



MEASURE H

Citizens' Oversight Advisory Board

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 493, Los Angeles, California 90012
<https://homeless.lacounty.gov/oversight/>

**NOTE: THIS WILL BE A TELECONFERENCE MEETING.
DUE TO THE CLOSURE OF ALL COUNTY BUILDINGS, MEETING
PARTICIPANTS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WILL NEED TO CALL IN
TO THE MEETING.**

1st District Appointee
John Naimo

2nd District Appointee
Chancela Al-Mansour

3rd District Appointee
Christine Margiotta

4th District Appointee
Andrew Kerr

5th District Appointee
Peggy Edwards

Director, Homeless Initiative
Phil Ansell

Advisory Board Liaison
Rowena Magaña

Measure H Citizens' Oversight Advisory Board Meeting

AGENDA

DATE: Thursday, June 4, 2020
TIME: 1:00 p.m.
CALL-IN NUMBER: (877) 336-4436
ACCESS CODE: 4087621

AGENDA

- I. Welcome & Introductions
- II. Approval of Minutes for the March 11, 2020 Regular Board Meeting
- III. General Public Comment
- IV. COVID-19 related response for People Experiencing Homelessness (PEH) - *Phil Ansell, Chief Executive Office (CEO); Nathaniel Vergow, Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA); Iain Watt, CEO-Office of Emergency Management; Megan McClaire, Department of Public Health; Cheri Todoroff & Libby Boyce, Department of Health Services; & La Tina Jackson, Department of Mental Health*
- V. Impact of COVID-19 on Measure H Revenue and Utilization - *Phil Ansell, CEO*
- VI. Homeless Services System Analysis - *Stephanie Wolahan, LAHSA*
- VII. Next Meeting Date: Thursday, September 3, 2020
- VIII. Adjournment

If any person intends to submit documentation to the Advisory Board for its consideration prior to the meeting, such documentation shall be submitted via email to: CEO Measure H Oversight <MeasureHOversight@lacounty.gov>, no later than 5:00 p.m. the day before the scheduled meeting.

"Combatting homelessness together"

**Measure H Citizens' Oversight Advisory Board Meeting
Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at 1:00 pm
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, Room 743
500 W. Temple Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012**

ATTENDEES

Advisory Board: Christine Margiotta (Chair), John Naimo, Chancela Al-Mansour

County Staff: Phil Ansell, Rowena Magaña, Mary Grace Palmer, Yvette Acevedo, and Blaine McPhillips

I. Welcome and Introductions

Ms. Margiotta called the meeting to order at 1:07 pm. Quorum was met at the time the meeting was called to order with three members present.

II. Approval of Minutes for the December 5, 2019 Regular Board Meeting

The minutes were approved.

III. General Public Comment

- No written comments were received via email.
- There were no public comments on this item.

IV. Audit of the Homeless and Housing Measure H Special Revenue Fund for the Year Ending June 30, 2019: *Arlene Barrera, Auditor-Controller*

Ms. Barrera presented on the independent audit report of the County of Los Angeles Homeless and Housing Measure H Special Revenue Fund (Measure H) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2018-19.

- Ms. Barrera noted that there were no audit findings for FY 2018-19.
- A certified public accounting firm will be selected in April or May 2020 to conduct the next Measure H audit, which will be due in December 2020.
- Mr. Naimo noted that the FY 18-19 sales tax is projected to be \$402 million; the annual projection was estimated to be \$355 million annually when Measure H passed in 2017.
 - Mr. Ansell responded that FY 2018-19 resulted in additional sales tax revenue, which is why the Measure H budget was higher than originally expected.
 - Measure H funds are fully allocated for FY 2019-20.
- There were no public comments on this item.

V. Utilization of Federal Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Resources and PSH Central Command: *Heidi Marston, Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), Myk'I Williams, Los Angeles County*

Development Authority (LACDA); and Maria Funk, Department of Mental Health (DMH)

Ms. Marston described the new Housing Central Command effort, which is a collaboration among various agencies to establish real-time visibility across all of Los Angeles County's PSH inventory and improve the speed of the move-in process.

