

LACVAC Recommendation #4

WHEREAS, on February 7, 2023, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors instructed the Director of Military and Veterans Affairs and Chief Executive Officer to report back in 60 days on recommendations to remove silos and improve service integration to efficiently serve veterans experiencing homelessness;¹

WHEREAS, on May 30, 2023, the Chief Executive Officer, Director of Military and Veterans Affairs and Director of Public Works provided a report back to the Board of Supervisors. The report identified seven siloes and barriers, including:

1. Lack of integration
2. Differing program eligibility criteria
3. Document readiness
4. Veteran Support Services are not geographically accessible
5. Lack of affordable and veteran-specific permanent supportive housing options
6. Insufficient mobile and street based mental health services
7. Insufficient non-congregate interim housing options;²

WHEREAS, in response to Item 1 above, the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs recommended exploring the feasibility and impact of consolidating currently funded County veteran programs and redistributing them across several veteran resource centers creating more widely accessible hubs;

WHEREAS, on August 16, 2023, the Veterans Advisory Commission received a briefing from the Department of Health Services regarding the Countywide Benefits Entitlements Services Team (CBEST) program;

WHEREAS, CBEST Strategy C5, funded by Measure H, calls for the creation a “Countywide Veterans Benefits Advocacy Program for Veterans Experiencing Homelessness or At Risk of Homelessness”;

WHEREAS, the Veterans Advisory Commission has discovered that the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs has not been tasked with leading Strategy C5 or received any Measure H funding despite being the lead agency charged with serving veterans throughout Los Angeles County;

WHEREAS, this oversight underscores the continued fragmentation of veteran serving programs throughout the County.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, ON SEPTEMBER 20, 2023:

Los Angeles County Veterans Advisory Commission recommends that the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors initiate a report back identifying all programs and services exclusively serving servicemembers and/or veterans in Los Angeles County, create a plan to consolidate identified programs under the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs and adequately fund

¹ https://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/bos/sop/1137602_020723.pdf

² https://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/bos/bc/1143136_ReportBackontheDeclarationofLocalEmergencyforHomelessness-ImplementationActionsResponsetoDirectiveNos.13and14.pdf

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the Department to administer delivery of such programs to servicemembers, veterans and their families throughout Los Angeles County.

**Los Angeles County
Veterans Advisory Commission
Recommendation 4 Signature Page**

SD 1 Commissioner – Rocio Palmero		
Yea	Nay	Abstain
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SD 1 Commissioner – Hugh Crooks, Jr.		
Yea	Nay	Abstain
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SD 2 Commissioner – Patricia Jackson-Kelley		
Yea	Nay	Abstain
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SD 2 Commissioner – Jawana McFadden		
Yea	Nay	Abstain
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SD 3 Commissioner – Anthony Allman		
Yea	Nay	Abstain
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SD 3 Commissioner – VACANT		
Yea	Nay	Abstain
SD 4 Commissioner – Chi Szeto		
Yea	Nay	Abstain
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SD 4 Commissioner – Alfonso Noyola		
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SD 5 Commissioner – John Gutierrez		
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SD 5 Commissioner – Dennis Anderson		
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