

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS AND SHEILA KUEHL

August 22, 2017

Leveraging Measure H Resources to Fund Permanent Supportive Housing, Rental Subsidies and Supportive Services Throughout Los Angeles County

The Los Angeles County (County) Chief Executive Office’s (CEO) Homeless Initiative conducted an inclusive and comprehensive planning process that generated 47 coordinated strategies unanimously adopted by the Board of Supervisors (Board) on February 9, 2016. Accompanying the strategies was a Countywide gaps analysis conducted by the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), which estimated that, based on the number of vulnerable homeless residents requiring the most intensive housing and services interventions, there was a gap of approximately 15,000 units of permanent supportive housing.

Permanent supportive housing is a proven solution to end homelessness that combines non-time limited affordable housing, rental/operating subsidies and supportive services. The combination provides affordable and safe rental housing that includes a customized package of home-based and community-based support services, such as health, mental health and substance use services, tailored to the needs of the resident. As

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a strong partner in the regional strategy to address homelessness, the Board is committed to funding these essential support services to complement permanent supportive housing units throughout the County.

On October 25, 2016, the Board unanimously approved a motion to report back on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that would facilitate a coordinated Countywide strategy on production of permanent supportive housing, allocation of rent subsidies and provision of supportive services. At that time, the Board noted that an ongoing revenue measure would be critical if the County was to fully honor any long-term commitments to address the regional homeless crisis.

The passage of Proposition HHH in November 2016, which the Board endorsed, will allow the City of Los Angeles (City) to leverage resources and finance about 8,000-10,000 units of permanent supportive housing over the next 10 years. Additionally, the County's Community Development Commission (CDC) provides capital development funds for construction of permanent supportive housing set aside for homeless persons, and other special needs populations. Further, beginning in late 2018, the State of California's "No Place Like Home" bond will help finance permanent supportive housing units over multiple funding cycles across all 88 cities and unincorporated areas of the County.

On March 7, 2017, the voters in the County resoundingly passed Measure H, which will provide a steady and stable source of annual revenue to fund supportive services. A quarter-cent special sales tax, Measure H will generate \$355 million a year dedicated to addressing homelessness in the County over the next 10 years.

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As described in the ordinance accompanying the Measure H ballot initiative, revenue will be legally dedicated to fund core activities such as supportive services and intensive case management services to ensure the stability of persons eligible for supportive housing. One of the core strategies, D7 will provide targeted Measure H funds to ensure that whenever a housing unit is produced, using the capital funds mentioned above, and/or by setting aside rental assistance, the County will commit the appropriate combination of health, mental health and substance use services. The County's Health Agency has been working diligently over the last year to ensure that each person who resides in permanent supportive housing will receive a customized package of home-based and community-based services. To this end, the County is also leveraging federal, State and local funds available through Whole Person Care, the Mental Health Services Act and the Drug Medi-Cal Waiver. This regional approach and regional funding strategy will ensure that the County coordinates with all 88 cities therein to make significant progress towards providing safe and stable permanent supportive housing where the most vulnerable formerly-homeless persons can thrive.

Additionally, strategy B8 involves working with Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) across the County and forging a commitment to set aside rental assistance funds to provide stable housing for homeless persons. In tandem with strategy B8, strategy B4 provides incentives to encourage landlords to work with the PHAs that have set aside rental assistance funds to help house homeless persons in need of permanent supportive housing. The Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles (HACoLA)/CDC has been

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diligently working on these strategies, and Measure H funding is poised to expand the network of PHAs setting aside rental subsidies for homeless individuals and families.

The need is urgent as the 2017 Point-in-Time Homeless Count estimated that, on any given night in the County, 17,531 residents are experiencing chronic homelessness, denoting lengthy spells of homelessness and long-term disabilities. This is a 20% increase since the 2016 Point-in-Time Homeless Count and points to the current deficit of supportive housing throughout the County. A standard MOU, similar to the attached template, will enable cities, agencies and stakeholders involved in the capital development, rental subsidies and provision of supportive services to leverage and coordinate resources in a streamlined and efficient manner to meet the regional need for permanent supportive housing.

WE THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

- 1) Direct and delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer, or her designee, to negotiate, execute, and if necessary, amend or terminate, memoranda of understanding with cities and/or city public housing authorities in the County of Los Angeles (County), whereby County will agree to provide supportive services for each permanent supportive housing unit created by such cities, following approval as to form by County Counsel.

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(DW/CG/KK)