

Communication from Public

Name: Michael OShea
Date Submitted: 05/06/2020 11:20 AM
Council File No: 20-0488

Comments for Public Posting: I support the motion to request an update on Project Roomkey. Without a doubt, the public deserves answers to the questions posed by the motion. However, there are three questions that also need to be included in this report: 1. How was the goal of 15,000 rooms initially selected? What was the reasoning behind that insufficient and seemingly arbitrary figure? Why was a conscious decision made to leave the remaining 45,000 houseless residents of Los Angeles County to fend for themselves on the street or in open-air shelters in the middle of this pandemic? 2. Given the current infection rate for COVID-19 among vulnerable populations, how many lives will be lost while we wait, in vain, for hotels to offer rooms voluntarily? 3. Between the unhoused population and the general public, how many infections and deaths are considered an acceptable cost before Mayor Garcetti and the LA County Board of Supervisors use their authority to commandeer the rooms necessary to ensure every single Angeleno is able to safely shelter in place? I humbly request that these questions be included in the requested report.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/06/2020 08:21 AM

Council File No: 20-0488

Comments for Public Posting: Looks like project room key is nowhere CLOSE to the 15,000 rooms promised, what's going on? Need transparency please.

Communication from Public

Name: Rabeya Sen

Date Submitted: 05/06/2020 10:48 AM

Council File No: 20-0488

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Rabeya Sen and I am with Esperanza Community Housing Corporation. We work with the communities in South Central Los Angeles -- low-income communities and communities of color who are bearing a disproportionate burden of Covid-19's economic fallout. We strongly support the entire Healthy LA platform, especially as we community members losing their jobs; struggling to pay rent and put food on the table; and worried about how to keep their families housed, safe, and healthy during this pandemic and as part of communities who have historically been left out of large-scale investments and policies. In regards to this item, we need to ensure that any policies to house the unhoused are effective and helpful. The Los Angeles City Council must hold hotels accountable for practices that are hurting Angelenos at this time, specifically those hotels that are receiving public subsidy, but are not participating in Project Roomkey. All of us are doing our part to help slow COVID-19 and protect our neighbors by wearing masks and staying socially distanced. At this time, with Angelenos facing both unprecedented job losses and increased risks for being unhoused, these hotels have an opportunity to do something positive. They have the ability to put people back to work while also housing some of our neighbors who need the most protection. Therefore, we support the following pieces: --Identify which hotels are receiving public subsidy but are not participating in Project Roomkey. --Receive regular updates on the progress the City is making to house the unhoused during this crisis to ensure the continued effectiveness of this program. --Creating a plan to keep people housed after the health crisis is over to ensure that any recovery from this crisis is just and sustainable. We cannot allow measures, to keep people housed during this crisis, to disappear when this crisis comes to an end. Otherwise we go back to things as they were, which is an untenable state of increasing homelessness and health inequities related to a lack of healthy & affordable housing. We need to have a just and sustainable recovery. Thank you.