



**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, December 15, 2021

9:00 AM



AUDIO FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING (21-4679)

Attachments: [Audio Link](#)

Call to Order. (21-4716)

**The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Co-Chair Sarah Dusseault,
Blue-Ribbon Commission on Homelessness.**

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 (joined at 9:04 a.m.)

I. RECOMMENDATION

1. Recommendation: Receive and file all presentations that will be presented on Wednesday, December 15, 2021. (21-4717)

No members of the public commented on this item.

On motion of Co-Chair Horvath, seconded by Commissioner Evangelis, and duly carried by the following vote, the Blue-Ribbon Commission on Homelessness (BRCH) approved the recommendation to receive and file the presentations:

Ayes: 7 – Commissioner Evangelis, Commissioner Gruel, Commissioner Porter, Commissioner Rodarte, Commissioner Sedano, Co-Chair Dusseault, Co-Chair Horvath

Absent: 1 – Commissioner Shevlin

Attachments: [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

II. PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

2. Presentation by LA Family Housing: Stephanie Klasky-Gamer, President and Chief Executive Officer; Kris Freed, Chief Programs Officer. (21-4793)

Ms. Stephanie Klasky-Gamer and Ms. Kris Freed presented on LA Family Housing and its experiences

Commissioner Evangelis inquired about the role of primary contractors as "mini-LAHSAs" and LAHSA's role in SPA coalition-building. Commissioner Rodarte inquired about potential improvements to LAHSA's data collection and reporting. Commissioner Shevlin inquired about accountability for dysfunctional programs. Commissioner Greuel inquired about ideas to address local issues while coordinating the whole system. Co-Chair Horvath inquired about a preference for LAHSA as a system administrator and not a service provider. Co-Chair Dusseault inquired about the role of public housing authorities. Commissioner Porter inquired on the relationship between the Continuum of Care (CoC) Board and LAHSA.

Mr. Daniel Bisuano addressed the BRCH.

Attachments: [LA Family Housing Presentation](#)
[Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

3. Presentation and discussion on the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts: Wesley G. Beverlin, Partner, Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP. (21-4795)

Mr. Wesley G. Beverlin presented on the governance structure of the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts, geographic boundaries, and the joint administration agreement.

No member of the public commented on this item.

Attachments: [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

4. Presentation by McCarty Memorial Christian Church: Pastor Eddie Anderson. (21-4797)

Pastor Eddie Anderson presented on the faith communities in South Los Angeles as a resource in to combat homelessness.

Commissioner Porter inquired about improvements to LAHSA's work with faith-based organizations.

Ms. Reba Stevens addressed the BRCH.

Attachments: [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

5. Blue-Ribbon Commission on Homelessness: Discussion on Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) Governance:

LAHSA "wears many hats" (e.g., as CoC lead; as federal, State, local, and Measure H grant administrator; developing policy, providing direct services, and as "system administrator").

1. Is LAHSA doing too much?
2. With respect to LAHSA's core functions:
 - a. Should LAHSA only be a CoC lead (consistent with LAHSA's role prior to Measure H)?
 - b. Should LAHSA continue to administer Measure H funds?
 - c. Should LAHSA be a service provider?
 - d. If LAHSA is a system administrator, what role should it play? (21-4796)

Co-Chair Horvath provided that there appear to be a number of benefits to LAHSA simplifying its role to the requirements of a CoC.

Commissioner Sedano provided that many stakeholders have shared concerns about LAHSA's infrastructure and capabilities. Commissioner Greuel provided that LAHSA was established to be a coordinator, and improvements could be made in decision-making that includes smaller cities, while continuing to be a system administrator with a clear mandate. Commissioner Shevlin provided that the councils of governments consider

that LAHSA is doing too much and should focus on meeting the federal requirements for a CoC. Commissioner Porter provided that changes to LAHSA would require changes to all other components of the homeless services system. Commissioner Evangelis provided a need for county-level coordination and acknowledged that LAHSA seems to have taken on a role beyond its established purpose. Commissioner Rodarte provided that LAHSA's expansion after Measure H may be a concern, and it is inhibited by its lack of independence.

Co-Chair Dusseault provided a desire to learn from other jurisdictions and the necessity of clear decision-making authority. Co-Chair Horvath provided that actionable recommendations from the BRCH should look at the whole system, including LAHSA, and the benefits of political independence.

Ms. Reba Stevens addressed the BRCH. Interested person(s) also submitted written testimony.

Attachments: [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

III. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

6. Recommendation: Approval of the December 1, 2021, regular meeting minutes. (Continued from the meeting of 12-08-2021.) (21-4661)

This item was continued to the next meeting.

Attachments: [December 1, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes](#)
[Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

7. Recommendation: Approval of the December 8, 2021, regular meeting minutes. (21-4718)

This item was continued to the next meeting.

Attachments: [December 8, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes](#)
[Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

MATTERS NOT POSTED

8. 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. (21-4719)

There were none.

PUBLIC COMMENT

9. 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.

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. (21-4720)

No members of the public addressed the BRCH.

Attachments: [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

ADJOURNMENT

10. Adjournment for the December 15, 2021, meeting. (21-4721)

Co-Chair Dusseault adjourned the meeting at 11:18 a.m. The next meeting of the Blue-Ribbon Commission on Homelessness will be on Wednesday, January 5, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.