

# HOMELESSNESS AND POVERTY

## MOTION

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) was founded in 1993 as a Joint-Powers Agreement between the City of Los Angeles and the County of Los Angeles, with the goal of providing centralized services and housing for homeless families and individuals throughout the region.

Since its inception, however, LAHSA has expanded beyond its initial responsibility and now also provides outreach services to the City's unsheltered residents. As the homeless population, both sheltered and unsheltered, continues to grow, it is imperative that the City of Los Angeles look at the current structure of our agreement with LAHSA and assess if it is the best model to reduce the ongoing growth of the homeless population residing in our City.

In June 2021, Council held extensive hearings concerning governance over the Regional Homelessness Response System, including LAHSA, the Los Angeles City and County Continuum of Care, alternative organizational structures, and significant administrative and operations issues.

Since that time, the City has taken significant steps to improve outreach services, streamline contracting for homelessness services, expand homeless prevention programs, and improve homelessness services. The City has released Requests for Proposals for homeless outreach teams to conduct general outreach and to accompany Sanitation services. The City has also continued to develop new interim and permanent housing resources for persons experiencing homelessness.

At this time, the City Council should revisit the issues concerning governance of the Regional Homelessness Response System and LAHSA, and further consider options to enhance accountability and effectiveness of all aspects of the system.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council instruct the Chief Legislative Analyst and the City Administrative Officer, with the assistance of the Los Angeles Housing Department and any other relevant departments, to prepare a joint report evaluating developments concerning the governance structure of the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority and outline additional options and next steps in the reform of the Regional Homelessness Response System, including:

- Immediate and long-term transition models for in-house homeless services, including the feasibility of the creation of a department, office, and/or division;
- Other avenues for the City to increase direct oversight over homeless outreach and service provision; and
- A strategy to transition into a City-specific Continuum Of Care (COC).

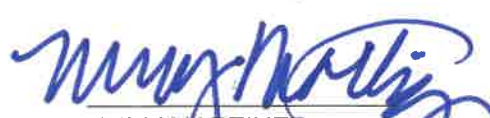
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