LAOB Shelter for All Committee – April 18, 2025

Weekly meetings 12:00pm-1:00 pm on Fridays

Present: Brian Cina, Mark Hughes, Jean Hamilton, Ornella Matta - Figueroa

Guests: Lindsay Thrall

Agenda 12:00PM

Co-design agenda every meeting

Public Comment: None

Discussion of Shelter for All actions

Minutes

- Discussion of VHEARTH Bill
    - Tents → tiny homes → stable housing
    - Imagine creative ways to use shelter funding to eliminate the need for shelter. A just transition.
    - How can we transition people from 'shelter' to affordable stable homes.
    - The challenge is we don't have enough housing. How can investment in shelter do double duty and invest in housing
- Cost of shelter study
    - LAOB staff exploring with Frank at HHAV what is the public cost of neighbors being unhoused/unsheltered – can we better invest these resources in homelessness prevention.
    - We found a qualified contractor to do this project, they scoped it out, and then got called back to their federal job. The project is scoped and sitting on the back burner until we re-prioritize this.
    - This project will likely take some time. Look to completing it this summer so that we have the date for next leg session.
- I keep hearing that we need to build new affordable housing. And we need to assess where we are wasting money. We need to tie these things together with creative ideas. What are the transitional housing ideas that are cheaper than motels and cheaper than people going to the hospitals or jails.
- There is a shred of hope now because some people are getting housing.
- People who are the key stakeholders in providing shelter may not be inclined to solve the problem of homelessness. Who has the authority, the most strategic point of view, to analyze the situation and promote an overhaul of the system.
- Proposal to focus on one part of the system that needs acute transformation: from homelessness to temporary housing. Lets impact this. Lets make a pilot program that is focused on this.

Overview of Co-hosted event with CCRPC – putting unhoused/unsheltered community members in a problem solving circle with other stakeholders to think together what our communities need to address lack of adequate housing and shelter in our communities. Started organically in a conversation about a request that came forward from a legislator to org leadership to develop empathy and listen to unhoused community members in CCRPC. In the conversation we discussed the power dynamics, barriers, what good could come from this kind of work, etc. We believe that this could be a case study to explore all of those themes and generate productive ideas to feed into our advisory powers.

- We need to reframe our language to address trauma, how do we care for people, what are we really trying to do at the end of the day. It is not realistic to “end homelessness”.

Meeting Adjourned 1PM

Submitted by: Arealles Ortiz