

MOTION

On August 19, 2023, Mayor Bass declared a Local Emergency in response to the unprecedented weather conditions as a result of Hurricane Hilary, including heavy rain, thunderstorms, strong winds and flash flooding. As a result, the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was activated at a Level III to coordinate resources to ensure the safety of Angelenos during an unprecedented weather event.

The City of Los Angeles had not experienced a tropical storm in over 80 years, and the City's infrastructure had already suffered under the pressure of the atmospheric rain conditions throughout the previous year leading up to this storm. With these types of events ever more frequent and severe, it is crucial that the City works to ensure our infrastructure, emergency communications, and crisis response mobilization are able to effectively meet the moment.

Communities across Los Angeles have felt the impacts of these challenging weather conditions, but none more so than the City's unhoused residents. The City activated six emergency shelters on the Saturday preceding the storm's impact, and an additional two on Sunday afternoon. However, the cumulative available beds across the 8 shelter sites was less than 400 beds, while over 40,000 people are experiencing unsheltered homelessness on any given day in Los Angeles. Meeting the needs of Angelenos during a crisis means that we must provide adequate and appropriate resources, especially to our most vulnerable populations. From bed space, to outreach to fill those beds, to services available in those shelters, it is imperative that we meaningfully consider and effectively implement a response that truly addresses the next and all future extreme weather events for all residents of our City.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council direct the Emergency Management Department, to report back on the threshold for Emergency Operations Center (EOC) activation, including the number of days in advance of a potential emergency the EOC can be activated;

I FURTHER MOVE that the Council direct the Emergency Management Department, with the assistance of the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, Department of Recreation and Parks and the County of Los Angeles, to report back in 30 days to the Council on the process that occurred to activate emergency shelters to serve unhoused Angelenos during the Hurricane Hilary weather event. This report should include, but not be limited to:

- The number of emergency shelter beds activated within the City and County of Los Angeles, and their locations;
- The date and time in which the beds were activated;
- Details of the coordination of outreach efforts leading up to the storm to inform unhoused residents of new bed availability, including but not limited to: public service campaigns, emergency service alerts, ReadyLA notifications, and coordinated outreach amongst LAHSA and Non-Profit Service Provider Outreach teams to encampments, particularly those along the river and coastal communities and other areas of high flood-risk;
- Details of how information was integrated into 211, including how staff was informed as new beds came online for single adults;



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- Details of supplies distributed to unhoused residents who declined shelter;
- Transportation and storage options made available to unhoused residents to move them and their belongings to a shelter;
- The number of interim and bridge housing beds vacant in the 72 hours leading up to EOC activation;

I FURTHER MOVE that the Council direct the Emergency Management Department, with the assistance of the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, Department of Recreation and Parks and the County of Los Angeles, to report back in 30 days to the Council on opportunities to improve this process, including options to activate underutilized public buildings in the event of unprecedented weather emergencies to ensure the safety of residents without shelter.

PRESENTED BY: _____


EUNISSES HERNANDEZ
Councilmember, 1st District

SECONDED BY: _____



ORIGINAL