

Receive information and provide guidance relating to the City's efforts to address issues associated with homelessness

September 9, 2024





Recommendation

- It is recommended that the City Council:
 - > Receive information and provide guidance relating to services provided to the unhoused in Pasadena by the City and its governmental and non-governmental partners, including guidance relating to Pasadena Municipal Code Section 3.24.110(A)(8) which prohibits camping in public places, and provide guidance on the City's role, if any, on regional efforts to address homelessness.



Overview of presentation

- Supreme Court Case - Grants Pass v. Johnson
- Governor's Executive Order - encampments
- LA County Board of Supervisors Action
- City Attorney/City Prosecutor's Office
- LA County Metro
- Pasadena Services and Programs to Address Homelessness



Grants Pass v. Johnson Case

- The Court by a 6-3 vote held that enforcing generally applicable laws regulating camping on public property does not violate the Eighth Amendment's protection against "cruel and unusual punishment"
- Local governments can regulate the time, place, and manner of public sleeping in the interest of public safety, health, welfare, or convenience
- The Court opinion does not mandate any specific actions by the City



Governor's Executive Order

- Agencies under Governor's authority ordered to adopt policies to address encampments on state property
- California Interagency Council on Homelessness to develop guidance and provide technical assistance to help local governments implement local homelessness programs
- Encourages local governments to adopt policies and use resources to address homelessness crisis, and to humanely remove encampments from public spaces, prioritizing those that threaten life, health, and safety of those in and around them



LA County Board of Supervisors Action

- June 25, 2024 – placed Measure A on November 5, 2024 General Election Ballot
 - > Replace Measure H – quarter cent sales tax that sunsets 2027
 - > New half cent sales tax to fund housing and homeless services
 - > Funding for affordable housing, mental health care, substance abuse treatment, and other homeless services
- July 30, 2024 motion in response to Grants Pass decision
 - > Affirm County's Care First approach to encampment resolution
 - > County jails will not be used to hold those arrested solely due to enforcement of anti-camping ordinances
 - > Expand County's partnerships with cities to address encampments through shelter, resources, and regional coordination



LA County Board of Supervisors Action

- Senate Bill (SB) 43 was approved in October 2023 and expands the definition for those eligible for conservatorship
- Viewed as a last resort to help connect people with severe behavioral health care needs with resources and support
- LA County is jurisdiction to implement SB43
- In December 2023, Board of Supervisors passed a motion to defer implementation in LA County until January 1, 2026



City Attorney/City Prosecutor's Office

- Prosecution Division reviews reports referred by law enforcement, decides whether to file criminal charges, and decides what charges to file
- Only competent defendants can be prosecuted. If doubt is raised as to competency, then criminal proceedings are suspended and case is referred to mental health court in Hollywood
- Incompetent defendants can be offered mental health diversion by court, can be referred to other treatment evaluation, or can have case dismissed by court
- If possibly "gravely disabled," court can refer to Public Guardian to determine if "gravely disabled" and, if so, can file petition for LPS conservatorship
- SB 43, approved in October 2023, expanded standard for LPS conservatorships. Implementation deferred in LA County until January 1, 2026



City Attorney/City Prosecutor's Office

- For competent defendants charged with offenses associated with homelessness (such as being in a park after hours, public urination/defecation, obstructing a sidewalk, etc.), the Prosecution Division generally takes a “care first” approach, which can include drug treatment, mental health treatment, housing assistance, and other programs, with acceptance of services typically leading to case dismissals
- Prosecution Division is leading efforts to create a homeless court in the Pasadena Courthouse, which would be another way to pursue housing for unhoused defendants



Govt Resources and Responsibilities

- Federal
 - > Rental Housing Subsidies (e.g., Project Based Section 8)
 - > Emergency Solutions Grant
 - > Continuum of Care Grants
 - > Low Income Housing Tax Credits
- State
 - > Variety of homeless services funding programs
 - > Variety of affordable capital funding programs
 - > Project HomeKey



Govt Resources and Responsibilities

- County

- > Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Treatment
- > Measure H (1/4 cent sales tax)
 - Pasadena direct allocation
 - Services for PSH projects
- > LAHSA
 - Interim Housing, Homeless Outreach, etc.
- > Development Notice of Funding Availability

- Metro

- > Law Enforcement, Homeless Outreach, Safe Parking

PASADENA



LA County Metro

- Six Metro A Line Stations and shared bus stops throughout Pasadena
- Metro crisis intervention staff and homeless outreach partners work to address homelessness, mental illness, and drug abuse on their transit system
- Metro's rail stations periodically patrolled by combination of law enforcement personnel, Metro security officers, and Ambassadors
- Metro will create new Transit Community Public Safety Department in the next few years



Personal History – Jim*



*Name has been changed to protect privacy.

