



SPECIAL BOARD MEETING OF THE WESTSIDE CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

**Wednesday, September 28, 2022
1:00 PM – 2:30 PM**

Remote Participation via Zoom Link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83238931418>

Livestream on YouTube:
http://bit.ly/wscocg_livestream

MEETING INFORMATION AND ACCOMMODATION

To combat the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19), the member cities of the Westside Cities Council of Governments (WSCCOG), and the WSCCOG, have held teleconferenced publicly accessible meetings. AB 361 has authorized public meetings to continue to take place via teleconference because State and Local officials are recommending measures to promote social distancing. The **September 28, 2022** WSCCOG Special Board meeting will be conducted in a teleconference format. The WSCCOG Board members, staff and members of the public will all participate remotely via teleconference using the Zoom platform.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION BY PROVIDING E-COMMENT

Members of the Public who wish to comment on matters before the Board are strongly encouraged to submit an email with their written comments limited to 1,000 characters to winnie@estolanoadvisors.com by no later than 1:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting. *Note: E-Comments received after 1:00 p.m. will be forwarded to the Board and posted on the COG's website at www.westsidecities.org/meeting as part of the official meeting record. The email address will remain open during the meeting for providing public comment during the meeting. Emails received during the meeting will be read out loud at the appropriate time during the meeting provided they are received before the Board takes action on an item (or can be read during general public comment).

For any questions regarding the virtual meeting, please contact Winnie Fong at winnie@estolanoadvisors.com or (323) 306-9856.

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND IDENTIFICATION OF VOTING MEMBERS

3. ACTION ITEMS

A. Authorization to Conduct Teleconferencing Meetings under the AB 361

Recommended Action: (1) Make findings that a statewide state of emergency continues to exist, and local and state health officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing in order to conduct this meeting via teleconference; and (2) Discuss findings under AB 361 and approve conducting the WSCCOG meetings via teleconferencing for the September 28, 2022 WSCCOG Special Board Meeting.

4. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

A. Behavioral Crisis and Mental Health Care Services and Infrastructure

i. Karen Linkins, PHD, Chief Strategist for Mind OC/Be Well OC

B. Q&A and Discussion

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

6. FUTURE MEETING AND AGENDA ITEMS

A. Future Meeting

i. Thursday, October 13, 2022 at 12:00 p.m.

7. ADJOURN

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE WESTSIDE CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Instructions for Public Comments

You may submit public comments in two (2) ways:

1. **Submit written comments via email to:** Members of the Public who wish to comment on matters before the Board are strongly encouraged to submit an email with their written comments limited to 1,000 characters to winnie@estolanoadvisors.com by no later than 1:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting.

All written comments received after 1:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be announced and included as part of the official record of the meeting.

2. **To Listen and Provide Verbal Comments by Phone:**
 - a. Call (669) 444-9171 to access the conference room. Given high call volumes recently experienced by Zoom, please continue dialing until you connect successfully.
 - b. Enter the Meeting ID: **832 3893 1418**.
 - c. Indicate that you are a participant by pressing # to continue.
 - d. You will hear audio of the meeting in progress. Remain on the line if the meeting has not yet started.
 - e. During the Public Comment Period, press *9 to add yourself to the queue and wait for the WSCCOG staff to announce your name/phone number.
 - f. WSCCOG staff will unmute your line when it is your turn to speak. Limit oral comments to 2 minutes, or as otherwise directed by the presiding officer. If unable to connect by Zoom or phone and you wish to make a comment, you may submit written comments via email to: winnie@estolanoadvisors.com

Instructions for WSCCOG Board Members and Member City Staff in the Meeting

To participate in the meeting as a WSCCOG Board member, Mayor, Councilmember, or staff member of the WSCCOG member cities, please contact Winnie Fong, WSCCOG Project Director at winnie@estolanoadvisors.com before the meeting and provide your name and email address. A Zoom email will be sent to you including a unique link to enter the meeting.

