

MOTION

HOMELESSNESS AND POVERTY

The City and County of Los Angeles, and the State of California have declared a State of Emergency relative to the Coronavirus. These actions make available a variety of resources for government agencies to address and help prevent the spread of this virus, now that there is confirmation that local residents have been infected.

The City Declaration activates the Emergency Operations Center to help monitor and coordinate the City's planning, preparedness, and response efforts with City departments and partner agencies. The County Departments of Public Health has advised it will mobilize resources, accelerate emergency planning, coordinate with all levels of government and will raise awareness on how everyone can be prepared for this issue.

Among its many actions the County will provide guidance for childcare facilities, schools, colleges and universities, employers, hotels, public safety responders, shelters, congregate living facilities, and parents on how prepare for and help slow the spread of Coronavirus.

It is unclear in all of the recent governmental declarations to address this virus, how the Coronavirus will be addressed for the vulnerable unsheltered homeless residents in the City, especially those in Skid Row, and in other areas where the unsheltered live in close contact with one another.

Given that certain individuals are more susceptible to the virus such as those with existing health conditions, compromised immune systems and the elderly, relevant City Departments and the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, should report on efforts to address the Coronavirus among unsheltered homeless residents, and if these efforts can be streamlined in light of the recent public health measures developed in response to Typhus and Hepatitis A.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council instruct the Board of Public Works and the Bureau of Sanitation and other relevant City departments to work with the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority and report with recommendations on how to expand the existing hygiene infrastructure in Skid Row relative to the threat of Coronavirus.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council request the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority to work in consultation with the County Department of Public Health to report with an outreach and engagement strategy to educate and empower its network of local service providers on the threat of the Coronavirus, and on best practices to help stop the spread of this disease in Skid Row, as well as other areas in the City with high concentrations of unsheltered homeless residents.

PRESENTED BY: _____


JOSE HUIZAR
Councilmember, 14th District

SECONDED BY: _____



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