

CITY OF LONG BEACH

HOMELESS SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

C-17

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June 15, 2004

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

SUBJECT: Homeless Services Advisory Committee Annual Report on the Status of Homeless Services in Long Beach (Citywide)

DISCUSSION

In accordance with Municipal Code Section 2.18, attached is the annual report to the Mayor and City Council on the status of homeless services in the City of Long Beach. The report (Attachment A) covers the period of 2001 – 2003. The Homeless Services Advisory Committee (HSAC) members (listed on Attachment B) wish to thank the Mayor and members of the City Council for their interest as well as the opportunity to present information about homeless services and the plight of the homeless in Long Beach.

The HSAC also wishes to express thanks to the City Manager and his departments for their continued support and commitment to homeless services in the city. We appreciate the Council's concern about homeless issues and your attention to this report citing the progress being made and the needs yet to be addressed in assisting Long Beach homeless toward self-reliance.

This matter was reviewed by Senior Deputy City Attorney Donna Gwin on May 5, 2004 and Budget Manager Michael Killebrew on May 6, 2004.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action on this matter is not time critical. However, City Council support of HSAC and city staff involvement in the recommendations is crucial to their success.

FISCAL IMPACT

Support costs for HSAC, including staff from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and the City Clerk's Office, and costs associated with meetings, public hearings, materials and postage, totaled \$11,377. These are borne by the host departments where staff are budgeted. The costs of the recommended actions have not been estimated.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

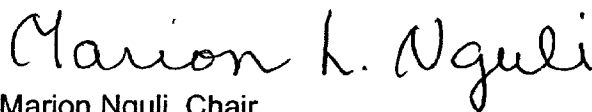
With the continued support of the Mayor, City Council and the City Manager, the following steps will facilitate progress towards an end to homelessness in Long Beach:

- 1) Ensure continuance of the City Manager-lead Interdepartmental Homeless Services meetings to develop and implement solutions to homelessness while promoting better utilization of City departmental resources.
- 2) Support the development of the Housing Trust Fund while increasing the number of affordable, low-income permanent housing units for homeless and low-income residents of Long Beach.
- 3) Increase the allotment of Section 8 vouchers for the homeless.
- 4) Review current zoning ordinances to allow and support a year-round homeless shelter and the conversion of motels into permanent efficiency housing units in the City of Long Beach.
- 5) Continue to research and access Federal, State, County and City funds to support homeless services.
- 6) Continue financial support through the General Fund and Community Development Block Grant funds for operation of the Multi-Service Center and Social Services Grant Program.
- 7) Consider adding another slot to HSAC for the inclusion of a homeless/formerly homeless person as a member of HSAC.
- 8) Support the development of a 10-Year Strategic Plan to End Chronic Homelessness in Long Beach.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

Receive and file report and refer recommended actions above to the Housing and Neighborhoods Committee.

Respectfully submitted,



Marion Nguli, Chair
Homeless Services Advisory Committee