



HOLLYWOOD
COMMUNITY
HOUSING

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City Council President Herb Wesson
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Sarah Letts

**RE: Support – Temporary Homeless Housing Facility in Koreatown
682 S. Vermont Avenue, Council File No. 18-0392**

Dear Council President Wesson,

The purpose of this letter is to express the support of Hollywood Community Housing Corporation (HCHC) for the proposed temporary homeless shelter in Koreatown located at 682 S. Vermont Avenue (CF No. 18-0392). We applaud your leadership over the past three years with respect to the issue of homelessness that has affected every neighborhood throughout the City of Los Angeles.

With the passage of Proposition HHH in November 2016 with 77 percent of the vote, and the passage of Measure H in March 2017 with 69 percent of the vote, the public has given the City and the County a mandate to solve the homeless crisis. Proposition HHH provides for \$1.2 billion dollars in construction funds for homeless facilities and permanent supportive housing (PSH) - a long term strategy to provide much needed housing. HCHC applied for and received a commitment of HHH funds for a property in your Council District, but construction of the PSH will not be complete until the summer of 2019. Therefore, it is essential that the City provide temporary solutions for the homeless until such time as new PSH units are ready for occupancy.

We were pleased to hear the Mayor's announcement that \$20 million dollars will be dedicated to the creation of emergency shelters throughout the City and applaud the goal of having 15 shelters up and running by January 2019. It is noteworthy that the City is thinking comprehensively about this effort and is committed to ensuring that the appropriate services and outreach teams exist in every neighborhood that provides a site.

According to the most recent estimates, there are approximately 400 homeless individuals in Koreatown, one of the largest densities of homelessness in the City. Most publically owned land in Koreatown is already developed as parks, libraries and schools and there are very few options for the siting of a temporary shelter. The site located at 682 S. Vermont Avenue is ideal for this purpose because it is controlled by the City and because services and public transportation are abundant in this area. HCHC is also supportive of the proposed temporary shelter in Hollywood and this shelter will be just steps away from one of our existing affordable housing developments.



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In closing, I would like to reiterate HCHC's support for the use of the DOT parking lot at 682 S. Vermont Avenue as a temporary homeless shelter. Communities throughout the City need to participate if we are to achieve the mandates of Proposition HHH and Measure H.

Sincerely,



Sarah Letts