

## **Communication from Public**

**Name:** CCA  
**Date Submitted:** 01/19/2021 09:26 AM  
**Council File No:** 21-0063  
**Comments for Public Posting:** Please see attached letter.



January 19, 2021

Information, Technology and General Services Committee  
Councilmember Nithya Raman, Chair  
200 N. Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Re: Item 1, Council File 21-0063**

Dear Councilmember Raman,

Through advocacy, influence and engagement CCA supports DTLA's vibrancy and increasing investment in the region. We are a membership organization comprised of over 300 members including large employers, developers, small businesses and non-profit organizations. Our broad coalition is committed to advancing comprehensive solutions to homelessness, and **we strongly support using City-owned property for homeless housing.**

Utilizing City-owned property for homeless housing is an established strategy in the [Comprehensive Homeless Plan](#) and has been done with moderate success to date. In general, the City has an accessible inventory of its land and has reviewed some sites for use. **We believe this strategy must develop City-owned sites in a timely and cost-efficient manner. To that end, we recommend creating a Chief Asset Manager role within the City to ensure efficient project delivery.** This would be a first and important step toward the creation of a Municipal Development Corporation (MDC) to advance the goal of providing homeless housing on City-owned land. CCA has been a long-time advocate for an MDC and strongly believes the City should leverage a new structure to fully realize its assets and benefit those most in need.

We also support the effort for the City to environmentally clear City-owned property and then place it out to bid for the private sector to develop into homeless housing. We believe this could broaden the homeless housing developer pool and therefore bring more units online sooner. Additionally, there are opportunities to forge new partnerships with the private sector to utilize privately-owned land for temporary homeless housing. These actions are outside the scope of previous City work but could be done and led by a Chief Asset Manager. Finally, this action could be further enhanced by including properties owned by other public agencies such as Cal Trans.

**CCA supports this motion to better use City-owned land, and we thank you for your commitment to advancing solutions to homelessness.** We greatly appreciate your consideration and value our continued partnership to build a stronger and more inclusive LA.

Sincerely,

Jessica Lall  
President & CEO,  
Central City Association of Los Angeles

Cc: Councilmember Ridley-Thomas, Chair, Homelessness & Poverty Committee  
Councilmember Kevin de Leon, Vice Chair, Homelessness & Poverty Committee