

## RESOLUTION

RULES, ELECTIONS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must first have been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and,

WHEREAS, California is in the grips of a housing crisis that has significantly increased the rates of homelessness across the state and especially in the Los Angeles region, with more than 29,000 unsheltered persons experiencing homelessness in the City alone, and more than 45,000 in Los Angeles County; and,

WHEREAS, a recent study by the California Policy Lab reports that approximately 17 percent of the unsheltered population, or more than 7,600 people, have a service record that includes a diagnosis for a psychotic spectrum disorder; and,

WHEREAS, interim and permanent housing solutions for unsheltered persons with mental health, substance use disorder, and physical disability needs are challenging, particularly with the significant on-going loss of board and care facilities; and,

WHEREAS, the City has opened thousands of interim and permanent housing options over the last few years, including Tiny Villages, A Bridge Home sites, and permanent supportive housing, but more is needed, particularly to serve persons who require a higher level of care; and,

WHEREAS, as of the 2021 the LA County Substance Abuse Prevention and Control Department's Accidental Drug Overdose Deaths report quantified the alarming rise in preventable drug overdose deaths, especially during the pandemic, tied directly to the increased use of methamphetamine and fentanyl;

WHEREAS, the data collected by the County shows that now is the time to provide more acute services and beds, not less, St. Vincent's Hospital site in Westlake was closed in 2020 and the City and County have made multiple efforts to return the facility to use,

WHEREAS, every effort should be made to find the means to provide opportunities for persons experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles who require a higher level of care to serve their mental health, substance use disorder, and physical disability needs, especially in the urban core and surrounding neighborhoods, St. Vincent's Hospital represents an amazing opportunity to meet that need; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2021-2022 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for legislation or administrative action to study and then fund State acquisition or lease, including necessary improvements, to make the former St. Vincent's Hospital in Los Angeles open and available in order to provide urgently needed care and beds to persons experiencing homelessness who require a higher level of care

PRESENTED BY:

MITCH O'FARRELL  
Councilmember, 13th District

SECONDED BY:

JUL 01 2022

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