



Lena Gonzalez
Councilwoman, First District
City of Long Beach

R-14

Date: May 24, 2016
TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
FR: Councilwoman Lena Gonzalez, District 1 *LG*
Vice Mayor Suja Lowenthal, District 2 *SL*
Councilmember Al Austin, District 8 *AL*

Subject: State of Homelessness in the City of Long Beach

Background:

Every two years, the US Department of Housing and Urban Development requires the City of Long Beach Continuum of Care to conduct a citywide homeless count. The last homeless count in Long Beach was conducted by the Long Beach Health Department on January 29, 2015.

The data collected from reaching out to the homeless community gives the City good data on the number, characteristics, and service needs of individuals, families, and unaccompanied children experiencing homelessness is a critical component of local homeless planning and program development. Accurate data helps the Long Beach CoC to understand changes in trends among homeless populations; adjust the types of programs and services available according to need and use resources as efficiently as possible; comply with reporting requirements; and measure community progress towards preventing and ending homelessness.

From the data collected, the Long Beach homeless population in 2015 is as follows:

Total number of homeless individuals: 2,345

Unsheltered individuals: 1513

Sheltered individuals (Emergency shelter, transitional housing or safe haven): 832

Total chronic homelessness population: 927

Unsheltered: 731

Sheltered: 214

Chronic homeless – Persons with disabling condition who has been homeless for a year or more (i.e. living in a place not meant for human habitation and/or residing in a safe haven or an emergency shelter) continuously for at least one year.



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Adults and Children

Adults: 2,090

Children: 255

Other homeless subpopulations (unsheltered):

Adults with a Serious Mental Illness: 550

Adults with a Substance Use Disorder: 330

Adults with HIV/AIDS: 13

Victims of Domestic Violence: 108

Other homeless subpopulations (sheltered):

Adults with a Serious Mental Illness: 209

Adults with a Substance Use Disorder: 127

Adults with HIV/AIDS: 30

Victims of Domestic Violence: 97

Recommendation:

Direct City Manager, Long Beach Health Department and Long Beach Police Department to report on the current state of homelessness in the City of Long Beach and report back to the City Council at a future meeting. The report should include:

- Any updates on the current number of individuals facing homelessness
- Information regarding requests from the Long Beach Health Department for additional grant funding from Los Angeles County.
- Information regarding all grants received in FY 15-16 for homeless services
- Clarify the duties of the Long Beach Police Department quality of life team, including number of officers and funding.
- Total number of funds allocated by the City for mental health services and programs.
- Total number of funds allocated by the City for substance abuse prevention services and programs.
- Current status on homeless individuals with substance abuse issues.
- Resources provided by the City for homeless children and families.

Fiscal Impact:

There is no fiscal impact for this report.

Source:

Information collected from

<http://www.longbeach.gov/health/services/directory/homeless-services/about-us/>

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