



April 24, 2020

Honorable Members of the Budget and Finance Committee
c/o Richard Williams, Office of the City Clerk
Room 395, City Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90012

SUBJECT: LOS ANGELES HOMELESS SERVICES AUTHORITY – COMMENTS RELATIVE TO THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021

Dear Members of the Budget and Finance Committee,

In accordance with Budget and Finance Committee Chair's request, the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) is respectfully submitting for your consideration the agency's comments relative to the Mayor's Proposal Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.

LAHSA, a joint powers authority of the City and County of Los Angeles, in collaboration with various City of Los Angeles departments, is tasked with implementing data-driven solutions focused on identifying the most appropriate housing pathways for our residents experiencing homelessness.

Additionally, LAHSA is tasked with responding to the COVID-19 crisis, and ensuring our residents experiencing homelessness are safe and healthy. LAHSA looks forward to continuing to work with City partners on implementing new congregate shelter programs located in Recreations and Parks sites that align with public health best practices, along with implementing Project Roomkey to bring thousands more residents into hotel and motel rooms where they can safely isolate.

FY 20-21 Budget Requests

The Mayor's budget addresses LAHSA's ongoing needs to continue operating existing programs that bring vulnerable residents into shelter and housing. The Mayor's proposed budget of \$37,751,402 for FY 20-21 will allow the agency to continue the following critical work:

- Conducting the annual Point-in-Time Count;
- Administering the Centralized Training Academy to augment service provider capacity;
- Funding crisis and bridge housing for families, individuals, and youth, along with Rapid Re-Housing programs for families;
- Continuing the C3 partnership on Skid Row to engage the population of that area and foster connections to housing and services;
- Administering the Coordinated Entry System;
- Continuing to administer the Homeless Management Information System;
- Funding several different outreach programs, including Operation Healthy Streets and the CARE and CARE+ teams.

In addition, the Mayor's budget includes increases in the following areas to meet increased programming demands:

Heidi Marston
Interim Executive Director

Board of Commissioners

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Chair

Mitchell Kamin
Vice Chair

Kelli Bernard

Noah Farkas

Wendy Greuel

Lawson Martin

Irene Muro

Booker Pearson

Kelvin Sauls

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- Increased funding for Safe Parking programs as new sites operate for a full year;
- Augmented funding for shelter programs, including an extra month of operations for Winter Shelter Programs;
- Increased funding for Navigation Centers as new sites operate for a full year.

We appreciate the leadership of the Los Angeles City Council and the Mayor's office in seeking to bring stability and housing solutions to our most vulnerable residents and request that the Budget Committee approve LAHSA's budget of \$37,751,402 for FY 20-21. We look forward to continued partnership in these efforts and are happy to address any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Heidi Marston". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "H" and "M".

Heidi Marston
Interim Executive Director

cc: Christina Miller, Office of the Mayor
Matt Szabo, Office of the Mayor
Richard Llewelyn, City Administrative Officer
Sharon Tso, Chief Legislative Analyst