

MOTION HOMELESSNESS AND POVERTY

There is a homelessness crisis in the state of California and in the City of Los Angeles. As reported by the Continuums of Care to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in 2018, there were 129,972 individuals experiencing homelessness in the state of California. To address this need, the State Budget for fiscal year 2019-20 allocates \$275 million for homelessness programs to the largest 13 cities in the State proportional to their PIT Count through the Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program (HHAPP). Additionally, there is \$175 million available to counties and \$190 to Continuums of Care, such as the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), in the State. According to the formula, the City of Los Angeles could receive up to \$123 million in direct allocation.

The Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program (HHAPP) has been established by the State to provide jurisdictions with one-time grant funds to support regional coordination and expand or develop local capacity to address their immediate homelessness challenges with a focus on moving homeless individuals and families into permanent housing and supporting the efforts of those individuals and families to maintain their permanent housing. At least eight percent of the award must serve homeless youth and the administrative costs are capped at seven percent of the award.

HHAPP funding is eligible to be used for evidence-based solutions that address and prevent homelessness which includes: rental assistance and rapid rehousing, operating subsidies for supportive housing and shelters, landlord incentives, outreach and coordination, permanent and innovative housing solutions, prevention, and capital for navigation centers and emergency shelters. HHAPP eligible uses are much more defined than Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) and is not focused on emergency response.

The City can apply for the HHAPP grant once the PIT Count results have been verified by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the State finalizes the grant program details. The State reports that the application will open no later than January 1, 2020. In order to receive the funds as soon as available, the City should begin to produce a plan to spend the HHAPP grant and establish priority categories in order to apply for the grant. The Mayor's Office proposed expenditure categories include ongoing services for A Bridge Home, Skid Row, prevention programs, innovative permanent housing models, homelessness street and public health strategy, and youth set-aside. The City should work in coordination with its City departments, regional partners, community partners, and stakeholders in order to prioritize its needs for the expenditure categories.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Homelessness and Poverty Committee schedule a hearing to solicit comments from the stakeholders on how the City should prioritize and expend the Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program (HHAPP) funding;

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council instruct the City Administrative Officer and the Chief Legislative Analyst to take into consideration Mayor's proposed categories, stakeholder comments, input from City departments, and priorities from the Council Homelessness Day hearing on June 26th, 2019 and report to Council with recommendations on the HHAPP funding categories.

PRESENTED BY: 

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SECONDED BY: 




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