



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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SACHI A. HAMAI
Chief Executive Officer

January 23, 2018

To: Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, Chair
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Janice Hahn
Supervisor Kathryn Barger

From: Sachi A. Hamai
Chief Executive Officer

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OUTREACH PLAN TO ADDRESS THE HOMELESS ENCAMPMENT ISSUES ALONG THE ALAMEDA CORRIDOR (ITEM NUMBER 4, AGENDA OF NOVEMBER 21, 2017)

On November 21, 2017, the Board of Supervisors (Board) directed the Chief Executive Office (CEO), the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), and other critical stakeholders, to develop a plan with the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority (ACTA) to address the homeless encampment issues along the Alameda Corridor and report back to the Board in writing in 60 days. The Board requested the plan identify how Homeless Initiative (HI) Strategy E6, Countywide Outreach System, and other strategies under Measure H can support outreach and housing efforts for those along the Alameda Corridor and whether any additional resources are needed beyond currently allocated resources to support plan implementation. This memorandum responds to the Board's directive.

Background

The Alameda Corridor is a 20-mile freight rail expressway linking the ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles to the transcontinental rail network near downtown Los Angeles. It passes through seven cities: Los Angeles, Carson, Compton, Lynwood, South Gate, Huntington Park, and Vernon. These cities are in the First and Fourth Supervisorial Districts and Service Planning Areas (SPA) 6, 7, and 8.

Workgroup Meetings

The CEO HI convened the first workgroup meeting on December 5, 2017, to discuss the location of the encampments along the Alameda Corridor and to develop a plan of action for conducting outreach. The stakeholders included members of the CEO HI, LAHSA, ACTA, the Department of Health Services (DHS), the Sheriff's Department, the City of

Long Beach Homeless Services Department, People Assisting the Homeless (PATH), and The People Concern.

The ACTA reported that there are five “hotspots” along the Alameda Corridor (see Attachment I). Approximately 40 trains pass through the corridor each day at very high speeds. If people or items are on or near the tracks, a serious safety hazard is created. The workgroup committed to completing an assessment, developing an outreach strategy, and deploying outreach teams to each of the five “hotspots” on an ongoing basis. The workgroup agreed to the following:

- Since the Alameda Corridor encroaches into three SPAs and each SPA has its own outreach teams, coordination of jurisdictions was required. LAHSA agreed to coordinate both the assessment phase and the development of an outreach plan for each of the five “hotspots,” in close collaboration with community partners. This approach is consistent with the County’s Measure H-funded Strategy E6, the Countywide Outreach System, in: (1) supporting outreach coordination at both the County and SPA-level; and (2) augmenting outreach capacity through an expanded network of street-based teams that identify, engage, and connect homeless individuals to supportive services, emergency shelter, and permanent housing.
- The ACTA identified Area 2 as the largest homeless encampment and in the most critical need of outreach. PATH’s jurisdiction includes Area 2, and their outreach teams had last visited the area on November 17, 2017. The workgroup agreed that PATH would conduct outreach in Area 2 more frequently - once per week on Thursday mornings. Since Area 3 is also under PATH’s coordination jurisdiction, PATH agreed to schedule outreach and engagement efforts with LAHSA’s Homeless Engagement Team and Helpline Youth Counseling (HYC) in this area as well. The workgroup planned to meet again once PATH and LAHSA outreach teams had assessed Areas 2 and 3.

On December 21, 2017, a subset of the workgroup (CEO, ACTA, LAHSA, and Sheriff’s Department) met to discuss the status of Areas 2 and 3, a strategy for deploying teams to Areas 1, 4, and 5, and the agencies best positioned to outreach to the remaining areas. After the meeting, LAHSA worked with the appropriate SPA-level outreach coordinators at PATH (SPA 7) and Harbor Interfaith (SPA 8) to agree on an outreach plan for Areas 1, 4, and 5.

