

# AGENDA

## SPECIAL JOINT MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND THE BUDGET & FINANCE AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES

**Budget & Finance Committee Chair: Robert Byrd**

**Wednesday, March 30, 2016  
1:30 PM**

**Meeting Location:**  
First 5 LA  
750 N. Alameda Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012



# ASPOSE

Your File Format APIs

1. **ACTION**  
Call to Order / Roll Call  
- **Duane Dennis, Chair**
2. **INFORMATION** **3**  
Review Program & Planning Committee Meeting Notes – February  
25, 2016  
- **Duane Dennis, Chair**
3. **INFORMATION** **128**  
Legislative Agenda 2016  
- **Tessa Charnofsky, Government Affairs Manager**
4. **INFORMATION** **144**  
Strategic Plan Implementation: Parks & Health Equity: Assessing  
Los Angeles County Parks  
- **Reuben De Leon, Senior Program Officer, Best Start  
Communities**  
- **Alejandra Marroquin, Policy Analyst, Policy &  
Intergovernmental Affairs**  
- **Norma E. Garcia, Deputy Director of Planning & Development  
Agency,**  
**County of Los Angeles Department of Parks & Recreation**

#### COMMISSIONERS

Los Angeles County Supervisor	Judy Abdo	Summer McBride
Holly J. Mitchell	Robert Byrd, Psy.D	Maricela Ramirez
<i>Chair</i>	Astrid Heger, M.D.	Carol Sigala
Brandon Nichols	Yvette Martinez	
<i>Vice Chair</i>		

#### EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

Barbara Ferrer, Ph.D.,  
M.P.H., M.Ed.  
Jacquelyn McCroskey, DSW  
Deanne Tilton

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Karla Pleitéz Howell

#### EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

John A. Wagner

1

#### A PUBLIC ENTITY

- Alina Bokde, Executive Director, Los Angeles Neighborhood

**Land Trust**

5. Break

6. **INFORMATION**

176

Update on Health Related Systems

- Reena John, Senior Program Officer, Program Development

- Pegah Faed, Research Analyst, Research & Evaluation

- Faith Ramirez, Program Officer, Grants Management

7. **INFORMATION**

Public Comment (For items not on the agenda)

8. **ACTION**

Adjournment



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MEETING OF FIRST 5 LOS ANGELES PROGRAM AND PLANNING  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2016  
750 NORTH ALAMEDA STREET, FIRST FLOOR  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

REPORTED BY:  
HEATHERLYNN GONZALEZ  
CSR #13646

1 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2016; LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

2 1:32 P.M.

3 -000-

4 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: GOOD AFTERNOON, EVERYONE.  
5 WE PROBABLY SHOULD GET STARTED WITH OUR MONTHLY PROGRAM  
6 AND PLANNING MEETING OF THE FIRST 5 COMMISSION. I'M DUANE  
7 DENNIS, AND I SIT AS YOUR CHAIR.

8 AND THE FIRST BUSINESS -- THE FIRST ORDER OF  
9 BUSINESS IS INTRODUCTIONS AND THEN WE'LL READ THE NOTES  
10 AND THEN WE GIVE EVERYTHING ELSE A CHANCE.

11 SO WELCOME. I HOPE YOU'RE ALL ENJOYING THIS NICE  
12 FEBRUARY SUMMER DAY. WHAT BETTER PLACE TO BE THAN  
13 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.

14 OKAY. CINDY.

15 COMMISSIONER HARDING: SO GOOD AFTERNOON. I'M  
16 CYNTHIA HARDING, AND I'M YOUR VICE CHAIR FOR THIS  
17 COMMITTEE AND A FIRST 5 COMMISSIONER AND DIRECTOR OF  
18 PUBLIC HEALTH. JUST CAME BACK FROM WASHINGTON DC, SO  
19 DITTO ON WHAT HE SAID ABOUT THE WEATHER HERE. GOD, IT'S  
20 SO MUCH BETTER.

21 COMMISSIONER ABDO: I'M JUDY ABDO. I AM VICE  
22 CHAIR OF THE BOARD, I GUESS.

23 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: YES, YOU ARE.

24 COMMISSIONER ABDO: AND HAPPY TO BE HERE.

25 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: AND YOU'RE ALSO A

1 COMMISSIONER .

2 COMMISSIONER ABDO: YES, I AM COMMISSIONER.

3 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: BILL, INTRODUCE YOURSELF  
4 SIR.