- LAHSA does not have information on all housing resources in the County, e.g., the Veteran's Administration handles Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers and the 18 Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) in the County administer housing vouchers.
- Housing Central Command is working with system partners to create an inventory of all available housing resources for people experiencing homelessness and working on process improvements to help move people into housing faster.
- On a separate, but related topic, LAHSA is the Los Angeles Continuum of Care (CoC) lead, and in 2018, received \$124,457,061 in federal funding for housing vouchers.
 - These housing voucher funds come from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and are not funded through Measure H.
 - In 2017, \$30 million of housing voucher funds were unspent; however, HUD granted an extension to utilize the remaining funds.
- There are 144 different grants in the Los Angeles CoC portfolio, and the goal is to utilize 95% of federal funds.
 - CoCs across the country do not generally utilize all the funds allocated to them from HUD.
 - Mr. Williams noted that LACDA did not utilize \$12 million in federal funds in 2017; however, HUD allowed the funding to be re-purposed. In addition, LACDA was granted additional funding, which resulted in a net addition of \$3.0 million in new funding.
 - Some of the key drivers for under-utilization of federal housing voucher funds include:
 - some units are challenging to lease-up (due to geography or housing type);
 - the housing application process can be lengthy for both the landlords and the clients; and
 - the rental vacancy rate in Los Angeles County is only 3%, which means it is difficult to find an affordable unit.
 - Ms. Al-Mansour noted that discrimination by landlords can also be a contributing factor.
- Ms. Marston said that Housing Central Command has been working with the PHAs to streamline the application process. For example, the PHAs will now accept digital documents. In addition, disability forms no longer expire.

- Ms. Margiotta asked how long it takes to place a client into permanent housing.
 - Ms. Marston responded that placement time varies, but in general, it takes between 60-120 days from “housing match to move-in” for project-based vouchers.
 - Ms. Funk added that tenant-based vouchers can take longer because finding a unit can be difficult and gathering all the necessary paperwork can take time. In general, it can take 10 months from “housing match to move-in”.
- Ms. Margiotta also requested that LAHSA share a copy of their letter addressed to HUD regarding Affirmatively Advancing Fair Housing.
- Public Comment:
 - One commenter asked who was responsible for building new units.

VI. Update on Efforts to Project Homelessness Inflow, Housing Gaps, and Housing Placements: *Phil Ansell & Liz Ben-Ishai, Chief Executive Office-Homeless Initiative (CEO-HI)*

Mr. Ansell and Ms. Ben-Ishai provided an update on the efforts to predict homelessness inflow.

- The LAHSA Systems Analysis (formerly known as the Housing Gaps Analysis), will be released later this month. This report will look at the current PSH inventory, needs, and gaps in housing.
- Mr. Ansell mentioned that the recent “State of the State” by Governor Newsom focused on homelessness.
- The County, the City of Los Angeles, and LAHSA, are advocating for \$2 billion in annual State funding to combat homelessness.
- Public Comment:
 - One commenter requested more information on tenant organizations and community land trusts.

VII. Measure H Communications Plan Update: *Lennie LaGuire, CEO; Michael Bellavia & Scott Stanner, HelpGood; and Eddie Francis, Alter Agents*

CEO-Communications and CEO-Homeless Initiative (CEO-HI) have partnered with HelpGood and Alter Agents to develop a comprehensive Strategic Communications Plan, with a focus on digital communications.

- The Homeless Initiative website will be revamped to create a more engaging, public facing portal that meaningfully connects and informs the public.
- A paid social media campaign will soon be launched.
- Community stakeholders were interviewed (including both English and Spanish speakers) to get a cross-section of the community and to help inform how to better target communication efforts.
- Ms. Margiotta said that people may hear that things are going well, but when they look outside, they still see a lot of people living on the streets. She asked how we can convince the “busy bystander” that

people are being housed? Not all the content being created will necessarily get to the “busy bystanders”.

