



**WESTSIDE CITIES**

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

**SUSTAINABLE  
WESTSIDE**  
westsidecities.org

**Homeless Issues Committee Meeting**  
June 18, 2009 -- 12:30 PM  
Santa Monica Main Library  
**Staff Meeting Room, 2nd Floor**  
601 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica, CA

**MEETING NOTES**

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 12:37p.m. with Flora Gil Krisiloff representing Supervisor Yaroslavsky and Arturo Piña representing Council member Rosendahl, Council member Bloom arrived later.

**II. Follow-up to COG Board Meeting of 5/21/2009**

**A. Planning for the Homeless Workshop**

It was indicated that the COG governing board approved the changing the 2009 Issues Conference to a Homeless Workshop. The committee discussed the purpose, anticipated participants, logistics and date/location for the workshop. It was decided that a planning committee be established to work with the County to determine program and logistics for the workshop which will focus on homeless veterans and be held at the County Hall of Administration. Flora Gil Krisiloff is the lead for the county and will bring together the planning committee.

On a similar note, it was indicated that the county had been pursuing HUD VASH vouchers because the county had not received any vouchers in the first round last year, 840 vouchers did go to the City of Los Angeles. It was just learned the county will receive 280 HUD VASH vouchers and the City of Los Angeles will receive 105 for a total of 385 additional HUD VASH vouchers for the region.

**III. Updates:**

**A. Winter Shelter Program**

Michael Arnold, new executive director for LAHSA was welcomed to the committee and congratulated on his new position. Mr. Arnold indicated that at the next committee meeting he would have the appropriate staff with him to discuss the demographics and data from last year's program and that the data is now being entered into a new system which will be more reliable on a going-forward bases. For the 2009-2010, LAHSA is currently in a planning process with the county on the existing program and hope to have RFPs out soon to identify sponsors to insure early on good coverage countywide when the beds are needed. Mr. Arnold will have better information for the next committee meeting.

With respect to issues associate with the program last year, it was agreed that it would be better to have the operator present to hear the concerns first hand. Mr. Arnold indicated he would have the operator with him at the next committee meeting.

The committee discussed the West L.A. and Culver City facilities and what strategies might need to be determined early to get elected officials involved, if necessary, to insure the availability of the facilities. Currently, it's LAHSA's understanding that the facilities are available. The past issue has been short notice by the National Guard that a facility is not available due to training, renovation or deployment needs of the National Guard. Mr. Arnold will keep the committee informed if availability of facilities becomes an issue this year.

A question was raised as to whether the State budget cuts have/will impact the Winter Shelter program and if there's any advocacy that the COG should consider. In response, Mr. Arnold indicated that the State actually provided so little money for the program that if modified would be manageable. It was indicated the cost of the armories is about \$40,000 each for use.

The committee concluded with 1) LAHSA taking the lead on getting written confirmation on the availability of the armories, 2) recommending to the COG governing board proactively pursue with the State if the armories can be allocated for use by the Winter Shelter program at a reduced or no cost, and 3) give authority to staff begin lobbying which will include getting lobbyists involved.

#### **B. Project 500**

Flora Gil Krisiloff indicated that results of two year Project 50 effort brought forth by Supervisors Yaroslavsky and Molina in February showed the effort was cost saving and people were housed. Supervisor Yaroslasky suggested a new Project 500. There was a lot of interest on the part of the supervisors; however, the matter was continued pending further analysis of the cost of an expanded project. The VA has also expressed a desire to provide additional (estimated 50) HUD VASH vouchers to support the project.

#### **IV. Review of the Workforce Housing Recommendations from Westside Cities Planners Group**

##### **A. Workforce Housing Study Executive Summary**

##### **B. Strategy Recommendations**

The committee received a presentation from a member of the Westside Planners group. It was indicated the matter is being presented to the three COG subcommittees. Input from the committees will be compiled for review by the city managers/Technical Advisory committee to determine next steps. The matter will return to each subcommittee for further consideration.

#### **V. Next Steps, Confirmation of Next Meeting Date and Future Agenda Items**

- A. Homeless Workshop Update
- B. Follow up on the Winter Shelter program

#### **VI. Receive and File:**

##### **A. April 30, 2009 Committee Meeting Notes**

The April 30, 2009 Committee Meeting Notes were received and filed without modification.

**VII. Announcements:**

There were no announcements.

**VIII. Public Comment RE Items Not On the Agenda**

***NOTE:*** Depending on the length of the Agenda and number of individuals desiring to address the Committee, the time allotted for Public Comment may be limited.

There was no public comment.

**IX. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40p.m. The next meeting will be August 20, 2009 at 12:30p.m., Santa Monica Main Library.