

# Executive Summary

## AP-05 Executive Summary - 24 CFR 91.200(c), 91.220(b)

### 1. Introduction

The Program Year 45 (PY 45) (2019-20) Annual Action Plan is the second year of the Five Year 2018-22 Consolidated Plan (Con Plan), directing federal grant dollars to investments that provide affordable and decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities for low- and moderate-income residents of Los Angeles. The Con Plan is the City of Los Angeles' (City) strategic plan for leveraging the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) annual entitlement allocations of four federal grant programs: 1) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), 2) Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), 3) HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), and 4) Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA).

The Con Plan, while a relatively small portion of the City's overall strategy in raising low-income Angelenos to a better future, is nonetheless an important part of the City's efforts in building affordable housing, reducing homelessness, and increasing the livability of the city, in ways that are sustainable, compassionate, and fiscally sound. The City has proven that the proper way to deal with issues is not to ignore the situation or entrench itself further in policies that do not work, but to meet challenges head-on and listen to stakeholders for their invaluable perspectives.

#### *A Growing Problem*

Housing affordability continues to elude renters and homeowners alike. Cost-burdened residents struggle to meet basic obligations, including paying for housing, transportation, education and health care—integral components of healthy living. The majority of city residents are renters, and over 61%—approximately 490,000 households—pay more than 30% of their gross monthly income for housing costs. The longstanding mismatch of incomes and housing costs continues, as rents and home prices rise faster than incomes. For example, between 2006 and 2013, the median renter household income decreased by nearly 4% percent after adjusting for inflation, while at the same time, local median rents went the opposite direction, rising by almost 11% after inflation. This mismatch in LA grew more rapidly than in any other major American city during that period. The trend continued into 2018, with average rents rising almost 7% over the previous year.

With the cost of housing far outpacing wages, the fight to stay housed is an unequal one. Even more families are at risk of being displaced and losing their homes as a disproportionate amount of their income is devoted to housing, which leaves them very vulnerable to unforeseen circumstances like illness, injury, job loss, or some other form of disaster. The cost of housing has become too high to sustain for thousands of LA residents, and many families and individuals, young and old, have been displaced and become homeless.

Over the last several years, Los Angeles and the entirety of California have had to acknowledge homelessness as the growing and already massive problem it has become. While the exact causes of homelessness are numerous and diverse, the common issue is that housing is unaffordable for vast swaths of Los Angeles. The Comprehensive Homeless Strategy, a countywide multi-sector effort to prevent and reduce homelessness, was established in 2016, and is largely funded by Measure H. The city is already seeing proof of its efforts to help Angelenos experiencing homelessness get into housing and a better future. As of December 2018, over 27,000 people have been permanently housed, and about 32,000 people were sheltered in interim housing funded by Measure H.

### *Building Housing*

The construction of additional affordable housing and preservation of existing affordable housing is necessary to both prevent and reduce homelessness. Programs currently underway include Measure HHH, a local measure to fund supportive housing, and State legislation to fund affordable housing, housing programs for veterans, and supportive housing for Californians with mental illnesses. In 2018, HCIDLA has built 1,160 new units of housing and has approved 1,724 units for funding. Through HHH funding, there are over 7,000 units of housing currently in development designated for homeless Angelenos and low-income families.

Los Angeles is the first city in California to take advantage of a State law enacted in October 2017 that allows cities to expedite ground-up construction of new shelter housing on publicly owned property. City leaders established the \$20 million Crisis and Bridge Housing Fund. Known as A Bridge Home (ABH) initiative, this fund will support construction of interim housing on at least 30 sites of City-owned land and up to 1,500 beds. Using public-owned land for homeless and affordable housing is a component of the Comprehensive Homeless Strategy. By providing beds, storage space and supportive services, ABH will get people off the streets, indoors, and on the road to stable housing. The first completed site of bridge housing with 60 beds is in the parking lot of El Pueblo, the celebrated birthplace of Los Angeles. Two additional ABH projects are in the building process, and 13 more sites are being assessed. Near El Pueblo, crime and the number of sidewalk encampments has fallen 60%. The City hopes that this reduction can be mirrored and exceeded in the locations opening this coming year.

