

**CITY OF LONG BEACH  
HOMELESS SERVICES  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 2023  
BILLIE JEAN KING MAIN LIBRARY  
200 W BROADWAY, LONG BEACH, 3:30 PM**

Julie Lie, Chair  
Desiree Rew, Vice Chair  
Sarah Bedy, Member  
Sylvia Guerrero, Member  
James Howat, Member



S. Jolene Hui, Member  
Jeffrey Johnson, Member  
Ray Morquecho, Member  
Susana Sngiem, Member

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**HOMELESS SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
REGULAR MEETING**

**WRITTEN COMMENTS MAY ALSO BE SUBMITTED BY EMAIL TO  
HOMELESSSERVICESADMIN@LONGBEACH.GOV**

**FOR INFORMATION ON HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING, PLEASE VISIT:  
<https://www.longbeach.gov/homelessness/volunteer-donate-and-get-involved/#committees>**

**CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the Homeless Services Advisory Committee of the City of Long Beach convened at 3:36 p.m. at Billie Jean King Main Library.

**ROLL CALL**

Also present: Paul Duncan, Homeless Services Bureau Manager; Jeffrey Proctor Jr.; Homeless Services Administrative Operations Officer; Stephanie Sosa, Contracts and Grants Associate; Jennifer Santana, Bureau Secretary; Anita Lakhani, Deputy City Attorney

Chair Julie Lie presiding

**Commissioners** Sarah Bedy, James Howat, S. Jolene Hui, Jeffrey Johnson,  
**Present:** Susana Sngiem, Desiree Rew and Julie Lie

**Commissioners** Diego Castaneda, Sylvia Guerrero and Ray Morquecho  
**Absent:**

## REGULAR AGENDA

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. [23-041HS](#) Recommendation to approve the minutes of the Homeless Services Advisory Committee meeting on Wednesday, April 5, 2023.

**A motion was made by Member Jeffrey Johnson, seconded by Member Sarah Bedy, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Sarah Bedy, S. Jolene Hui, Jeffrey Johnson, Susana Sngiem, Desiree Rew and Julie Lie

**Abstain:** 1 - James Howat

**Absent:** 3 - Diego Castaneda, Sylvia Guerrero and Ray Morquecho

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- John Kendrick, a representative from the Gray Panthers, spoke on wanting City Officials to ask the Federal Government to recognize that the system is broken, and homelessness is a national issue.

## SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

### Mayor's Fund Subcommittee Update

- Stephanie Sosa, Contracts and Grants Associate provided an update on the fund.

### Policy Subcommittee Update

- Vice- Chair Desiree Rew provided an update
  - The Policy Subcommittee did not meet this month, they have a scheduled meeting for May

### Continuum of Care Update

- Member Sylvia Guerrero was absent and Paul Duncan, Homeless Services Bureau Manager, provided the update.

2. [23-042HS](#) Recommendation to receive and file all subcommittee updates

**A motion was made by Member Sarah Bedy, seconded by Vice-Chair Desiree Rew, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Sarah Bedy, James Howat, S. Jolene Hui, Jeffrey Johnson, Susana Sngiem, Desiree Rew and Julie Lie

**Absent:** 3 - Diego Castaneda, Sylvia Guerrero and Ray Morquecho

## MAYOR'S FUND APPLICANT DISABLED RESOURCE CENTER, INC

Jim Howat, Mayor's Fund Sub Committee Chair, presented

- The Subcommittee reviewed the application and decided to bring forth with the approval recommendation. They had requested the that the representative be prepared to answer additional questions regarding any history of the organization, the housing success rate, retention rate of those housed and an overall funding question.
- Mario Rodriguez, Disabled Resources Center, Inc.'s (DRC) Assistant Director and Housing Coordinator, was present and available to answer the questions.

3. [23-043HS](#) Recommendation from the Mayor's Fund Subcommittee to approve \$10,000 in funding to Disabled Resource Center, Inc

**A motion was made by Member Jeffrey Johnson, seconded by Member Susana Sngiem, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Sarah Bedy, James Howat, S. Jolene Hui, Jeffrey Johnson, Susana Sngiem, Desiree Rew and Julie Lie

