

Frequently Asked Questions

Los Angeles County Homeless Initiative FY 25-26 Draft Funding Recommendations Last Updated 1/30/25

1. What is Measure A?

Measure A, which will repeal and replace Measure H as of April 1, 2025, is an ongoing ½ cent sales tax and was approved by the voters on November 5, 2024, allows continued progress on addressing homelessness with housing and services while greatly expanding funding to focus on the drivers of homelessness through affordable housing construction and preservation, homelessness prevention, and support for vulnerable renters. Unlike Measure H, the ballot language more specifically prescribed how funding must be allocated to achieve the goals of Measure A.

2. How are Measure A funds allocated?

Approximately 50% of Measure A funding will be available to the Homeless Initiative (HI) to fund Comprehensive Homeless Services, the funding category which is most aligned with the programming previously funded by Measure H. That leaves available funding for HI-led programs and services roughly flat, depending on the trajectory of consumer spending, while there continues to be unmet need for services and the cost of those services is increasing. Most of the remaining funds will be allocated to the Los Angeles County Affordable Housing Solutions Agency (LACAHS) and through the Local Solutions Fund to cities, Councils of Government, and Los Angeles County (County) on behalf of the unincorporated areas. The chart below provides a breakdown of Measure A allocations to each entity as identified in the Ordinance.

Measure A Allocation	% per Measure A	Funding Allocated
Total Projected Measure A Revenue		\$1,076,076,350
Collection and Distribution Reasonable Cost Reimbursement	0.50%	\$5,380,382
Remaining Revenue		\$1,070,695,968
1) Comprehensive Homelessness Services	60%	\$642,417,581
1a. Local Solutions Fund	15%	\$96,362,637
1b. Homelessness Solutions Innovations	1.65%	\$10,559,890
1c. Comprehensive Homeless Services	83.35%	\$535,455,054
2) Accountability, Data, and Research	1.25%	\$13,383,700
3) LACDA – Local Housing Production	3%	\$32,120,879
4) Housing Agency for Affordable Housing and Prevention	35.75%	\$382,773,809

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3. Why are curtailments happening?

With the passage of Measure A, the total investment in addressing housing and homelessness has seen a significant increase, particularly in the areas of housing and prevention. As mentioned above, the Measure A Ordinance dictates how funding must be allocated. While the total estimated tax revenue for Measure A in FY 25-26 is just over \$1.076 billion (a significant increase to Measure H), the Comprehensive Housing Allocation – the category in this funding recommendation process most aligned with programs historically funded by Measure H - is estimated to be \$535 million. This represents a \$10 million decrease in revenue projections compared to the previous year's revenue from Measure H. The decline is attributed to anticipated reductions in tax revenue, driven by economic challenges and changes in consumer spending patterns. The HI Funding Recommendations also include homelessness and housing funding from other sources which have also been reduced or are no longer available. Funding from the State's Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention program decreased by \$12 million, and \$30 million one-time dollars leveraged by HI in FY 24-25 are no longer available.

4. How were decisions made about curtailments and reductions?

HI aimed to maximize available funding and ensure the County, and our partners do not lose momentum in our work to end homelessness. We worked with funded agency partners and applied the criteria below to prioritize commitments in the face of financial constraints and rising costs.

- Foundational Services: Our first priority was to protect our most critical “foundational” programs, and services, which provide urgent and immediate interim and permanent housing support and outreach to people experiencing homelessness.
- Legal Settlements/Agreements: Per the LA Alliance Settlement Agreement and City of Los Angeles-County MOU, the County must maintain certain outreach efforts and scale up supportive services to keep pace with new permanent supportive housing coming online.
- Historical Underspend: We reviewed historical program expenditures, focusing on instances of underspending and opportunities to increase efficiency and factored that into our decision-making.
- Program Impact & Efficiencies: We evaluated programs based on their measurable outcomes, overall impact, and opportunities for systemwide streamlining and efficiencies.
- Programs with a Fund Match Requirement: We prioritized programs that leverage federal or State funding but require local matching funds.
- Community and Stakeholder Input: We incorporated feedback from 22 community and stakeholder listening sessions and additional public comment into the decision-making process, which helped ensure our decisions reflect the needs and priorities of our stakeholders.

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5. What do curtailments mean for programs like Education and Regional Coordination?

As outlined above, HI has prioritized the foundational programs, and services that are literally bringing people inside and keeping them housed.

