Building the Measure A Annual Evaluation Agenda

An Open & Equitable Approach

Department of Homeless Services and Housing (HSH)

Overview

- Measure A requirements
- Our vision for the Annual Evaluation Agenda
- Our process and how you can engage

Definition: evaluation agenda

A list of questions and a plan to answer them

Measure A requirements

Measure A

- Measure A is an initiative passed by a majority of voters in LA County on November 5, 2024
- The ordinance imposes a ½ cent sales tax countywide to fund County homeless services, and repeals and replaces Measure H, the ¼ cent sales tax for County homeless services set that was set to expire in 2027
- 1.25% of budget for Accountability, Data, and Research
- Requires Annual Evaluation Agenda (AEA)



The five Measure A goals

- 1. Increase the number of people moving from encampments into permanent housing to reduce unsheltered homelessness
- 2. Reduce the number of people with mental illness and/or substance use disorders who experience homelessness
- 3. Increase the number of people permanently leaving homelessness
- 4. Prevent people from falling into homelessness
- 5. Increase the number of affordable housing units in Los Angeles County

For more detail: https://homeless.lacounty.gov/responsive-regional-plan/

Measure A Section 6.A.1.

- After considering the recommendations of the Executive Committee and after consultation with appropriate County agencies and departments, the County shall:
 - Establish and manage an annual evaluation agenda to spur innovation and improvement.
 - The agenda should **prioritize internal and external evaluations** that test the **causal impact of investments** on the desired outcomes.
 - Evaluations must additionally include a third-party evaluator selected through a request for proposals.
 - Evaluations must include voices with relevant lived experience

Measure A section 4.E.

- No later than October 1, 2031, the Executive Committee and the Housing Agency shall **formulate new baseline** and **target** metrics [... which]
 - [...] shall be [...] **informed by the annual evaluation agenda** and prior program performance.
 - The Executive Committee shall evaluate progress towards these new metrics at least every five years thereafter and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors and the Housing Agency to redirect funds to or from specific programs.

What does Measure A require?

Deliverables:	 Establish and manage annual evaluation agenda Prioritize internal and external evaluations to understand causal impact of investments Include voices with relevant lived experience
Process:	 Evaluations include a third-party evaluator selected through RFP Consider recommendations from ECRHA Consult with appropriate County agencies and departments
Relationships:	 Spur innovation and improvement Inform revised baseline and target metrics
Guiding commitments:	 Center equity Accountability, transparency, and innovation

Our vision for the AEA

Centering equity in the Agenda

In our **process**:

 Participant-centered and provider-centered community engagement to develop the agenda itself

In our **questions**:

 Including questions that measure inequities and help reduce racial, ethnic, gender, and other disparities

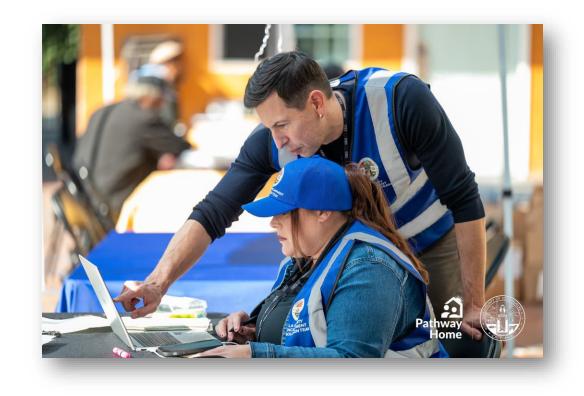
In our **evaluation principles**:

 Embed principles for equitable and participatory research in the agenda to guide research practices

What is our vision for the Annual Evaluation Agenda?

A public website that contains:

- A continuously updated list of priority research questions connected to Measure A goals
- A plan to answer them
- A list of evaluation principles
- Status updates on active and upcoming evaluations
- A description of how community input influenced the agenda



What is our vision for the Annual Evaluation Agenda?



