

MOTION

In September 2017, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health declared a local outbreak of the Hepatitis A virus based on the confirmation of at least 14 cases of the virus in the county. In addition, the State of California also recently declared a public health emergency related to the outbreak of Hepatitis A among persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness and intravenous drug users. Hepatitis A is a highly contagious virus that is spread when persons infected with the virus do not wash their hands properly after using the restroom. According to the County Department of Health Services, some of the best preventative measures in combating Hepatitis A include vaccination and access to personal hygiene facilities such as clean restrooms and hand-washing facilities.

Despite City investments in public and non-profit facilities in Skid Row, there remains a shortage of public restrooms and other personal hygiene facilities. The City must address the current lack of a sufficient public health infrastructure. To respond to this crisis Council District 14, Mayor's Office, LAHSA and community groups have been working to establishment a temporary personal hygiene center (Center) that will provide personal hygiene facilities, supportive services, and community engagement services to the residents of Skid Row. The proposed Center will be located at 557-559 Crocker Street, a City-owned property scheduled for development as permanent supportive housing by the Weingart Center. The project will be managed by Homeless Healthcare Los Angeles with assistance from Goodwill Industries, Social Model Recovery Systems, and We Team Security Services.

This Center will cost approximately \$1,868,905 to implement, administer, and secure for approximately 7 months (December 2017 – June 30, 2018). Funding for the Center will be provided to LAHSA as part of the City's FY 2017-18 General Fund Agreement as follows: \$490,969 from Homeless Services, \$420,000 from the Skid Row Bathroom, \$425,000 from Mobile Shower, and \$10,000 from Hot Weather Program line items. In addition \$522,936 from LAHSA FY 2016-17 savings is requested. The proposed Center will provide Skid Row residents with access to clean public toilets, showers, and laundry services, increasing operations to reach 24 hours a day and seven days per week by March 2018.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council, subject to the approval of the Mayor, approve the temporary personal Hygiene Center Demonstration Project located on city-owned property at 557-559 Crocker Street in Skid Row from December 2017 through June 30, 2018.

I FURTHER MOVE THAT the General Manager, Housing and Community Investment Department (HCIDLA) amend the City Contract with LAHSA (C-126258) to: (1) reprogram the following sources of funds from the FY 2017-18 City Homeless Budget to the temporary personal Hygiene Center Demonstration Project: \$490,969 from Homeless Services, \$420,000 from Skid Row Restroom Cleanups, \$425,000 from Mobile Showers, and \$10,000 from Hot Weather Program; and (2) reprogram \$522,936 of LAHSA FY 2016-17 savings, for a total of \$1,868,905.

I FURTHER MOVE, that the General Manager, HCIDLA, or his designee, with the assistance of the Homeless Coordinator, be authorized to prepare Controller instructions and make any necessary technical adjustments, consistent with the Mayor and Council action in this matter, and request the Controller to implement the instructions.

I FURTHER MOVE that Council request LAHSA, with the assistance of the Homeless Coordinator, to report with recommendations to fund the operations of the Hygiene Center beyond June 30, 2018 including a Request for Proposal for continued operations.

PRESENTED BY:   
JOSE HUIZAR  
Councilmember, 14<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY: 

ORIGINAL

NOV 22 2017  
