



## PACIFIC PALISADES COMMUNITY COUNCIL

October 12, 2024

Hon. Alex Padilla, U.S. Senator for California  
Hon. Laphonza Butler, U.S. Senator for California  
Hon. Brad Sherman, U.S. Representative, 32<sup>nd</sup> District  
Hon. Merrick Garland, U.S. Attorney General / U.S. Dept. of Justice  
Hon. E. Martin Estrada, U.S. Attorney, Central District of California  
Hon. Gavin Newsom, Governor, State of California  
Hon. Ben Allen, California State Senator, SD 24  
Hon. Jacqui Irwin, California State Assemblymember, AD 42  
Hon. Rob Bonta, Attorney General, State of California  
Hon. Lindsey Horvath, President, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors  
Hon. George Gascon, District Attorney, Los Angeles County  
Hon. Karen Bass, Mayor, City of Los Angeles  
Hon. Hydee Feldstein Soto, Los Angeles City Attorney  
Hon. Kenneth Mejia, Los Angeles City Controller  
Hon. Marqueece Harris-Dawson, President, Los Angeles City Council  
Hon. Traci Park, City Councilwoman, CD 11

*Via email to all addressees and/or via respective website message portals*

**Re: Request for Federal, State, County and City Investigations re Use / Misuse of Funding to Address the Homelessness Crisis in Los Angeles**

Dear United States, State of California, Los Angeles County and Los Angeles City Officials:

Pacific Palisades Community Council (PPCC) has been the most broad-based community organization and voice of the Palisades since its founding 51 years ago, in 1973. Pacific Palisades is a hillside coastal community located in the City of Los Angeles, with a population of approximately 27,000, including unhoused individuals who migrate to the Palisades from locations throughout the country and world, and regularly camp on our beach (Will Rogers State Beach), along our coastal bluffs and in our hillsides and canyons. Our community has had decades-long experience with homelessness, which continues to grow seemingly unabated, despite the billions of dollars in federal, state, county and city taxpayer funds that have been used purportedly to address the crisis.

Recent audit reports and investigative journalism have revealed serious and widespread mismanagement, lack of accountability and possible corruption by officials, agencies and entities involved in spending taxpayer funds to address homelessness in the state of California and the county and city of Los Angeles. See *Resources below*.

Based on this information and our own experience with the systemic failure to address the growing humanitarian

crisis in Los Angeles (with over 75,500 unhoused individuals in L.A. County, according to the 2023 Homeless Count), PPCC strongly believes that *thorough investigations by relevant federal, state, county and city authorities into the use – and/or misuse – of taxpayer funds must be undertaken forthwith.*

As a result, and based on our long experience with these conditions, our board unanimously passed the following motion after full discussion at the regularly scheduled public PPCC board meeting on October 10, 2024:

*“Pacific Palisades Community Council (PPCC) urges (1) the federal government to intervene and conduct a federal investigation into the use by the city of Los Angeles, the county of Los Angeles, the state of California and all city, county and state agencies of federal funds received to address homelessness; (2) the state government to investigate the use of state funds for such purpose; (3) the county government to investigate the use of county funds for such purpose; and (4) the city government to investigate the use of city funds for such purpose, due to the mismanagement and non-accountability of taxpayer dollars being squandered while leaving a humanitarian crisis on our streets.*

*“PPCC further calls upon our city Councilmembers to communicate this request to the relevant respective federal, state, county and city authorities, including our U.S. Senators, Congressmembers, the U.S. Attorney General and Dept. of Justice; our Governor, state Senators, Assemblymembers and state Attorney General; our county Supervisors and District Attorney; and our Mayor and City Attorney.”*

We respectfully urge that the requested critical investigations be undertaken without delay.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated prompt attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,  
*Sue Kohl*

Sue Kohl, President, and  
Chris Spitz, At-large Representative; Maryam Zar, Chair Emeritus; Sharon Kilbride, Area Seven Representative  
Pacific Palisades Community Council

cc (via email): Scott Abrams, Dist. Dir., Rep. Sherman; Vishesh Anand, Deputy Regional Dir., Gov. Newsom; Sam Liu, Dist. Dir., Sen. Allen; Ryan Valencia, Dist. Dir., Asm. Irwin; Dawyn Harrison, L.A. County Counsel; Zac Gaidzik, Coastal Deputy, Sup. Horvath; Matt Szabo, L.A. CAO; Marian Ensley, West Area Rep., Mayor Bass; Joanne Kim, Chief of Staff, Council Pres. Harris-Dawson; Juan Fregoso, Dist.Dir., CW Park; Ethan Rarick, Executive Dir., Little Hoover Commission

**Resources:**

<https://www.auditor.ca.gov/reports/2023-102.1/index.html#section3>

[https://www.westsidecurrent.com/news/exclusive-after-spending-550-million-over-70-percent-of-los-angeles-county-s-project-homekey/article\\_efe6bf0c-75bf-11ef-ab3c-9b098130204a.html](https://www.westsidecurrent.com/news/exclusive-after-spending-550-million-over-70-percent-of-los-angeles-county-s-project-homekey/article_efe6bf0c-75bf-11ef-ab3c-9b098130204a.html)

<https://www.foxla.com/video/1522264> (interview with Jamie Paige/Westside Current)

<https://www.circlingthenews.com/70-percent-of-project-homekey-homeless-rooms-remain-vacant/>

<https://www.circlingthenews.com/homelessness-and-the-failure-of-mainstream-media/>

[https://www.westsidecurrent.com/news/las-costly-gamble-50-million-on-luxury-homeless-housing-amid-vacancies-and-red-tape/article\\_473f6a78-11e9-11ef-92b9-0b22ca012708.html](https://www.westsidecurrent.com/news/las-costly-gamble-50-million-on-luxury-homeless-housing-amid-vacancies-and-red-tape/article_473f6a78-11e9-11ef-92b9-0b22ca012708.html)

<https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2024-04-09/state-audit-california-fails-to-track-homeless-spending-billions-dollars>

<https://laist.com/news/housing-homelessness/audit-la-homelessness-spending-poor-accounting-inconsistent-care>