

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Atwater Village Neighborhood Council

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

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Impact Information

Date: 03/12/2018

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Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 17-1432

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: The growing homelessness crisis in Los Angeles underscores the need for an expanded inventory and wider variety of housing options for individuals and families experiencing homelessness, such as emergency shelters, rapid re-housing programs, and transitional & permanent supportive housing. With Measure HHH, we have committed to building 10,000 permanent supportive housing units over the next decade, but it is imperative that the city address the complex needs of low-income & homeless individuals and families who are in critical need of short-term and long-term housing at the present moment.

Motels are similar to residential structures and can be rapidly retrofitted and used as transitional or supportive housing. If the city reduces the obstacles that otherwise delay such a conversion and streamlines the approval process, a significant number of the city's homeless individuals and families would have increased access to stable, temporary housing complete with on/off-site supportive services, such as mental health treatment, substance abuse counseling, and vocational training. Additionally, converting underutilized motels to transitional and supportive housing would guarantee steady monthly income for a minimum of 15 years for motel owners who frequently struggle with high vacancy rates. Upon the end of the lease terms, the motel would revert back to its previous use without undergoing an additional approval process.

The city must invest in diverse, cost-effective housing solutions to address temporary and chronic homelessness while awaiting construction of new affordable and permanent supportive housing developments. Using motels for transitional or supportive housing would allow thousands of people experiencing homelessness to be stably housed during their transition into permanent housing, all the while providing a unique economic opportunity for struggling motel owners. For these reasons, the Atwater Village Neighborhood Council supports CF 17-1432.