



Securing Ongoing Revenue to Combat Homelessness in Los Angeles County

Community Web Meeting

June 2016

PANELISTS

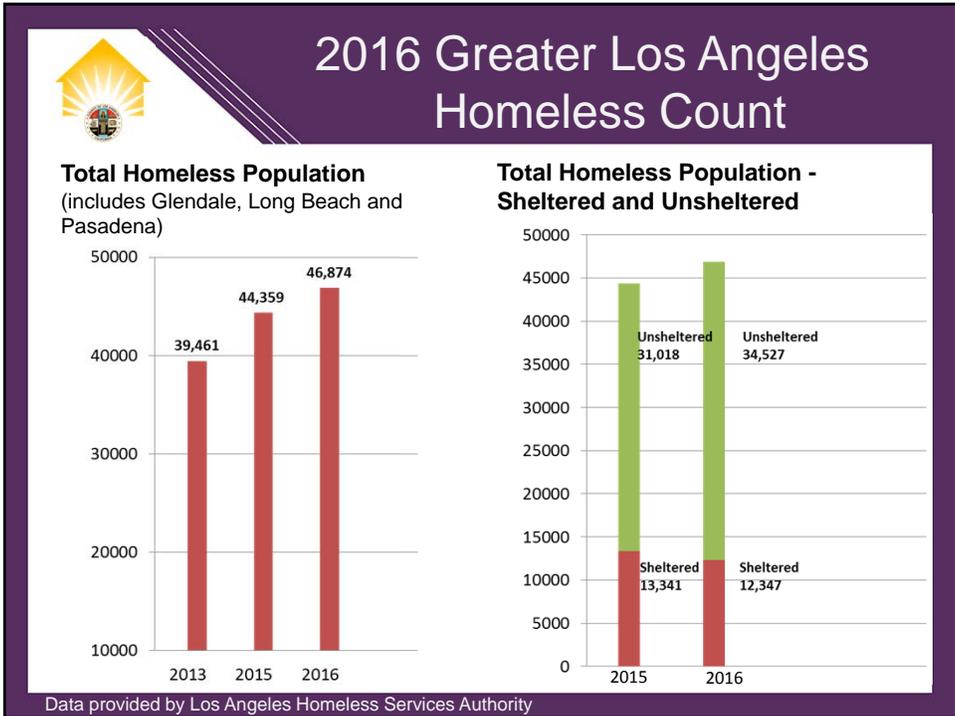
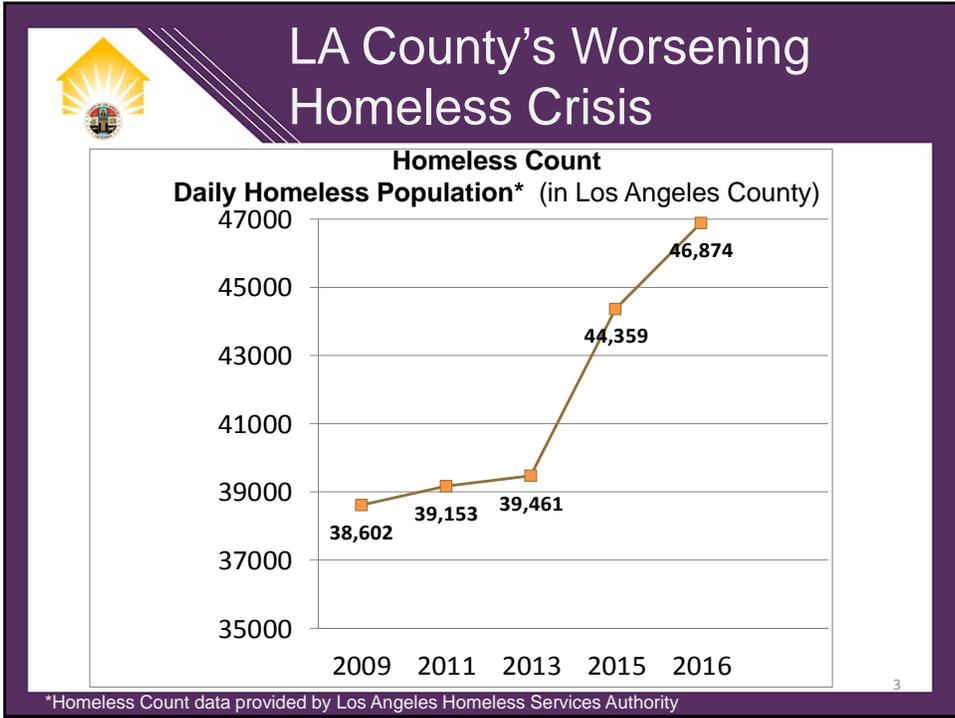
Hon. Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor, District Two
County of Los Angeles

