RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence or the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, there is a homelessness crisis in the City of Los Angeles and according to the 2019 Point-in-Time Count, there are 36,300 homeless individuals in the City; and

WHEREAS, Proposition HHH was passed by the City to create new supportive housing for homeless individuals and the Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) was authorized by the State to provide emergency aid to the homeless, including building emergency shelter; and

WHEREAS, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) provides a process for evaluating the environmental effects of a project, including but not limited to, water quality, land use and agricultural resources, transportation and circulation, air quality and greenhouse gas emission; and

WHEREAS, under the current law, certain supportive housing projects and emergency shelters are already exempt from CEQA, however there are many projects that are delayed due to CEQA challenges being filed; and

WHEREAS, currently pending before the Assembly is AB 1197 (Santiago), which would expand the current CEQA exemption under AB 2162 for projects funded under Proposition HHH and HEAP, resulting in the expedited construction of housing and shelter for homeless individuals; and

WHEREAS, AB 1197 would help the City continue to expeditiously develop supportive and emergency housing and move homeless individuals in the City off the streets and into safe housing;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with concurrence of the Mayor, that by adoption of this resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2019-20 State Legislative Program, SUPPORT for AB 1197 (Santiago), the California Environmental Quality Act Exemption, which exempts activities approved or carried out by the City in furtherance of supportive housing projects funded by Proposition HHH bond proceeds or emergency shelter projects funded by the Homeless Emergency Aid Program and SEEK AMENDMENT to apply the CEQA exemption to all permanent supportive housing projects regardless of its funding source.

PRESENTED BY: MITCH O'FARRELT Councilmember, 13th District Councilmember, 4th District SECONDED BY