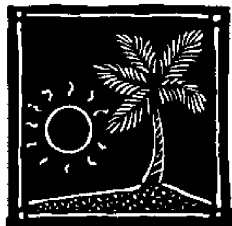


Draft Advocacy Packet Presented to Committee on June 19, 2008

ITEM IV

**WESTSIDE CITIES**

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

Date: June 19, 2008

To: Westside Cities Council of Governments

From: Jody Hall Esser, Executive Director

Re: Continued Discussion Draft Components and Content of Homeless issues Advocacy Packet

A draft advocacy packet has been prepared to facilitate Committee discussion. As drafted, it is modeled after the packet prepared to advance the Westside Cities COG's priority transportation projects.

The draft packet (Attachment A to this report), includes:

- A "White Paper" (cover letter) intended to summarize the COG/Committee's focus and agreed "initiatives" to address homeless issues;
- An information sheet about the Westside Cities COG
- Excerpts from the COG's adopted 2008-10 Work Program and 2008-09 Legislative Platform relating to homeless issues; and a
- Place-holder page for details regarding the initiatives the Committee/Board adopt.

There are many questions to address relating to the draft packet, not the least of which is: Is the COG ready to agree on cooperative efforts and a collaborative plan?

If the Committee can agree on this point, another issue would be what programs or initiatives are the COG willing to commit undertake. I have suggested three be included in the cover letter and detailed in the packet, but this number could include more or fewer activities.

At the recommendation of the Chair, the Executive Director reviewed the US Interagency Council on Homelessness site and specifically the "Top 20 Initiatives" for some suggestions. Attachment B to this report is a list of short and mid-long range "initiatives" suggestions prepared simply to begin the discussion of framing and selecting projects to present for COG Governing Board approval. *It is recognized that the Committee will want to precede final recommendation of initiatives to the Governing Board with a careful review to ensure they dovetail with and are supportive of existing member jurisdiction programs and projects related to the homeless.*

In addition, what Westside COG subregion homeless population statistics shall we cite? A figure of 9500 homeless men, women and children" is included in the draft cover letter. The LAHSA SPA 5 count from 2007 does not include West Hollywood or all of LA City Council District 11 – at the same time it does include Malibu which is not part of the WSCCOG. As a

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starting point, the figure included in the draft advocacy packet by using the LAHSA SPA 5 number (6,703,); adding the *West Hollywood Daytime Homeless Census 2007 Total (88)* provided by the City of West Hollywood; adding LAHSA's Council District 11 total of 2,799 = 9,590. The figure was then rounded to 9500 to account for some reduction in removing Malibu from SPA 5. Percentages of men, women, children etc., are straight from the LAHSA Homeless Count summary.

Recommended Action

That the Committee Provide Direction to the Executive Director regarding contents and components of the proposed WSCCOG Homeless Issues Advocacy Packet