

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: I am opposed to shutting down Project Room Key sites. Demobilizing Project Room Key, even through January 31, 2023, contradicts everything that needs to be done to help unhoused individuals come indoors. Many PRK residents are working with their case managers on their housing vouchers. Moving them now would only thwart that process. If PRK funding is an issue please appeal to the State coffers for funding to extend PRK at least another 6 months until FEMA reimburses the City. Another option is to purchase the largest of the remaining hotels, the LA Grande, and continue to use it for homeless housing. The reasons for extending PRK are many: we are still experiencing COVID variants, positive tests and quarantines in interim housing facilities during which no new intakes can be done, thus unhoused individuals languish on the streets. LAMC 41.18 is about to be expanded (another bad idea because resources are applied toward enforcement and thus are not being applied toward solutions), thus unhoused individuals languish on the streets, and there isn't enough temporary or permanent housing, thus unhoused individuals still languish on the streets. The LA Alliance settlement declared that LA City was going to provide 60% more temporary and permanent housing to LA's homeless before LAMC 41.18 would be enforced, but the new housing hasn't materialized yet. All of this is to say that Project Room Key needs to remain one of the many ways that unhoused individuals can come indoors, get some relief from the ravages of street living, receive help to get their documents in order, obtain referrals for mental health and substance use treatment, and receive medical treatment Keep PRK going!