If Zoom is not already installed on your computer, click “Download & Run Zoom” on the launch page and press “Run” when prompted by your browser. If Zoom has previously been installed on your computer, please allow a few moments for the application to launch automatically. Select “Join Audio via Computer.” The virtual conference room will open. If you receive a message reading, “Please wait for the host to start this meeting,” simply remain in the room until the meeting begins.

To make a comment during the meeting, use the “raise hand” function located in the participants’ window and wait for the WSCCOG staff to announce your name.



DATE: September 21, 2022

TO: Westside Cities Council of Governments Board

FROM: Westside Cities Council of Governments Staff and Legal Counsel

SUBJECT: Authorization to Conduct Teleconferencing Meetings under the AB 361

Recommended Action

1. Make findings that a statewide state of emergency continues to exist, and local and state health officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing in order to conduct this meeting via teleconference.
2. Discuss findings under AB 361 and approve conducting the WSCCOG meetings via teleconferencing for the September 28, 2022 WSCCOG Special Board Meeting.

Background

Governor Newsom signed into law AB 361, which went into effect on October 1, 2021 (replacing earlier Executive Orders governing teleconferencing during the COVID-19 state of emergency). This legislation authorizes a local agency to continue the use of teleconferencing without complying with the teleconferencing requirements imposed by the Ralph M. Brown Act when a legislative body (such as the WSCCOG Board) holds a meeting during a declared state of emergency. The bill allowed the WSCCOG Board to conduct a teleconference meeting when state or local health officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing during a proclaimed statewide state of emergency. There are other findings that can be made that are not relevant here. This report confirms the requirements for continued virtual teleconference meetings for all Brown Act meetings that will remain virtual for this meeting.

The WSCCOG has six member agencies, all of whom are still navigating local states of emergency and determining whether to meet in person, virtually, or both. Staff members in various cities may be working remotely and there is not one uniform standard for safely and comfortably conducting in-person meetings at this time. Accordingly, under AB 361, the WSCCOG may continue to rely on teleconferencing to provide safe meeting environment for officials, staff, and community members by making the required findings. State and local health officials still recommend measures for social distancing, especially during the period when the Delta and Omicron Variant (or other variants) are spreading.



DATE: September 21, 2022

TO: Westside Cities Council of Governments Board

FROM: Westside Cities Council of Governments Staff

SUBJECT: Behavioral Crisis and Mental Health Care Services and Infrastructure

Background

In April 2022, the WSCCOG adopted the WSCCOG Subregional Homelessness Strategic Work Plan (refer to this [link](#) to access the full work plan). The work plan outlines the following regional issues and WSCCOG goals related to behavioral crisis and mental health care:

Issues/Needs:

- In LA County, drug and alcohol overdose is the number one leading cause of death for persons experiencing homelessness, while suicide is the fifth leading cause of death.¹
- Service Planning Area (SPA 5) saw a 67.5% increase, and SPA 4 saw a 51.3% in accidental drug overdose death rates between 2019 and 2020 among their residents (housed and unhoused).²
- There is variability between Westside Cities regarding the status of clinical capacity in their first responder systems.
- There are limited crisis receiving facilities and treatment beds available in the region.

Goals:

- Expand sub-regional capacity to address the community's behavioral health needs through increased collaboration and partnerships with the County, local hospital systems, philanthropy, and community partners.
- Build robust behavioral health alternative crisis response systems including dispatch, first responder services, and crisis-receiving facilities in the region to appropriately connect people experiencing behavioral and mental health crises to the continuum of care and treatment services instead of the criminal justice system.
- Expand first responder system capacity to support alternatives to law enforcement to address low-risk behavioral health crisis incidents.

Additionally, the [9-8-8 mental health crisis hotline](#) is now live, which launched nationwide on July 16, 2022. The hotline number serves as a quick way for people who are experiencing a mental

¹ http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/chie/reports/HomelessMortality2020_CHIEBrief_Final.pdf

² <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/sapc/MDU/SpecialReport/AccidentalDrugOverdoseReportJuly2021V2.0.pdf>

health crisis to connect with a trained mental health professional and access supportive services. The WSCCOG plans to work with its member cities to align and coordinate cities' behavioral health crisis response systems with the roll out of County and Department of Mental Health's 9-8-8 program. For an overview of current behavioral and mental health crisis focused response units and outreach programs in the Westside subregion, refer to **Attachment A**.

