

Hollywood, Feb 28, 2004

The 17th Community Input session was held at Hollywood Presbyterian Church at 2:30 pm Feb. 28 with about 30 persons in attendance. Prior to public input 13th District Councilmember Eric Garcetti, a Blue Ribbon panelist, spoke on setting a Hollywood community priority on homelessness issues, noting with appreciation the organizing and planning being done by service providers, Hollywood Community Action Network, the Mayor's office and the Neighborhood Councils. He itemized:

1. The necessity of a new homeless shelter in all districts, including the 13th, hand in hand with neighbors, planed to provide cycle-breaking supportive services
2. Housing policy long term decisions, including protecting and fully funding the housing trust fund and successfully winning prop 46 funds
3. The new St. Anne's housing for 40 units of housing for emancipated homeless youth
4. Getting Washington to restore the at-risk section 8 funds
5. A program with all levels of law enforcement and criminal justice of cleaning up prior warrants and arrest records of minor offenses of low income people to allow them to progress toward jobs, qualifying for benefits, qualifying for rental units.

| Speaker | Topic | Comments |
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| John Anthony and Gerod Gillad Hollywood 7 th Day Adventist Church | Hope | It is nearly impossible for very poor people to avoid homelessness when hit with a crisis such as employment or health. They need hope, rehabilitation, one-stop coordination and all stages of the continuum of care. A sign of hope: The Economic Roundtable research tracking successful returns to stable employment by homeless participants in work programs. Emphasize youth education since most of our poor people are locally raised and educated. |
| Mike Miller, Hollywood CAN | Housing | I am on SSI, often homeless, and can find no level of stable affordable housing |
| Luke Vincent, Hollywood CAN | 1. law enforcement 2. jobs | I oppose rousting people sleeping out of necessity in out-of-the way non-disruptive places because it is a misuse of police and jail resources that is non-productive. With globalization of labor, placing a homeless person in a finite job market displaces another worker. Shorten the workweek and increase minimum wages and benefits to improve the value of the remaining jobs. |
| Sam Colquipe, PATH | Outreach work observations | Adult homeless today were often foster youth who never knew a stable environment or learned conflict resolution and basic independent living skills. Coordination between programs serving youth and adult homeless clients is important, because one becomes the other. Outreach work is defeated when we can't find substance abuse treatment or counseling slots for homeless people who want help. Beverly Hills has homeless people with the same issues as Hollywood. I saw ten in Beverly Hills today, all with mental health disorder histories, but not in those cases substance abuse histories. Outreach requires new chances for people who have failed to stabilize in the past, but want to try again. |
| Several public members | | Praise for the research presentation |
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