

MOTION

Strategy 3C (Widen Access to First Responder Teams for Homeless) in the City's Comprehensive Homelessness Strategy directs LAPD and LAFD to reduce homeless-related non-emergency hospital admittance and jail intake by expanding first responder pilot programs. LAPD's Olympic Division is currently conducting a pilot program entitled Project HOPE (Homeless Outreach and Partnership Division) that places an officer in a dedicated homeless car that is designed to identify, form a relationship with, and better understand the local homeless community. The HOPE officer strives to form strong and meaningful relationships with public and private service providers and link the homeless community to those partners. This officer essentially services as a Senior Lead officer for the homeless community and liaison for government and private partners.

The HOPE Officer works with the City Attorney Neighborhood Prosecutor, SLOs, Patrol, City Council, Recreation and Parks, local businesses, residents, BIDs, schools, churches and others to identify and manage homeless activity. The officer conducts weekly field interaction with the homeless and general community to assess and prioritize the activity. Contacts and relevant information are recorded on specialized field identification cards, and encampment locations are mapped. Every Friday two members from LAHSA's Emergency Response Team join the officer and conduct dedicated outreach to the homeless. Every Wednesday an outreach worker from PATH (People Assisting the Homeless) responds with the HOPE Officer and provides special assistance for Service Veterans. Outreach workers from other service providers conduct outreach on an as-needed basis. Recently, the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (DMH) agreed to dedicate a mental health clinician to field outreach once a week. Traditional enforcement is utilized only as a last-resort measure when quality of life and public safety demands.

I MOVE that the matter of the Homelessness and Poverty committee report relative to the City's comprehensive Homelessness Strategy, Item No. 6 on today's agenda (CF 15-1138-S1) **BE AMENDED** to adopt the following additional recommendations:

- a. As part of Strategy 3C (Widen Access to First Responder Teams For Homeless) INSTRUCT the CAO, with assistance from the Bureau of Sanitation and LAPD, to report back in 60 days with a financial analysis to determine the potential cost of expanding the Project HOPE pilot program into LAPD divisions throughout the City of Los Angeles.
- b. As relevant to Strategy 3B (Develop Encampment Engagement Protocol) INSTRUCT the Bureau of Sanitation, with assistance from the CAO and LAPD, to report back with a budget estimate and other options to deploy sanitation teams to the Project HOPE effort and similar LAPD initiatives that do not count against a Council offices monthly service day allocation.

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- c. INSTRUCT the Bureau of Sanitation to request those funds in the Mayor's upcoming budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2016-17, consistent with the Homelessness and Poverty committee report funding requests.

PRESENTED BY: 
HERB J. WESSON, JR.
Councilmember, 10th District

SECONDED BY: 