Additional local legislation recently enacted includes allowing motels to be used as transitional housing for persons experiencing homelessness. Also, the City is allowing more single-family homeowners to build accessory dwelling units (ADU), also known as *granny flats* or *in-law units*. From 2016 to September 2018, there has been an increase of over 1500% in the number of applications received by the Dept. of City Planning for construction of ADUs.<sup>1</sup> LA County piloted a program to subsidize the ADU's rehabilitation or construction costs, if the owner agrees to lease the unit to a homeless person.

### *Providing Services*

While homeless and affordable housing is being planned and under construction, people without a place to live need assistance now. With the highest number of unsheltered homeless individuals in the nation, the City has taken steps to lessen the suffering of Angelenos experiencing homelessness with various

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<sup>1</sup> [https://planning.lacity.org/Documents/ExternalAffairs/HousingProgressRpt/Q3\\_2018/Q3.pdf](https://planning.lacity.org/Documents/ExternalAffairs/HousingProgressRpt/Q3_2018/Q3.pdf)

programs. These efforts have been bolstered by an influx of funding from local Measure H and other State funding. The expansion of homelessness programs has allowed the City to see an immediate, if modest, 5% dip in overall homelessness for the first time in years.<sup>2</sup>

From 2014 to 2016, over 30,000 evictions were recorded, and in 2018, about 10,000 people experienced homelessness for the first time in Los Angeles. Housing unaffordability and rampant evictions are contributing greatly to the homelessness crisis in the city. As such, the City is rolling out a new program to try to stem the tide of unwarranted evictions—the Displacement Prevention Right to Counsel program will offer legal assistance for low-income tenants facing eviction.

### *Increasing Employment & Job Readiness*

A living wage job is one of the most lasting ways to prevent and end homelessness. City leaders voted in 2015 to raise the minimum wage to \$15 per hour incrementally from 2016 to 2021.

In November 2018, the city had a 4.3% unemployment rate. Despite a strong economy and low unemployment rates, thousands of Angelenos are shut out of the workforce and economic mobility. To create job opportunities that meet the needs of its businesses and the unemployed and underemployed workforce, LA has engaged various efforts.

Every year the City's YouthSource Centers put hundreds of opportunity youth back into school to get high school diplomas, and into job skills training and other supportive services to promote economic stability.

Los Angeles Regional Initiative for Social Enterprise (LA RISE) was launched in partnership with the City and County of Los Angeles in 2015 to benefit people with high employment barriers such as a history of homelessness, incarceration, and other challenges. Participants are placed in entry-level jobs with potential for growth, such as food service, janitorial, street maintenance, and office work. Participants also receive personal specialized support to stabilize their lives to help them maintain employment, such as financial literacy training and healthcare, along with career training services. Successes to date include nearly 800 individuals in transitional employment and more than 200 individuals in competitive employment.

The City is encouraging entrepreneurship by recently approving an ordinance that develops a well-regulated program to enliven the City's streetscape with sidewalk vending. The Sidewalk Vending ordinance regulates the sale of food and merchandise in the public right-of-way and parks to protect the public's health, safety, and welfare. Sidewalk vendors will be required to acquire licenses and permits to vend on sidewalks and parks that will benefit the health and safety of the public. The ordinance will help to enfranchise micro-entrepreneurs and promote economic stability.

### *Income Source Discrimination*

Most property owners in the city do not accept Section 8 vouchers, and with a limited time frame to find an apartment that accepts housing vouchers, people awarded the vouchers suffer an extremely high rate

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<sup>2</sup> Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count 2018, [www.lahsa.org](http://www.lahsa.org)

for voucher expirations.<sup>3</sup> Many families and individuals who acquire housing vouchers through the extremely competitive lottery system are excited about the housing doors it will open, but eventually find themselves in worse situations than before, having expended much time, effort, and resources only to fail to find a property owner that would accept the voucher. In April 2019, the City Council unanimously approved protections against income-source discrimination, mainly for tenants using Section 8 vouchers, taking steps to prevent housing discrimination based upon an individual's source of income. The local legislation also sets up additional resources to make acceptance of Section 8 vouchers easier for everyone involved, including property owners.

