MOTION

According to the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) 2019 Youth Count, there are approximately 3,926 homeless youth on the streets of LA on any given night, a 24 percent increase from the previous year. There has been a particularly large increase in youth who are in family units, black and Latino youth, and victims of domestic violence among this group becoming homeless.

These transitioning age youth find themselves homeless or at-risk through no fault of their own, as common pathways into homelessness include being kicked out by a caregiver, fleeing abusive domestic environments, or aging out of the foster care system.

Youth experiencing homelessness face a number of complex challenges relating to disconnection from community, abuse, trauma, mental health issues and criminalization. At this critical age in development, this population needs education, employment opportunities and training, and social connection; or risk falling into chronic, long-term homelessness.

As we have seen a large increase in this vulnerable population, the City should use all available resources to provide the unique housing and support services needed to respond to these young adults as they transition into adulthood.

In January 2020, the City will apply for Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program (HHAPP) funds from the state of California. On November 22, 2019, the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) and Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA) issued a report to Council with recommendations on the HHAPP funding categories, which will serve as a guide for the City's application for state funds under this program. The report outlines categories for the approximately \$117,562,500 expected to be allocated to the City of Los Angeles under HHAPP.

Among the categories, the state requires funding services for "Youth Experiencing Homelessness or At Risk of Homelessness" at eight percent of the total fund, which is the minimum required by the state. This equates to \$8,786,215. With such an urgent need in our TAY community, this number should be increased to at least double in size.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the CAO and CLA reprogram categories in their next report to Council with recommendations on the Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program (HHAPP) funding categories (CF #19-0914) to shift at least \$8,786,215 in additional funds to Category 6: Youth Experiencing Homelessness or At Risk of Homelessness. This represents 16 percent of the total HHAPP funds allocated to the City of Los Angeles.

PR

I FURTHER MOVE that the CAO and CLA adjust HHAPP categories of funding as needed going forward to ensure that Category 6: Youth Experiencing Homelessness or At Risk of Homelessness continues to receive no less than 16 percent of the total HHAPP funds in the City of Los Angeles in 2020.

PRESENTED BY:

MIKE BONIN

Councilmember, 11th District

SECONDED BY: