

**CLERKS RECORD OF THE MEETING
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
CITY COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS**

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2024
8:30 A.M.**

**COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM
CITY HALL
8300 SANTA MONICA BLVD.
WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA 90069**

1. **A. CALL TO ORDER:** Vice Mayor Byers called the meeting to order at 8:32 A.M.

B. ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Vice Mayor Byers, Councilmember Heilman

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Director of Human Services & Rent Stabilization Christof Schroeder, Human Services Manager Wendy Barreno, Social Services Supervisor Derek Murray, Strategic Initiatives Program Administrator Francisco Gomez, Facilities and Field Services Division Manager Helen Collins, City Clerk Melissa Crowder, Recording Secretary Alyssa Poblador.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Staff requested to hear Item 4.A. before Item 3.A. due to a County representative present virtually to speak on Item 4.A. Motion by Councilmember Heilman, seconded by Vice Mayor Byers, and the agenda for December 12, 2024 was approved.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

4. **NEW BUSINESS:**

4.A. DISCUSSION ON THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY HOMELESS INITIATIVE GOOD NEIGHBOR PLEDGE FOR COORDINATED REGIONAL SOLUTIONS TO HOMELESSNESS [C. SCHROEDER, W. BARRENO, F. GOMEZ]:

SUBJECT: The West Hollywood City Council Subcommittee on Homelessness will discuss joining the Los Angeles County Homeless Initiative Good Neighbor Pledge for coordinated regional solutions to homelessness and provide recommendations for the City Council.

Human Services Manager Wendy Barreno introduced the following representatives from Los Angeles County: Jonah Glickman, Housing and Homelessness Liaison in the office of Supervisor Lindsey Horvath, LA County Board of Supervisors 3rd District and Onnie Williams III, Acting Manager with the LA County Chief Executive Office's (CEO) Homeless Initiative. Ms. Barreno invited the representatives to provide a brief

overview of the Good Neighbor Pledge and to answer any questions the subcommittee members may have.

Mr. Williams highlighted how the Good Neighbor Pledge (“Pledge”) is in alignment with the City of West Hollywood’s core values. The Pledge recognizes that there is a systemic challenge that contributes to housing insecurity, homelessness, a persistent lack of affordable housing, and systemic discrimination in the housing market and job market. In response to the City of Grants Pass, Oregon v. Johnson Supreme Court ruling (“Grants Pass Decision”), and the California Governor’s Executive Order N-1-24 , the intent of the Pledge is to minimize the intentional displacement of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness from jurisdiction to jurisdiction.

The Pledge certifies services, coordination/collaboration, and long term housing solutions for a person experiencing homelessness, as opposed to just removing visible homelessness. In his experience working with 88 cities, he noted a lack of coordination between jurisdictions, so this Pledge encourages more city to city collaboration.

Another key point of focus is on continued investments and funding to solve and prevent homelessness and increase public safety with the intention to address the causes and consequences of people experiencing homelessness. Lastly, it is a pledge to education and awareness which includes support for staff, for service providers working in the field, as well as the community of what is available in terms of resources and services.

Mr. Glickman spoke to further reinforce Supervisor Horvath’s support for this initiative in the wake of the Grants Pass Decision, and that this Pledge is part of a comprehensive strategy that the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors passed during their July 30, 2024 Board meeting.

Councilmember Heilman clarified the main points of the Pledge, and Mr. Williams confirmed his summary.

Vice Mayor Byers solidified her commitment to the Pledge and to the work itself. She recommended joining and signing onto the Pledge and to return the item to a future meeting for full City Council approval.

Councilmember Heilman expressed support for the recommendation as clarified by Mr. Williams. He explained his hesitancy at the City Council meeting of December 2nd as to whether the Pledge expressed opposition to the Grants Pass Decision or that law enforcement could not be utilized. He further noted that the City of West Hollywood has been funding its own mental health services, outreach, and shelters with little to no monetary support from LA County.

Vice Mayor Byers highlighted Mr. Williams statement that cities could be doing better coordination and noted the opportunity to work more closely with our three neighboring cities in the months and year ahead.

Clifton Trotter of the CEO's office came into the meeting to also offer support on behalf of the County.

ACTIONS: 1) Discussed joining the Los Angeles County Homeless Initiative Good Neighbor Pledge for coordinated regional solutions to homelessness; and 2) Provided recommendations on the Los Angeles County Homeless Initiative Good Neighbor Pledge for the City Council.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

3.A. PLANNED ASSESSMENT OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD "FIVE-YEAR PLAN TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS IN OUR COMMUNITY" [C. SCHROEDER, W. BARRENO, F. GOMEZ]:

SUBJECT: The West Hollywood City Council Subcommittee on Homelessness will receive an update on a plan to assess the current "Five-Year Plan to Address Homelessness in Our Community" and identify potential updates moving forward.

Human Services Manager Wendy Barreno provided background information as outlined in the staff report dated December 12, 2024.

Councilmember Heilman commented on the potential consultant and requested a proper assessment of what is and is not working. He mentioned that outreach thus far, in his view, has been unsuccessful until the same individuals he sees on the street are accepted into care. He reiterated his desire to add more law enforcement involvement in the assessment process. Lastly, he expressed his appreciation for staff doing this difficult work and the constant early morning communication with himself and the CARE Team.

Vice Mayor Byers commented on the evolution of County services coming online such as Measure A and more County collaboration, and how the City's five-year plan can coexist with the reimagining of the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) and other regional powers working together. She further explained that she'd like to focus more on community education in the coming year.

Councilmember Heilman suggested a dedicated phone line for our neighboring cities, and to continue promotion of West Hollywood's Homelessness Care Line. He requested details on what resources the City is receiving from the County, since the City funds the CARE Team, the shelter beds, Holloway House, all outreach and services; however, he would like to see more of what the County has provided.

KAREN EYRES, WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSIONER, spoke in support of the assessment and five-year plan, but she noted the difficulty in fully commenting on goals.

ACTION: Received an update on a plan to assess the current “Five-Year Plan to Address Homelessness in Our Community” and identified potential updates moving forward.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

4.B. HOMELESSNESS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING DATES FOR 2025 [M. CROWDER, A. POBLADOR]:

SUBJECT: The Subcommittee will consider approving the City Council Subcommittee on Homelessness’ meeting schedule for Calendar Year 2025 and rescheduling a meeting that conflicts with a holiday.

Recording Secretary Alyssa Poblador provided background information as outlined in the staff report dated December 12, 2024.

Vice Mayor Byers commented that subcommittee assignments will be revised in February 2025. Councilmember Heilman has a conflict for the May and July dates, and Vice Mayor Byers has a conflict for the November date. Therefore, the January and March 2025 meeting dates were approved, with direction to agendize alternative dates for July and November for the next Homelessness subcommittee meeting.

ACTIONS: 1) Approved the January and March meeting schedule for 2025; and 2) Return to the subcommittee to schedule the July and November meetings.

5. ITEMS FROM SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS: None.

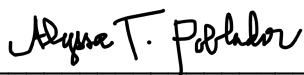
6. ITEMS FROM STAFF:

Facilities and Field Services Division Manager Helen Collins provided an update on the construction of the Holloway House.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

The City Council Subcommittee on Homelessness adjourned at 9:06 A.M. to its next meeting which will be held on Thursday, January 23, 2025 at 8:30 A.M. in the Community Conference Room, City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood CA 90069.



Alyssa T. Poblador, Recording Secretary

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