

MOTION

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) conducts an annual Point-in-Time (PIT) Count, in compliance with federal regulations to count the number of people experiencing homelessness on a given night in the Los Angeles region. The result for the 2026 PIT Count was released in July leading to wide reporting of a 3.4 percent increase in homelessness in the City of Los Angeles.

LAHSA's reports indicated increases in Council District 8, including a spike in its unsheltered numbers, rising from 309 in 2025 to 701 in 2026. Concerned with this anomaly, Council District 8 investigated the data. After interviewing representatives from both LAHSA and HOPICS, the office of Council District 8 identified a massive jump in Census Tract 238400. In this specific tract, 277 unsheltered people were reported this year, compared to only 19 in 2025. A jump of this magnitude in a single corridor strongly suggests a data collection or processing error rather than an actual change on the ground. This significant increase in number does not correspond with service requests received and conducted by Council District 8 field staff who work on the ground and are familiar with the individuals who live in this area.

Furthermore, there have been other reported accounting issues in the 2026 PIT Count impacting the Skid Row area numbers, and potentially across the City, as reported by the Los Angeles Times on August 11, 2026.

As a result of these methodology issues, it is important that LAHSA investigate and report to the City with their findings as to how these discrepancies occurred, their impact on the results, and actions necessary to prevent such problems in the future.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council request the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority to:

- a) Conduct a formal investigation into both the sheltered and unsheltered data in Council District 8;
- b) Provide a report explaining how these errors occurred and what corrective measures will be implemented for future counts; and
- c) As necessary, issue a formal update to any PIT Count findings to ensure the public record accurately reflects the state of homelessness in Council District 8 and the City.

PRESENTED BY:



MARQUEECE HARRIS-DAWSON
Councilmember, 8th District

SECONDED BY:


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