

MOTION

The City of Los Angeles, County of Los Angeles, and the Los Angeles Homeless Service Authority (LAHSA) have mobilized an unprecedented collaborative effort in order to address the growing needs of individuals experiencing homelessness during the COVID-19 pandemic. The City's Department of Recreation and Parks is opening facilities around the city to be used as temporary shelters for the prevention of COVID-19 amongst those most vulnerable within the homeless population--seniors and those with pre-existing health conditions. In addition, the County and LAHSA are contracting with hotels and motels to identify more beds for this vulnerable population.

Stay at home orders and safety recommendations for seniors and at-risk populations have also forced many service providers to reconfigure the method by which they serve their clients including how household supplies and food are delivered. In addition, individuals identified for placement in a shelter often need transportation. With new beds coming online each day, service providers are faced with increased logistical challenges moving people to and from shelters and having to deliver thousands of meals and supplies to various sites throughout the city.

The City has the opportunity to help alleviate some of those logistical challenges by leveraging existing resources. Decreased ridership resulting from Angelenos complying with the Mayor's "Safer at Home" emergency order has resulted in the reduction or suspension of bus services offered by the City's Department of Transportation. LAnow service was suspended on Monday, March 30, and Commuter Express and Community DASH began modified services on Thursday, April 2. With the reduced use of the bus fleet, the City should explore redirecting those resources to help fill the transportation gap for the homeless service providers and their clients.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Department of Transportation (DOT), in consultation with the Los Angeles Homeless Service Authority (LAHSA), and with the assistance of the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA), report to Council with the feasibility of establishing routes dedicated to assisting homeless service providers utilizing DASH, LAnow, and Commuter Express busses currently out of service as a result of the reduced ridership in response to COVID-19. Routes should be explored both for the movement of meals and equipment from distribution centers to shelters and housing sites, and for the transportation of clients to shelter intake sites.

I FURTHER MOVE that LAHSA be requested to assist DOT in identifying the current transportation needs by different geographic areas of the City to inform a potential process for scheduling buses on either an as-needed basis or establishing routes, and frequency of service.

APR 7 2020

I FURTHER MOVE that DOT and LAHSA asses the Personal Protective Equipment and staffing support needed by drivers to implement the proposed transportation program, identify what equipment is available within each agency/department, and outline any additional needs.

PRESENTED BY *Monica Rodriguez*
MONICA RODRIGUEZ
Councilwoman, 7thDistrict

SECONDED BY: *Mr. David*

ORIGINAL