



CITY OF INGLEWOOD

Office of the City Manager

Inglewood



DATE: January 31, 2017

TO: Mayor and Council Members

FROM: Housing, Section 8, and Community Development Block Grant Department

SUBJECT: Resolution Endorsing the Los Angeles County Ballot Measure H to Prevent and Combat Homelessness

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Mayor and Council Members adopt a resolution endorsing Measure H, the Los Angeles County ballot measure to prevent and combat homelessness that will be submitted to voters at the election held on March 7, 2017.

BACKGROUND:

Measure H, the "Los Angeles County Plan to Prevent and Combat Homelessness" is the March 7, 2017 ballot measure that will seek to end homelessness for 45,000 people (including women and children, veterans, seniors, foster youth, and the disabled) across Los Angeles County. The number of individuals and families estimated to be experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles County as of January 2016 was 46,874, an overall increase of 6% or 2,515 people from 2015.

DISCUSSION:

Measure H will raise approximately \$350 million per year for ten years. The funding will be raised by voter approval of a ¼ cent sales tax increase for a term of ten years. The cost to the average consumer would be about \$1 per month or 3 cents per day. Funds will be used to support a network of services and facilities that are strategically located in communities throughout the county.

The funds raised will be used to fund solutions to prevent and end homelessness such as:

- Homelessness prevention services
- Comprehensive supportive services such as mental health care and job training
- Long term solutions such as permanent housing

This measure is complementary to Proposition HHH passed in the City of Los Angeles in November 2016, which addresses adding additional housing in the City. The major difference will be that Measure H will primarily fund services and will cover the whole of Los Angeles County.

The City of Inglewood would benefit greatly, as it will strengthen a number of partners currently used by City staff to address the homeless inside Inglewood such as St. Margaret's Center, HomeLight Family Housing, Harbor Interfaith Services, Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), PATH (People Assisting the Homeless), South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCCOG) and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.

FINANCIAL/FUNDING ISSUES AND SOURCES

There is no fiscal impact to the General Fund for this endorsement but there will be a number of benefits to the City if this measure passes such as additional resources to address homelessness in the City of Inglewood.

LEGAL REVIEW VERIFICATION: YPC

This report, in its entirety, has been submitted to, reviewed and approved by the Office of the City Attorney.

FINANCE REVIEW VERIFICATION: SM

This report in its entirety, has been submitted to, reviewed and approved by the Finance Department.

DESCRIPTION ON ANY ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment No. 1 - Resolution

APPROVAL VERIFICATION SHEET

PREPARED BY:

Harjinder Singh, Acting HUD Programs Manager

COUNCIL PRESENTER:

Harjinder Singh, Acting HUD Programs Manager

DEPARTMENT HEAD:



Harjinder Singh, Acting HUD Programs Manager

CITY MANAGER APPROVAL:



Artie Fields, City Manager

1 RESOLUTION NO.: _____

2 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
3 CITY OF INGLEWOOD, CALIFORNIA, IN SUPPORT
4 FOR MEASURE "H" A COUNTYWIDE MEASURE TO
5 PREVENT AND COMBAT HOMELESSNESS TO BE
6 HELD IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY ON MARCH 7, 2017

7 WHEREAS, the County of Los Angeles ("County") is facing a pervasive and
8 deepening homeless crisis, which currently endangers the health and safety of tens
9 of thousands of residents, including veterans, women, children, LGBTQ youth,
10 persons with disabilities, and seniors; and

11 WHEREAS, the tremendous scale of homelessness in the County threatens
12 the economic stability of the region by burdening emergency medical services and
13 the social services infrastructure; and

14 WHEREAS, according to the 2016 Homeless Count released by the Los
15 Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), the number of people experiencing
16 homelessness in the County on any given night was roughly 46,874, an overall
17 increase of 2,502 people (6%) from 2015 and 19% more than in 2013; and

18 WHEREAS, the number of people living in encampments, tents and vehicles
19 increased by 20% from 2015 to 2016 and 123% from 2013 to 2016, from 5,153
20 persons to 11,472; and

21 WHEREAS, among the people experiencing homelessness in LA County are
22 over 6,000 parents and their children, over 3,000 veterans; and

23 WHEREAS, since 2013, the number of women experiencing homeless has
24 risen 55 percent; and

25 WHEREAS, homelessness is also increasing in the suburbs of the County;
26 and

27 WHEREAS, many people experiencing homelessness are facing severe
28 threats to their health and safety on a daily basis; recent research has

1 demonstrated that homeless persons are three to four times more likely to die than
2 members of the general population, and studies indicate that premature death
3 most often results from acute and chronic medical conditions aggravated by
4 homeless life; and