- Jim's homelessness began with substance use, leading to the loss of his job as an electrician and the breakdown of family ties.
- He spent **four years on the streets**, near the Allen Street Metro Station.
- After witnessing the success of his peers, he began to engage with outreach services, finding hope in the possibility of turning his life around.
- From **2020-2022 Jim worked with homeless services** and was eventually housed.
 - August 2020- Jim enrolled in PORT and received continuous support and case management for two years.
 - May 2022- Jim secured permanent housing with an Emergency Housing Voucher.
- Since then, Jim has made significant progress. He continues to work and do maintenance jobs on the side, plays an active role with his children, and refers potential clients to services for housing and substance abuse.



Personal History – Calvin*



- From a family with deep Pasadena roots, Calvin fell into homelessness as a result of complex health conditions.
- Lived unsheltered at a bus stop on Fair Oaks and Walnut for many years.
- Calvin's mental illness became increasingly severe to the point where he was unable to care for himself and was likely to die on the street.
- Unmanaged chronic health conditions led to frequent hospitalizations and eventually resulted in his loss of sight and multiple amputations.
- Union Station Homeless Services, Department of Mental Health, HOPE team, and the Pasadena Housing Department worked collaboratively to provide services.
- Calvin was placed in an assisted living facility where he was provided medical and psychiatric care.

*Name has been changed to protect privacy.



Personal History – Luis*



*Name has been changed to protect privacy.

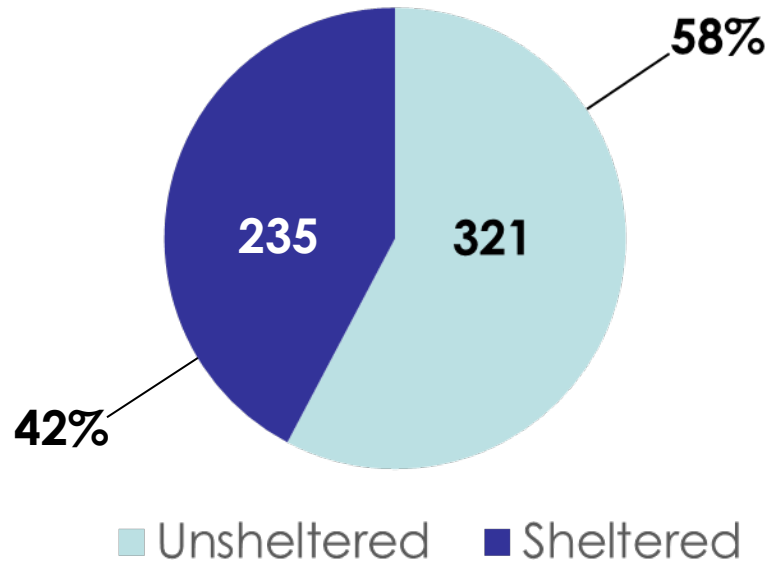
- Luis is a senior citizen and Vietnam War veteran who **fell into homelessness in 2013**.
- Over the past 11 years, has been in and out of hospitals due to mental health and substance use disorders.
- Having had multiple interactions with law enforcement over this time period, he now fears the police.
- Luis stayed at the Bad Weather Shelter in 2016, but **did not meaningfully engage with homeless services again for over six years** until he received a weather-activated motel voucher and started working with a Friends In Deed street outreach team in 2023.
- Participates in weekly mobile shower program at Foothill Unity Center.
- Has been sheltered at motels through various Friends In Deed programs for most of the past four months.
- With Friends In Deed's support, he hopes to receive VA benefits and is awaiting a permanent housing opportunity.