Status of Encampments to Date and Next Steps

By harnessing the countywide coordinated homeless outreach infrastructure supported by Measure H (Strategy E6), LAHSA, PATH, Special Services for Groups-Homeless

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Outreach Program Integrated Care System, HYC, and Harbor Interfaith rapidly implemented a plan to address the five "hotspots" identified by the ACTA. Attachment II provides a summary of these efforts as of January 11, 2018, and includes information on next steps.

Areas 1a/1b and 4 did not have signs of homeless encampments when the outreach teams visited. Should there be a need in the future, ACTA is advised to contact LAHSA's Countywide Outreach Coordinator for assistance. Outreach teams found encampments in Areas 2, 3, and 5 during their visits to the areas. Designated outreach teams from PATH, LAHSA, HYC, and Harbor Interfaith will continue to conduct coordinated outreach and engagement on a weekly basis to these areas.

At this time, it does not appear that additional resources beyond what is provided by Strategy E6 is needed. The workgroup will continue to assess outreach efforts in the Alameda Corridor, and an update will be included in the May 9, 2018, Quarterly Homeless Initiative report to the Board.

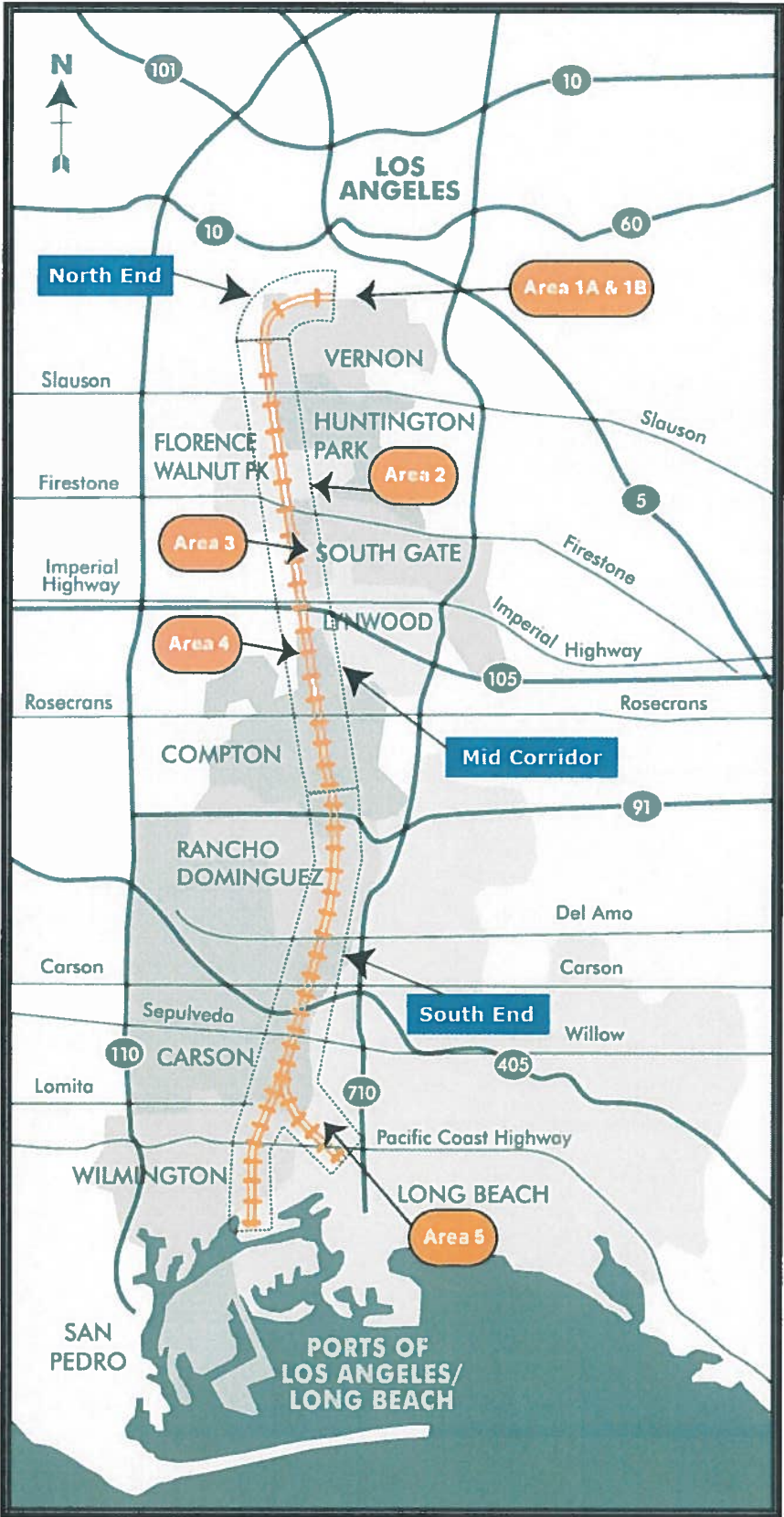
If you have any questions, please contact Phil Ansell, Director of the Homeless Initiative, at (213) 974-1752 or by email at pansell@ceo.lacounty.gov.

