



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE  
VIRTUAL REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLUE-RIBBON COMMISSION ON HOMELESSNESS**

**KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION  
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012**



**Wednesday, February 9, 2022**

**6:00 PM**

AUDIO FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING (22-0854)

Attachments: [Audio Link](#)

Call to Order. (22-0506)

**The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Co-Chair Christian Horvath,  
Blue-Ribbon Commission on Homelessness (BRCH).**

Present: Co-Chair Sarah Dusseault,  
Co-Chair Christian Horvath,  
Commissioner Theane Evangelis,  
Commissioner Wendy Greuel,  
Commissioner LaCheryl Porter,  
Commissioner Marcel Rodarte,  
Commissioner Vanessa Sedano,  
Commissioner Becky A. Shevlin

## **I. AB 361 STATEMENT RE BROWN ACT MEETINGS**

1. Continuation of Commission Meetings by Teleconference in Compliance with AB 361. (22-0728)

**Ms. Mary Wickham, Executive Director, BRCH, provided that, pursuant to action by the Board of Supervisors, the BRCH would continue meeting virtually due to the ongoing emergency.**

**No members of the public commented on this item.**

**On motion of Commissioner Greuel, seconded by Commissioner Shevlin, and duly carried by the following vote, the BRCH received the information presented:**

Ayes: 8 – Commissioner Evangelis, Commissioner Greuel, Commissioner Porter, Commissioner Rodarte, Commissioner Sedano, Commissioner Shevlin, Co-Chair Horvath, Co-Chair Dusseault

*Attachments:* [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

## **II. RECOMMENDATION**

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2. Recommendation: Receive and file all presentations that will be presented on Wednesday, February 9, 2022. (22-0692)

**No members of the public commented on this item.**

**On motion of Commissioner Greuel, seconded by Commissioner Shevlin, and duly carried by the following vote, the BRCH approved to receive and file the presentations, Item Nos. 3 through 5:**

Ayes: 8 – Commissioner Evangelis, Commissioner Greuel, Commissioner Porter, Commissioner Rodarte, Commissioner Sedano, Commissioner Shevlin, Co-Chair Horvath, Co-Chair Dusseault

*Attachments:* [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

### **III. PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION**

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3. Presentation on the Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County by Housing Innovations: Matt White, Senior Associate. (22-0725)

**Mr. Matt White presented on the work of the Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County.**

**Co-Chair Horvath inquired about the importance of strong authority for homelessness policymaking. Commissioner Evangelis inquired about the process of encampment closures in Houston. Co-Chair Dusseault inquired about the differences between Houston and Los Angeles to consider in comparing solutions. Commissioner Sedano inquired about Houston's interim housing services. Commissioner Shevlin inquired about refusal to accept housing. Commissioner Rodarte inquired about homelessness numbers and NIMBYism in Houston. Commissioner Greuel inquired about master leasing. Co-Chair Dusseault inquired about re-housing and prevention. Commissioner Sedano inquired about special populations and the housing-first model. Co-Chair Horvath inquired about Houston's strategic goals.**

**Mr. Gabriel Fondario and Ms. Reba Stevens addressed the BRCH. Interested person(s) submitted written testimony.**

*Attachments:* [Housing Innovations Presentation](#)  
[Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

4. Public forum for discussion with invited guests:
- Chief Executive Office, Homeless Initiative: Cheri Todoroff, Director
  - Downtown Women's Center: Amy Turk, Chief Executive Officer
  - Foothill Unity Center: Nan Lee, Grant Writer; Raina Martinez, Chief Development Officer; and Tashera Taylor, Chief Executive Officer
  - Homeless Outreach Program Integrated Care System (HOPICS): Veronica Lewis, Director
  - LA Family Housing: Stephanie Klasky-Garner, President and Chief Executive Officer; and Kris Free, Chief Programs Officer
  - Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA): Heidi Marston, Executive Director
  - Samuel Dixon Family Health Center, Inc.: Phillip Solomon, MPA, Chief Executive Officer
  - St. Joseph Center: Va Lecia Adams Kellum, Ph.D., President and Chief Executive Officer
  - The Whole Child: Constanza Pachon, Chief Executive Officer
  - Wellnest LA: Charlene Dimas-Peinado, President and Chief Executive Officer (22-0701)

**Co-Chair Horvath presented the following themes to encourage discussion:**

- (1) Filling system voids;**
- (2) Simplification/streamlining;**
- (3) Governance/accountability;**
- (4) Local innovation and regional strengths;**
- (5) Transparency and access to data;**
- (6) Diversity, equity, and inclusion; and**
- (7) Voice of lived experience.**

**Ms. Stephanie Klasky-Garner commented on some lessons from the presentation in Item No. 3. Ms. Veronica Lewis commented on the issue of connecting the above themes to solutions and on the benefits of a centralized system. Ms. Constanza Pachon commented on simplification and the past recommendations from providers to the BRCH. Ms. Tashera Taylor commented on the benefit of including service providers in the discussion and the acknowledgment of collective work in decision-making. Ms. Kris Freed commented on the issues around insufficient housing stock and data collection improvement. Mr. Phillip Solomon commented on access to funding. Ms. Amy Turk commented on dollar-for-dollar returns to**

localities failing to provide equitable homeless services and full-cost grants. Ms. Va Lecia Adams Kellum commented on past collaboratively drafted recommendations and the need for urgency. Ms. Lewis commented on contracting and payment issues and the need for a system leader. Ms. Raina Martinez commented on the urgency of the homelessness crisis and prevention services.

Commissioner Rodarte commented on equity issues faced by cities. Commissioner Greuel commented on the need for urgency and candor and inquired on the necessity of a system and how decentralized or localized it should be within the County.

Ms. Jody Schulz, Mr. Gabriel Fondarrio, Dr. Geneviève Clavreul, Ms. Jennifer Hark Dietz, and Mr. Victor Sanchez, addressed the BRCH.

Commissioner Shevlin commented on system leadership and city expectations for returns. Commissioner Porter commented on the need for additional data and city representation in LAHSA. Co-Chair Dusseault commented on the variety of funding streams for homeless services. Commissioner Evangelis commented on the need for urgency and optimism. Commissioner Sedano commented on the need for change.

*Attachments:* [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

5. Blue-Ribbon Commission on Homelessness discussion on the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority's (LAHSA) role and governance, including County and City infrastructures. (Continued from the meeting of 02-02-22). (22-0505)

**By Comment Consent, there being no objection, this item was continued.**

*Attachments:* [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

## IV. MISCELLANEOUS

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### MATTERS NOT POSTED

6. Matters not posted on the agenda, to be discussed and (if requested) placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting of the Blue-Ribbon Commission on Homelessness, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation, or because of an emergency situation, or where the need to take action arose subsequent to the posting of the agenda. (22-0697)

**Commissioner Greuel commented on the benefit of having service providers attend to provide input at future meetings.**

### PUBLIC COMMENT

7. Opportunity for members of the public to address the BRCH on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the BRCH.

You may submit public comment by email to [BRCH@brch.lacounty.gov](mailto:BRCH@brch.lacounty.gov).

Written public comment or documentation must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. the day before the scheduled meeting. Please include the agenda item and meeting date in your correspondence. Correspondence received shall become part of the official record. (22-0698)

**Ms. Reba Stevens addressed the BRCH.**

*Attachments:* [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

### ADJOURNMENT

8. Adjournment for the January 19, 2022, meeting. (22-0699)

**Co-Chair Horvath adjourned the meeting at 8:36 p.m. The next meeting of the Blue-Ribbon Commission on Homelessness will be on Wednesday, February 16, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.**