AGN. NO._____

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS JANICE HAHN AND HOLLY J. MITCHELL

September 29, 2026

**Comprehensive Countywide Review of Homeless Count Trends in Los Angeles County**

Each year, homeless counts conducted throughout Los Angeles County to provide an important snapshot of homelessness and serve as valuable tools for measuring progress, identifying trends, informing policy decisions, and guiding the allocation of resources. While the 2026 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count found that overall homelessness across the Los Angeles Continuum of Care remained relatively stable, the results also revealed significant variations among communities and regions, demonstrating that homelessness continues to affect different parts of the County in different ways and requires locally informed strategies.

The annual Point-in-Time Count is an important regional, state, and federal measure of homelessness, but it is designed to provide a point-in-time snapshot rather than a complete explanation of the conditions driving changes in individual communities. It may not fully capture neighborhood-level conditions, seasonal patterns, changes in the number of unsheltered dwellings, or the operational factors affecting inflow into homelessness and exits to permanent housing. Supervisorial District and city-level figures also require careful interpretation because estimates for unsheltered people residing in

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dwellings are not calculated at every geographic level.

Los Angeles County (County) has made historic investments to address homelessness and recently established the Department of Homeless Services and Housing (HSH) to strengthen accountability, improve coordination, and enhance the County's ability to deliver homeless services. At the same time, County voters approved Measure A with the expectation that these investments would translate into measurable progress in reducing unsheltered homelessness and helping more people move into shelter and permanent housing.

In order to help the County better understand regional and local trends, a comprehensive countywide review of homeless count results, over multiple years, together with available administrative and system performance data is needed. Such a review could examine changing economic conditions, housing affordability, migration patterns, outreach capacity, shelter and interim housing availability, service utilization, permanent housing placement rates, and other factors that may contribute to increases or decreases in sheltered and unsheltered homelessness.

This analysis should recognize both percentage and absolute changes, distinguish between sheltered homelessness, unsheltered people counted outside of dwellings, and changes in unsheltered dwellings where the available methodology permits, and account for the differing count methodologies and geographic coverage of the Los Angeles, Long Beach, Pasadena, and Glendale Continuums of Care. Reviewing these trends across all five Supervisorial Districts and across cities and unincorporated communities will improve accountability, strengthen collaboration with local jurisdictions, and help ensure that future

investments are guided by accurate data and focused on measurable reductions in unsheltered homelessness throughout Los Angeles County.

**WE, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors direct the Department of Homeless Services and Housing (HSH), in consultation with the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), the Chief Executive Office, and, as appropriate, the Long Beach, Pasadena, and Glendale Continuums of Care, to report back to the Board in writing within 120 days with a comprehensive countywide review of homeless count trends for at least the 2024, 2025, and 2026 count years, including, but not limited to:

1. An analysis of regional, demographic, economic, and operational factors associated with changes in sheltered and unsheltered homelessness across all five Supervisorial Districts, including both percentage and absolute changes and, where methodologically appropriate and data are available, changes in unsheltered people counted outside of dwellings and changes in unsheltered dwellings.
2. A city-by-city and unincorporated-community review of count results throughout Los Angeles County, with particular attention to communities that experienced the greatest percentage or absolute changes, including an analysis of local conditions that may have contributed to those trends.
3. An assessment of available system performance and administrative indicators for each Supervisorial District and region, including inflow into homelessness, exits to permanent housing, returns to homelessness, shelter utilization, interim housing capacity, outreach engagement, service utilization, and other indicators that may help explain barriers to successfully exiting homelessness.

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4. A description of the methodologies, geographic limitations, and data comparability issues associated with the homeless counts conducted by the Los Angeles, Long Beach, Pasadena, and Glendale Continuums of Care, including any limitations affecting Supervisorial District, city, and unincorporated-area estimates.
5. Recommendations for evidence-based strategies, operational improvements, data enhancements, and investments that could reduce unsheltered homelessness, increase successful placements into interim and permanent housing, strengthen collaboration with local jurisdictions and Continuums of Care, and improve measurable outcomes in future homeless counts.

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