

# South Bay Cities Council of Governments

## Senior Services Working Group Meeting Notes

Tuesday, March 30, 2021 @ 9:30 am  
Zoom Meeting

### 1. Welcome

Elected officials/representatives in attendance:

Council Member Britt Huff, Chair (Rolling Hills Estates, H.E.L.P.); Council Member Olivia Valentine (Hawthorne); Council Member Dionne Faulk (Inglewood)

Others in attendance: Julie Todd (El Segundo); Christina Theobald (Gardena); Jesse Ramirez (St. Margaret's Center/Hawthorne); Tomas Uwal (Inglewood); C. Medina (Lawndale); Marcelle Herrera (Palos Verdes Estates/PVE-CARES); McKenzie Bright (Rancho Palos Verdes); Linda Wilson-Gray (Torrance); Karen Pryor (Torrance Commission on Aging); Jacqueline Sun (Beach Cities Health District); Courtney Reed (PATH); Grace Peng, Melen McBride, Teri Neustaedter, Harriet Chase (League of Women Voters Beach Cities); Laura Ishizaka (Palos Verdes Library District); Marianne Propst, Fran Wielin (PV Peninsula Village); Bea Virobik (Focal Point on Aging); Anita Chun (Torrance Memorial Medical Center); Rafi Nazarians (AARP); Jacki Bacharach, Grace Farwell, Steve Lantz (SBCCOG)

### 2. Previous meeting notes – to be posted on SBCCOG Senior Services Working Group webpage

### 3. PATH Update

Courtney Reed reminded everyone of the role that PATH (People Assisting the Homeless) plays

- PATH -
- With COVID-19, PATH outreach and case management has been limited due to teams being pulled to other operations
- Project Room Key (PRK) – collaborative effort between State, LA County, LAHSA
  - The goal of PRK is to get individuals living on the streets who are 65+ and/or with underlying chronic health conditions and not able to self-isolate into hotels and motels.
  - Must be asymptomatic
  - There are specific hotels in LA County that have been designated for those who tested positive
  - Courtney is currently overseeing a hotel for those who tested positive
  - There are 4 hotels in the South Bay – 1 in Lomita, 1 in San Pedro, and 2 in Lawndale
  - County-wide, the goal is to provide 15,000 rooms for qualifying individuals; approximately 3,000 beds have been identified



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- Residents in the hotels and motels must observe social distancing guidelines
- Provided with 3 packaged meals per day by contracted vendor; meals delivered by Disaster Service Workers; temperature is taken at mealtimes
- A service provider is attached to each site
  - Harbor Interfaith – Lomita site
  - Volunteers of America – San Pedro site
  - PATH – Lawndale site (1<sup>st</sup> hotel); do not know service provider at 2<sup>nd</sup> location in Lawndale
- Services provided at hotel sites: DMH, DPSS, DHS
- Goal is to get people document ready to get them into permanent housing and not back out onto the street once PRK is over
- Question: are all hotel rooms utilized by homeless? Or is the hotel also open for others? Answer: all rooms at a designated hotel are for those experiencing homelessness to be able to self-isolate
- Question: is there monitoring of drug and/or alcohol use? Answer: all participants sign a “contract” and agree to abide by the rules, including not using drugs or alcohol.
- Question: how do referrals work? Answer: all referrals are made through the service providers. Continue to use LA-HOP.org and make note that person(s) might be a good candidate for PRK. Contact Breanna Jaijairam at Harbor Interfaith Services to make referral. Breanna oversees Individuals in the Coordinated Entry System (CES).
- FAQ for the general public; FAQ for city officials
- SBCCOG Homeless Coordination
  - Handwashing stations have been deployed throughout SPA 8 by LAHSA
    - 5 in Inglewood
    - 2 in Redondo Beach
    - 1 in Hawthorne
    - 1 in Lawndale/El Camino Village
    - Other areas: West Carson, Harbor City, Wilmington
  - Hygiene funds through LA County have been made available to cities
    - Torrance rented 8 handwashing stations, located at parks throughout the city
    - Hawthorne rented 5 handwashing stations, located at parks throughout the city
    - Redondo Beach and Gardena are using funds for hygiene kits to include masks and hand sanitizers

#### 4. SBCCOG Regional Coordination Activities

Grace provided an update on programs

#### 5. Update from Legislative Offices

#### 6. Revisiting Age-Friendly Cities

Janet Turner, Congressman Ted Lieu’s office:

- Waiting to see if Senate will take up HEROES Act
- Working on the following issues

- Preventing evictions
  - Non-profit organizations getting PPE
  - Addressing homelessness
  - Help for landlords
  - Every major department has a congressional liaison
- Erick Ponce-Furlos, Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi's office:

- Case work related to DMV
  - Licenses have been extended 120 days for licenses expiring in June/July
  - Extending licenses for those 70+
  - For those 69 and younger, licenses extended through July 2020

7. City Response for seniors to COVID-19

- City staff provided updates on services being provided to their residents during COVID-19
- BCHD, PV Library, PVP Village, and South Bay Village provided updates on services being provided
- Spreadsheet of services is available on SBCCOG Senior Services Working Group webpage

8. Announcements and Follow-up Actions

- Jacki Bacharach provided the SBCCOG update:
  - SBCCOG is waiting to move into new office space in Torrance
  - Telework workshop; cities allowing employees to telework
  - Meeting regularly with Community Development Directors, Parks and Recreation Directors, Economic Development Directors, City Managers
  - South Bay Fiber Network under construction; expect to be operational July 1, 2020; scheduling lunch & learns – applications that cities can be doing

9. Next meeting – May 25, 2021

*Notes submitted by Grace Farwell*