


WESTSIDE CITIES

- BEVERLY HILLS
- CULVER CITY
- LOS ANGELES
- SANTA MONICA
- WEST HOLLYWOOD
- COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Date: February 19, 2009

TO: Homeless Issues Committee

FROM: Gordon R. Anderson, Interim Executive Director

SUBJECT: Draft of Lobbyist Discussion Re: Homeless on 1/29/2009

Recommended Action:

That the Committee discuss this matter and provide input to Staff and the Interim Executive Director.

Background

At the January 29, 2009 COG board meeting, several lobbyists participated in a strategy session -- providing input, updates and their thoughts/suggestions on several topics that included Homeless. The following is the Draft Meeting Notes of the discussion.

ON CONFERENCE LINE:

Beverly Hills Lobbyist - June De Hart, Kathy Van Osten, Ivan Kallick, Dean McGrath
Santa Monica Lobbyist - Josh Shaw, Charmayne Macon,
Culver City Lobbyist - Lynn Jacquez, John Young
West Hollywood Lobbyist: Jennifer McGee
County of LA Lobbyist - Tim Egan, Steve Palmer
LA County MTA - David S. Kim
City of Los Angeles Lobbyist - Andrew Antwih
Metro Government Relations - Michael Raffi
Metro - Jody Litvak

The second area of discussion was Homeless:

On Homeless, it was discussed that reauthorization of the [McKenny-Vento Act](#) is important. It was noted that McKenny-Vento was the first - and remains the only - major federal legislative response to homelessness.

The concern was expressed that the COG should keep its "eye one" on homeless funding used for supportive services being shifted via HUD more to infrastructure to house the homeless. Success requires the blending of housing with supportive services attached to the housing. Similar, it was noted that there is an increase of people living in RVs, campers and cars on the residential streets in Venice. A dialogue has begun to identify locations for these vehicles and the need to be connected to services.

Further discussion included: the need for mental health funding; there are bills that will provide funding that an individual can access (e.g. funds for employment training, extension of health care and unemployment payments, WIC, senior nutrition; the Senate bill has a homeless prevention fund; and, the inability of some cities to spend Section 8 funds because of fair market rent issues.