



We advance *your* cause for good. In the Valleys.

**CONVENING WITH LOS ANGELES CITY
COUNCIL MEMBER BOB BLUMENFIELD
AND LOCAL BUSINESS LEADERS**

Thursday, February 23, 2023 - 4-5:30 PM via Zoom

- 1) Councilmember Blumenfield overview
 - a) Homelessness
 - i) Most prevalent issue, strategic plan put in place a few years ago, new strategy of housing first.
 - (1) If a city only focuses on permanent housing, the streets become the waiting room, and those stuck there spiral.
 - (2) Interim housing is now included in the plan along with permanent housing (Measure H).
 - (3) The county is responsible for health and human services, the city can focus on finding a balance of creating housing and creating areas for encampments so that other areas can be declared off limits for camping.
 - (4) Over last 5 years, permanent and interim housing have flourished
 - (a) Interim=temporary housing, Bridge Home is in the third district. Also work with Hope of the Valley to create cabin communities/tiny homes (individual living in a community)
 - (5) What's the difference between this and shelters?
 - (a) Shelter=warm bed and roof-not long term service.
 - (b) Permanent and Interim/Bridge Homes provide long term housing and resources like social workers to get important documents like ID, Driver's License, and "back on your feet" support.
 - (6) Along with housing, resources and enforcement are crucial
 - (a) Street medicine, and direct help.
 - (b) 4118 = A way to make some sensitive areas off limits for encampments (near schools, underpasses,)
 - (c) Providence Hospital addiction and mental illness support-patient navigator program with Tarzana Treatment Center. This connects unhoused folks to housing directly after ER visits.
 - (i) Expanded to Burbank as well, and more houses have been purchased to expand this intervention program
 - (d) IShare=shared housing
 - (e) ULA property tax on construction of buildings valued at \$5 million or more
 - (7) Operating under the context of the Boise and Garcia Cases
- 2) Hope the Mission, Laurie Craft
 - a) Overview
 - i) Inclusive faith based non-profit with the goal to extend hope, healing, and meeting people where they are at to assist those struggling to achieve long term housing
 - ii) Founded in 2009 and has grown significantly, now with hundreds of beds for unhoused individuals

- iii) Operate 9 interim sites
 - (1) 6 Cabins and Tiny Home villages
 - (2) 3 AVH centers
 - iv) Outreach team for district 3
 - (1) Connecting folks to services and housing
 - v) Drop-in centers
 - (1) Entry points into services including storage and case management.
 - vi) Job center
 - vii) Residential facilities
 - viii) Transitional youth facility
 - ix) Facility for post incarcerated folks
 - x) Facilities for families specifically
 - xi) Hope works with their local communities to maintain good relationships with neighbors and foster volunteers
- 3) LA Family Housing
- a) Kelsey Madigan
 - i) Outreach, Interim housing, housing navigation (case management to find permanent housing), community partnerships, real estate development (builds permanent housing units for families and individuals) , stabilization (follow up to ensure nobody falls back into homelessness)
 - ii) Run the Willows site in district 3
 - iii) 24 hundred people moved into permanent housing in 2021, and 97% stayed in permanent housing.
 - iv) 685 people moved into PSH IN 2022
 - v) 1986 placed into interim housing in 2022
 - vi) Volunteers help through advocacy work, creating hygiene kits, and donations
- 4) OneGeneration-Jenna (attach powerpoint)
- 5) LAHSA
- a) General
 - i) CoC Lead and HMIS Lead
 - ii) System Admin-managing county resources
 - iii) Distributor of funds
 - iv) Joint Powers Authority
 - b) Funding from HUD,CoC, city, and county
 - i) 84% goe to direct services
 - c) Access and Engagement
 - i) Homeless engagement teams
 - ii) General outreach teams
 - iii) Teams partnered with police depts
 - iv) Sanitation teams
 - v) Roadmap teams
 - d) Outreach teams also work with service providers and teams funder through other mechanisms, including those funded under the dept of health
 - e) All outreach, both generalist and specialist, is coordinated.
 - f) Outreach coordination model
 - i) County
 - ii) SPA
 - iii) Zone
 - iv) Care coordination
 - g) What else can be done?
 - i) Reducing unsheltered homeless by connecting folks to quick interim housing

- ii) Ensuring interim stays are brief
 - iii) Equipping data driven decision making
- 6) Specific ways businesses can be helpful
- a) Laurie: volunteers and hosting drives
 - b) Kelsey: Advocate in your own communities for housing (permanent and/or interim)
 - c) Jenna: encouraging your employees to volunteer and have volunteer days-engaging employees with current community needs and to gain experience engaging with vulnerable members of their community
 - d) Brittany: Volunteers, homeless counts, advocacy
- 7) Solution Oriented Discussion and Ideas
- a) Bill Wolf: where is the most pressing need?
 - i) Kelsey: Housing, this stock is difficult to get right now, though it is extremely important. If you know anyone with an ADU or interested in building one and wants to extend to voucher programs that is vital. If you build it they will come. Project Room Key=pandemic response to move people into unused hotels. Project Home Key = that housing developed into permanent housing. Both are state funded programs started as a response to pandemic/public health crisis, and are now being converted into permanent housing as opposed to back to regular hotels.
 - ii) Welcome Home Kits
 - (1) Laurie: consists of sheets, toiletries, basic starter items for a new apartment.
 - b) What legislation would be helpful at a state and county level?
 - i) Council Member: Retroprotections, drug addiction, mental illness.
 - (1) Intervention is difficult to impose even if they are in no shape to be on the street. People are left on the streets even if they are not an immediate threat to themselves.
 - (2) We need options that are not carceral, but still get people the treatment they need, and away from deadly accessible drugs like fentanyl.
 - ii) Brittany
 - (1) <https://www.lahsa.org/documents?id=6980-2023-state-and-federal-legislative-agenda>
 - (2) Law changed about emotional support animals
 - (3) Laws potentially around sentencing people to drug treatment
 - (4) Safe parking laws for vehicles but currently not RVs-25 spots behind the council member's office among others.
- 8) RVs are trickier due to court cases. Laws used to ban dwelling in vehicles deemed unconstitutional, temporary 8502 that prevented RV dwelling in sensitive sites but it expired.