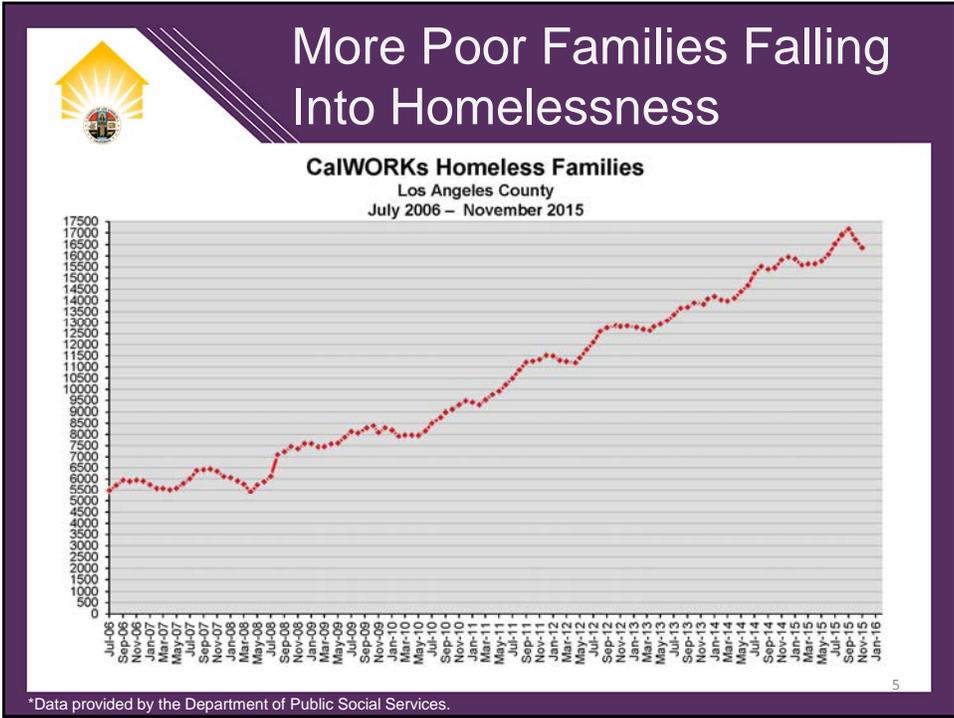
Phil Ansell
Director, Homeless Initiative, CEO
County of Los Angeles

Stephanie Klasky-Gamer
President & CEO
LA Family Housing

Rev. Oliver Buie
Minister for Community Engagement
Holman United Methodist Church







Los Angeles County's Homeless Initiative

- In February 2016, Los Angeles County adopted a comprehensive set of strategies to combat homelessness, including strategies in which cities, businesses and faith leaders can participate.
- Inclusive and collaborative planning process involving over 1100 experts and community members focused on what works.



Community Engagement




What the Plan Will Do

47 strategies covering six areas:

- Preventing Homelessness
- Subsidizing Housing
- Increasing Income
- Providing Case Management and Services
- Creating a Coordinated System
- Increasing Affordable/Homeless Housing

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Homeless Housing Gap

| <u>Housing Type</u> | <u>Total Gap (units)*</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|--|---------------------------|---|
|  Permanent Supportive Housing | 15,341 | Provides intensive support services to chronically homeless persons |
|  Rapid Re-Housing | 8,376 | Provides short-term housing assistance. Each unit can potentially house 2 households per year |
|  Emergency Shelter | 2,279 | Provides crisis housing to unsheltered persons on the path to permanent housing |
|  Homeless Prevention | 2,555 | Provides stabilizing housing assistance that keeps people and families from falling out of housing and into the homeless system |

*Homeless Housing Gaps in the County of Los Angeles, Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, January 2016



Ongoing Funding Needed

- What do we need to fill the homeless housing gap?
 - \$450 million per year* (not counting construction costs)
- What do we have?
 - One-time funds of \$100 million
- We need ongoing revenue.
 - One-time funds of \$100 million is not enough
 - Need annual funds to address homelessness

*Homeless Housing Gaps in the County of Los Angeles, Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, January 2016



Potential Funding Approaches

| Revenue Option | Estimated Annual Revenue |
|---|---|
| Transaction and Use Tax (sales tax) | \$373 million (1/4 cent) to \$746M (1/2 cent) |
| Parcel Tax | \$272 million |
| Local High Income Tax (1/2 % of personal income above \$1 million/year) | \$243 million |
| Marijuana Tax (10%) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical: \$13 million • Recreational: \$65 million - \$117 million |
| Measure B Trauma Tax | \$2.05 million for each 1% revenue redirection |



Homelessness Wastes Lives and Money

- Homelessness costs taxpayers a lot of money.
 - The County spent \$965 million in one year on healthcare, law enforcement, and social services for homeless single adults*.
- Providing housing for homeless people enables taxpayer dollars to be spent more effectively.
- Combating homelessness strengthens our communities.