The people of Los Angeles, and California as a whole, have acknowledged that the plight of their homeless neighbors is morally inexcusable, economically unsustainable, and cannot be ignored. As such, Los Angeles residents have also recognized that there is no cut-rate, instant-fix to solve the homelessness crisis and approved record levels of funding to address the issue. Already, we have seen the programs working to reduce the number of homeless persons, and though the work is difficult, it continues toward achieving ambitious goals. Other anti-poverty efforts supported by CDBG include supporting educational achievement and making neighborhoods where people with low-income reside more livable, safe, vibrant and healthy.

### *Supporting Education*

A college degree is key to long-term economic mobility, as those without college degrees tend to have lower prospects in the job market and lower earnings in their lifetime, which increases the likelihood that they will continue the cycle of poverty. To help break this cycle, the City is launching the Children's Savings Account program, in cooperation with the State-funded program that will invest \$50 into an account for first graders. Families with even minimal savings were three times more likely to attend college, and four times more likely to graduate college than their peers with no savings.<sup>4</sup> This program is expected to greatly increase opportunities for low and moderate-income children.

To further increase the prospects of lower-income students, the City is also expanding the LA's BEST program that serves students in the City's two Promise Zones. This summer program engages children to mitigate learning loss and negative physical health effects, allowing them to more easily participate and excel in school when the new school year starts.

### *Improving Neighborhoods*

In addition to addressing homeless, housing and employment concerns, the City is committed to providing vibrant spaces to play, shop, learn, work and engage with neighbors for its residents with lower incomes. Projects completed or underway include Delicious at Dunbar, a new café providing local jobs and sit-down dining in a national historic building on Central Avenue. Vision Theatre in the Leimert Park Village, an ongoing project, will expand arts and culture in the storied neighborhood. Whitsett Park in North Hollywood has three new soccer fields to invite families to have fun and exercise, and more improvements are in progress. A complete rebuilding of the Freda Mohr Senior Center in the Fairfax district will increase

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-section-8-landlords-20190329-story.html>

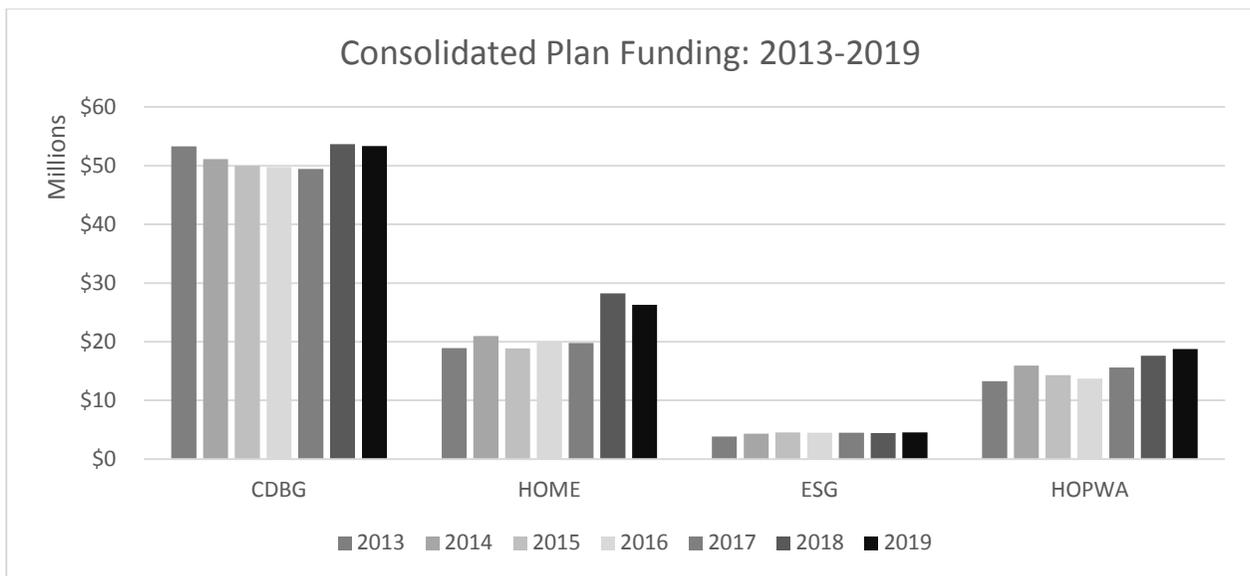
<sup>4</sup> [https://openscholarship.wustl.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1371&context=csd\\_research](https://openscholarship.wustl.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1371&context=csd_research)

