

Communication from Public

Name: Venice Justice Committee

Date Submitted: 10/15/2024 06:25 AM

Council File No: 22-1545-S23

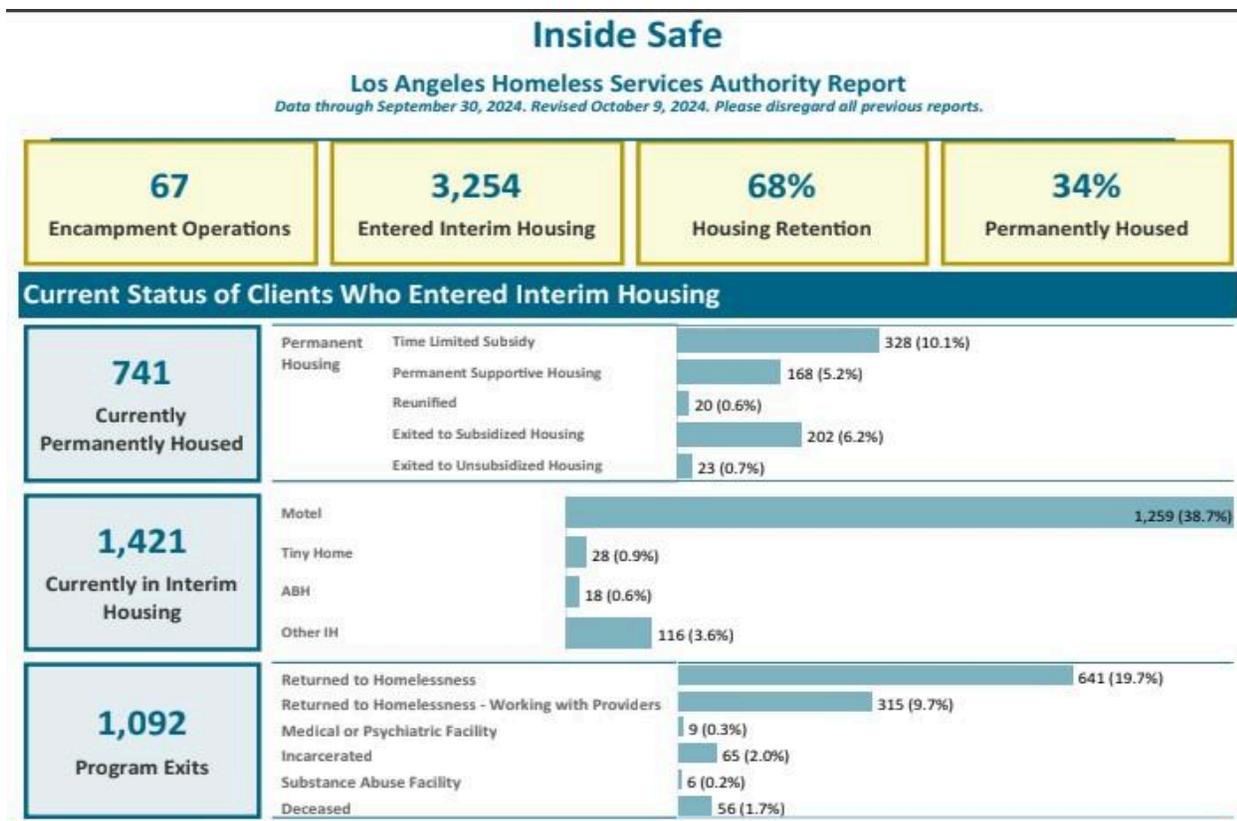
Comments for Public Posting: Please post the attached pdf letter to the council file along with this brief comment: We must evaluate any homeless strategy with real permanent housing as the defining success and Not Pictures of Cleared Sidewalks If LACity continues with the current Inside Safe operation, as is, it will keep being an expensive process of mostly moving people in and out of costly temporary hotel shelters and the continuation of at least six unhoused people dying every single day.