Pasadena Unsheltered Homelessness

2024 Homeless Count

Gender	
Male	73%
Female	23%
Transgender	2%
Non-binary	1%
Multiple	1%

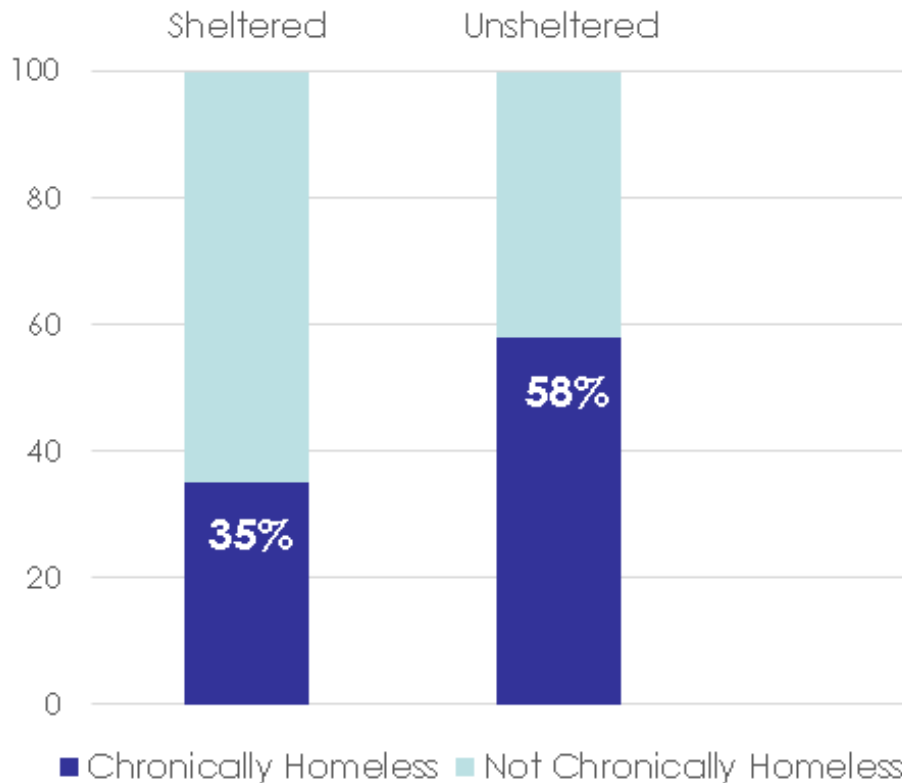


Age	
<18	2%
18-24	6%
25-34	17%
35-44	25%
45-54	21%
55-64	21%
65+	8%



Unsheltered Population

Rates of Chronic Homelessness*



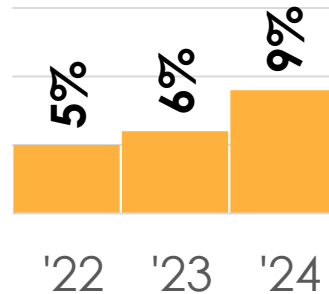
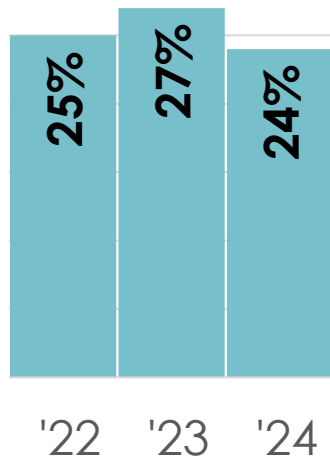
*Chronic homelessness: >1 year with a disability

- Long-time Pasadena Residents
 - > More than half (56%) of unsheltered people who were surveyed called Pasadena home for an average of 22 years before losing their housing.
- Racial Disparities
 - > 25% of unsheltered population is Black vs. 27% of total homeless population
 - 8% of Pasadena's overall population is Black
 - > 45% of unsheltered population is Hispanic/Latino vs. 46% of total homeless population
 - 35% of Pasadena's overall population is Hispanic/Latino

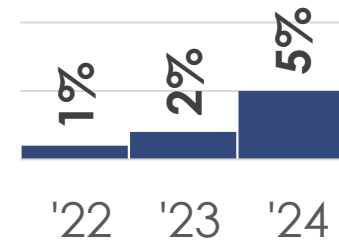


Unsheltered Living Situations

On the night of the 2024 Homeless Count, 321 people were unsheltered, with fewer on the streets and more in cars, RVs, or faith-based sites.