5 COMMISSIONER ARROYO: BILL ARROYO. I AM WITH  
6 DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH.

7 MS. NUNO: TERESA NUNO, CHIEF OF PROGRAM AND  
8 PLANNING FIRST 5 LA.

9 MS. HALL: KIMBERLY HALL, SENIOR RESEARCH ANALYST  
10 AND RESEARCH AND EVALUATION.

11 MS. COWAN: HELLO, JENNIFER COWAN. I'M IN THE  
12 COMMUNITY INVESTMENTS DEPARTMENT.

13 MS. FALLIN: KATIE FALLIN, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OR  
14 RESEARCH AND EVALUATION.

15 MS. FICEK: TARA FICEK, DIRECTOR OF GRANTS  
16 MANAGEMENT.

17 MR. WAGNER: JOHN WAGER, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER.

18 COMMISSIONER TILTON: HI. I'M DEANNE TILTON,  
19 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF ICAN AND COMMISSIONER EX OFFICIO.

20 COMMISSIONER CURRY: TRISH CURRY, COMMISSIONER.

21 COMMISSIONER AU: NANCY AU, COMMISSIONER.

22 MS. BELSHE: KIM BELSHE, FIRST 5 LA. YOU WEREN'T  
23 GOING TO LET ME INTRODUCE MYSELF?

24 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: NO, I WAS GOING TO SAVE IT  
25 UNTIL LAST.

1 MS. BELSHE: NEVER MIND.

2 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: SUSAN.

3 MS. BOSTWICK: SUZANNE BOSTWICK, DEPARTMENT OF  
4 PUBLIC HEALTH.

5 MS. MURPHY: SHARON MURPHY, PROGRAM OFFICER HERE  
6 AT FIRST 5 LA.

7 SPEAKER: NANCY (INAUDIBLE), COMMUNITY  
8 DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION.

9 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: NICE SEEING YOU AGAIN.  
10 GLAD YOU'RE BACK.

11 MS. HAMILTON: KAREN HAMILTON, COMMUNITY  
12 DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION.

13 SPEAKER: SERITA (INAUDIBLE), COMMUNITY  
14 DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION.

15 MR. OWENS: SCOTT OWENS, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
16 COMMISSION.

17 MS. VILLA: NICKY VILLA, SHELTER PARTNERSHIP.

18 MR. JIMENEZ: ARMANDO JIMENEZ, RESEARCH AND  
19 EVALUATION, FIRST 5 LA.

20 SPEAKER: KAREN (INAUDIBLE), PROGRAM AND  
21 EVALUATION, FIRST 5 LA.

22 MS. WORBELL: LEE WORBELL, SENIOR PROGRAM  
23 OFFICER, PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT, FIRST 5 LA.

24 MR. ORTEGA: RAOUL ORTEGA, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE,  
25 FIRST 5 LA.

1 MR. BARTH: PETER BARTH, DIRECTOR OF POLICY,  
2 FIRST 5 LLA.

3 MS. LEE: STACY LEE, DIRECTOR (INAUDIBLE)

4 MS. DUBRANSKY: BARBARA DUBRANSKY, DIRECTOR OF  
5 PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT, FIRST 5 LA.

6 MS. JOHNS: RENA JOHNS, SENIOR PROGRAM OFFICER,  
7 DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

8 SPEAKER: HI. GOOD AFTERNOON. BONNIE PADERO THE  
9 LA PARTNERSHIP FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD INVESTMENTS.

10 SPEAKER: GOOD AFTERNOON. LIZ GECKA, LOS ANGELES  
11 COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION, LACOE.

12 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: WELCOME BACK, LIZ. HAVEN'T  
13 SEEN YOU IN A WHILE. GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN.