SAH:JJ:FAD
PA:JR:RM:ef

Attachments

c: Executive Office of the Board
County Counsel
Sheriff
Health Agency
Health Services
Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority
City of Long Beach Homeless Services Department
Harbor Interfaith
Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority
People Assisting the Homeless
The People Concern

MAP OF THE ENCAMPMENT AREAS ALONG THE ALAMEDA CORRIDOR



SUMMARY OF OUTREACH EFFORTS ALONG THE ALAMEDA CORRIDOR

Area	Service Planning Area	Outreach Coordinating Agency	Outreach Teams Providing Assessment	Summary of Assessment	Dates of Outreach	Outreach Teams Providing Outreach	Summary of Outreach Efforts	Next Steps
Area 1a/1b, Vernon	SPA 7, Southeast Los Angeles	PATH	PATH, LAHSA	No individuals present, signs of past encampments and fire.	12/29/17, 1/3/18	PATH, LAHSA	No individuals present.	PATH and LAHSA will monitor the area.
Area 2, Huntington Park	SPA 7, Southeast Los Angeles	PATH	PATH, LAHSA, HYC	Location contained an encampment with approximately 50 people.	12/14/17, 12/21/17, 12/28/17, 1/4/18, 1/11/18	PATH, LAHSA, HYC	1/4/18 - 10 individuals received a Hepatitis A vaccine, 5 received DMV vouchers, 1 placed in shelter. 1/11/18 - 5 additional tents identified, 14 individuals engaged, 4 received CA ID vouchers, food and pet supplies also distributed.	Weekly outreach taking place Thursday mornings.
Area 3, South Gate	SPA 7, Southeast Los Angeles	PATH	PATH, LAHSA, HYC	Location contained small encampment of 4-5 tents/structures.	12/14/17, 12/21/17, 12/28/17, 1/4/18, 1/11/18	PATH, LAHSA, HYC	1/4/18 - 3 individuals engaged by PATH, 1 placed in shelter. 1/11/18 - No dwellers present.	Weekly outreach taking place Thursday mornings.
Area 4, Lynwood	SPA 6, South Los Angeles	SSG-HOPICS	PATH, LAHSA, HYC	No encampment present at the time of visit. Area was very clean and no posted signs of a cleanup.	12/21/17	PATH, LAHSA, HYC	No individuals present.	SSG-HOPICS will monitor the area.
Area 5, Wilmington	SPA 8, South Bay	Harbor Interfaith	Harbor Interfaith, LAHSA	Encampment was visible under overpass. One individual engaged and offered services.	1/4/18, 1/11/18	Harbor Interfaith, LAHSA, PATH	1/11/18 - 2 individuals contacted at east side encampment. West-side encampment abandoned due to increase in water.	Weekly outreach taking place on Thursdays (varying times to be explored to maximize contact).