**Absent:** 3 - Diego Castaneda, Sylvia Guerrero and Ray Morquecho

## HOMELESS POINT-IN-TIME COUNT PRESENTATION

Paul Duncan, Homeless Services Bureau Manager, presented

- The attachments and more information is located on the Homeless Service website, [<https://www.longbeach.gov/homelessness/annual-homeless-count/>](https://www.longbeach.gov/homelessness/annual-homeless-count/)
- This year was the lowest increase recorded, a little under 5% which feel relatively stable. However, this was after the significant increase from 2020 to 2022 of 67%.
- It should also be noted that there are concerns about the looming consequences of the eviction moratorium that could highly impact that number.
- The overall amount of homelessness in the surrounding area may not be completely accurate as Orange County opted not to have a Homeless Count this year.
- This year's focus has been on the newly homeless that fall within these categories
- Age- there was an increase in the people over the age of 55; the concern is that with age the health and needs are significantly higher.
- Gender- there was an increase in women, historically men have a higher percentage
- Race- there was an increase in the LatinX population
- Early Childhood Factors - if someone has experienced foster care, they are 1 in 5 times more likely to experience homelessness; but only 1% of people will experience foster care nationwide
- Many have cognitive functions disorders and impulse control, but they are not mutually exclusive
- Overall, there needs to be a method of addressing affordability in Long Beach. There is almost no rents that are under \$1200. For those working a minimum wage job, that means that 75% of wages goes to housing and nothing else
- Also worth highlighting that locations in which people become homeless, over 60% became homeless in Long Beach, 80% within the County and 92% within the State of CA.
- The members had questions regarding policy strategies, notable trends, and questions about the data.
- Staff answered
- Public Comment was heard questioning the data accuracy

[23-044CY](#)

Recommendation to approve the Commission on Youth and Families meeting minutes of March 15, 2023.

**A motion was made by Member Jeffrey Johnson, seconded by Vice-Chair Desiree Rew, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

4. [23-064HS](#)

Recommendation to receive and file the 2023 Homeless Point-in-Time Count Presentation

**A motion was made by Member Jeffrey Johnson, seconded by Vice-Chair Desiree Rew, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Sarah Bedy, James Howat, S. Jolene Hui, Jeffrey Johnson, Susana Sngiem, Desiree Rew and Julie Lie

**Absent:** 3 - Diego Castaneda, Sylvia Guerrero and Ray Morquecho

## HOMELESS PROCLAMATION UPDATE

Paul Duncan, Homeless Services Bureau Manager, presented.

- The presentation provided updates on established goals and metrics from prior presentations.
- The update also included the Emergency Proclamation Budget, that included the total available funds are \$13.5 million, the breakdown of budgets per goals
  - Increase Access to Service \$5.25 million
  - Increase Interim and Long-term Housing Access \$4.15 million
  - Build Capacity to Address Homelessness \$2 million
  - Engage Community and Other Cost \$1.68 million
- Members had questions about the budget spend down period and Tideland funds, Paul answered.

5. [23-045HS](#) Recommendation to receive and file the Homeless Proclamation Update

**A motion was made by Member James Howat, seconded by Member Susana Sngiem, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Sarah Bedy, James Howat, S. Jolene Hui, Jeffrey Johnson, Susana Sngiem, Desiree Rew and Julie Lie

**Absent:** 3 - Diego Castaneda, Sylvia Guerrero and Ray Morquecho

## HOMELESS SERVICES STAFF REPORT

Paul Duncan, Homeless Services Bureau Manager, presented

- Outreach direct phone number, 562-470-4672(4MSC) is live and taking calls
  - 356 requests for Outreach
  - 298 recorded contacts
  - 26 tidelands/weekend outreach
  - 403 first-time visitors to the MSC
  - 3477 total visits in April
  - 175 average daily visits
  - 723 phone calls answered
  - 84 Mobile Access Center Enrollments
- For the staffing update
  - 4 new people started
  - 5 positions are currently in the background process
  - 3 positions are in recruitment/interview phase
  - 5 positions will be open in the future
- Long Beach CoC was awarded \$5.2 million through HUD, Special Unsheltered NOFO, over 3 years period.
- Winter Shelter at Community Hospital has moved to the temporary emergency shelter site at 702 W. Anaheim.
  - 55 people made the move
  - 5 chose not to go
  - 3 adults were reconnected
  - 12 new sign ups
- City of Long Beach submitted letter to County regarding new behavioral health
- HHAP Round 4 has been approved and funding can start to be draw down.
- Housing Authority was awarded 79 stabilization vouchers
- Emergency Housing Vouchers:
  - 582 Emergency Vouchers have been allocated
  - 520 leased up/91% leased up
  - 60 are requesting tenancy agreements
  - Setting a goal to lease up by June 30th



6. [23-046HS](#) Recommendation to receive and file the Homeless Services Bureau Staff Report.

**A motion was made by Vice-Chair Desiree Rew, seconded by Member Jeffrey Johnson, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Sarah Bedy, James Howat, S. Jolene Hui, Jeffrey Johnson, Susana Sngiem, Desiree Rew and Julie Lie

**Absent:** 3 - Diego Castaneda, Sylvia Guerrero and Ray Morquecho

#### **CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR REPORT**

- Vice-Chair Desiree Rew will continue to work with the staff for the Mayor's Fund
- Chair Julie Lie met with the CoC Leadership to look at ways to have collaborative efforts.

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- None

#### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- May- Hear perspectives of outreach workers and structural barriers
- May-Feedback from the shelter Operator from ABC
- May- A housing expert to explain why HUD does not allow Shared Residential Occupancy (SROs)

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- None

## **ADJOURNMENT**

At 5:41 p.m. Chair Julie Lie adjourned the meeting.