

The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council requests the City Council, in coordination with Mayor Karen Bass, and the City Attorney, Hydee Feldstein-Soto, to immediately cease all additional funding for the legal action to dispute the findings and proposed remedy resulting from the assessment performed by Alavarez & Marsal (A&M) at the direction of U.S. District Judge David O. Carter. The assessment performed by A & M was in response to the L.A. Alliance lawsuit. A & M found as much as \$2.3 billion spent by LAHSA and the City were unaccounted for, and there was a significant lack of transparency, poor or nonexistent tracking systems, and the inability to provide accurate data. Those findings resulted in Judge Carter ordering a third-party monitor to review and verify the data being produced by the city on its goals to reduce homeless encampments and the number of people experiencing homelessness.

In an effort to overturn Judge Carter's decision, the City Council approved a three-year contract with the law firm of Gibson and Dunn with a budget of \$900,000. If additional funds were required, they were to be submitted by the City Attorney's office to the City Council for prior approval. Currently, the City Attorney's office has provided payment to Gibson & Dunn in the amount of \$1,800,000. for two weeks of legal services, which is double the amount approved by the City Council for three years of representation. The City Attorney's office did not seek or receive prior approval for the overage. Bear in mind the City is spending these funds to dispute the findings and remedy of the A & M assessment which the City approved prior to its start, paid for, participated in, and which resulted in the removal of funding from the County of Los Angeles and aided in the resignation of LAHSA's CEO, Va Lecia Adams-Keller

More importantly, it should be noted attorneys for Gibson and Dunn produced no evidence to dispute A & M's findings but rather spent a good deal of the \$1.8 million incessantly objecting to questions from Alliance attorneys and trying to besmirch the professionalism of an audit firm the City itself agreed to hire. It would be quite an understatement to say the City and its taxpayers did not get their money's worth.

The City of Los Angeles is in the midst of a financial crisis resulting in a need to lay off hundreds of city workers, reducing city services such as sidewalk repairs, park services, street lighting repairs, sanitation, etc. Residents are increasingly concerned about the city's inability to provide enough crime mitigation measures to ensure their safety.

The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council requests an immediate termination of funding for this lawsuit and any other action to oppose greater accountability of homeless housing funding and homeless service providers funding. We respectfully request that those funds are redistributed to fund improvement in quality-of-life issues and decreasing crime such as retaining civilian positions within LAPD, updating / repairing LAFD equipment, fire mitigation efforts, inspecting and repairing fire hydrants and water infrastructure, license plate readers, drone surveillance and other crime mitigation efforts.

The residents of Los Angeles deserve accountability and safety. Spending of this magnitude to avoid having measures implemented on programs found to be expensive and ineffective is foolish and serves to create greater division and mistrust in our governmental agencies.

We respectfully request that your offices end all funding to oppose Judge Carter's ruling, comply with the oversight and redirect funds to the above-mentioned programs.

Thank you.