

MOTION HOMELESSNESS AND POVERTY

After more than 10 years of effort and advocacy, the City of Los Angeles recently authorized and provided funding for safe parking programs to operate within City limits. The intent of these programs is to provide safe, overnight parking for people living in their vehicles while being case-managed by local service providers to create opportunities for more permanent, long term housing.

Various locations throughout the City have operational safe parking lots and are administered by Safe Parking LA (SPLA) in coordination with Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) and the lead agencies of each Service Planning Area (SPA). Some additional locations have executed contracts with LAHSA and are awaiting program launch.

SPLA reports that the utilization of some operational lots is low, even though the agency, other community organizations, and even council offices have identified people living in their vehicles who are eager to participate. Currently, SPLA cannot directly intake clients into lots and must direct any potential future clients to the local SPA Lead Agency in order to ensure they are entered into the Coordinated Entry System (CES) and can be tracked to receive services. Service providers are doing so with uneven success, with differing results at different lots in different Service Provider Areas.

As safe parking is both a vital and effective program in providing safety and opportunities to bring more permanent, long-term housing options to those living in vehicles, it is imperative to assess efficacy of the program, improve it, and provide services and safe parking to as many people in need as soon as possible.

I THEREFORE MOVE that LAHSA immediately begin preparing and submitting monthly reports on the status of implementation of safe parking in Los Angeles, including the number of operational lots, the success rate of local service providers in recruiting clients for the lots, the number of people currently being served, and the number of people successfully housed.

I FURTHER MOVE that LAHSA prepare a report on obstacles to successful, optimal operation of safe parking programs, with recommendations for corrective action.

PRESENTED BY: 

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SECONDED BY: 

ORIGINAL

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