14 SPEAKER: GREAT TO BE BACK.

15 SPEAKER: MIRIAM (INAUDIBLE), RESEARCH ANALYST  
16 RESEARCH AND EVALUATION.

17 SPEAKER: (INAUDIBLE) CLIFFORD, DIRECTOR OF  
18 COMMUNITY INVESTMENTS.

19 MS. FAED: PEGAH FAED, RESEARCH ANALYST IN  
20 RESEARCH AND EVALUATION.

21 MS. ALVARADO: HI. CHRISTINA ALVARADO, CHILD  
22 CARE ALLIANCE OF LOS ANGELES.

23 MS. SERVANTE: ELLEN SERVANTE, CHILD CARE  
24 RESEARCH CENTER LOS ANGELES.

25 MADELINE GONZALEZ: MADELINE GONZALEZ, MANAGER OF

1 COMMUNICATIONS.

2 MR. DIETERLE: KEVIN DIETERLE, PROGRAM OFFICER AT  
3 FIRST 5 LA.

4 MS. ECKERT: JENNIFER ECKERT, CONTRACTS  
5 COMPLIANCE, FIRST 5 LA.

6 SPEAKER: (INAUDIBLE), VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA.

7 MR. CLARK: RANDY CLARK, PROGRAM MANAGER  
8 (INAUDIBLE).

9 SPEAKER: KAREN VALENCIA, FIRST 5 LA.

10 SPEAKER: LINDA VOE, FIRST 5 LA.

11 THE COURT REPORTER: HEATHERLYNN GONZALEZ,  
12 STENOGRAPHER.

13 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: THANK YOU. DID WE MISS  
14 ANYONE?

15 SPEAKER: BILL (INAUDIBLE), PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT.

16 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: ALL RIGHT. COMMISSIONERS,  
17 I ASSUME THAT YOU'VE REVIEWED THE NOTES. ANY ADDITIONS,  
18 CORRECTIONS, DELETIONS? NOT HEARING NONE, WILL BE  
19 RECEIVED AND FILED. GRADE LEVEL READING.

20 MS. COWAN: THAT'S ME. OKAY. LET'S GO.

21 HELLO, EVERYONE. AGAIN, MY NAME IS JENNIFER  
22 COWAN. I'M SENIOR COMMUNITY OFFICER OF COMMUNITY  
23 INVESTMENTS DEPARTMENT. AND I'M HERE TODAY TO PROVIDE YOU  
24 WITH AN UPDATE ON A COLLABORATIVE THAT WE HAVE BEEN PART  
25 OF FOR THE LAST FEW YEARS, MOST ACTIVELY IN THE LAST 12

1 MONTHS, CALLED THE LA GRADE LEVEL READING SCHOOL READINESS  
2 SUPPORT GROUP. AND I'M ALSO HERE TO PROVIDE INFORMATION  
3 SO THAT YOU CAN APPROVE A STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP WITH THE  
4 GLEN PRICE GROUP WHO HAS BEEN A CRITICAL PARTNER IN  
5 FACILITATING THE WORK OF THE SCHOOL READINESS SUPPORT  
6 GROUP, WHICH IS IN SERVICE TO OUR STRATEGIC PLAN,  
7 SPECIFICALLY THE ECE AND FAMILIES OUTCOME AREAS.

8 SO BEFORE WE DIVE INTO THE SCHOOL READINESS WORK  
9 GROUP, I WANTED TO PROVIDE A LITTLE BIT OF CONTEXT ON THE  
10 GRADE LEVEL READING CAMPAIGN. THE GRADE LEVEL READING  
11 CAMPAIGN IS A NATIONAL EFFORT AND IT WAS CONCEIVED AND  
12 LAUNCHED IN 2012 BY THE ANNIE E. CASEY FOUNDATION, AND THE  
13 CAMPAIGN FOCUSES ON AN IMPORTANT PREDICTOR OF SCHOOL AND  
14 FUTURE SUCCESS, READING AT GRADE LEVEL BY THE THIRD GRADE.

15 RIGHT NOW 80 PERCENT OF LOW-INCOME CHILDREN ARE  
16 NOT READING PROFICIENTLY AT THE END OF THE THIRD GRADE.  
17 AND HERE AT FIRST 5 LA, WE KNOW THAT BY PARTICIPATING IN  
18 EARLY ECE PROGRAMS, CHILDREN ARE MORE LIKELY TO BE READY  
19 WHEN THEY ENTER SCHOOL TO ACHIEVE KEY SUCCESS AND ACADEMIC  
20 MILESTONES SUCH AS THIRD GRADE READING.

21 SO THE LA GRADE LEVEL READING CAMPAIGN IS ONE  
22 EXAMPLE OF HOW FIRST 5 LA IS WORKING WITH OTHER PARTNERS  
23 TO HELP CHILDREN ENTER KINDERGARTEN READY TO SUCCEED IN  
24 SCHOOL.

