

MOTION

As data from the 2024 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count, alongside preliminary data from the 2025 Count, demonstrates, the City of Los Angeles continues to make meaningful strides toward its goals of preventing and ending homelessness. While progress has been made, it is clear that the journey is ongoing, and the challenges remain significant. Addressing homelessness is a complex, multifaceted issue that requires a variety of solutions to meet the unique needs of individuals across different populations, geographic areas, and circumstances. The City is committed in its efforts to provide tailored solutions and remain flexible in our approach to help every homeless individual who is ready to accept services and find a pathway to safe, permanent housing.

This crisis is not exclusive to Los Angeles. Across the nation, municipalities are grappling with how best to address the growing homelessness crisis. For example, on June 28, 2024, the United States Supreme Court issued a 6-3 decision in *City of Grants Pass v. Johnson*, affirming the authority of municipalities to enforce laws that regulate camping on public property. In response, on September 4, 2024, the Los Angeles City Council passed a motion under Council File 24-0140-S1. This motion requests the City Attorney to analyze the implications of the *Grants Pass* ruling on the City's existing regulations concerning the sleeping, lying, and storage of personal property on public rights-of-way and other public spaces.

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority and various service providers consistently conduct outreach throughout all Council Districts, providing services to individuals living both in vehicles and on the streets. Through these efforts, the City has seen that most people experiencing homelessness are eager to accept the housing and services offered, whether interim or permanent. However, there remains a group of individuals who, despite multiple offers of housing and support, choose to remain living on the streets. It's crucial to recognize that for many of these individuals, the decision to stay on the streets is not solely driven by substance use or other challenges but reflects a broader set of personal preferences.

While the number of individuals who choose to remain unsheltered is relatively small, it is vital for the City to continue to take action, particularly as substantial City resources are dedicated to creating housing solutions for those in need. We recognize that homelessness is a deeply personal and complex issue, and the City's goal is always to provide meaningful, long-term housing options that individuals can choose to accept. Housing is only one part of the equation, and continued outreach, support, and understanding will remain key to creating sustainable solutions.

At the same time, we must also confront the reality that, despite repeated offers of interim housing, some individuals continue to decline these opportunities and consciously choose to remain living on the streets. While we hold space for the complexities of their situation, the City also has a responsibility to the broader community—including giving a much needed reprieve to


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local businesses we are committed to supporting—and cannot remain passive in the face of this reality. Our policies should be designed to balance this responsibility, ensuring that both the needs of individuals and the safety, health, and well-being of all Angelenos are met. This dual focus remains at the heart of our efforts to address homelessness in a comprehensive and compassionate way.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council request the City Attorney to report to Council with recommendations for implementing the provisions of LAMC Section 41.18 in designated areas where comprehensive outreach has been conducted for a minimum of three months, and where individuals who have been offered housing multiple times over that three month period and have refused those housing offers repeatedly should no longer be permitted to camp within those areas.

PRESENTED BY


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SECONDED BY



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