*The Services Homeless Single Adults Use and their Associated Costs, County of Los Angeles, January 2016

Trailer Bill Proposal to Help Counties Combat Homelessness

The Request

The County of Los Angeles is seeking the enactment of trailer bill language to grant counties the authority to seek voter approval to impose a special tax on personal annual income above \$1 million to combat homelessness.

What is the Problem?

The homeless crisis in Los Angeles County has been worsening and demands an urgent, coordinated response from the State, County, cities, and community partners throughout the region. The overall number of homeless people in Los Angeles County on a given night increased to 46,874 in 2016, which is 6% more than in 2015 and 19% more than in 2013. The subset of homeless people living in encampments, tents and vehicles increased by 20% from 2015 to 2016 and a staggering 123% from 2013 to 2016¹.

The Need for New Resources

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority estimates that \$450 million in additional, ongoing funding is needed to address the current gap in homeless housing and services, excluding any costs associated with housing construction.

What the County of Los Angeles Has Done

In August 2015, in response to the homelessness crisis which pervades Los Angeles County, the County launched the Homeless Initiative, a countywide effort to develop a comprehensive set of County strategies to combat homelessness. The inclusive, collaborative planning process brought together 25 County departments, 30 cities and over 100 community organizations, service providers and advocates.

On February 9, 2016, the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the coordinated set of 47 strategies in 6 categories: Prevent Homelessness; Subsidize Housing; Increase Income; Provide Case Management and Services; Create a Coordinated System; and Increase Affordable/Homeless Housing. These strategies strengthen and build on current County efforts and leverage mainstream criminal justice, health, and social services. To launch initial implementation of these strategies, the Board allocated \$100 million in one-time funding, while emphasizing the critical need for ongoing revenue to sustain the strategies.

Why We Need Ongoing Revenue

It is impossible to solve an ongoing problem with one-time funding. The County conducted a poll to determine voter support for potential revenue-raising measures. The most popular option is a tax on personal income above \$1 million/year which is supported by 76% of likely voters in the November 2016 election. A one-half percent millionaires' tax is estimated to generate \$243 million per year in Los Angeles County.

¹ 2016 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count, Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority



Los Angeles County Trailer Bill Proposal to Combat Homelessness Support List

(as of June 6, 2016)

Statewide Associations

- California State Association of Counties
- Urban Counties of California
- County Welfare Director's Association
- Children's Defense Fund of California
- California Nurses Association

County Partners

- Local 721- Service Employees International Union, CTW, CLC
- Los Angeles County Commission on Older Adults
- Los Angeles County Probation Officers AFSCME Local 685
- Association of Community Human Services Agencies
- Partners in Care Foundation
- Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
- Los Angeles County Community Development Commission
- Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
- Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning
- Los Angeles County Department of Health Care Services
- Los Angeles County Department of Community and Senior Services
- Los Angeles County Public Library
- Los Angeles County Military and Veterans Affairs
- Los Angeles County Department of Probation
- Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
- Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services
- Los Angeles County Consumer and Business Affairs
- Los Angeles County Department of Animal Care and Control
- Los Angeles County Office of the Public Defender
- Los Angeles County Department of Human Resources

City

- Mayor Eric Garcetti – City of Los Angeles
- City of Malibu
- City of Los Angeles Resolution
- City of West Hollywood
- City of Compton
- Compton City Council Member Emma Sharif, 4th District
- City of Culver City
- City of Inglewood
- City of Carson
- City of South Gate
- Police Chief Cosme Lozano, City of Huntington Park
- Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles



Los Angeles County Trailer Bill Proposal to Combat Homelessness Support List

(as of June 6, 2016)

Community-Based Organizations

- Abode Communities
- Los Angeles Mission
- Courage Campaign
- The Good Seed
- Brilliant Corners
- Southern California Association of Nonprofit Housing
- Clifford Beers Housing
- Hollywood Homeless Youth Partnership
- SRO Housing Corporation
- Special Needs Network Inc.
- Inner City Law Center
- Venice Community Housing Corporation
- Brotherhood Crusade
- Freedom Assembly, CDC
- Ward Economic Development Corporation
- Downtown Women's Center
- Watts Labor Community Action Committee
- Shelter Partnership
- Homeless Outreach Program Integrated Care System, a division of Special Service for Groups
- Weingart Center Association
- Apex Realty, Inc. & The Conga Room
- AIDS Project Los Angeles

10 - Individual Letters of Support

Office of Homeless Initiative

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FOR UP TO DATE INFORMATION VISIT US AT:

<http://priorities.lacounty.gov/homeless>