




CITY OF LAWNDALE

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DATE: February 21, 2017

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: James H. Osborne, City Councilmember

PREPARED BY: Stephen N. Mandoki, City Manager 

SUBJECT: **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAWNDALE, CALIFORNIA SUPPORTING MEASURE "H" - A COUNTYWIDE BALLOT MEASURE TO ADDRESS AND COMBAT HOMELESSNESS IN THE ELECTION TO BE HELD IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY ON MARCH 7, 2017**

BACKGROUND

Los Angeles County ("County") is facing an ever increasing homelessness crisis which endangers the health and safety of tens of thousands of individuals. According to the 2016 Homeless Count released by the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), the number of people experiencing homelessness in LA County on any given night is approximately 46,800. That represents an increase of about 2,500 people (6%) from 2015 and a 19% increase since 2013.

Los Angeles County has placed Measure H on the March 7, 2017 ballot. Measure H is the County's effort to prevent and combat Homelessness. If passed, Measure H would implement a ¼ cent sales tax increase for 10 years in Los Angeles County. The proceeds of which can only be used to prevent and combat homelessness across Los Angeles County.

Measure H also requires a Citizen's Advisory committee to ensure that the funding is effectively spent. Specific performance standards will be developed for funding strategies.

STAFF REVIEW

Homelessness in Los Angeles continues to increase. Los Angeles County is working to address homelessness throughout the area. In an effort to fund rental subsidies, emergency and affordable housing, mental health, health care, and other supportive services for homeless children, families, and individuals, voters will be asked to authorize Ordinance No. 2017-0001 which would levy a ¼ cent sales tax for ten years. If approved, the funds from Measure H will receive independent annual audits and a citizens' oversight process would be created.

CITY ATTORNEY

Not Applicable.

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FUNDING

Not applicable.

RECOMMENDATION

That the City Council approve Resolution No. CC-1702-007 supporting Los Angeles County Ballot Measure H to address and combat homelessness by establishing a dedicated countywide ¼ cent sales tax for a ten year period.

Attachment: Resolution No. CC-1702-007 – A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Lawndale California Supporting Measure “H” – A Countywide Ballot Measure to Address and Combat Homelessness in the Election to be Held in Los Angeles County on March 7, 2017.

RESOLUTION NO. CC-1702-007

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF LAWDALE, CALIFORNIA
SUPPORTING MEASURE “H“, A COUNTYWIDE BALLOT MEASURE
TO ADDRESS AND COMBAT HOMELESSNESS IN THE ELECTION
TO BE HELD IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY ON MARCH 7, 2017**

WHEREAS, LA County of Los Angeles ("County") is facing a pervasive and deepening homeless crisis, which currently endangers the health and safety of tens of thousands of residents; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2016 Homeless Count released by the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), the number of people experiencing homelessness in LA County on any given night was roughly 46,800, an overall increase of 2,500 people (6%) from 2015 and 19% more than in 2013; and

WHEREAS, the number of people living in encampments, tents and vehicles increased by 123% from 2013 to 2016; and

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

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

WHEREAS, in August 2015, the LA County Board of Supervisors launched the Homeless Initiative and LA County Chief Executive Officer conducted an inclusive and comprehensive planning process, including 18 policy summits on nine topics from October to December 2015; and,

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

WHEREAS, LA County has examined existing programs and reallocated funds to high-performing, effective programs that have shown the best outcomes; and

WHEREAS, an ongoing revenue measure is critical if LA County is to fully honor any long-term commitments to address the regional homeless crisis consistent with the strategies for combating homelessness developed through the Homeless Initiative adopted by the Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, Los Angeles County has placed on the March 7, 2017 ballot Measure H, the LA County Plan to Prevent & Combat Homelessness, to be funded with a ¼ cent sales tax for 10

years the proceeds of which can only be used to prevent and combat homelessness across Los Angeles County; and,

WHEREAS, Measure H requires a Citizen’s Advisory committee to ensure that the funding is effectively spent, there will be specific performance standards for each strategy funded and an independent evaluation every year by an outside expert.

WHEREAS, Measure H is expected to help 45,000 people experiencing homelessness to obtain permanent stable housing and another 30,000 people to avoid becoming homeless.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that by the adoption of this resolution, the City of Lawndale supports the Los Angeles County Ballot Measure H, to be funded with a ¼ cent sales tax for 10 years, the proceeds of which can only be used to prevent and combat homelessness across Los Angeles County.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 21st day of February, 2017.

Robert Pullen-Miles, Mayor

ATTEST:

State of California)
County of Los Angeles) SS
City of Lawndale)

I, Rhonda Hofmann Gorman, City Clerk of the City of Lawndale, California, do hereby certify that the City Council of the City of Lawndale duly approved and adopted the foregoing Resolution No. CC-1702-007 at a regular meeting of said Council held on the 21st day of February, 2017, by the following roll call vote:

Name	Voting		Present, Not Voting		Absent
	Aye	No	Abstain	Not Participating	
Robert Pullen-Miles, Mayor					
Pat Kearney, Mayor Pro Tem					
James H. Osborne					
Daniel Reid					
Bernadette Suarez					

Rhonda Hofmann Gorman, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Tiffany J. Israel, City Attorney