its capacity to provide a variety of supportive services to low-income elderly persons, including meals and health education, to support their well-being and prevent the costs of premature institutionalization.

### *Grant Amounts*

The chart below shows the federal entitlement allocations from 2013 to 2019. CDBG and ESG funding amounts have not changed much during this period, while the HOME and HOPWA programs have seen significant increases.

The City will address the housing, economic and other community needs by leveraging the Con Plan with a number of other resources, which is discussed in detail in Section AP-15, Expected Resources.



## **2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan**

This could be a restatement of items or a table listed elsewhere in the plan or a reference to another location. It may also contain any essential items from the housing and homeless needs assessment, the housing market analysis or the strategic plan.

The shortage of affordable housing, the needs of the large number of homeless persons, and the need for living wage jobs and business growth in LA drive the goals of the five-year strategic plan for 2018-2022, and this annual action plan. The overarching priorities to reduce and prevent homelessness and to provide opportunities for low-income families to prosper guide the goals and outcomes, as stated below.

## Goal Table

Goal and Description	Estimated 5-Year Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
<b>1. Develop affordable housing for homeless and low-income</b>	CDBG: \$27,783,000 HOPWA: \$18,070,000 HOME: \$187,958,000	Rental units constructed: 4,000 Household Housing Unit Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 410 Households Assisted
<p>Support development of and equal access to affordable, sustainable, accessible, and resilient housing for homeless residents, persons living with a disability, and other low-income residents. Create new housing opportunities for low-income households and homeless persons by financing new affordable rental housing and permanent supportive housing. Provide first time homebuyers with financial assistance. Increase the supply of affordable and accessible housing units for people living with disabilities, including HIV/AIDS.</p>		
<b>2. Preserve existing affordable housing</b>	CDBG: \$16,981,000	Rental units rehabilitated: 410 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 1,270 Household Housing Unit
<p>Prevent displacement of low- and moderate-income residents by preserving existing affordable and rent-stabilized housing. Preserve existing stock of affordable rental housing and rent-stabilized housing, and support seismic retrofits and other hazard remediation. Provide lead-based paint remediation and other housing interventions and partnerships to make existing housing healthier, more resilient, sustainable, and accessible. Ensure equal access to housing for persons with protected characteristics, lower income and an experience being homeless. Increase community integration and independent living opportunities for persons living with disabilities.</p>		
<b>3. Stabilize and revitalize neighborhoods</b>	CDBG: \$164,678,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Mod Housing: 4,695,850 Persons Assisted Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Mod Housing: 1,490 Households Assisted
<p>Stabilize and revitalize neighborhoods where people with low income reside. Create new and improve existing public facilities and infrastructure to increase public access to opportunities for education, employment, recreation, and social services. Improve access to public facilities and infrastructure for persons with disabilities. Identify deteriorating properties and code violations for enforcement of safety standards in neighborhoods where people with low income reside.</p>		
<b>4. Prevent and reduce homelessness and domestic violence</b>	CDBG: \$14,604,000 HOPWA: \$95,591,000 ESG: \$20,575,000	Public service activities other than Low/Mod Housing Benefit: 10,690 Persons Assisted Public service activities for Low/Mod Housing Benefit: 13,450 Households Assisted Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 22,800 Persons Assisted
<p>Work in partnership with community-based, not-for-profit and government agencies to prevent and reduce homelessness and domestic violence. Support efforts to reach out to and provide emergency shelters, transitional housing, case management, supportive services, and rental assistance to persons who are homeless or are at risk of becoming homeless and survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking. Provide housing-related supportive services and rental assistance to residents with low incomes, including at-risk homeless persons living with HIV/AIDS.</p>		
<b>5. Improve local economy for low income residents</b>	CDBG: \$55,658,000	Jobs created/retained: 3,970 Jobs Businesses assisted: 110 Businesses Assisted
<p>Improve local economic conditions and expand access to opportunity for low income residents and other protected classes by supporting efforts to create and retain jobs and provide essential goods and services to neighborhoods lacking them. Produce new jobs and retain employees in existing jobs for low to moderate-income residents by helping businesses to thrive and succeed, through economic development, business loans, business assistance, and entrepreneurial assistance. Support businesses' efforts to provide goods and services needed in neighborhoods where people with low income reside.</p>		
<b>6. Help low-income families to stabilize economically</b>	CDBG: \$31,581,000	Public service activities other than Low/Mod Housing Benefit: 205,950 Persons Assisted
<p>Help households with low incomes to stabilize economically and avoid displacement. Support family economic stabilization by providing services to improve employment, income, financial literacy, asset development, and academic achievement. Support seniors to maintain their physical and mental health and independence, and prevent loss of housing and premature institutionalization.</p>		