5 **WHEREAS**, in August 2015, the County Board of Supervisors launched the
6 Homeless Initiative and the County Chief Executive Officer's ("CEO") conducted
7 an inclusive and comprehensive planning process, including 18 policy summits on
8 nine topics from October to December 2015, which brought together over 100
9 community partners and stakeholders, 25 County departments, and 30 cities and
10 other public agencies ; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the Homeless Initiative generated a powerful set of 47
12 coordinated and integrated strategies divided into the following six areas, which
13 are each key to combating homelessness:

- 14 • Prevent Homelessness;
- 15 • Subsidize Housing;
- 16 • Increase Income;
- 17 • Provide Case Management and Services;
- 18 • Create a Coordinated System; and
- 19 • Increase Affordable/Homeless Housing; and

20 **WHEREAS**, the recommended strategies of the Homeless Initiative reflect
21 the following key principles:

- 22 • Homelessness is an extraordinarily complex problem which necessitates
23 active, sustained countywide collaboration amongst County, cities and other
24 public agencies, and a wide array of community partners;
- 25 • The web of established collaborative relationships in Los Angeles County
26 provides a very strong foundation for the implementation of these
27 strategies;

28

1 • These recommended strategies must strengthen and build upon current
2 County efforts by:

- 3 ○ Directing more resources to proven strategies;
- 4 ○ Integrating existing programs and services more effectively;
- 5 ○ Enabling cities to join the County in combating homelessness; and
- 6 ○ Identifying opportunities to leverage mainstream criminal justice,
health, and social services; and

7 **WHEREAS**, for fiscal year 2016-17, the Board of Supervisors approved new,
8 one-time funding to initiate the implementation of the strategies developed by the
9 Homeless Initiative; however, this funding will not sustain the recommended
10 strategies through 2017. The community-based organizations that participated in
11 crafting the Homeless Initiative strategies strongly advocated that the Board of
12 Supervisors needed to secure additional, ongoing, annual funds to implement the
13 Homeless initiative strategies in the years to come; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the best budget projections make it very clear that current
15 County resources are not sufficient to fund countywide initiatives and services to
16 combat homelessness on an ongoing basis at the levels required to address the
17 current crisis within Los Angeles County; and

18 **WHEREAS**, this past winter, both the County and the City of Los Angeles
19 declared local states of emergency as it relates to the lack of shelter for homeless
20 persons within the County and the City; and

21 **WHEREAS**, while the key to ending homelessness is linking individuals and
22 families to permanent housing, not all persons experiencing homelessness need
23 permanent supportive housing. Many families and individuals can be linked to
24 permanent housing and services through rapid rehousing programs. Additionally,
25 the County's Homeless Initiative is implementing prevention, outreach,
26 employment and bridge housing and other critical strategies that will need to be
27 sustained and expanded in the coming years.

28 \\\

1 **WHEREAS**, the County has diligently examined existing programs and
2 reallocated funds to high-performing effective programs that have shown the best
3 outcomes. The County has also set aside general fund money to implement
4 innovative programs, such as C3 street engagement teams, rapid rehousing and
5 landlord incentive programs. However, an ongoing revenue measure is critical if
6 the County is to fully honor any long-term commitments to address the regional
7 homeless crisis consistent with the strategies for combating homelessness
8 developed through the Homeless Initiative adopted by the Board of Supervisors;
9 and

10 **WHEREAS**, Los Angeles County has placed on the March 7, 2017 ballot
11 Measure "H", the County Plan to Prevent & Combat Homelessness, to be funded
12 with a ¼ cent sales tax for 10 years the proceeds of which can only be used to
13 prevent and combat homelessness across Los Angeles County; and

14 **WHEREAS**, Measure "H" requires a Citizen's Advisory committee to ensure
15 that the funding is effectively spent. There will be specific performance standards
16 for each strategy funded and an independent evaluation every year by an outside
17 expert. Measure "H" funds will be fairly and equitably shared across the county
18 through a collaborative process and every region will see an increase in funding for
19 homeless services and housing; and

20 **WHEREAS**, Measure "H" will help 45,000 people experiencing homelessness
21 to obtain permanent stable housing and another 30,000 people avoid becoming
22 homeless;

23 **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** the City Council of the City of
24 Inglewood supports Measure "H" and hereby urges the voters of our community
25 and of Los Angeles County to approve Measure "H", the County Plan to Prevent &
26 Combat Homelessness.

27 \\

28 \\

1 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City Clerk shall certify to the
2 adoption of this resolution and the same shall be in full force and effect
3 immediately upon adoption.

4 **PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED** this _____ day of _____
5 2017.

6 _____
7 James T. Butts, Jr., Mayor

8 ATTEST:

9 _____
10 Yvonne Horton, City Clerk

11
12 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City Clerk shall certify to the
13 adoption of this resolution and the same shall be in full force and effect
14 immediately upon adoption.

15 **PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED** this _____ day of _____
16 2017.

17 _____
18 James T. Butts, Jr.,
19 Mayor

20 ATTEST:

21 _____
22
23 Yvonne Horton,
24 City Clerk