



Joe Buscaino  
Councilmember, 15th District

September 4, 2019

Homelessness and Poverty Committee Members  
Los Angeles City Hall  
200 N Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re. **CF# 19-0914 - Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAPP) Funds**  
**CF# 17-1121 - Homeless Litter Pick-Up Pilot Program**

Dear Members of the Homelessness and Poverty Committee:

In partnership with Councilmember Blumenfield, I co-presented a motion requesting the City Administrative Officer (CAO), with the assistance of various departments, to report back with recommendations on establishing a pilot program that would employ homeless individuals to proactively clear litter from our City's streets (CF# 17-1121). The motion was adopted by the Public Works and Gang Reduction (PWGR) and Energy, Climate Change, and Environmental Justice (ECCEJ) committees on October 27, 2017 and November 1, 2017 respectively, and the subsequent CAO reports were approved in ECCEJ & PWGR Committees on October 16, 2018 and November 14, 2018, respectively.

Unfortunately, prior to the final hearing before Budget & Finance Committee on December 10, 2018, the CAO released a new report, recommending that the Council delay action on the pilot program, due to a large number of funding requests for both Unappropriated Balance and Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) funds. On December 20, 2018 the Homeless Strategy Committee recommended the pilot be placed on the HEAP "wait list."

We must tackle the problem of homelessness with a comprehensive approach that not only brings homeless individuals off the street and into housing, but also prepares and trains them to re-enter the workforce and ultimately become self-supporting members of our City. A citywide homeless litter abatement pilot program is anticipated to cost approximately \$2.9 million for 1 year - a small investment that could, in the long term, generate revenue for the City by creating more tax-paying members of our workforce.

By allocating funding from HHAPP for the proposed pilot program as outlined in Council File #17-1121, the City would be supporting its homeless population, expanding local and transitional hire goals, increasing the cleanliness of our City's streets, and ultimately saving money by achieving multiple objectives through this innovative pilot program.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

**JOE BUSCAINO**  
Councilmember, 15th District

Date: 9-4-19  
Submitted in H3P Committee  
Council File No: 19-0914  
Item No.: 6  
Deputy: CR 15