

# HOMELESSNESS AND POVERTY

## MOTION


For decades the City of Los Angeles has operated under a failed policy of containment when it comes to homeless services, largely concentrated in the Skid Row area. Homelessness has grown by 12% over the last two years in the City and County of Los Angeles, and that growth has been broadly spread throughout the region.

More than ever it is evident that Homelessness is a citywide and regional concern with encampments being familiar throughout the City, even while there are high concentrations in areas such as Skid Row, Venice and Hollywood. When pursuing solutions to homelessness, the City must seek to make services, facilities and housing accessible throughout the City and the region. People begin to experience homelessness for multiple reasons and in all communities throughout the City. Provisions to help them return and retain stable housing should also be accessible throughout the City.

This week the City will begin to consider a draft Comprehensive Homeless Strategy, which was requested by the Homelessness and Poverty Committee and which is an opportunity to provide both immediate relief to the current crisis, as well as longer-term and consistent attention. It is also an opportunity to set strategies that can reverse decades of unsuccessful policies and underinvestment. The expansion of related facilities and housing should more proportionately benefit communities Citywide.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City establish a guiding principle that services, facilities and housing be provided throughout the City and the County and to formally reverse the policy of containment that has led to over-concentrations of homeless services in certain parts of the City and County.

PRESENTED BY:

  
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JOSE HUIZAR,  
Councilmember, 14<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY:

  
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JAN 12 2016

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