



BRIDGE HOUSING

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why are you putting a shelter in my neighborhood?

These locations are being studied for the Mayor's *A Bridge Home* Initiative. Bridge housing residents have met basic permanent housing program eligibility requirements and are actively working with case managers to locate permanent housing. Residents will live here until they are matched with long-term housing. These facilities will be operational for no more than 3 years.

The sites under consideration are:

- 2316 East Imperial Highway in Watts
- 515 North Beacon Street in San Pedro
- 828 Eubank Avenue in Wilmington

How many homeless people are there?

There are 53,195 homeless people in Los Angeles County. And 31,516 of those homeless people live in the City of Los Angeles which includes hundreds of neighborhoods from Venice, to Downtown LA, from Chatsworth to Sun Valley, from Harbor City to Boyle Heights. The city is broken into 15 Council Districts. Councilmember Buscaino represents the 15th Council District which includes Harbor City, Harbor Gateway, Watts, Wilmington, and San Pedro. There are 1,791 homeless people living in Council District 15. Seven of the City's Council Districts have more homeless people than Council District 15 and seven districts have less. (Source: [Greater LA Homeless Count, LAHSA](#))

How is Los Angeles addressing homelessness?

Homelessness is the number one complaint that our office and every other Council District office receives. In November of 2016, voters overwhelmingly approved Measure HHH which provides funding to build more units of housing for the homeless. This funding cannot be used for anything else. Bridge Housing is one of many tools the City is using to get people off of our sidewalks into housing. In addition, the City has approved dedicated funding for enforcement of encampments surrounding the bridge housing sites.

What will the location look like?

They will be either trailers or a membrane structure. Spaces are assigned in advance by LAHSA workers to individuals who are already living on the streets in the communities surrounding the shelters. There will be no lines and people are not kicked out during the day.

Why were these neighborhoods chosen?

These three neighborhoods were identified as having the highest concentrations of homeless individuals in the Council District.



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What is the timeline for these sites?

Right now these three sites are undergoing a viability check. We will make an announcement once we know what sites are viable in August and after that, we will hold a series of Open Houses about each site. The sites must be heard in committee and before the City Council in order to be approved. Once a site is built it can be open for a maximum of three years.

Who will this help?

People of different ages, backgrounds, cultures and education levels who are struggling to find stable housing. Bridge housing helps people and families who have experienced homelessness for extended periods of time as well as people who are experiencing an emergency such as a job loss. Families with children will be given priority for emergency housing.

Who will be eligible to live here?

In the months prior to the opening of the temporary bridge housing, LAHSA will provide intensive outreach to the encampments in the surrounding neighborhood and make every effort to get the homeless to voluntarily sign up for a space in the Bridge Housing.

What facilities will be on site?

There will be staff on site 24 hours a day, including security staff. The Bridge Housing includes onsite service workers working every day to get people into supportive housing, beds, showers, restrooms, and a meal area. Pets are allowed and partners will be allowed to stay together.

How will my neighborhood be kept safe?

Each site will have 24/7 on-site security and staff, and the neighborhood immediately around the temporary bridge housing will receive additional cleanups and LAPD HOPE team enforcement.

What about my property value?

Bridge Housing will reduce the number of visible encampments and tents on the sidewalk by moving people off the sidewalks into one safe and clean location. Also, the surrounding areas will receive additional cleanups and enforcement.

How can I give my feedback?

1. You can submit your feedback by filling out this [online form](http://www.la15th.com/addressing_homelessness):
http://www.la15th.com/addressing_homelessness
2. You can share your feedback with your Neighborhood Council.
3. You can attend an open house that will be announced later in the summer or a city council meeting in the fall.