- A short video was shown, which told the story of an older adult and her move from homelessness to permanent housing.
 - Ms. Al-Mansour added that the video did not reflect the majority of people seen living on the streets.
 - Ms. LaGuire noted that there are more videos available and that there is a cross-section of different individuals and stories. The video that was shown was just one example.
- Ms. Margiotta said that the public hears about people placed into housing, but there are still many people seen living on the streets. There is rising frustration from the public, which is ultimately harmful to people experiencing homelessness.
 - Ms. LaGuire agreed and mentioned that we want people to walk away with more information than they are getting right now.
 - She also mentioned that the release of the 2020 LAHSA Homeless Count numbers (targeted for June 2020) is a big opportunity to get consistent messaging out to the public. CEO-Communications will work with LAHSA, CEO-HI, and other stakeholders on the messaging.
- Public comment:
 - One commenter works at a service provider agency and would like to be part of the communications effort.
 - One commenter said she was excited about this work and the efforts to revamp the website. She also noted that some people do not have access to the internet and want to receive information about Measure H.

VIII. Measure H Outcomes and Funding: *Phil Ansell, CEO-HI*

a. FY 2019-20 Measure H Outcomes (Quarterly Report #16)

b. FY 2020-21 Measure H Funding Recommendations Process

Mr. Ansell said that Quarterly Report #16 was released on February 28, 2020 and discussed changes to the Funding Recommendation Process.

- There were no questions on the Quarterly Report.
- Mr. Ansell said there were two significant modifications to the FY 2020-21 Funding Recommendations Process:
 - Instead of a three-year budget recommendation, the recommendation will only be for one year.
 - The State program, Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP), will supplement Measure H funding.
- The draft recommendations will be released in June 2020 and will take the 2020 LAHSA Homeless Count numbers into account.
- Final recommendations will be made in early August and be submitted to the Board of Supervisors on September 15, 2020.
- Mr. Naimo asked if HHAP funding will be one-time or ongoing.

- Mr. Ansell answered that HHAP funding is one-time; however, there is a hope that the State will approve ongoing funding to combat homelessness that would build on HHAP.
- HHAP will be used to offset the increasing service costs for the expanding supply of PSH.
- Public comment:
 - One commenter agreed that it would be good to incorporate the homeless count numbers in the next funding recommendations process.
 - One commenter mentioned that it is often difficult to find housing for people experiencing homelessness on Fridays.
 - One commenter spoke about his work with the jails, the wasting of federal funds, and civil rights.

IX. Future Meeting Schedule

The next meeting will take place on June 4, 2020.

X. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Rowena Magaña and Mary Grace Palmer

Minutes approved by: Phil Ansell

HOMELESS SERVICES SYSTEM ANALYSIS: ENVISIONING AN OPTIMAL SYSTEM FOR LOS ANGELES

June 4, 2020

Purpose

To provide key stakeholders an overview of the system analysis report

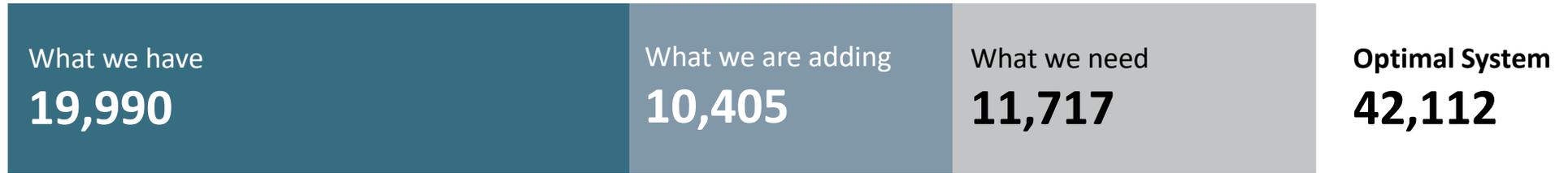
The system analysis provides a vision for a homeless services system that is balanced and right-sized for Los Angeles County, and informs funding priorities and programmatic decisions to achieve that vision.

