

#### Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: West Hills Neighborhood Council

Name: Simone Best

Phone Number: [\(818\) 887-0434](tel:(818)887-0434)

Email: [simone.best@westhillsnc.org](mailto:simone.best@westhillsnc.org)

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(11) Nay(10) Abstain(3) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 08/03/2017

Type of NC Board Action: For

#### Impact Information

Date: 08/05/2017

Update to a Previous Input: Yes

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 15-1138-S15

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: At a Brown Act and duly called Board meeting The West Hills Neighborhood Council requests the immediate establishment of safe parking locations and emergency triage shelters in the West San Fernando Valley (SFV) for relief from the increasing number of homeless encampments and vehicles used for habitation on city streets on a vote of Yes-11, No-10, Abstain 3 and Absent 1.

Please see attached addendum

## **Addendum to CF15-1138-S15 Safe Parking Pilot Program**

The West Hills Neighborhood Council requests the immediate establishment of safe parking locations and emergency triage shelters in the West San Fernando Valley (SFV) for relief from the increasing number of homeless encampments and vehicles used for habitation on city streets.

### **Background**

In recent year's homeless encampments and vehicle dwelling has increase dramatically in the West SFV.

Research shows that unsheltered homeless individuals who remain unserved in the street are at increased risk for poor outcomes, i.e. health risks, incarceration, loss of work skills, etc. Sheltering these individuals, who often become costly high utilizers of emergency, police and medical services, provides significant cost savings to taxpayers.

The lack of available bridge shelter beds and safe parking locations in the West SFV fails to serve the needs of thousands of unhoused men, women and children.

Moreover, the lack of safe parking locations and bridge shelter beds impedes law enforcements' ability to effectively manage the public safety concerns within our community.

### **Proposal**

By utilizing current allocations, City and County budgeted funds and MHSA funds, and newer funding sources, Measures HHH and H, new bridge shelter housing will be created in existing repurposed buildings in the areas with the highest concentration of homelessness throughout the SFV.

This proposal aligns with both the City and County Comprehensive Strategic Homeless Strategy(s) to improve emergency shelters. Special considerations should also be made for particularly vulnerable and/or underserved populations, i.e. veterans, women, children and LGBTQ teens.

In addition, the Safe Parking Pilot Program, CF 15-1138-S15, must be made available as quickly as practical at as many County, City, Metro and approved private parking lots to address increasing number of people living in vehicles. On these premises, social services should be made available for unhoused clients to access the Coordinate Entry System (CES) and Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS), case management, mental health and substance use treatment.

Vouchers for RV waste disposal should be provided as this prevents unhealthy discharging onto public streets. Both the emergency bridge shelter beds and the Safe Parking Program, should be made available throughout the SFV so each community can best triage and manage its own issues of homelessness. All proposed shelters and

safe parking locations should be well maintained with appropriate security to ensure safety.

These proposals are meant only as short-term plans to directly deal with the current crisis and not to be permanent infrastructures. These proposals serve as a stopgap measure, then, going forward, responsibility will shift to City and County agencies to properly house citizens with the over-abundance of funds that are now available.

Passed by the WHNC on 8/3/17