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When making inquiries relative
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Council File Nos. **20-0102**

City of Los Angeles CALIFORNIA



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February 8, 2021

Richard H. Llewellyn, Jr.
City Administrative Officer (CAO)
Attention: Meg Barclay

Sharon Tso
Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA)
Attention: John Wickham

Heidi Marston, Executive Director
Los Angeles Homeless
Services Authority (LAHSA)

Ann Sewill, General Manager
Los Angeles Housing and Community
Investment Department (HCIDLA)

Fesia Davenport
Chief Executive Officer, Los Angeles County
Attention: Phil Ansell, Los Angeles County Homeless Initiative &
Gary Tsai, Department of Public Health, Substance
Abuse Prevention and Control

REQUEST FOR REPORT

On January 28, 2021, the Homelessness and Poverty Committee considered the following: Motion (O'Farrell – Ridley-Thomas – Blumenfield – Martinez) relative to directing the CAO, with the assistance of LAHSA and the CLA to give a verbal status report to the Homelessness and Poverty Committee on recommended local initiatives that align with the Governor's Council of Regional Homeless Advisor's Comprehensive Crisis Response Strategy, as directed by the Council on February 19, 2020, and related matters. (Also referred to the Housing Committee)

After the verbal status report was provided by panelists and representatives from the CAO, CLA, HCIDLA, LAHSA, and Los Angeles County, the Homelessness and Poverty Committee instructed the presenters from the City departments and LAHSA, and requested the presenter from the Los Angeles County Homeless Initiative to prepare oral answers to the following questions asked by the Committee members at the end of the January 28, 2020 meeting:

1) Councilmember De Leon – HCIDLA: As noted in the presentation, if we had not leveraged funding from other sources, we would only have built 3,000 Permanent Supportive Housing units instead of over 10,000. What price point makes sense to build Permanent Supportive Housing? How do development variables such as land costs and development "soft costs" factor into the

decision?

2) Councilmember Raman – County and LAHSA: How do substance use services get funded? What institutions are responsible? Where are the dollars coming from to support substance abuse, rehabilitation beds, connections to counselors and services? Where are these connections institutionally?

3) Councilmember Raman – LAHSA: What are the preferred lines of communication for disseminating homeless encampment information? How does LAHSA capture and distribute information to Council Offices, concerning encampments and all homeless issues? Whom should Council Offices call for help?

4) Councilmember Rodriguez – LAHSA: Please describe how the system reports and informs stakeholders regarding the availability of beds (holding beds, status of vacancy, geographic distribution). How can we better align the availability of rooms with placements? Is there a way to get daily reporting on the number of beds available each night for shelter?

5) Councilmember Buscaino – LAHSA: How does LAHSA’s Housing Central Command share information regarding unit availability/vacancy/usage? Is there a way to get real-time information about what is available through Housing Central Command?

6) Councilmember Buscaino – HCIDLA: How do we ensure that the Bureau of Engineering and other city entities are not putting up roadblocks that prevent more private sector collaboration? How should the City engage and leverage private sector investments, such as “Urban Awnings” to build housing?

7) Councilmember Ridley-Thomas – CLA and CAO: What is the overarching organizing principle that ties all the work of the system that was presented? What does alignment look like? If there is not such a principle, should there be? And if so, what should it be?

Your attendance, or that of your designee, is respectfully requested at the February 11, 2021 Homelessness and Poverty Committee meeting. As requested by Committee Chair Ridley-Thomas, please be prepared to provide verbal responses to these questions at the beginning of the meeting, which will continue the discussion that took place on January 28, 2021. If you have questions, please contact me at (213) 978-1078 or via e-mail at leyla.campos@lacity.org

Thank you,

Leyla A. Campos
Deputy City Clerk