*Includes people in cars and RVs





Street Outreach

City-funded Street Outreach Teams

Team	Operator	Features	Annual Budget
PORT	Public Health Department	Responds to non-emergency 911 calls; teams include a program coordinator, social worker, a registered nurse, two fire fighters, and two peer navigators.	\$237,000 General Fund \$1,003,843 Federal, State and County grants including one-time awards
HOPE	Police Department	Three officers paired with three Department of Mental Health (DMH) clinicians; supervised by one Sergeant; supported by two Union Station services liaisons.	\$1,396,843 General Fund (Officers and Union Station service liaisons) \$720,000 in DMH budget for clinicians
Friends In Deed	Friends In Deed	Includes clinicians and substance use specialists	\$100,000 State HHAP Grant
Safe Haven Bridge to Housing	Union Station Homeless Services	Serves participants of All Saints Church's safe sleep program	\$33,000 State HHAP Grant \$124,423 Federal CoC Grant



Street Outreach

County-funded Street Outreach Teams (operate throughout San Gabriel Valley)

Team	Operator	Features
YHDP Outreach	Hillsides/Youth Moving On	Serves youth 18-24.
E6 MDT SPA 3/ Public Spaces	Union Station Homeless Services	Multi-disciplinary team includes clinician, substance use specialist, peer navigators. Also includes Public Spaces team which focuses on parks and libraries. Weekday and weekend coverage.
MDT Metro	Union Station Homeless Services	Conducts outreach on the Metro A (Gold) Line.
Harm Reduction	Union Station Homeless Services	Provides harm reduction education and supplies.
HOST	Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA)	Includes clinicians and substance use specialists
Measure H	LAHSA	Generalists. Includes a weekend team.
DMH HOME DMH Full Service Partnership (FSP)	Department of Mental Health	Field-based outreach and treatment for people with severe mental illness



Interim & Transitional Housing

City-funded Interim Housing

Program(s)	Beds	Seasonal/ Year-round	Operator	Population Served	Annual Budget
Motel-based shelter	25	Year-round	Public Health	Individuals relocated from encampments on Caltrans properties	\$254,587 State Encampment Resolution Fund
Weather-Activated Motel-based shelter	Variable	Seasonal	Public Health	Single Adults/Youth/Families	\$120,000 General Fund
Motel-based shelter	15	Year-round	Union Station Homeless Services	Single Adults Individuals relocated from encampments on Caltrans properties	\$196,746 LA County Measure H \$207,663 State Encampment Resolution Fund

*Motel-based shelter bed inventory is calculated based on actual bed utilization and fluctuates significantly. As a result, bed inventory is estimated.



Interim & Transitional Housing

City-funded Interim Housing Continued

Program(s)	Beds	Seasonal/ Year-round	Operator	Populati on Served	Annual Budget
Motel-based shelter	10	Seasonal, Year-round	Sycamores	Youth	\$81,121 State HHAP Grant
Bad Weather Shelter	**54 Bad Weather Shelter	Seasonal	Friends In Deed	Single Adults	\$380,000 General Fund
Weather-Activated Motel-based Shelter	Variable weather-activated motel-based beds				
Motel-based Shelter	6	Year-round	Friends In Deed	Single Adults/ Families	\$196,746 LA County Measure H

*Motel-based shelter bed inventory is calculated based on actual bed utilization and fluctuates significantly. As a result, bed inventory is estimated.

**The Bad Weather Shelter is anticipated to expand bed inventory in the 2024-2025 winter season.



Interim & Transitional Housing

Non-City-funded Interim Housing & Transitional Housing

Program(s)	Type	Beds	Seasonal/ Year-round	Operator(s)	Population Served
Various	Motel-based	Variable	Year-round	Friends In Deed	Single Adults/ Families
Adult Center	Congregate	42	Year-round	Union Station	Single adults/ Youth
Family Center	Congregate	34	Year-round	Union Station	Families
Recovery Bridge Housing	Non- congregate	43	Year-round	Los Angeles Center for Drug and Alcohol Abuse, Pacific Clinics	Single Adults/ Youth
Transitional Housing	Non- congregate	56	Year-round	Door of Hope, Elizabeth House	Families



Permanent Housing

City-funded Permanent Housing

Program	Type	Units	Operator(s)	Population	Funding
Rapid Rehousing	Scattered-site	48	Union Station, Volunteers of America Los Angeles	Adults	\$110,573 LA County Measure H \$925,315 Federal Continuum of Care grants
Permanent Supportive Housing	Scattered-site	171	Housing Department, Union Station, Housing Works, Step Up on Second	Adults	\$2,803,337 Federal Continuum of Care grants ~\$1,171,000 Federally funded rental assistance
Permanent Supportive Housing	Site-based	317	Union Station, The Salvation Army, Pacific Clinics	Adults/Youth/Families	\$833,797 Federal Continuum of Care grants ~\$4,475,000 Federally funded rental assistance
Other Permanent Housing	Scattered-site	184	Housing Department	Adults/Youth/Families	~\$3,620,000 Federally funded rental assistance



