

HOMELESSNESS AND POVERTY COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the City's Comprehensive Homelessness Strategy.

Recommendations for Council action, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR:

1. AUTHORIZE the Controller to transfer \$2.1 million from the Unappropriated Balance Serving and Housing LA's Homeless account to a new account to be established in the General City Purposes Fund, entitled El Nino Response to fund El Nino related services for the homeless inclusive of storage.
2. AUTHORIZE the Controller to expend, encumber, and/or transfer these funds, at the direction of the City Administrative Officer (CAO), Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA), and the Mayor, without further approval from the Mayor and Council so that these funds may be directed and expended as expeditiously as possible.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The CAO and CLA report that that there is no fiscal impact related to the recommendation in this report. Existing funds have been set aside in the Unappropriated Balance that will be used to support the El Nino related activities. The fiscal impact associated with pursuing strategies presented in the Comprehensive Homeless Strategy report, attached to the Council file, will be identified in a future report back to the Council and Mayor.

Community Impact Statement: Yes.

Los Feliz Neighborhood Council
Winnetka Neighborhood Council

(Housing Committee waived consideration of the above matter)

SUMMARY

At the meeting held on January 13, 2016, your Homelessness and Poverty Committee considered a joint CAO/CLA report relative to the City's Comprehensive Homelessness Strategy. The CAO and CLA report that as this report is released, unusually severe El Nino conditions are anticipated to bring inclement weather to Southern California this winter season. The Mayor and Council, in preparation for high-levels of heavy precipitation and low temperatures, have proactively mobilized various City assets and directed departments to ensure precautions are taken and contingency plans are in place to provide emergency shelters and services to the City's homeless community. Close coordination efforts between the City's Emergency Management Department and the County of Los Angeles' Office of Emergency Management are active and remain vigilant.

The CAO and CLA further state that under direction of the City, the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority will have approximately 440 Winter Surge Beds, in addition to the City's already existing (861) Winter Shelter Program beds, ready for operation in the case of an adverse weather incident. The City understands the vulnerability of its homeless community during the winter season and stands committed to provide them with resources to avoid injury or loss of life. Therefore, the CAO and CLA recommend that Council, subject to the approval of the Mayor, make \$2.1 million in funds available from the original balance of \$15 million in funding for anticipated costs associated with El Nino related inclement weather shelters and other matters.

This allocation was discussed but an action to transfer funds was not included in the Second Financial Status Report.

The CAO and CLA presented an overview of the City's Comprehensive Homelessness Strategy. During the discussion of the recommendation found on the cover memo of the joint CAO/CLA report, Councilmember Bonin clarified that the \$2.1 million in funds for El Nino related services for the homeless can be used for storage of belongings. Councilmember Bonin requested that the recommendation found on the cover memo of the joint CAO/CLA report be approved to distribute the funds as expeditiously as possible. This recommendation authorizes the Controller to transfer \$2.1 million from the Unappropriated Balance Serving and Housing LA's Homeless account to a new account that will be established in the General City Purposes Fund, entitled El Nino Response to fund El Nino related services for the homeless. It further authorizes the Controller to expend, encumber, and/or transfer these funds, at the direction of the Homeless Strategy Committee without further approval from the Mayor and Council so that these funds may be directed and expended as expeditiously as possible. The CLA stated that, as the Homeless Strategy Committee is a recommendation presented in the joint CAO/CLA report that has not been acted on, the funds could be expended and administered by the CAO, CLA, and Mayor.

An opportunity for public comment was held. After further discussion of the matter, the Committee moved to approve the recommendation contained on the cover memo of the joint CAO/CLA report and to continue consideration to a later date of the remaining recommendations as found in the joint CAO/CLA report. This matter is now forwarded to the Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

HOMELESSNESS AND POVERTY COMMITTEE

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
HARRIS-DAWSON:	YES
HUIZAR:	YES
BONIN:	YES
PRICE:	YES
CEDILLO:	YES

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