



# CITY OF LONG BEACH

HOMELESS SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

2525 GRAND AVENUE • LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90815 • (562) 570-4003

February 15, 2005

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
City of Long Beach  
California

SUBJECT: Recommendations From the Homeless Services Advisory Committee on  
the Proposed Process for a 10-Year Strategic Plan to End Homelessness  
(Citywide)

---

## DISCUSSION

On October 19, 2004, the Homeless Services Advisory Committee submitted a request to City Council (see attached Council letter) to approve a proposed process for developing a 10-year Strategic Plan to End Homelessness (Plan). On that date, the City Council voted to hold the item over to a future City Council meeting to provide an opportunity for City Councilmembers to better understand the proposed process. This letter is intended to assist in further clarifying this proposal. The 10-year plan process is an important component in strengthening the existing Homeless Continuum of Care System, by promoting a citywide planning process that would develop long-range goals for services and housing to homeless individuals and families. A Plan is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to continue being competitive for future funding for homeless services.

## BACKGROUND

The proposed process for doing a Plan is designed to coordinate a community-based process for identifying needs and building a system of care to address those needs. The proposed planning process is predicated on the understanding that homelessness is not caused merely by a lack of shelter, but involves a variety of underlying, unmet needs (physical, economic, and social). It is imperative that the proposed planning process be supported by a community-wide public and private strategy to ensure the collection and analysis of accurate data and community input. This integrated approach is necessary to improve system-wide effectiveness in preventing and ending homelessness, and to identify the most effective strategies for each subgroup of the homeless population.

Successfully implementing a long-range, community-based, coordinated action plan in Long Beach is important. Although current homeless services programs end homelessness for people every day, they are soon replaced by other persons entering into homelessness. A long range plan will assist the City in setting policies regarding future development of homeless services to end the cycle of people entering homelessness.

This matter was reviewed by Senior Deputy City Attorney Donna F. Gwin on February 3, 2005 and Budget Management Officer David Wodynski on January 7, 2005.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action is requested on February 15, 2005 to allow DHHS to begin the 10-Year Strategic planning process immediately.

FISCAL IMPACT

An outside contractor (The Institute for Urban Research and Development) has been retained to facilitate the development of the Plan. The funding source for this contract is Community Development Block Grant monies contained in the Health Department's FY 05 adopted budget. There will be no impact on the General Fund.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

Refer the 10-Year Strategic Plan to End Homelessness project to the City Manager for development.

Respectfully submitted,

Marion Nguli, Chair  
Homeless Services Advisory Committee

By:



Ronald R. Arias  
Director  
Department of Health and Human Services

Attachment