Other Programs

Type	Operator(s)	Funding Source	Services
Homelessness Prevention	Friends In Deed, Door of Hope	City, County, private	Payment of arrears and rental assistance
Housing Navigation	Union Station, Friends In Deed	City, County	Document acquisition, housing search and applications
Safe Parking	Trinity Lutheran Church, All Saints Church (not yet in operation)	City, County, private	Safe place to sleep on private property for people living in vehicles, food, case management.
Mobile Showers	Shower of Hope at All Saints and Bethel Church, Love n Care Foundation at Foothill Unity Center Inc.	Federal and County	Hygiene services
United Mental Health Promoters	Public Health	County - Approximately \$950,000	Case management, navigation assistance, and mental health trainings



PORT Components

Type	Funding Source	Primary Services	Projected FY 25 Expenses
PORT II	General Fund	Response to non-emergency 911 dispatch calls related to the unhoused population	\$237,000
Congressional Directive Spending	SAMHSA/Congresswoman Judy Chu	Expand PORT services and staff, access to basic needs, and shower/laundry mobile unit	\$450,000
Prop 47	CA Board of State and Community Corrections	Reduce recidivism for justice-involved clients experiencing homelessness	\$381,317
Encampment Resolution Fund (ERF)	CA Dept of Housing and Community Development	Relocate individuals from CalTrans encampments to motel-based interim housing	\$279,482
Children's Health Outreach, Enrollment, Utilization, and Retention (CHOEUR)	LA County Department of Public Health	Case manager to assist with Medi-Cal enrollment	\$127,631
Emergency Food and Shelter Program	United Way of Greater Los Angeles	Emergency housing, meals, and rental assistance for eligible PORT clients	\$20,000



Pasadena Outreach Response Team (PORT)

- Partnership with Pasadena Public Health, Pasadena Fire, Huntington Health, and Union Station Homeless Services
- Serves individuals over 18 experiencing homelessness in Pasadena
- Connect clients to primary care, dental care, mental health, substance use treatment, DPSS, hygiene services, and housing





Client Success

Bobby C.

Homeless for 12 years
In and out of prison

- Reconnected with his kids
- Regularly attends/schedules doctor appointments
- Works maintenance jobs
- No criminal activity since



James T

Senior, Veteran, Raised in
Pasadena

- Streamlined resources
- “Increased dignity and worth”
- Utilizes local resources regularly
- Housed



PASADENA



Homeless Outreach Psychiatric Evaluation (HOPE) Team

- Partnership with Pasadena Police Department and LA County Dept of Mental Health
- First responders to emergency mental health crisis calls
- Three teams consist of a PPD Officer and a Mental Health Clinician to:
 - Engage with homeless population
 - Offer access to mental health and social services





City Attorney/City Prosecutor's Office

- Homeless Court to be held inside Pasadena Superior Court
- Criteria: Resident of Pasadena in violation of PMC's and/or low-level theft and/or drug offenses
- Service Provider in Court for immediate transportation of accepting Defendant(s) to interim housing
- Navigation and needed services provided at interim housing location with continued reporting to Court
- Work with Housing with successful completions to transition to more permanent housing
- Primary costs to implement Homeless Court are the Service Provider and interim housing (e.g., motel vouchers)



Other considerations

- Pasadena Central Library – Care Navigator not available as library is closed
- Pasadena Transit and Dial-A-Ride service – coordinate with City departments on providing services for homeless at bus shelters and provide transportation services to Bad Weather Shelter
- Limits to property seizure - City is required to provide notice and opportunity to reclaim belongings before disposal
- Excessive Fines Clause prohibits unreasonably harsh fines for offenses like camping. Fines cannot become a form of punishment beyond the scope of the offense



Recommendation

- It is recommended that the City Council:
 - > Receive information and provide guidance relating to services provided to the unhoused in Pasadena by the City and its governmental and non-governmental partners, including guidance relating to Pasadena Municipal Code Section 3.24.110(A)(8) which prohibits camping in public places, and provide guidance on the City's role, if any, on regional efforts to address homelessness.