

MOTION

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) was formed as a joint powers authority (JPA) between the City of Los Angeles and the County of Los Angeles in December 1993 to serve as the central agency to provide housing and services for homeless families and individuals in Los Angeles County. LAHSA coordinates and manages over \$300 million annually in federal, State, County, and City funds for programs that provide shelter, housing, and services to people experiencing homelessness.

Since its formation, the number of people experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles County has grown significantly. The 2019 Point-in-Time count identified 58,936 homeless people in the County, both sheltered and unsheltered. More than 36,000 people are homeless in the City.

In 2015, the City and County jointly developed an enhanced effort to coordinate resources and programs to address homelessness in the County, working directly with each other as well as through LAHSA. This has resulted in a significant increase in the amount of funding available to provide services to the homeless, as well as an unprecedented effort to build up to 10,000 units of new permanent supportive housing. Over this time, LAHSA has grown from a staff of 80 to over 420 dedicated individuals working to serve the County's homeless population.

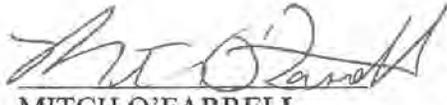
The situation today, however, is very different than it was in 1993 when LAHSA was originally formed. Significantly more people are or have been homeless or at risk of becoming homeless; there are far more resources available that must be deployed quickly and effectively; and a wide range of governmental and non-governmental agencies are involved in providing services. The current governance of homeless services in Los Angeles may no longer be an effective structure to address this problem.

LAHSA is currently conducting a strategic planning process to evaluate the way it operates and identify ways to improve its services. Likewise, the City should evaluate the governance structure of homeless services in Los Angeles, including LAHSA, to ensure that this is the most effective means to address the homelessness crisis.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council instruct the Chief Legislative Analyst, with the assistance of the City Attorney, City Administrative Officer, the Housing and Community Investment Department, and LAHSA, to evaluate the LAHSA governing structure and assess other models for the delivery of homeless services.

PRESENTED BY:


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