



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

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

<http://brch.bos.lacounty.gov>



Wednesday, March 9, 2022

6:00 PM

AUDIO FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (22-1215)

Attachments: [AUDIO](#)

Call to Order and Roll Call. (22-0911)

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Co-Chair Sarah Dusseault, 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 and Commissioner Becky A. Shevlin

I. RECOMMENDATION

1. Recommendation: Receive and file all presentations that will be presented on Wednesday, March 9, 2022. (22-0912)

No members of the public commented on this item.

On motion of Co-Chair Horvath, seconded by Commissioner Greuel, and duly carried by the following vote, the BRCH approved to receive and file the presentations and discussions, Item Nos. 2 through 4:

Ayes: 8 - Co-Chair Sarah Dusseault, Co-Chair Christian Horvath, Commissioner Theane Evangelis, Commissioner Wendy Greuel, Commissioner LaCheryl Porter, Commissioner Marcel Rodarte, Commissioner Vanessa Sedano and Commissioner Becky A. Shevlin

Attachments: [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

II. PRESENTATIONS

2. Presentation by Councilmember Bob Blumenfield, City of Los Angeles, Third District. [10 Minutes] (22-0913)

Council Member Bob Blumenfield, City of Los Angeles, Third District (Third District), stated he takes issue of homelessness personally and does outreach each week to meet the Third District's need, and emphasized that the County of Los Angeles is too large with complicated bureaucracy. The current homelessness system should be reduced to a more flexible and productive system allowing a quicker response to the local needs and provide additional services for people with mental health and substance abuse problems. Including better measurement tools to compile a more accurate and accessible data on homelessness. In addition, he relayed that Measure H allocations should be based on the effort and money spent for housing people by the Cities.

Mr. Wells and Ms. Chris Rowe addressed the BRCH.

Attachments: [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

3. Presentation by Councilmember Nithya Raman, City of Los Angeles, Fourth District. [10 Minutes] (22-0914)

Council Member Nithya Raman, City of Los Angeles, Fourth District (Fourth District), shared lessons learned and reported on that the Fourth Districts' outreach was able to build trust with people experiencing homelessness and was able to encourage some of them to go inside. The Fourth District's obstacle is providing mental health and substance abuse services who desperately need it. It is noted that there is a lack of accountability within the current system and no clear goals for a positive outcome.

Discussion ensued amongst Council Member Raman and the Commission.

Ms. Rita Dunn, Pastor Kathy Huck, Mr. Joseph Lyons and Brittney addressed the BRCH.

Attachments: [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

4. Public forum for discussion with invited guests:

1. City of Arcadia - Sara Somogyi, Director of Homeless Services
2. City of Azusa - Sergio Gonzales, City Manager; and, Robert Gonzales, Mayor
3. City of Bellflower - Victor Sanchez, Councilmember
4. City of Beverly Hills - Julian Gold, M.D., Councilmember
5. City of Culver City - Göran Eriksson, Councilmember

6. City of Gardena - Rodney Tanaka, Councilmember
7. City of Glendora - Adam Raymond, City Manager; and, Moises Lopez, Assistant City Manager
8. City of Hermosa Beach - Suja Lowenthal, City Manager
9. City of Lakewood - Thaddeus McCormack, City Manager
10. City of Norwalk - Jennifer Perez, Councilmember; and, Richard Rojas, Deputy City Manager
11. City of Pomona - Benita Defrank, Director of Neighborhood Services
12. City of Redondo Beach - Michael Webb, City Attorney
13. City of Santa Monica - Margaret Willis, Human Services Administrator
14. City of South El Monte - Rachel Barbosa, City Manager
15. City of Torrance - Viet Hoang, Deputy City Manager
16. Gateway Cities Council of Governments - Gilbert Saldate, Homelessness Program Manager
17. San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments - Marissa Creter, Executive Director; and, Caitlin Sims, Principal Management Analyst
18. South Bay Cities Council of Governments - Ronson Chu, Senior Project Manager, Homeless Services (22-0916)

Co-Chair Dusseault introduced the item and welcome the invited the guests.

Fifteen (15) out of the 18 guests participated in the discussion.

The general comment from all the representatives in this public forum, is that the current homelessness system is not working. There is no measure of accountability and there is a lack of local funding from Measure H to various local governments. The goal for all representatives present is results in the streets and their communities. There should be clarification of the roles played by each entity.

In addition, the representatives voiced that the system in place should be flexible in allowing participation to address and resolve, if at all possible, local level issues. The need for a more concise and workable data, measuring tools and access to information is critical, particularly to the access of mental health and substance abuse services.

Ms. Chris Rowe and Dr. Geneviève Clavreul addressed the BRCH. Interested persons submitted written testimony.

Attachments: [Measure H Contributions by City](#)
[Measure H Direct Allocations to Cities](#)
[Proposed Model Schematic](#)
[Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

III. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER

5. Recommendation: Approve the March 2, 2022, regular meeting minutes. (22-1065)

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

Attachments: [March 2, 2022, Regular Meeting Minutes](#)
[Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

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 where the need to take action arose subsequent to the posting of the agenda. (22-0918)

Commissioner Greuel suggested to share any news in relation to Measure H funding and the County Budget be provided to the BRCH.

Co-Chair Dusseault also added if the transcript from the Chief Executive Office Homeless Initiative can also be shared to the BRCH.

Public Comment

7. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Blue-Ribbon Commission on Homelessness (Commission) on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission.

You may submit public comment by email to: BRCH@brch.lacounty.gov

Written public comment or documentation must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. that 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. (22-0920)

No member of the public addressed BRCH. Interested person(s) submitted written testimony.

Attachments: [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

Adjournment

8. Adjournment for the Blue-Ribbon Commission on Homelessness meeting of March 9, 2022. (22-0919)

Co-Chair Dusseault, adjourned the meeting at 9:06 p.m. The next meeting of the Blue-Ribbon Commission on Homelessness will be on Wednesday, Mach 16, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.