

HOMELESSNESS AND POVERTY COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count, and current status of the Mental Evaluation Unit (MEU) and the System-wide Mental Assessment Response Team (SMART).

Recommendations for Council action, as initiated by Motion (Lee - Rodriguez):

1. REQUEST the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) to report on the discrepancy between their count and the LA Times analysis including detailed information explaining how the LAHSA report and LA Times analysis have such large discrepancies; how this discrepancy could affect the City's current outreach efforts, housing strategies and priorities; how the discrepancy could affect resource allocation; and a report on how well equipped LAHSA's outreach teams are to effectively service individuals with mental illnesses and substance abuse disorders.
2. DIRECT the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) to report on the the current status of the MEU and SMART, including but not limited to the following:
  - a. MEU's coordination with the newly established Comprehensive Cleaning and Rapid Engagement (CARE) teams.
  - b. MEU's ability to respond to calls for service including response times as well as a breakdown of the unit's overall capabilities and any potential staffing needs or improvements that need to be made so that the Department can be effective in its response to the needs of those experiencing homelessness that are affected by mental illness.
3. INSTRUCT the City's Homelessness Coordinator with assistance from LAHSA, Chief Legislative Analyst (and the County Departments of Mental Health and Public Health to report on current programs in effect that address mental health and substance abuse among the population that is experiencing homelessness as well as recommendations for improvements to better assist the vast number of houseless residents that are affected by mental health illness or substance abuse disorders.
4. INSTRUCT LAPD to report on the following:
  - a. The number of calls that LAPD gets that are labeled as mental health problems.
  - b. The number of calls that LAPD gets that are not labeled as mental health calls but then turn out to involve a mental health issue.
  - c. The number of times that the MEU or SMART teams were actually summoned.
  - d. The number of times that the MEU or SMART teams actually respond with a breakdown of how long the response take.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the CLA has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

At its regular meeting held on September 10, 2020, the Homelessness and Poverty Committee considered Motion (Lee - Rodriguez) relative to the Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count, and current status of the MEU and SMART. The Motion, attached to the Council file, provides additional background of the matter.

After providing an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to approve the recommendation contained in the Motion, as detailed above. This matter is now transmitted to the Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

HOMELESSNESS AND POVERTY COMMITTEE

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
O'FARRELL	YES
RODRIGUEZ	YES
BONIN	YES
HARRIS-DAWSON	YES
RYU	ABSENT

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**-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-**