

#### Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(12) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

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Type of NC Board Action: For

#### Impact Information

Date: 05/17/2016

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 15-1138

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: On Feb. 9, 2016, the City Council approved a Comprehensive Homeless Strategy, encompassing more than 60 implementation items to address various aspects of the challenges faced by the City's 25,000+ homeless residents and provide relief to housed residents from the impacts of having so many un-housed people on our streets.

The homeless population has increased in the Toluca Lake area as it has across the greater Los Angeles region. The Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council (GTLNC) supports the City Council's comprehensive efforts both short-term and long-term to combat homelessness. We understand the apparent intractability of homelessness, and punitive measures have not worked, certainly not in the long run. But as chronicled in the Jan. 16, 2016 LA Times, a multi-pronged approach could make an impact. A collaboration of City, County and Non-Profit Agencies created teams including nurses, mental health providers, addiction counselors, and formerly homeless people who went to the streets to minister services immediately and directly. The result of this direct and individualized approach resulted in getting people off the streets. In addition to this short-term approach, long-term approaches including housing and job development also must be developed. As taxpayers, we understand the tremendous cost in reducing and hopefully ending homelessness. But as quoted by Miguel Santana, City Administrative Officer, "While costs to fully address homelessness are significant, the cost of inaction will continue to grow." The GTLNC calls on the LA City Council to implement its Comprehensive Homeless Strategy.