Full report can be found here:

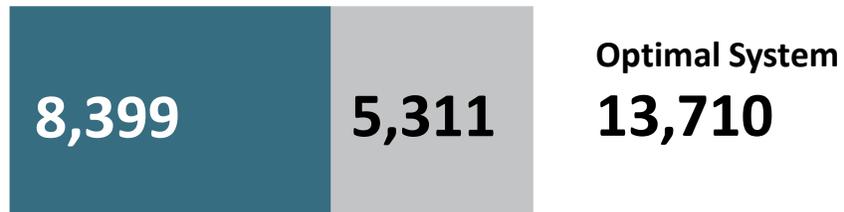
<https://www.lahsa.org/documents?id=4311-homeless-services-system-analysis-envisioning-an-optimal-system-in-los-angeles>

Building a Balanced System (County of Los Angeles)

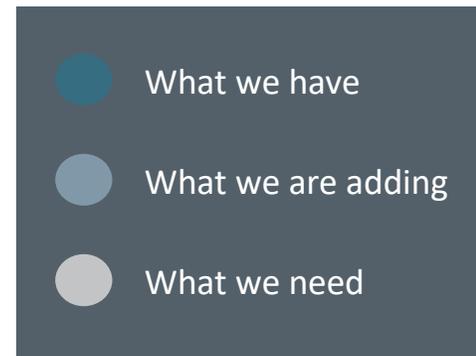
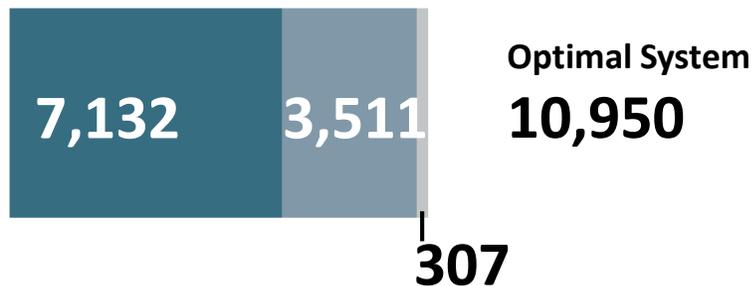
Supportive Housing (units)



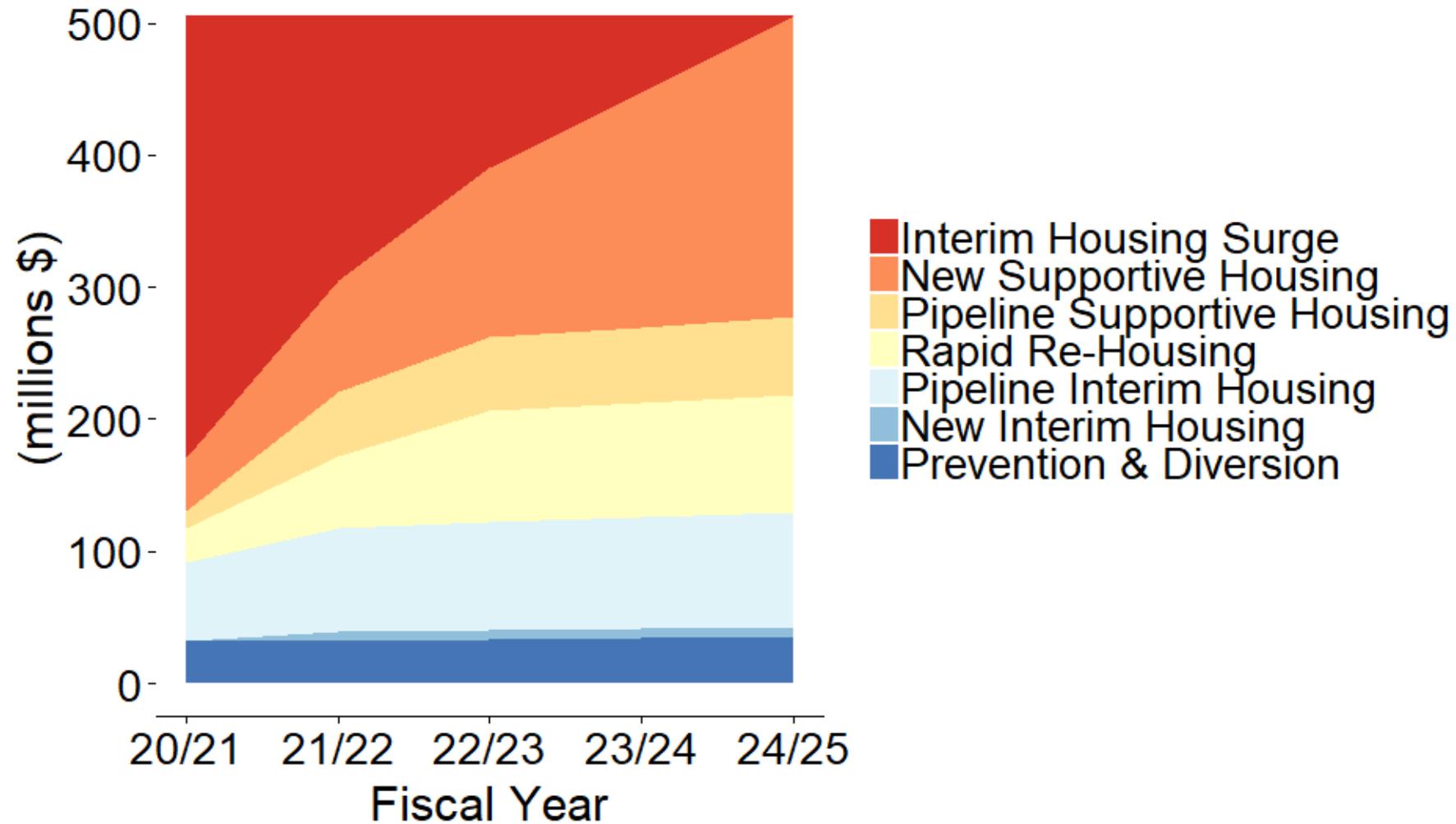
Rapid Re-Housing (slots)