Tracking Input and Updates to the Agenda

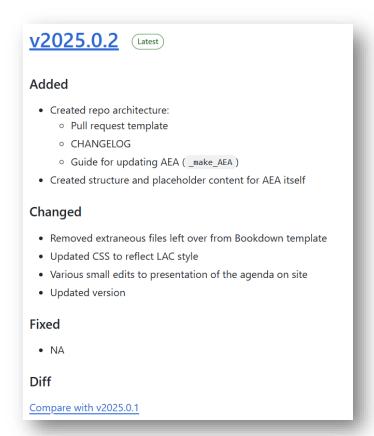
Every change is publicly tracked...

```
∨ -‡ 26 ■■■■ index.Rmd [□
            @@ -1,20 +1,27 @@
            title: "Annual Evaluation Agenda"
      3 + subtitle: "Measure A - Los Angeles County"
         author: "Department of Homeless Services and Housing (HSH)"
           date: "`r Svs.Date()`"
          site: bookdown::bookdown site
      7 documentclass: book
          - bibliography: [book.bib, packages.bib]
          - # url: your book url like https://bookdown.org/yihui/bookdown
          - # cover-image: path to the social sharing image like images/cover.jpg
10
      8 description: |
          - This is a minimal example of using the bookdown package to write a book.
          - The HTML output format for this example is bookdown::gitbook,

    set in the output.yml file.

      9 + The Annual Evaluation Agenda (AEA) is required under Measure A.
      10 + It identifies the most important evaluation questions for the homelessness system each year,
             summarizes ongoing evaluations, and sets out principles for equity, transparency, accountability, and innovation.
      12 + This site publishes the AEA as a living, versioned document.
```

... and versioned.



How does it relate to other components of Measure A?

Performance Management	Evaluation	Planning		
What key changes occurred?	Why did key changes occur?	How to achieve key changes?		
Measure A Goal Metric Dashboard	Annual Evaluation Agenda (AEA)	Responsive Regional Plan		
System component indicators	Internal AEA evaluations	Measure A Spending Plan		
Contract performance indicators	External AEA evaluations (RFP or partnership)	Universal Data and Accountability Plan		

Continuous improvement through measurement and learning

Set Expectations

Planning informs goalsetting, definitions of indicators, and consistent contract requirements.

Measure & Report

Dashboards for decisionmakers, providers, and public accountability track system performance.

Ask & Learn

Annual Evaluation Agenda spurs evaluations on what works, why, and for whom, and fills key gaps in knowledge.

Adapt & Improve

Findings inform funding, program design, as well as revisions to plans, goals, indicators, and evaluation agenda.

Interim Housing Examples

Performance Management

Required Service

Contract Performance

System Component Performance

System Goal

IH participants need to have a valid ID uploaded within 45 days of enrollment. % of IH participants who have the documents they need to secure permanent housing.

% of IH participants who exit to homelessness or unknown destinations.

3a: Increase by 57% the number of people who exit homelessness to permanent housing.

What is the user experience or journey of participants in interim housing sites?

Does earlier exit planning / housing navigation reduce returns to homelessness?

Does providing onsite medical care at Interim Housing program sites reduce hospitalizations?

What are the key predictors of racial disparities in who moves from interim housing into permanent housing?

Our process and how you can engage

Partners we plan to engage

Including, but not limited to...

- Governance Partners: core governance and oversight actors, provide key recommendations on process and influence question prioritization
- Co-Design Partners: directly experience, deliver, research, or fund homelessness services, consulted early to generate list of questions and later to provide additional feedback
- Advising Partners: potentially impacted by evaluation activities, provide feedback on drafts

Establishing and Managing the Agenda

Establishment

Month	6/25	7/25	8/25	9/25	10/25	11/25	12/25	1/26	2/26
Steps	Align on process		Engage community			Prioritize questions		Implement agenda	
Governance partners									
Co-design partners									
Advising partners									

Annual Management









Revise + prioritize questions

Ways to engage

- Attend a community engagement session: See here for upcoming opportunities to make your voice heard https://ceo.lacounty.gov/dh/
- Respond to one of our surveys: We have a survey for adding questions to the agenda for potential prioritization (https://forms.office.com/g/7GieTJ9mFD) and will send another where you can vote on which questions to prioritize
- Send us an email: You can reach out using the contact button at the link above with suggestions for additions to the agenda