

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR ZEV YAROSLAVSKY

May 26, 2009

According to the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) 2007 Homeless Count, 73,000 homeless people live in Los Angeles County. On any given night, approximately 22,376 chronically homeless people look for shelter on our streets.

On February 17, 2009, the Board of Supervisors approved a motion directing the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to assess the feasibility of expanding Project 50 to serve up to 500 vulnerable chronically homeless individuals throughout Los Angeles County by the end of the next fiscal year ending June 30, 2010.

On May 13, 2009, the CEO issued a report with findings indicating “that it is feasible to expand Project 50 to serve 500 vulnerable chronically homeless” persons. The following six actions were recommended by the CEO:

1. Establish *Street to Home* as a County strategy to assist the most vulnerable and chronically homeless in the County.
2. Establish the use of the Common Ground’s *Vulnerability Index* as the best methodology to identify and prioritize services to the most vulnerable, chronically homeless individuals.
3. Direct the CEO to provide information to non-profit housing providers that may be interested in replicating the *Street to Home* model and have available housing assistance such as Shelter Plus Care, Section 8 or Good Samaritan vouchers.

MOTION

MOLINA \_\_\_\_\_

RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

YAROSLAVSKY \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

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4. Direct the Departments of Mental Health (DMH), Public Health (DPH), and Health Services (DHS) to explore funding opportunities to pilot within existing resources, a multi-disciplinary mobile team to provide integrated and intensive health, mental health, and substance abuse treatment for 100 individuals living in scattered site housing.
5. Designate DMH as the lead agency in collaboration with DHS, DPH, and the Housing Alliance to design an interdepartmental administrative team to facilitate, coordinate and administer services for residents in permanent housing, such as the Integrated Supportive Services Team (ISST), to serve vulnerable chronically homeless individuals. The Housing Alliance should explore opportunities to leverage existing State, federal, and other funding resources and identify new funding opportunities to serve this population. The Housing Alliance should also work with cities to better align their housing projects with our existing services funding.
6. Direct the CEO to work with departments to identify feasible opportunities for the implementation of Project 500 using existing resources.

Project 50 has moved 50 vulnerable chronically homeless persons from the streets of Skid Row into permanent supportive housing; shattered myths about desires and capabilities of chronically homeless persons; demonstrated unprecedented collaboration across 24 public and private agencies; shown more money was spent on hospital and jail visits the year prior to housing than the net operating cost of Project 50; and identified more opportunities for cost shifting, such as from General Relief to SSI and MediCal reimbursements.

Additionally, since the approval of the February 17, 2009 feasibility motion, the Board of Supervisors has approved two new pilot projects to serve 70 vulnerable chronically homeless individuals in addition to a previously approved pilot project in Santa Monica which will serve 130 clients.

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board:

1. Adopt the CEO's six recommendations as stated in the May 13, 2009 feasibility report; and
2. Direct the Chief Executive Officer and appropriate County Departments to expand Project 50 pilot projects to serve up to 500 vulnerable chronically homeless persons throughout Los Angeles County by the end of the next fiscal year ending on June 30, 2010.

FGK: S:\Project 500