Presentation and Discussion

In March 2022, the WSCCOG Executive Director held one-on-one meetings with the WSCCOG Boardmembers to discuss regional priorities for the WSCCOG, which resulted in the proposed action to convene a special WSCCOG Board meeting to discuss best practice models and programs related to mental health and behavioral crisis, as well as the possibility of exploring the development of a subregional mental health facility that would support current efforts led by our Westside cities. Several WSCCOG Boardmembers recommended inviting Be Well OC to discuss its model for behavioral crisis and mental health care services and infrastructure in Orange County.

The WSCCOG staff invited Karen Linkins, PhD, Chief Strategist of [Mind OC / Be Well OC](#) to provide a presentation on a unified system for mental health care services and infrastructure in Orange County through Be Well OC's [Mobile Response Team](#) and [Wellness Campus Facilities](#). A Q&A session will follow the presentation where the WSCCOG Boardmembers will engage in a discussion around the following initial guiding questions regarding potential subregional Behavioral Crisis and Mental Health program(s) and/or facilities in the Westside subregion:

- Who will it serve?
- What is the catchment area and scale?
- What are potential partners/service providers and funding opportunities?
- What are potential locations or area within the Westside for a subregional facility?

WSCCOG Board Members, Westside Mayors and Councilmembers, City Managers, WSCCOG Homelessness Working Group members, County Departments, and other (i.e., local service providers and frontline workers, hospitals and medical centers, etc.) are encouraged to attend this Special Board Meeting.

About Be Well OC

Be Well OC is working to make Orange County the happiest and healthiest community in the United States—and that starts with a world-class mental health care system. The mission is to make compassionate mental health care more accessible for our community. For more information, visit <https://www.bewelloc.org>.

A Complex Challenge: When a mental health care issue arises, access to responsive, compassionate care is essential. But due to communication gaps and other barriers in the existing system, many have trouble finding the help they need. That can lead to adverse outcomes for those in need of care, and for the entire community. There's a better way.

An Integrated Solution: Be Well OC brings together mental health care services uniting public, private, academic and faith-based organizations in a cooperative partnership that helps facilitate communication, bridge gaps and eliminate barriers to care. The result is a more compassionate system of care that works better for everyone in the community.

A Blueprint for Action: The need for better mental health care isn't unique to Orange County. Communities nationwide face the same challenge to reduce stigma, bridge gaps, improve communication and make care more accessible to those in need. The Be Well OC model provides a blueprint that other communities can follow to improve their mental health system.

Coalition Building: Be Well OC unites leading businesses, organizations and institutions in Orange County in a shared mission to make mental health care more compassionate and accessible for everyone in the community. For a list of coalition organizations, visit <https://www.bewelloc.org/bewell-coalition-organizations.html>

Priorities: A healthier Orange County begins with mental health services that address the needs of everyone in our community. From improving communication to humanizing crisis intervention to building more welcoming facilities, Be Well OC is building a world-class mental health care system in Orange County.

- **Wellness Campuses** - Be Well OC is a comprehensive mental health facility that provides coordinated, compassionate care to Orange County residents. The Orange campus provides a welcoming environment to receive mental health and addiction treatment to those who want help to heal and recover. Two additional mental health treatment centers will open in the coming years, making care more accessible to everyone who needs it. For more information, visit <https://www.bewelloc.org/wellness-campuses/>
 - **Crisis Stabilization Services:** The Crisis Stabilization Unit at the Be Well Orange Campus is a welcoming environment where individuals in crisis can be assessed and stabilized. The crisis recovery center is staffed by an interdisciplinary team specializing in crisis intervention, medication evaluation and management, and psychiatric evaluation.
 - **Sobering/Recovery Station:** A unique Orange County substance abuse treatment center, our Sobering and Recovery Station is the first of its kind in Orange County. This voluntary short-stay program provides screening, recovery planning, comfort services, and a transition to ongoing care for individuals with substance use, as well as mental health services if needed.
 - **Residential Substance Use Treatment Services:** The residential program is for Orange County residents 18 years and older. The team supports clients in this program with personalized treatment plans that identify barriers and

challenges, set priorities, establish goals, collaboratively create plans of action, and ensure a warm connection to the next level of care or treatment when the time is right.