25 AND IN HERE'S MY LITTLE PEANUT. THIS IS FIONA ON

1 HER FIRST DAY OF KINDERGARTEN.

2 SO THE GRADE LEVEL READING CAMPAIGN IS TAKING A  
3 COLLECTIVE IMPACT APPROACH, WHICH IS A BIT OF A BUZZWORD  
4 THESE DAYS. YOU'VE PROBABLY HEARD THIS TERM, COLLECTIVE  
5 IMPACT. IT'S NOTHING NEW BUT IT'S A WAY THAT FOLKS ARE  
6 COMING TOGETHER AROUND COMMON LANGUAGE TO FRAME HOW WE  
7 WILL ADDRESS COMPLEX ISSUES SUCH AS THIRD GRADE READING  
8 PROFICIENCY. SO THE BASIC IDEA BEHIND COLLECTIVE IMPACT  
9 IS THAT NO SINGLE ORGANIZATION HAS THE ABILITY TO SOLVE  
10 ANY MAJOR SOCIAL PROBLEM AT SCALE BY ITSELF. BY WORKING  
11 ACROSS SECTORS, HAVING A COMMON AGENDA, AGREED UPON  
12 MEASURES, AND MUTUALLY REINFORCING ACTIVITIES, THERE'S  
13 GREATER POTENTIAL FOR ALL OF US TO ACHIEVE LONG-TERM  
14 SOCIAL CHANGE.

15 AND THE CAMPAIGN HAS IDENTIFIED THREE FOCUS AREAS  
16 THAT THEY BELIEVE IF WE FOCUS ON WE WILL BE ABLE TO USE  
17 THOSE AS LEVERS FOR CHANGE TO ADDRESS THIRD GRADE READING.  
18 AND THOSE ARE SCHOOL READINESS, ENSURING OUR KIDS ENTER  
19 KINDERGARTEN READY TO SUCCEED IN SCHOOL; ATTENDANCE,  
20 ENSURING CHILDREN CONSISTENTLY ATTEND SCHOOL AND  
21 ADDRESSING ANY CHRONIC ABSENCES; AND SUMMER LEARNING,  
22 PREVENTING THE SUMMER SLIDE OR SUMMER LEARNING LOSS,  
23 ENSURING OUR KIDS ARE ENGAGED IN SUMMER LEARNING.

24 THE NATIONAL CAMPAIGN IS BASICALLY THE ORGANIZING  
25 OR UMBRELLA FOR A NETWORK OF OVER 200 LOCAL COMMUNITY

1 CAMPAIGNS, INCLUDING LOS ANGELES COUNTY. SO THEY'RE ALL  
2 ORGANIZED AND FUNDED AT THE LOCAL LEVEL. AND EXACTLY HOW  
3 THEY APPROACH THEIR WORK LOOKS VERY DIFFERENT, BUT ALL OF  
4 THEM ARE USING THIS COLLECTIVE IMPACT APPROACH TO ADDRESS  
5 SCHOOL READINESS, ATTENDANCE, AND SUMMER LEARNING. AND AS  
6 PART OF THIS NETWORK, THE ANNIE E. CASEY FOUNDATION,  
7 THROUGH THE NATIONAL CAMPAIGN PROVIDES COMMUNITIES WITH  
8 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, ACCESS TO RESEARCH, FACILITATION OF  
9 PURE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES, ALL ALIGNED WITH THOSE GRADE  
10 LEVEL READING FOCUS AREAS.

11 SO IT'S A LITTLE BIT HARD TO READ. LOOK AT YOUR  
12 SLIDE AND I'LL HIGHLIGHT A FEW THINGS HERE. SO NOW WE'VE  
13 COME TO LA COUNTY. THE OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN THE GRADE  
14 LEVEL READING CAMPAIGNED WAS FIRST CHAMPIONED BY THE LA  
15 AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WHO SAW THIS AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO  
16 HELP CHAMPION AND PROMOTE THE CRADLE TO CAREER CONTINUUM  
17 IN HERE IN LA COUNTY. SO THE CHAMBER PARTNERED WITH FIRST  
18 5 LA, FAMILIES AND SCHOOLS, LAUSD, AND ANOTHER -- A LARGER  
19 GROUP OF STAKEHOLDERS TO BECOME PART OF THIS GRADE LEVEL  
20 READING COMMUNITIES NETWORK. AND IN 2013, WE LAUNCHED THE  
21 LA CAMPAIGN FOR GRADE LEVEL READING WITH OUR LOCALLY  
22 FOCUSED GOAL ON IMPROVING THIRD GRADE READING PROFICIENCY  
23 FOR STUDENTS IN LA COUNTY.