### **3. Evaluation of past performance**

This is an evaluation of past performance that helped lead the grantee to choose its goals or projects.

#### *Evaluation of City Departments*

Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) have been executed between HCIDLA and other City departments receiving CDBG funds to operate programs. Included in these MOUs is a performance plan that commits each department to meeting specific output and outcome goals. An annual evaluation of actual performance, compared to the goals, is conducted and will be considered in determining whether a department should continue to be funded. Corrective action will be requested of those that do not meet their MOU goals, and the reprogramming of CDBG funds from the department will be considered if the corrective action is not implemented.

#### *Evaluation of Domestic Violence Shelters and Family Source Centers*

LAHSA evaluates projects that serve victims of domestic violence on an annual basis. In evaluating each project safety and confidentiality of the survivor takes precedence. LAHSA's performance targets assess project impact. Outcomes are measurable, realistic and philosophically tied to program activities. Each target is designed to attain outcomes that are important to survivor success. Data is reviewed by LAHSA staff, providers and funders to see if the project is operating as intended. LAHSA uses many sources to determine appropriate evaluation targets, including dedicated LAHSA Domestic Violence Lead staff, providers, and advisory groups. Generally, the evaluation focuses on the following targets: exit to a successful housing destination, exit to permanent housing, maintaining or increasing income (through employment or benefits), and knowledge of resources. Ultimately the goal of the project is to enhance safety and stability for survivors and their families.

#### *Evaluation of Homeless Services/Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA)*

LAHSA is a joint powers authority established in 1993 as an independent agency by the City and County of Los Angeles, and is governed by a 10-member board of commissioners. LAHSA is the lead agency in the Los Angeles Continuum of Care (LA CoC), and coordinates and manages over \$300 million in Federal, State, County, and City funds for programs providing shelter, housing, and services to people experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles city and county.

LAHSA convenes the Los Angeles Continuum of Care Board, a 17-member body responsible for providing advice and counsel to the LAHSA Commission on issues pertaining to the federal CoC Program, including establishing LA CoC project performance targets and evaluation methodology appropriate for population and component types. Performance and evaluation criteria are currently used to inform technical assistance priorities, funding decisions, and the annual CoC Program Notice of Funding Availability application.

LAHSA convenes the Coordinated Entry System (CES) Policy Council, a 26-member body responsible for establishing for the LA County CES, including federally-compliant CES policies for access, assessment, prioritization, referral, and evaluation. LAHSA plans to conduct quarterly monitoring of CES data focused

on system performance, as well as establish an external evaluation entity to conduct annual evaluations focused on the quality and effectiveness of the entire CES experience. Evaluation results will be used to inform ongoing system improvements.