Unfortunately, this means that some important services such as employment services, criminal record expungement programs, and some functions related to coordination between and among the systems providing these critical services have also seen reductions and curtailments. Some services provided by impacted programs will continue to be available, although at a different level, as HI funding was only one funding source supporting the program. HI continues to work with funded partners to develop mitigation strategies for impacted programs.

6. What do curtailments mean for prevention efforts?

While the HI allocation to prevention programs has decreased in the FY 25-26 funding recommendations, investments in prevention efforts countywide will actually increase with the adoption of Measure A. Specifically, LACAHSa will prioritize prevention initiatives, as it is required to spend a minimum of 30% of their resources – totaling approximately \$100 million in FY 25-26 – toward these efforts. Prevention funds allocated to LACAHSa will support countywide renter protection and support programs, including eviction legal services, rental assistance, and relocation assistance for lower-income households. The Homeless Initiative is also continuing to invest in prevention by shifting its strategy to fund targeted prevention efforts, including those focused on youth, shallow subsidy programs, the Homeless Prevention Unit, and flexible problem-solving efforts. HI will work closely with LACAHSa to ensure coordination and maximum impact across our homelessness prevention programs.

7. How will the County support people experiencing homelessness impacted by the fires?

Our hearts are with everyone who continues to be affected by the devastating wildfires in Los Angeles. Our unhoused neighbors have been displaced along with their neighbors who have lost their homes, and we are grateful to those who continue to mobilize to help keep our unhoused neighbors safe.

HI is partnering with the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), LA County Department of Health Services (DHS), LA County Department of Mental Health (DPH), LA County of Public Health (DPH), Department of Military and Veteran Affairs (DMVA), local jurisdictions, and other agencies to provide immediate care and ensure longer-term support for people experiencing homelessness in affected areas as recovery efforts are underway.

We did this by working to bring people inside to shield them from the fires and their aftermath and by ensuring those in interim housing who needed to

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evacuate could safely stay indoors elsewhere. Learn more about how HI and our partners are helping our unhoused neighbors [here](#).

8. How will community feedback be integrated into the final budget? What other opportunities are available for providing feedback during the budget process?

As HI's largest and most robust annual community engagement effort, the listening sessions, public webinar, and public comment period for the annual Funding Recommendation process also provides the opportunity for stakeholders to share feedback beyond the components of the funding recommendations. Each year, this feedback informs the County's broader efforts to strengthen strategies for addressing and preventing homelessness. In addition to informing the funding recommendations, HI incorporates the stakeholder feedback into programmatic and administrative refinements to HI funded initiatives and continuous system improvements.

For the funding recommendations specifically, HI, along with lead departments and agencies, are reviewing and utilizing community listening session stakeholder recommendations and public comments to inform the funding recommendations, evaluating whether adjustments or modifications to the budget are necessary to better align with community needs and priorities. Community feedback plays a critical role in shaping our final budget, and we are committed to incorporating it into our decision-making process. Each year, a summary of stakeholder input and how it is used to inform HI funded initiatives is included in the final funding recommendations. In addition to the funding recommendation listening sessions, additional opportunities to provide feedback include the Homeless Policy Deputies Meeting on February 13, 2025, and the Board of Supervisors Meeting on March 25, 2025. Furthermore, the online public comment period has been extended to Tuesday, February 4, 2025.

9. What is the Local Solutions Fund (LSF), and how will funding decisions be made?

The Local Solutions Fund (LSF) will provide funding directly to cities, Councils of Government, and the County on behalf of the unincorporated areas and can be used for prevention, outreach, interim housing, permanent housing, and a range of supportive services. Since the beginning of the year, HI has hosted multiple forums for city officials and stakeholders to provide input on funding formulas including webinars (which can be viewed [here](#)) and public meetings such as the Executive Committee for Regional Homeless Alliance (ECHRHA). Additional opportunities to provide feedback include the Homeless Policy Deputies Meeting on February 13, 2025, and the Board of Supervisors Meeting on March 25, 2025. The final funding recommendations, including the LSF allocation methodology, will go to the Board of Supervisors for approval in

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March. Following Board of Supervisors' approval, local jurisdictions will have the opportunity to determine their own funding priorities and uses.

10. What is the homeless solutions innovation funding and how will it be distributed?

Measure A requires that at least 1.65% of the revenue, or \$10.6M, is allocated towards the Homelessness Solutions Innovations category to fund new or enhanced strategies and demonstration projects designed to achieve the goals of the Ordinance. This funding may be used to incubate and test new ideas for future, larger-scale spending.

The proposed Homelessness Solutions Innovation Funding budget can be found [here](#).