24 AT THAT TIME, WE ALSO ESTABLISHED WORK GROUPS FOR  
25 EACH OF THOSE THREE FOCUS AREAS. SO FOR SCHOOL READINESS,

1 ATTENDANCE, AND SUMMER LEARNING. GIVEN THE ALIGNMENT OF  
2 THE CAMPAIGN SCHOOL READINESS FOCUS AREA WITH FIRST 5'S  
3 VISION THAT ALL CHILDREN ENTER LA -- IN LA COUNTY ENTER  
4 KINDERGARTEN READY TO SUCCEED IN SCHOOL AND LIFE, WE  
5 STEPPED UP TO LEAD AND CONVENE THE SCHOOL READINESS WORK  
6 GROUP WHICH LAUNCHED IN MARCH 2015.

7 FIRST 5 LA PARTNERED WITH THE GLEN PRICE GROUP,  
8 ALSO KNOWN AS GPG TO HELP FACILITATE THE SCHOOL READINESS  
9 WORK GROUP, AND THEY PLAYED A CRITICAL ROLE IN OUR WORK  
10 TODAY.

11 SO UNDERSTAND THERE ARE A LOT OF LEVELS TO THIS  
12 CAMPAIGN. AND BEFORE WE CONTINUE, I'D LIKE TO WALK YOU  
13 THROUGH WHERE WE ARE SO FAR.

14 SO AT TOP OF THIS CHART, YOU'LL SEE THE NATIONAL  
15 GRADE LEVEL READING CAMPAIGN. BENEATH THAT, THERE ARE THE  
16 HUNDREDS OF COMMUNITY CAMPAIGNS, INCLUDING THE LA COUNTY  
17 CAMPAIGN FOR GRADE LEVEL READING. FOLLOW THE LA CAMPAIGN  
18 DOWN AND YOU'LL SEE THREE BOXES THERE. THOSE REPRESENT  
19 THE THREE FOCUS AREAS AND WORK GROUPS THAT WE'VE  
20 ESTABLISHED IN LA COUNTY. NOW, FOCUS YOUR ATTENTION ON  
21 SCHOOL READINESS. THIS IS WHERE WE ARE. JUST LIKE THE  
22 MALL, WE ARE HERE. SO THE CHARGE OF THE SCHOOL READINESS  
23 WORK GROUP IS TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN LA  
24 COUNTY WHO ENTER KINDERGARTEN READY TO SUCCEED IN SCHOOL.  
25 THROUGH AN ITERATIVE PROCESS WORKING WITH GPG -- THAT'S

1 THE GLEN PRICE GROUP - THE SCHOOL READINESS WORK GROUP  
2 IDENTIFIED THREE PRIORITIES FOR WHICH WE WILL COLLECTIVELY  
3 COMMIT TO SUPPORT TO IMPROVE SCHOOL READINESS. THESE  
4 PRIORITIES, UNDERNEATH THAT SCHOOL READINESS BOX, ARE:  
5 SUPPORTING THE ADOPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A COUNTYWIDE  
6 KINDERGARTEN READINESS ASSESSMENT, ALSO KNOWN AS KRA;  
7 ADVANCING POLICIES AND SYSTEMS THAT INCREASE THE NUMBER OF  
8 PROGRAMS PARTICIPATING IN QUALITY RATING IMPROVEMENT  
9 SYSTEMS, ALSO KNOWN AS QRIS; AND ADVANCING POLICIES AND  
10 SYSTEMS THAT EFFECTIVELY ENGAGE FAMILIES TO SUPPORT SCHOOL  
11 READINESS IN THEIR HOME AND OTHER INFORMAL SETTINGS.

12 NOW, THIS CHART HERE THAT YOU ALSO HAVE IN YOUR  
13 PACKET MAPS THE ALIGNMENT BETWEEN FIRST 5 LA'S STRATEGIC  
14 PLAN OUTCOME AREA AND THE SCHOOL READINESS WORK GROUP  
15 PRIORITY FOCUS AREAS. ON THE LEFT END COLUMN, YOU'LL SEE  
16 THE STRATEGIES -- AND THESE SHOULD BE VERY FAMILIAR TO YOU  
17 AT THIS POINT -- THAT ARE INCLUDED IN OUR CURRENT  
18 STRATEGIC PLAN AND SOME OF THE KEY ACTIVITIES WE AT FIRST  
19 5 HAVE IDENTIFIED TO SUPPORT THOSE STRATEGIES. AND THEN  
20 ON THE RIGHT-HAND SIDE, YOU'LL SEE THE SCHOOL READINESS  
21 WORK GROUP PRIORITIES KRA, QRIS, AND PARENT ENGAGEMENT.