### *Evaluation of HOPWA Administration*

HCIDLA serves as the administering agency for the HOPWA grant. HCIDLA conducts remote and on-site monitoring of all HOPWA-contracted agencies. Every month, HOPWA-funded contractors are required to submit monthly client demographic reports along with their invoices for personnel, program, operations and administrative costs. Another remote monitoring tool used by HCIDLA is the quarterly assessment. Every three months, a letter is sent to all HOPWA-contracted agencies assessing their performance in regards to expenditure rate and client service amounts. At the end of each program year, in conjunction with the quarterly assessments, HCIDLA completes an annual evaluation of each agency.

Additionally, the HOPWA program contracts with Shelter Partnership (SP) for technical services and advice. Shelter Partnership is a nonprofit agency with expertise in HOPWA programs, affordable housing, and preventing and ending homelessness in Los Angeles County. SP provides a variety of services to the HOPWA program, including conducting assessments of the program's Regional Offices (regionally-based sites that coordinate the main HOPWA services), and the assessments report on program operations, challenges and recommendations for improving the program. In addition, SP continues to support HCIDLA in analyzing service provision to clients and fine-tuning HOPWA programs to ensure compliance, maximize efficiency, and increase effectiveness.

## **4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process**

### *Summary from citizen participation section of plan.*

#### *Public Meetings—Summer 2018*

Three public hearings were held in August 2018, before the Second-Year Action Plan was developed, to obtain input from the City's diverse population on program-related issues, past and current projects, and funding priorities for the future. Computer Aided Real-Time Transcription and Spanish interpretation services were offered at all meetings. Public input was compiled, analyzed, and submitted to relevant City organizations and the City Council. A total of 101 community members attended the summer meetings.

#### *Public Meetings—Winter 2019*

The proposed Annual Action Plan budget was released on March 4, 2019, and three community meetings were held immediately thereafter to solicit public feedback during the 30-day public comment period. Computer Aided Real-Time Transcription and Spanish interpretation services were offered at all meetings. Public input was compiled, analyzed, and submitted to relevant City organizations and the City Council. A total of 161 persons attended the winter meetings.

### Locations

The locations were chosen for their concentration of low-income residents, racial and ethnic minority residents, non-English speaking residents, and as areas where CDBG funds are proposed for use. They

were also chosen for their access to public transportation, disability access, and ability to accommodate a Con Plan meeting. Additional reasonable accommodations were available upon request.

### Outreach Methods

To maximize outreach, HCIDLA coordinated with an extended network of community-based organization partners, City Council Districts where the meetings were held, FamilySource Centers, the public libraries, Recreation and Parks Department, and other City departments, to promote the meetings to constituents. Citywide outreach methods included mass email notifications, advertising on the HCIDLA website, a press release, public announcements on City Channel 35, and publication of an official notice per HUD regulations. Outreach flyers were provided in English and Spanish. In addition to the traditional outreach outlets, HCIDLA used social media announcements on Twitter and Facebook to widen its reach. Facebook postings and event pages for each of the meetings reached a total of 1,829 people. Additionally the HCIDLA and CCFS used their Twitter accounts to promote each of the meetings. Council offices along with the Mayor's Office retweeted via their handle to promote the meeting announcements.

### Consultation

HCIDLA convened a working group for the proposed Annual Action Plan budget and outreach. Working group participants included representatives of the following: Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD), Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE), Affordable Housing Commission, Community and Family Services Commission, Mayor's Office of Economic Opportunity, Lift Communities, and EveryoneIn. Each of the working group participants provided insight to improve outreach materials, meeting formats, and expanded reach into community networks.

A number of representatives from community based organizations, civic and business leaders participated in the public meetings and provided valuable insight and input on community needs and recommendations for effective uses of the Con Plan funds.

### Public Meetings Format

During the summer meetings, the public heard a description of the Con Plan and what it funds. After the brief presentation, the audience split into small groups to give their input on various topics concerning the Con Plan. Discussion was guided by moderators to collect as much relevant feedback as possible; although topics not covered by the Con Plan were also taken into consideration and recorded.