- **Withdrawal Management Services:** The withdrawal management program at the substance abuse and addiction health center provides detoxification services in a residential, non-medical setting that follows the social model of detoxification. Expert staff provides safe, 24-hour monitoring, observation, and support in a supervised environment so residents can achieve initial recovery from the effects of alcohol or another substance.
- **Crisis Residential Services:** The Orange campus is home to one of the leading inpatient mental health facilities in California. The Crisis Residential Program focuses on reducing distress and stabilizing individuals following an acute psychiatric episode or crisis. The program also works to connect people with needed resources to help them remain as independent as possible in the community and develop an actionable recovery plan. Stays in the program are generally 30 days or fewer.
- **Co-Occurring Residential Services for Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Module:** The short-term residential program works to stabilize the psychological, physical, and social aspects of addiction while preparing residents for treatment on an outpatient basis.
- **Mobile Response** - The Be Well OC Mobile Crisis Response Team is composed of two crisis counselors who provide in-community assessment and crisis stabilization services to individuals experiencing mental health or substance use challenges. The mobile response team provides information, referrals, transportation and additional follow-up support and case management. The mobile crisis response program helps improve outcomes for those in need, while also supporting law enforcement and EMS so they can focus on calls where they are needed most urgently. The net result is improved mental health care for Orange County residents, at a lower overall cost to the community. For more information, visit <https://www.bewelloc.org/bewell-mobile-response/>
- **Special Initiatives** - To make mental health care in Orange County as accessible and compassionate as possible, certain issues require a specialized approach. Be Well OC supports a number of targeted initiatives, each focusing on a specific concern, which includes (For more information, visit <https://www.bewelloc.org/special-initiatives/>):
 - **Substance Use Disorder Leadership Initiative** - A coordinated program to make substance use disorder treatment more accessible for all Orange County residents.

- **Be Well OC Community Suicide Prevention Initiative** - Working to save lives through suicide prevention activities that promote hope and help Orange County residents live more purposeful lives.
- **Behavioral Health System Transformation** - Improving the quality and accessibility of culturally responsive, inclusive mental health and substance abuse services in Orange County.
- **ACEs Aware Trauma Informed Network of Care** - Trauma-Informed Network of Care

Presenter Bio

Karen Linkins is the Chief Strategist for Mind OC/Be Well and is responsible for strategy formulation and management, including overseeing and leading strategic initiatives. She specializes in systems transformation across health, behavioral health, and human services by combining advocacy, implementation science, and program evaluation to improve population health and advance health equity using frameworks like collective impact and distributed leadership. A recognized leader in integrated behavioral health nationally, Dr. Linkins has led more than 100 research, evaluation, technical assistance, and strategic planning projects for Federal agencies, states, counties, foundations, community-based organizations, and clinics. Some of her prior projects include: designing and evaluating Sacramento's MediCal Whole Person Care pilot that targeted individuals experiencing homelessness with complex health and behavioral health needs, evaluating the CA Accountable Communities for Health Initiative, and designing a public-private continuum of behavioral health care in Orange County. Dr. Linkins works to develop strong strategic partnerships across safety net organizations and communities to confront and address the underlying inequities and disparities that impact population health. She earned her PhD in Medical Sociology from the University of California, San Francisco and her AB from Smith College.

