

MOTION HOMELESSNESS AND POVERTY

With tens of thousands of people living on our streets, addressing homelessness is an urgent priority -- and finding housing and shelter for as many people as possible as quickly as possible is an imperative. Last November, voters approved Proposition HHH, which authorizes \$1.2 billion for permanent supportive housing. Many, if not most, of those units will take years to come online, and there are significant efforts that can be taken quickly and in the meantime to house people.

Recommendation 7P contained within the City's Comprehensive Homeless Strategy (CHS) - *Housing - Study Shared Housing Programs* - specifically recommends that the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) with the assistance of the City's Housing and Community Investment Department (HCID), the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA), and the Department of Aging (DOA), report relative to the feasibility of establishing of participating in a shared housing program in the City that connects homeless individuals or individuals at-risk of homelessness to housing that is shared with other individuals, including homeowners.

At the Homelessness & Poverty Committee held Wednesday, November 9, 2016, the CAO presented the first quarterly performance report for the City's Comprehensive Homeless Strategy. Shared housing was discussed at this meeting, and LAHSA reported that in addition to pursuing the shared housing study, as Strategy 7P instructs, two pilot programs were being undertaken to investigate the feasibility of shared housing and expanding this model Citywide.

The Self Help And Recovery Exchange (SHARE!) is a local, successful example of the concept of shared housing which assists our efforts to reduce the City's homelessness population. This type of housing is a potential fast and cost-effective solution to those who need immediate housing. Shared housing is recognized nationally by Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) operating under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as an evidence-based best practice.

SHARE! matches individuals, including homeless persons or people at-risk of homelessness with their own source of income to housing vacancies. SHARE! advises that approximately 30% of homeless people in the County are eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) in the amount of approximately \$900 per month, which could help offset the cost of rental costs in some of the SHARE! units. The Affordable Living for the Aging (ALA) advises that there are approximately 60 shared housing programs nationwide. This type of housing model should be more fully explored and utilized in the City of Los Angeles to help house our homeless neighbors.

As the City explores various options to ensure all homeless individuals obtain housing, it is prudent that the City family and LAHSA fully investigate models such as shared housing, and quickly determine how these models may be deployed to make new housing options available to our homeless population..

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council instruct the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) to:

1. Report on progress the City and County have made on using shared housing as a solution since approved as part of the City's Comprehensive Homeless Strategy; and
2. Ensure that the shared housing feasibility study consider the following:
 - A review of a variety of shared housing programs including SHARE! and ALA that serve the acute housing needs of homeless clients, including seniors and victims of domestic violence;
 - Leasing alternatives and the risks and liability factors (for example: master leasing, tenant-based leases);
 - Living arrangements (shared bedrooms vs. separate bedrooms);


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- Availability of housing appropriate for this model;
- Standards for determining appropriate operating costs;
- Program components that contribute to tenants' long-term success;
- What barriers, either financial, regulatory, or otherwise, prevent the use of shared housing;
- A summary, by Service Provider Area (SPA), of how shared housing is used as part of the Coordinated Entry System;
- An analysis of whether agencies would be able to spend Rapid Rehousing money and house people more quickly if shared housing was used more widely.

PRESENTED BY:



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SECONDED BY:


