

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Los Angeles Business Council

**Date Submitted:** 03/03/2021 01:52 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0235

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Council President Martinez, On behalf of the Los Angeles Business Council (LABC), we would like to express our strong support for the motion directing the City to formally request an advance of \$150,000,000 from FEMA, creating an opportunity to front fund 40 percent of an effort to provide 10,000 hotel rooms for the next six months. There are more than 41,000 Angelenos suffering on the streets of our city today, and tens of thousands more in the County. Deaths on the streets are up 74% in 2021 compared to the same time frame in 2020, with an average of five deaths each day. Expediting this federal assistance would allow us to significantly expand the use of motels and hotels under the Project Roomkey program and move people off the streets in a manner of days – not months or years – and at no cost to the City. Federal Judge David Carter is applying intense pressure on the City to provide shelter to more than 6,500 people living under freeway overpasses by April 1. An ambitious approach to Project Roomkey can help meet his directive. Los Angeles can, and must, continue to charge forward with its existing efforts to create more interim housing options while it completes permanent housing projects. This FEMA reimbursement is a lifeline from the federal government to get thousands of people quickly housed during this pandemic. We strongly urge that the Council pass this motion and look forward to continuing to work together on addressing rising homelessness within the City of Los Angeles. Sincerely, Mary Leslie President LABC/LABC Institute



March 3, 2021

The Honorable Nury Martinez  
LA City Council President  
City of Los Angeles  
200 N Spring Street, Suite 470  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**RE: Los Angeles Business Council Support – C.F. 21-0235 – Expanding Project Roomkey to 10,000 Units**

Dear Council President Martinez,

On behalf of the Los Angeles Business Council (LABC), we would like to express our strong support for the motion directing the City to formally request an advance of \$150,000,000 from FEMA, creating an opportunity to front fund 40 percent of an effort to provide 10,000 hotel rooms for the next six months.

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Los Angeles can, and must, continue to charge forward with its existing efforts to create more interim housing options while it completes permanent housing projects. This FEMA reimbursement is a lifeline from the federal government to get thousands of people quickly housed during this pandemic.

We strongly urge that the Council pass this motion and look forward to continuing to work together on addressing rising homelessness within the City of Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Leslie". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mary Leslie  
President  
LABC/LABC Institute