OVERVIEW OF WESTSIDE SUBREGIONAL BEHAVIORAL/MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS-FOCUSED RESPONSE UNITS AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS

(As of July 2022)

REGIONAL/COUNTY/SERVICE PLANNING AREA (SPA)

County Dept. of Health Services (DHS) Multi-Disciplinary Teams (MDTs)

- **Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT)**
 - Measure H-funded teams administered by Los Angeles County DHS and staffed by contracted service providers.
 - Teams consist of an average of five members specializing in one of the following services: mental health, substance abuse, case management, and peer support
 - Each Service Planning Area (SPA) is assigned MDTs based on results from the annual Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count and are assigned to outreach hubs in the same manner as LAHSA's Homeless Engagement Team (HET) generalists.
 - MDTs provide services and referrals, in addition to mental health, substance use, and medical services. Measure H funds one weekend MDT per SPA.
 - There are also 19 non-Measure-H funded MDTs that serve assigned areas including LA Metro and DHS Health Centers.

- **Public Space MDT (PS MDT)**
 - Consist of two workers and are staffed by community-based organizations.
 - Conduct outreach in public-facing areas, including libraries and parks, and maintain a visible and accessible presence in key public spaces.

- **Other Details**
 - Data sharing via Countywide Homeless Information Portal (CHIP), overseen by CEO's Analytics Center of Excellence
 - SPA 5: [St. Joseph Center](#) (SJC) is lead: 4 MDTs, 2 PS MDTs
 - SPA 4:
 - [Exodus Recovery](#) (lead): 2 MDTs, 1 PS MDTs
 - [The People's Concern](#): 7 MDTs, 3 PS MDTs

County Dept. of Mental Health (DMH) Psychiatric Mobile Response Teams (PMRTs)

- **DMH Psychiatric Mobile Response Teams (PMRTs)**
 - PMRTs consist of DMH clinicians designated per Welfare and Institutions Code 5150/ 5585
 - Perform evaluations for involuntary detention of individuals determined to be at risk of harming themselves or others or who are unable to provide food, clothing, or shelter as a result of a mental disorders

- **Homeless Outreach Teams (HOT)**
 - Comprised of PMRT staff providing outreach and engagement to mentally ill homeless persons

- HOT increases the likelihood of effective outcomes for this population in situations when they are at risk of involuntary hospitalization.

DMH Psychiatric Emergency Teams (PETs)

PETs are mobile teams operated by psychiatric hospitals approved by DMH to provide 5150 and 5585 evaluations. Team members are licensed mental health clinicians.

DMH Homeless Outreach Mobile Engagement (HOME)

HOME provides countywide field based outreach and engagement services and intensive case management to underserved or disengaged homeless persons who are mentally ill, living in homeless encampments, or frequenting locations where outreach is not readily available or provided in a focused manner.

Quarterly Updates on Alternatives to Crisis Response Initiative (to BOS from DMH)

- Provides quarterly updates on developing Alternatives to Crisis Response programs that will update or create county health and human services programs that align with [Care First, Jails Last March 2020 ATI Work Group report](#). The reports cover updates on:
 - Information/Technology Projects
 - Crisis Call Center Network Projects
 - Mobile Crisis Response Projects
 - Crisis Facility Projects

CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

Mental Health Evaluation Team (MET) - Currently in Development

- In [May 2022](#), staff recommended that Council approve the Beverly Hills Police Department (BHPD) Mental Health Evaluation Team (MET)
- The BHPD MET will provide mental health support, field crisis intervention, and appropriate psychiatric placement in situations involving contact with persons suffering from mental illness. The team will consist of two Police Officers and two Licensed Clinical Social Workers.
- Team will be staffed seven days per week and will consist of two dedicated sworn police officers and two licensed DMH clinicians.

Beverly Hills Homeless Outreach Team (BHOT)

- City has an in-house homeless outreach team that is contracted through [Step Up On Second](#). They are dually focused on connecting long-time homeless individuals residing in Beverly Hills with supportive services to move from the streets into permanent housing, and quickly linking new arrivals to services throughout the region that will address their immediate needs.
- Case management services may include: family reunification, linkages to benefits, food, medical/mental health, shelter beds, permanent supportive housing and other pertinent supports. Through this partnership, the City is able to link individuals to LA County DMH

programs. The team also utilizes a partnership with [Saban Community Clinic](#) to link individuals with additional behavioral health services, physical health services and showers.

