

MOTION

In recent months, Council has taken significant action to update how outreach to unhoused individuals is conducted in the City. The ultimate goal of outreach is to connect these individuals to services and housing. However, after outreach workers engage individuals on the streets, there are many obstacles that slow down or prevent that connection to services or housing. One such obstacle is documenting the identity of an unhoused individual whose identification card, driver's license, or birth certificate has been lost or stolen. Without proper identification, the delivery of services and housing is delayed until replacement identification can be obtained.

In the City of Houston, Texas, officials have established an innovative procedure to help speed up the process to replace identification cards for unhoused individuals who are in need. The Houston Police Department's Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) works with other government agencies to use official records, such as fingerprint identification, to help determine an individual's identity. After their identity has been confirmed, HOT issues a notarized letter that can be used as valid supporting documentation to obtain an official State Identification Card.

Given that the lack of a valid form of identification is a real problem for unhoused individuals in Los Angeles, Houston's process should be reviewed to help eliminate a barrier to obtaining services and housing.

**I THEREFORE MOVE** that Council instruct the Los Angeles Police Department, with the assistance of the City Homeless Coordinator, the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority in consultation with the City Attorney, to implement a program that utilizes official records to establish identification for those in need similar to Houston Police Department's HOT identification program, in the City of Los Angeles.

PRESENTED BY

  
JOHN S. LEE

Councilmember, 12<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY



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