

# HOMELESSNESS AND POVERTY

## MOTION

Each year the City establishes a Winter Shelter Program (WSP) to ensure that homeless individuals have a place to go during harsh winter weather conditions. The WSP is operated by the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) and serves homeless individuals from December through March.

With the availability of Measure H funding, the City of Los Angeles is in an influential position to make a positive impact on homeless service delivery. In order to site services citywide at the scale necessary to serve the homeless population, the City needs to build trust with communities regarding the public safety and accountability around homeless service delivery. The existing metrics utilized by LAHSA to evaluate emergency winter shelter programs lack formal guidelines for evaluating how shelters interact with the communities surrounding them. It is important to create and maintain a clear and consistent communication pathway between the community and the local winter shelter provider throughout the season.

This season, the Winter Shelter Program in Council District 7 included a Good Neighbor Policy, which established standards to mitigate potential negative impacts such as encampments, sanitation issues, loitering, etc. within the contract with the service provider (C.F. 19-1690-S13). These standards were informed by, and tailored to, concerns expressed by the community. The policy also established a communication pathway which included a 24 hour hotline, and a community check-in meeting process, both to assess the success of the mitigation measures, and implement corrective action, if necessary, along the way.

In order to grow communities' willingness to welcome shelter programs citywide, and continue to build trust with communities regarding homeless service delivery, the Winter Shelter Program should include a Good Neighbor Policy as part of its contracts with all service providers.

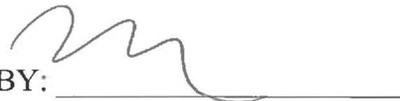
**I THEREFORE MOVE** that the Council request the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority to develop a flexible toolkit of mitigation measures and communication protocols that each winter shelter site adopt as a part of a Good Neighbor Policy, and be included as part of their winter shelter contract.

**I FURTHER MOVE** that the Council request the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, with the assistance of Housing and Community Investment Department, to report to Council on ways to incorporate a Good Neighbor Policy as part of the protocol for establishing, monitoring, and evaluating winter shelters in the City of Los Angeles.

PRESENTED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

  
MONICA RODRIGUEZ  
Councilwoman, 7<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY: \_\_\_\_\_



MAR 06 2013

  
pa/MR:pb

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