**Inside Safe is currently operating as a failed policy.
 LACity must re-evaluate and fund real permanent housing solutions.**

Below is a non-exhaustive list of Inside Safe failures:

- **Time Limited Rental Subsidies are Not feasible Permanent Housing Solutions**

The largest % of Inside Safe "permanently housed" placements went to Time Limited Rental Subsidies. Page 31 Attachment 4 of the [report](#) LAHSA states that 741 of the entire 3,254 Inside Safe clients were "permanently housed" which is **poor return of Permanent Housing to Budget or Expense and a policy failure in itself**. However, this return is much worse because the lion share is for Time Limited Subsidies!



- **Only 11.37% of the entire number of total Inside Safe clients have been housed in Permanent Supportive housing (PSH) and Subsidized Housing (like Sec 8).**

Is the public being led to believe that when Time Limited Subsidies expire in one year, those people can afford market rate rent (!?) or that somehow there are extensions provided? Neither can be presumed true for the Inside Safe clients. Assuming that a Time Limited Subsidy is a form of permanent housing is a false assumption and part of the City Council's and the Mayor's **failed policy** to solve homelessness.

- **Almost 50% of the Venice Inside Safe clients returned to street homelessness according to LACity’s own records.**

Falsely hailed by Mayor Bass and Councilperson Park as a success, realistically there may be 14 or 15 people in permanent supportive or subsidized housing when applying the % from the total City operations. According to Page 27 Attachment 3 of the [report](#) 53 of 109 Venice Inside Safe clients sheltered in hotels have now returned to street homelessness (53/109 = .4862 or 48.62%). These operations were more than 19 months ago **If almost 50% of the Inside Safe clients return to street homelessness, it is a huge failure.**

Attachment 3: Inside Safe Operational Costs

Inside Safe Operations and Associated Service Provider and Hotel Costs

No.	Type of Operation	Start Date	End Date	Location/Program	Council District	Client Status ¹				Approved Budget *
						Permanent Housing	Returned to Homelessness	Returned to Homelessness - Working with	Substance Abuse Facility	
1	Encampment Operations	12/20/2022	12/30/2022	101/Cahuenga	4	10	8	0	0	\$922,284.61
2	Encampment Operations	1/3/2023	1/13/2023	Venice/Sunset/ABH	11	32	33	19	1	\$2,876,527.50
3	Encampment Operations	1/27/2023	1/27/2023	Speedway/Ozone	11	1	0	1	0	\$72,609.54

- **The total LACity budget for the two Venice Inside Safe operations is almost three million dollars, but close to half of that was used for clients who returned to street homelessness.**

Per LACity’s own data (see Page 27 Attachment 3 of the [report](#)) **48.62% of the Venice Inside Safe clients returned to street homelessness. So we budgeted \$1,433,870.43 to an absolute failure of policy. (\$2,949,137.04 x 48.62% = \$1,433,870.43).** Those funds should be used to buy publicly owned property for real permanent housing opportunities. Also, the real expenditure is unknown, especially since we have no idea how much LAPD time costs go to Inside Safe operations.

- **LACity keeps funding the program when it knows more Inside Safe clients were OUTSIDE than permanently housed after the first 10 months of operation.**

Per LACity’s own data (see Page 27 Attachment 3 of the [report](#)) as of Aug 31, 2024 there are 643 out of 1910 Inside Safe clients now living outside from the first 10 months of operation (Dec2022-Oct2023) and, per the City, 630 people are “permanently housed” - **that is 643 Outside & 630 Housed.** Applying the 11.37% to those “permanently housed” an estimated 71 or 72 of that 630 housed are in Permanent Supportive Housing or Subsidized Housing and, again, the lion share is temporarily housed using a Time Limited Subsidy which should not be assumed as being permanent.

- **The Mayor is now asking for \$150,000.00 out of the Homeless Emergency Fund to store RVs so they can be destroyed with no expansion of 24/7 RV Safe Parking -or- even a cost analysis of using Safe Parking compared to using Inside Safe.**

Per LACity’s own data (see bottom of page 27 Attachment 3 of the [report](#)) the first RV Inside Safe at Forest Lawn from 12/6-12/8/2023 brought 31 people inside and destroyed the vehicles they lived in. Out of the 31 clients, 6 have been “permanently housed” and **7 are now unsheltered homeless as of Aug 31, 2024.** Again, **more Outside than Housed.**

Inside Safe must be evaluated for real permanent housing success and not empty sidewalks.