Interim Housing (units)



Estimated Costs for Creating Optimal Housing Resource Portfolio



Financial Analysis: County of Los Angeles

***operations and service costs only**

	FY2020-21 (\$ millions)	FY2021-22 (\$ millions)	FY2022-23 (\$ millions)	FY2023-24 (\$ millions)	FY2024-25 (\$ millions)	Cost Over Five- Year Ramp-Up (\$ millions)	Annual Ongoing Cost (\$ millions)
New Supportive Housing (Leasing)	\$27.3	\$56.3	\$87.0	\$119.5	\$153.9	\$444.1	\$153.9
New Supportive Housing (Services)	\$13.2	\$27.2	\$42.1	\$57.8	\$74.4	\$214.8	\$74.4
Pipeline Supportive Housing (Services)	\$12.6	\$48.7	\$55.7	\$57.4	\$59.1	\$233.5	\$59.1
Rapid Re-Housing	\$26.3	\$54.2	\$83.8	\$86.3	\$88.9	\$339.6	\$88.9
Pipeline Interim Housing	\$59.8	\$78.5	\$81.6	\$84.0	\$86.5	\$390.5	\$86.5
New Interim Housing	\$0.0	\$6.9	\$7.2	\$7.4	\$7.6	\$29.1	\$7.6
Interim Housing Surge	\$335.1	\$201.5	\$115.1	\$59.1	\$0.0	\$710.8	N/A
Prevention & Diversion	\$31.6	\$32.5	\$33.5	\$34.5	\$35.5	\$167.6	\$35.5
Totals	\$506.0	\$506.0	\$506.0	\$506.0	\$506.0	\$2,529.8	\$506.0

Key Takeaways

1. A successful system requires the **right mix** of permanent supportive housing, enriched residential care, rapid re-housing, interim housing, and an increased stock of affordable housing.
2. **Increased permanent housing** allows people to move through the homeless services system to permanent housing more quickly, decreasing lengths of stay in interim housing beds and enabling each bed to serve more individuals or households annually.
3. There is a high volume of people being referred to/accessing the homeless services system, which inundates and concentrates resources at the front door of the system, highlighting the need for **more robust poverty interventions further upstream** outside of the homeless services system.

Key Takeaways

- 4. Continued ramp-up of prevention and diversion services**, as well as an enhanced ability to triage and assess needs, is necessary to prevent people from entering the system altogether whose needs can be met through these services, to preserve their housing, and reduce stress on the front door of the homeless services system.
- 5. Assessment of the need for additional facilities that provide a higher level of care** than PSH (e.g. adult residential facilities, skilled nursing facilities) is also needed.
- 6. Based on current rates of inflow into homelessness and excluding capital costs, Los Angeles requires \$500M per year** in new, ongoing funding for services, operations, and rental subsidies to attain an optimal homeless services system.