CITY OF LOS ANGELES

URBAN NEEDS AND RESOURCES

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DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL URBAN NEEDS AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE LETTER

Subject: Encampment Engagement Grant

Alexis Boothby
Program Manager
Encampment Engagement
Housing for Health/Los Angeles County Department of Health Services

Dear Ms. Boothby,

During the opening public comment period for our November 29th meeting of the Urban Needs and Resources Committee of the Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council, the question was asked what are the plans to help Skid Row with the upcoming Winter weather, specifically the rain and cold temperatures.

One of the agenda items for our meeting was the upcoming Skid Row Action Plan Report Back being held at the LA Mission on December 8th. During that agenda item we discussed the sixty million dollar Encampment Engagement grant from the State to Housing for Health/County Department of Health Services and the role that might play both in creating a Winter strategy for the unhoused residents of Skid Row as well as providing resources to fulfill that strategy.

There was no mention of the upcoming Winter weather during the Report Back at LA Mission.

Winter in Skid Row is deadly due to the dangers of hypothermia. Every year this is an issue in Skid Row and every year the wheel gets re-invented. Please report back to us regarding what plans the County has, specifically related to your leadership as Program Manager of this 60 million dollar grant, for the purpose of engaging encampments in Skid Row given the serious health implications of these upcoming Winter months.

We would like to request an emergency meeting between the County and DLANC Urban Needs and Resources Committee.

cc: Molly Rysman - Policy Director/Housing for Health Department of Health Services Dr. Christina Ghaly - Director of Los Angeles County Department of Health Services

Sincerely,

Claudia Oliveira President, DLANC Damion Wagner, Urban Needs Committee Chair, DLANC