

HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

MOTION

There is a homelessness crisis in the state of California and in the City of Los Angeles. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development reports that there were 181,399 people experiencing homelessness in the state of California in 2023. California is also facing a shortage of psychiatric beds. According to the National Library of Medicine, the state has a shortfall of approximately 4,767 beds. This shortfall manifests in high bed occupancy rates and long wait lists for placements.

Earlier this year, California voters passed Proposition 1, a ballot initiative that includes a \$6.38 billion bond to build treatment facilities and permanent supportive housing for people with mental health and addiction challenges. Governor Newsom recently announced that a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the first round of funding will be released on July 1, 2024. This round consists of funding for mental health care and drug addiction treatment facilities. According to the California Department of Health Care Services, \$1.5 billion will be awarded to cities, counties, and tribal entities through competitive grants. Grant requirements will be similar to the state's current Behavioral Health Community Infrastructure Project (BHCIP), which has funded 29 new residential treatment facilities and 44 new outpatient treatment facilities. Cities must partner with either the County or a non-profit service provider in order to qualify for funding to build new treatment sites.

Proposition 1 presents an opportunity to create more substance use treatment facilities in the City. Council has previously supported programs such as the Homeless Housing and Recovery Project (HHRP). The program, which creates a partnership between Providence Health and Tarzana Treatment Centers (TTC), is aimed at helping unhoused people who are struggling with mental illness or substance use disorders get treatment through outreach at Providence Hospital Emergency Departments. Once patients are connected to HHRP, they continue to receive directed care at TTC facilities after leaving the hospital. Using Proposition 1 funding, the City may wish to help expand this program and others like it by pursuing the construction of new treatment sites in conjunction with non-profits and service providers. The City should work in coordination with its City departments, regional partners, community partners, and stakeholders in order to prioritize its needs before the first round of Proposition 1 NOFAs are released.

**I THEREFORE MOVE** that the Council instruct the City Administrative Officer (CAO), with the assistance of the Chief Legislative Analyst, to coordinate with Council offices to solicit proposals and report on potential partnerships with the County or non-profit organizations to build treatment facilities utilizing Proposition 1 funding and report within 30 days with recommendations to apply for funding.

**I FURTHER MOVE** that the Council instruct the CAO to apply for the first round of Proposition 1 funding when the Notice of Funding Availability becomes available on July 1, 2024.

ORIGINAL

PRESENTED BY:   
BOB BLUMENFIELD  
Councilmember, 3rd District

SECONDED BY: 

ctr

PK

MAY 17 2024