- BHOT has access to a limited amount of City contracted shelter beds at [People Assisting the Homeless](#) (PATH). Once in the program, the individual will work with PATH's case management team to create a housing plan, and to receive linkages to additional resources including behavioral health services.
- The team can be reached at 310-487-0313 and is available seven days per week, and their hours are Saturday-Tuesday, 8am-5pm, Wednesday, 5am-8pm, Thursday, 8am-8pm, and Friday, 5am-8pm.

Coordinated Homeless Outreach Response

- ***Park Rangers***
 - Provide outreach services in all City parks, community centers, the Beverly Hills Public Library and other City facilities.
 - Team provides dedicated homeless outreach in the City's parks daily from 5am-7am, and is currently piloting overnight outreach at the City's parks from two nights per week.
- ***Beverly Hills Ambassadors***
 - Provide homeless outreach, safety and hospitality services in the City's business triangle and South Beverly Drive.
 - Available seven days per week, 24 hours per day at 424-302-1487.

CITY OF CULVER CITY

Culver City Mental Evaluation Team (CCMET)

The Culver City Mental Health Evaluation Team (CCMET) is comprised of one mental health trained police officer and one Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health Clinician. The mission of this team is to provide response, care, and treatment of individuals requiring mental health assistance. For more information, visit <https://www.culvercitypd.org/Bureau-Information/Patrol-Bureau/Mental-Health-and-Suicide-Prevention>

Mobile Crisis Intervention Services (MCIS)

- [Culver City Review of Public Safety Services](#) (2020) assessed and included recommendations for how the City will move forward in reimagining public safety.
- In 2021, the City released a [request for proposal](#) to retain a consultant to help the City design a mobile crisis intervention program. The program would include a specially-trained team of social workers, medical technicians, and peer advocates, instead of armed first-responders, to meet the community's mental and behavioral health needs.
- The City selected Critical Responses in Supportive Integrated Services (C.R.I.S.I.S.) Consulting to develop an alternative crisis program.

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

Therapeutic Unarmed Response for Neighborhoods (TURN)

- Public safety model that dispatches mental health and outreach workers to some 911 calls for assistance that do not involve violence.
- Mayor's office has proposed \$10M towards alternative mental health crisis response programs.

CIRCLE (Crisis and Incident Response Through Community-Led Engagement)

- Provides an alternative, unarmed response to non-emergency 911 calls involving people experiencing homelessness (PEH) and proactive outreach in areas of high need.
- Program started in fiscal year 2021-2022 as a pilot operating in Venice and Hollywood. The City's 2022-2023 budget allocates funding to expand CIRCLE in Hollywood, West LA, Downtown LA, the Valley, and South LA.
- Teams consist of a licensed mental health clinician and two outreach workers. CRTs are available 24/7 to respond to diverted non-emergency, non-violent, and non-criminal 911 calls involving PEH, including well-being checks, lack of clothing, loitering, and noise complaints. The teams are equipped with vehicles for transport, as well as first aid equipment, water, snacks, clothing, and Narcan.
- CIRCLE teams are not armed and do not perform any law enforcement duties.

DMH/Therapeutic Transport Pilot

- In development since 2019, [MOA signed May 2021](#)
- Vans are deployed from City Fire via their Tiered Dispatch system and operated by the Psychiatric Mobile Response Team (PMRT).
- All vans are staffed with an expert team from the Dept. of Mental Health and are composed of a clinical driver, psychiatric technician, and a peer support specialist enabled rapidly to initiate supportive case management.
- The new pilot program expands the current reach and impact by integrating LA County mental health experts into the emergency response for calls that come into 911 or go directly to the LA City Police Department or LA City Fire Department.
- Available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, in five LA City Fire stations across the County to correspond or take lead on incoming emergency calls related to, or presumed to involve, an individual experiencing a mental health crisis.
- For more information, visit:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1AbYz8IXyOA8hF7MtAMKARGr6TZ3svD5w/view>

