoring their own words. It feels like a betrayal — not just to the homeless services workforce, but to the voters who believed in what we were told. Supervisor Hahn, the County absolutely has the ability to make this right. This is not just about "flagging" an application or giving a verbal reassurance. The County has real authority — including the ability to utilize Chapter 56 3/4 of the County Charter — to prevent unnecessary layoffs and protect the workforce that keeps people housed. My sister helped prevent homelessness for thousands of people. Now she's afraid she may be next. That is something no family should have to witness. I'm asking you directly, as your constituent: step in, provide real protections, and ensure that the people who carried this system through the pandemic are not pushed into crisis because of avoidable budget decisions. No brother should have to watch his sister help thousands stay housed, only for the County to put her own home at risk. Thank you.
Manuel Sanchez	I oppose this item because it leaves LAHSA SEIU 721 employees at risk of losing jobs and possibly ending up on the streets. We are advocating for a transition that protects LAHSA bargaining unit employees, ensures job preservation, and guarantees that every employee moving into the new County structure maintains their pay, benefits and employee status with no displacement. We call on the Board of Supervisors to utilize Chapter 56 3/4 of the County's Charter to do a direct transfer of LAHSA staff. LA County do the right thing and protect SEIU 721 Union Homeless Services Jobs !
Melissa Reyes	Good afternoon, Supervisors. My name is [Name], and I'm speaking today as a Los Angeles County resident and Measure A voter.



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		With two million dollars, this County could have funded fifty shelter beds for an entire year, beds that offer a place to stay off the street and the fundamental services our clients need. Instead, that money went toward a retirement payout for Fesia Davenport, while she continues in her role earning more than eight hundred thousand dollars in total compensation. At the same time, the Board has voted to defund LAHSA, eliminate union jobs, and undercut the very workforce that keeps shelters running, the workers who ensure compliance, pay the bills, and make sure clients are fed and treated with respect. We're asking you to honor Measure A's promise that no public employee will be displaced, and your own motion that LAHSA employees will be prioritized in the transition. Asking LAHSA staff to reapply for our their own jobs in a competitive process is not prioritization and it's not a transition.
	Mickey Cuoto	I oppose this item because it leaves LAHSA SEIU 721 employees at risk of losing jobs and possibly ending up on the streets. We are advocating for a transition that protects LAHSA bargaining unit employees, ensures job preservation, and guarantees that every employee moving into the new County structure maintains their pay, benefits and employee status with no displacement. We call on the Board of Supervisors to utilize Chapter 56 3/4 of the County's Charter to do a direct transfer of LAHSA staff. LA County do the right thing and protect SEIU 721 Union Homeless Services Jobs !
	Randdy Martinez	Good afternoon, Supervisors. My name is Randdy Martinez, and I'm speaking today as a Los Angeles County resident and Measure A voter. Right now, LAHSA workers feel like the giblets from a Thanksgiving turkey, pulled out, set aside, and forgotten while everyone else gets a seat at the table. The County carved up a brand new department, but somehow the people who've been doing the real work ended up in the discard pile. They are the ones who keep the system running, making sure contracts are funded, beds stay full, and providers get paid, but this transition has left LAHSA workers feeling like yesterday's leftovers. Measure A was supposed to serve everyone, not just the people sitting at the head of the table. So as you feast on new departments and shiny reorganizations, don't forget the folks who've been in the kitchen this whole time. FRONT LINE WORKERS ARE NOT GIBLETS, they are the backbone of this meal. Please make sure LAHSA's public employees are included in the



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	transition and not left behind.
Ryan Wingenroth	
Victor Zepeda	Good afternoon, Supervisors. My name is Victor, and I'm speaking today as a Los Angeles County resident and Measure A voter. Right now, LAHSA workers feel like the giblets from a Thanksgiving turkey, picked over, pulled out, and set aside as an afterthought. When the County carved out this new department, it left behind the very people who've been doing this work every single day. They are the ones who process contracts, pay the bills, and make sure providers get funded so people can stay sheltered. Yet as this transition moves forward, their jobs, their livelihoods, and their public service are being treated like scraps. Measure A was meant to strengthen homelessness services, not to discard the workforce that makes them possible. I urge the Board to honor the promise to prioritize LAHSA's public employees and make sure they not left behind.
Virginia Gutierrez	My name is Virginia Gutierrez, and I am a resident of 90065 in Supervisor Solis' district. I'm speaking today as a mother who has watched my daughter dedicate her life to serving Los Angeles' most vulnerable residents. When the County asked us to support recent homelessness measures, I believed we were doing the right thing. I voted with hope—hope that these measures would strengthen our system and protect the people doing the work. I never imagined that instead, my own daughter's job—and her ability to keep a roof over her children's heads—would be put at risk. My daughter has spent over a decade working in homeless services. She worked through the pandemic, when the rest of us were told to stay home, and she continued showing up to help house thousands of people. She carried the emotional and physical weight of that work because she believed in this County's mission and in serving the people who need us most. It is heartbreaking that a woman who helped shield others from homelessness is now facing that same fear because of sudden budget decisions made without transparency or protections for workers. No one expects perfection, but we expect leadership—leadership that values the very people who keep these programs running. Supervisor Solis, I am asking you directly, as my representative and as someone I trusted when I voted for these measures, to protect the workforce that holds this system together. Please ensure job security, clear communication, and responsible planning so dedicated public servants are not pushed toward the same crisis they work every day to prevent.



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		No mother should have to watch her daughter fight homelessness at work while fearing it at home. Thank you.
	Virginia Saucedo	My name is Virginia, and I live in Montebello, in Supervisor Solis' district. I am speaking today because what is happening to my friend — and the people she works with — is outrageous and completely unacceptable. My friend has devoted more than a decade to serving Los Angeles County. She worked through the pandemic, she helped house thousands of people, and she believed in this system so deeply that she encouraged her entire family and all of us around her to vote YES on Measure A. We trusted her, and we trusted you — County leadership — to honor your promises. Now she and her coworkers are facing job insecurity and even the threat of homelessness. And the response they received from the County was simply to “flag their application.” How dare you call that a process. How dare you suggest that a clerical note is any kind of protection for workers who have carried this County through crisis after crisis. Let's be very clear: YOU set the budget. YOU decide where to cut. YOU choose whether to protect or abandon the frontline workforce. And YOU have the power — including the authority under Chapter 56 3/4 of the County Charter — to intervene and prevent unnecessary layoffs. It is insulting to frontline workers for the County to deflect responsibility and pretend that “flagging” an application is meaningful support. It is not. It does nothing to stabilize the hundreds of workers — mothers, fathers, caregivers, service coordinators, outreach workers — who show up every day to fight homelessness on your behalf. My friend and her team are the reason this County has housed thousands of residents. They have worked holidays, nights, emergencies, and during a pandemic when the rest of us stayed home. And now they are being pushed toward crisis by the very system they helped keep standing. Supervisor Solis, as their representative, you have an obligation to do more than offer reassuring words. You have the obligation and the authority to act — to protect jobs, stabilize the workforce, and uphold the promises that were made when you asked the public to support Measure A. “Flagging an application” is not a solution. Using your power to protect this workforce is. Thank you.

		Item Total	20	
Grand Total			20	