

MOTION

On March 4, 2020, Mayor Garcetti declared a local emergency in connection with the novel coronavirus pandemic. The Los Angeles City Council ratified this declaration on March 6 (C.F. 20- 0291), and together, a historic effort was undertaken to respond to the needs of Angelenos during the pandemic, including implementing a state program, Project Roomkey (PRK), that utilized temporarily-vacant hotels to house people experiencing homelessness. Initially, the guidance from the federal government indicated that expenses such as PRK would be reimbursed to cities at 75%.

In an executive action on January 21, 2021, President Biden directed the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) to provide 100% reimbursement for costs associated with non-congregate shelters through September 30, 2021, retroactive to January 2020. This, however, requires front-funding by the City.

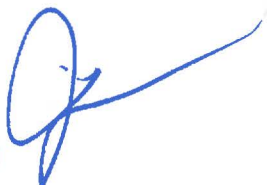
There are currently three City-operated Project Roomkey sites with a total of 909 rooms operating. One hotel was scheduled for demobilization in February and two are scheduled for demobilization in March. In order to avoid the interruption of the program and displacing people back to the streets, we need to act urgently to extend the contracts with those sites.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council determine, as provided in Section 54954.2(b)(2) of the Government Code, and pursuant to Rule 23 of the Rules of the City Council, that there is a need to take immediate action on this matter AND that the need for action came to the attention of the City Council subsequent to the posting of the agenda for today's Council meeting.

I FURTHER MOVE a direct transfer of funds in the amount of \$75 million from the Department of Building and Safety Enterprise Fund to the COVID-19 Emergency Response Account within the General City Purposes Fund for extending and expanding emergency interim housing programs assumed to be fully reimbursable by FEMA. The loan repayment will be made as soon as FEMA reimbursements are received. A full repayment schedule is anticipated within 12 to 36 months. Please refer to the following instructions to effectuate this transfer.

Transfer and appropriate \$75 million from Fund 48R, Building and Safety Permit Enterprise Fund, Department 08, Account 08T204, Reserve for Future Cost to Fund 100, Department 56, New Account to be created, titled "Project Roomkey", COVID-19 Emergency Response.

MAR 03 2021



I FURTHER MOVE that the City Administrative Officer (CAO) be authorized to make technical corrections to implement Mayor and Council intentions; and that the Controller be authorized to implement those instructions.

PRESENTED BY: 
MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Councilmember, 10th District

SECONDED BY: 
NURY MARTINEZ
Councilmember, 6th District