During the winter meetings, the proposed budget was presented and then comments were elicited from attendees relating to proposed projects and programs. A PowerPoint presentation was used to present an overview of the Con Plan, budget, and projects. A photo gallery highlighted the six goals of the Con Plan, projects, architectural renderings, and other visuals. The Mayor's office highlighted newly proposed service programs in line with the Mayor's priorities. In addition to the presentations and visuals, copies of the full budget proposal were available to the public.

Participants were encouraged to provide comments via comment cards, survey questionnaires, digital input via Slido, and post-it notes during the projects gallery walk. In addition, community members were encouraged to provide comments through e-mail. The overall total number of comments received is 285,

to include all the above notes feedback formats. The multiple platforms to collect feedback provided for increased participation for those who attended the meeting.

### Impact on Goal-Setting

The summer meetings gathered input on what the stakeholders of the community wanted to see. This information was collected, analyzed, and organized for the Mayor and City Council. The data set was divided by Council District to be most relevant to the individual Council members. This data was taken into account by the City Council and relevant offices when assigning funding priorities.

The proposed budget appeared to be aligned with community needs and expressed interests of the public. The 2019-20 proposed budget allocates  $\frac{3}{5}$  of the funds to housing and neighborhood improvements. Feedback collected during the community meetings largely affirms these funding priorities, with housing, homelessness prevention, and neighborhood improvements indicated as the top three areas of concern. Future considerations in line with community feedback include more funding for the following:

- Improvements for Skid Row and programs to prevent homelessness
- Additional affordable housing
- Youth development, including access to education and safe neighborhoods and parks

## **5. Summary of public comments**

This could be a brief narrative summary or reference an attached document from the Citizen Participation section of the Con Plan.

### *Public Meetings—Summer 2018*

During the summer 2018 meetings, realizing that residents would be best able to identify the needs of their areas, HCIDLA requested specific input from attendees. They were asked to pinpoint specific problems and possible locations for improvements in their communities. The summary of public comments lists locations, problems, and possible solutions residents put forth. For relevance to and the convenience of the City Council, the items were sorted by Council Districts, to advise Council District staff of the input received of the needs identified.

In the analysis of the comments, specific trends appeared based upon the area. Comments from the South area meeting highlighted concerns with homelessness and the problems that occur due to rampant homelessness. Comments from the East area meeting highlighted concerns with affordable housing; although every area showed a strong interest in housing as well. Comments from the Valley meeting highlighted concerns with parks and recreational centers and businesses in the area.

### *Public Meetings—Winter 2019*

Almost half of the 161 attendees completed the survey questionnaires. Overall, 76% of those who completed the survey indicated that the services and programs to support aging adults, families and youth in the proposed budget are *very helpful* and 15% *helpful*. When asked about the new service programs proposed by the Mayor, Children's Savings Account, LA's Best expanded afterschool hours, and Right to Counsel eviction defense, 64% said *very useful* and 26% *useful*.

Other survey questions were aimed at gauging the importance of the five overall budget categories. To this end, participants were asked to rank the top two most important budget categories. The housing category received the highest rank with 62%, followed by homeless services at 44%, public services at 38%, neighborhood improvements at 37%, and economic development at 21%. When asked about whether the overall Con Plan proposed budget is meeting community needs, 34% indicated *yes* and 33% indicated *somewhat*. Only 13% stated *no* and 18% were *not sure*.

## **6. Summary of comments or views not accepted and the reasons for not accepting them**

The City received comments about issues that are not funded by the Con Plan, such as public transportation, schools, and police. While the comments were not accepted as part of the Con Plan, the comments were still collected and submitted to relevant agencies and Council Districts. The City will consider how some of these important issues may be addressed through improved coordination with other government agencies or leveraged programs in the future.

## **7. Summary**

As evident from the abovementioned policies, programmatic guidance, and leveraged resources, the City of Los Angeles is poised to ramp up its efforts to address homelessness and other major challenges. The Con Plan grants are a critical component of this work.