

MOTION

HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS


In November 2024, Los Angeles County voters approved Measure A, a half cent sales tax projected to generate approximately \$1.1 billion annually, creating a new regional funding stream dedicated to strategies to prevent and reduce homelessness and solutions for affordable housing throughout LA County. Measure A, which replaces Measure H, is a dynamic and innovative regional funding mechanism that provides a permanent commitment of local funds to support comprehensive homelessness services and affordable housing production, preservation, and renter protections. The five overarching goals under Measure A include: (1) Increase the number of people moving from encampments into permanent housing to reduce unsheltered homelessness; (2) Reduce the number of people with mental illness and/or substance use disorders who experience homelessness; (3) Increase the number of people permanently leaving homelessness; (4) Prevent people from falling into homelessness; and (5) Increase the number of affordable housing units in Los Angeles County. Collection of tax proceeds will begin on April 1, 2025.

Measure A funding will be shared by LA County, cities and councils of government, the Los Angeles County Development Authority (LACDA), and the Los Angeles County Affordable Housing Solutions Agency (LACAHS), a body made up of leaders including the LA County Supervisors, elected officials representing cities countywide, as well as nonprofit and community leaders through state legislation (5 out of the 21 seats on LACAHS are occupied by City of Los Angeles representatives). The County will oversee 60% of funds for comprehensive homeless services, 3% for local housing production through LACDA, and 1.25% for accountability, data, and research. The remaining 35.75% of funds will be provided to LACAHS for new affordable housing construction, affordable housing preservation, home ownership, tenant protections and eviction defense programs, planning and technical assistance to local jurisdictions related to affordable housing and land use, including reducing barriers to affordable housing and accelerating production and preservation, and anything else consistent with LACAHS's implementing statute.

The City of Los Angeles stands to potentially receive a substantial amount of funding from LACAHS. As applicable policies, program guidelines, and funding formulas are being developed by that body, and before anything is formally adopted in June 2025, the City should ensure that it is competitive by advocating for policies and programs that would result in the creation of new affordable housing units, preserve existing affordable housing units, protect tenants from eviction, and lead to greater home ownership opportunities and put us in strong standing to receive LACAHS funds.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council instruct the Los Angeles Housing Department in coordination with the Chief Legislative Analyst and the Department of City Planning to report back within 30 days on policies that the City has adopted that can enable us to successfully implement programs funded by LACAHS, including programs developed for ULA, policy recommendations that the City can adopt that would ensure greater access to LACAHS funds, and how the City can best support the development of strong program guidelines at LACAHS prior to the June 2025 deadline that meet current and emerging challenges in the housing sector.

PRESENTED BY: 
NITHYA RAMAN
Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY: 

ORIGINAL

APR 11 2025

