HOMELESSNESS AND POVERTY

MOTION

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority's (LAHSA) 2018 Point-In-Time Homeless Count revealed that while the City experienced a five percent decrease in homelessness, it also saw a 26 percent increase in senior homelessness (ages 62 and older). The City's homeless senior population is now estimated to be over 3,000 individuals.

LAHSA advises that older adults are more at-risk of homelessness as a result of benefits and income that have not kept pace with rising rents. In 2016, there were approximately 7,800 affordable senior housing units for 125,000 low-income seniors. LAHSA also reports that African-Americans, veterans, and females are overrepresented in unsheltered and chronically homeless senior populations.

As part of the Comprehensive Homeless Strategy (CHS), the City took action to ensure that the needs of homeless seniors would be considered in the coming years of program implementation. Emphasis was given to funding the Older Workers Employment Program, analyzing the appropriateness of Shared Housing for seniors, and ensuring that the focus on Women's Homelessness included seniors. Despite these actions, it is clear that more work needs to be done to prevent and address senior homelessness.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Office of the Chief Legislative Analyst, with the assistance of the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, the Department of Aging, the Economic Workforce Development Department, and the Housing and Community Investment Department, be requested to report to the City Council relative to senior homelessness, as follows:

- A full assessment of actions the City is taking as part of the Comprehensive Homeless Strategy; and
- Any actions underway separate from the Comprehensive Homeless Strategy; and
- Any additional recommendations to help prioritize programs in the City and the County geared towards preventing seniors from falling into homelessness.

PRESEN

MONICA RODRIGUEZ Councilwoman, 7th District

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SECONDED BY:

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