CITY OF SANTA MONICA

Santa Monica Police Department (SMPD) Homeless Liaison Program (HLP)

Consists of one (1) Sergeant and eight (8) Officers who work collaboratively with Santa Monica City Attorney's Office, the Santa Monica Fire Department, the City's Community Services Department, and [DMH](#) to identify and assist connecting people experiencing homelessness to appropriate housing and services while addressing issues of crime and public safety. For more information, visit <https://santamonicapd.org/Content.aspx?id=51260>

Santa Monica Police Department and DMH Clinicians

- SMPD has two full-time DMH clinicians, one that is partnered with the HLP team, and one that is partnered with patrol.
- DMH clinicians provide de-escalation, in-field assessments, connect individuals in crisis to DMH facilities and services, facilitate 5150 holds, and assist in the development of holistic care plans for individuals.
 - and access to care for vulnerable populations and people experiencing homelessness.

DMH Therapeutic Transport Program (TTP)

TTP aims to provide an effective and cost-efficient model for responding to individuals in crisis. Funding of \$400,000 is available for the first year of this program. Continuation of the pilot after these resources expire would require identifying additional resources: Alternative dispatch emergency response model to enhance mental health services

SMFD Community Response Unit (*DIVERTED FIRE DEPT TEAM of EMT and PARAMEDIC*)

- A specialized homeless response unit could also be implemented to divert SMFD calls for services.
- Such a program would require an ongoing commitment of \$500,000 that is not currently included in the budget. There is also a need to revise state and local laws and directives that limit where paramedics can take individuals in need of mental health care and substance use disorder care to support alternative responses.

Behavioral Health Center Feasibility Assessment

Aims to address the growing need for 24/7 alternatives to hospital emergency rooms and jails. The City should explore the feasibility of partnering with a third party and/or converting an existing property to provide a behavioral health triage center in Santa Monica. Staff recommends that the City continue to advocate for legislation and policies that remove barriers to vulnerable individuals accessing appropriate care.

City-Funded Multi-disciplinary Street Team (MDT's)

The City funds three multidisciplinary outreach teams to serve people experiencing homelessness. These teams include staff such as licensed mental health professionals, housing case managers, substance use specialists, licensed medical providers, psychiatrists, and peers with lived experience. This means that city-funded teams are out on Santa Monica streets 7 days

a week meeting with people experiencing homelessness and providing information about local services.

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD

DMH/West Hollywood Police Department Mental Evaluation Team (MET)

Program Details/Components

- Response protocol and referral trainings provided to City Departments/staff (City Hall and Parks)
- Co-location: In exchange for use of the City-purchased MET vehicle, the County has placed a regional serving MET team in West Hollywood Sheriff's station which provides 40 additional hours of MET coverage that serves the region and the community.
- Increased focus on older adults: West Hollywood Sheriff's MET has created increased clinical capacity to respond to older adult residents in crisis and serving older adults on the brink of homelessness due to impacts of untreated mental illness and dementia. MET works closely with staff at Jewish Family Services, Step Up on Second, Cedars-Sinai, Bet Tzedek, the L.A. County Public Guardian's Office and others.

Mobile Integrated Team - Step Up

- City of West Hollywood funds the Step Up Mobile Integrated Team to provide services to West Hollywood community members experiencing homelessness who are impacted by untreated behavioral health conditions.
- Team conducts outreach, provides supportive services and guides community members into permanent housing where Step Up continues to provide wrap-around case management and clinical support to help people stay housed.

Behavioral Health Crisis Response Unit

- ***West Hollywood Care Team (In Development)***
 - The City is developing the framework for a Behavioral Health Crisis Unit to serve as a third emergency responder in West Hollywood by providing supportive counseling, first aid and non-emergency medical care, substance use disorder assessment, wellness/welfare checks, resource connection and referrals, suicide prevention and transportation to needed services.
 - Mobile unit would work closely with the City's contracted social service agencies to connect people to community-based services after the immediate crisis has resolved.
 - For more information, visit: [Behavioral Health Crisis Response Unit](#)