

HOMELESSNESS AND POVERTY

MOTION

The 2017 Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) Homeless Count showed a 20% increase of individuals experiencing homelessness compared to the 2016 count. The total number of recreational vehicles on the streets of Los Angeles during the 2017 count was 2,363. While the City has made positive strides toward the implementation of its Comprehensive Homeless Strategy, the issues continue to evolve.

There has been a rise in the number of complaints from residents and businesses relating to RVs that are unregistered or are in violation of the 72-hour limit on city streets. This has led to a backlog of RVs that require towing. The City had three contracts for heavy duty towing, but due to the unsanitary conditions of the vehicles, among other issues, two of the contractors are no longer towing RVs. The City is working on a solution which will include the use of city crews to abate sanitary issues prior to vehicles being towed.


The increase in individuals living in RVs has also led to quality of life issues for the residents in the community. The West San Fernando Valley has seen an increase in the number of incidents involving the illegal discharge of hazardous substances from RVs onto streets and sidewalks. There are no public facilities with RV dump stations in the San Fernando Valley. Furthermore, there are only two public facilities within City limits, the closest of which is more than 20 miles from the San Fernando Valley. This makes it very difficult for individuals who live in their recreational vehicles to maintain them in good sanitary condition and creates a hazardous health issue for residents in the neighborhood and beyond.

There are companies that offer recreational vehicle waste pumping. The use of a contractor for this service could assist the City in preparing RVs for towing. This service could also be provided for individuals living in their RV while they are working with services providers to be placed into housing. Providing waste pumping service for RVs can prevent the illegal discharge of hazardous substances and make it easier for the City to tow abandoned RVs. This would improve the quality of life for all residents.

I THEREFORE MOVE that City Council Request LAHSA and Instruct the Bureau of Sanitation, LAPD, Department of Transportation and other relevant departments to report on the feasibility of:

1. Contracting with a company to provide recreational vehicle waste pumping for RVs on the wait list for towing and individuals living in RVs who are enrolled in services for housing placement;
2. Partnering with private and public RV dump stations to provide vouchers as a supplemental service for individuals living in RVs who are enrolled in services for housing placement.

PRESENTED BY:


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SECONDED BY:




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