22 SO AFTER IDENTIFYING EACH THESE PRIORITIES THAT  
23 YOU SEE LISTED ON THE RIGHT-HAND SIDE, THE SCHOOL  
24 READINESS WORK GROUP DEVELOPED ACTION PLANS WITH THE WORK  
25 GROUP MEMBERS' RESPECTIVE ORGANIZATIONS AND -- AND

1 EVERYONE IN THAT GROUP HAS COMMITTED TO SUPPORTING AND  
2 IMPLEMENTING THESE ACTION PLANS. THEY INCLUDE IDENTIFYING  
3 EXISTING EFFORTS AND RESOURCES THAT CAN BE ALIGNED AND  
4 LEVERAGED TO SUPPORT THE SCHOOL READINESS WORK GROUP  
5 GOALS. SO WE'VE BEEN VERY INTENTIONAL ABOUT MAPPING AND  
6 RECOGNIZING WHAT ALREADY EXISTS SO THAT WE CAN WORK  
7 EFFICIENTLY AND EFFECTIVELY AND NOT DUPLICATE EFFORT AND  
8 ALSO RESPECTING THE TIME AND RESOURCES OF THE  
9 ORGANIZATIONS WHO HAVE COMMITTED TO THIS INITIATIVE.

10 SO WE'RE GOING TO USE QRIS AS AN EXAMPLE. THIS  
11 IMAGE SHOWS EACH OF THE PRIORITY AREAS THAT THE SCHOOL  
12 READINESS WORK GROUP HAS IDENTIFIED AND SOME OF THE HIGHER  
13 LEVEL ELEMENTS OF THEIR ACTION PLANS. SO BENEATH EACH  
14 THESE ACTIVITIES, WHICH ARE IN THE DARKER BLUE BOXES,  
15 THERE ARE A SERIES OF TASKS, TIMELINES, AND RESPONSIBLE  
16 PARTIES THAT HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED TO TAKE ON THIS WORK.

17 IF WE FOCUS ON THE QRIS ACTION PLAN, YOU'LL SEE  
18 THERE ARE TWO BUCKETS OF ACTIVITY: ONE AROUND  
19 IMPLEMENTATION OF AN INTEGRATED QRIS IN LA COUNTY AND  
20 ANOTHER AROUND IMPLEMENTING ADVOCACY PLANS. SO SOMETHING  
21 I WANT TO POINT OUT HERE -- AND THIS IS A GREAT EXAMPLE OF  
22 HOW THIS GROUP HAS BEEN FLUID AND REACTIVE TO THE CHANGING  
23 ENVIRONMENT. THE QRIS SUBGROUP THAT WAS PART OF THE  
24 SCHOOL READINESS WORK GROUP WAS ESTABLISHED PRIOR TO THE  
25 QRIS ARCHITECTS GROUP, WHICH MANY OF YOU MAY BE FAMILIAR

1 WITH. THIS GROUP CAME TOGETHER UNDER THE FIRST 5 IMPACT  
2 INITIATIVE. AND THE ARCHITECTS ARE REALLY WHAT WE TALK  
3 ABOUT AS THE DOERS, THOSE WHO ARE CHARGED WITH  
4 IMPLEMENTING QRIS IN LA COUNTY AND WORKING TO REFINE OUR  
5 SYSTEM SO THAT WE HAVE ONE COHESIVE SYSTEM. MANY OF OUR  
6 WORK GROUP MEMBERS OVERLAP. AND THERE'S A BENEFIT TO THAT  
7 IN THAT WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO IDENTIFY THE FOCUS AREA OF  
8 THE ARCHITECTS AND THE SCHOOL READINESS WORK GROUP.

9 SO THE SCHOOL READINESS WORK GROUP CAME UP WITH  
10 THESE TWO ACTIVITIES OR BUCKETS OF WORK. AND THEN AS THE  
11 ARCHITECTS' WORK EVOLVED AND THAT FOCUS BECAME CLEAR, WE  
12 REALIZED THE SCHOOL READINESS WORK GROUP COULD REALLY  
13 FOCUS THEIR EFFORTS AND RESOURCES ON THAT SECOND ACTIVITY,  
14 WHICH IS DEVELOPING AN ADVOCACY PLAN. SO THROUGHOUT THIS  
15 PROCESS, WE'VE BEEN INTENTIONAL ABOUT MAKING SURE THAT  
16 WE'RE NOT DUPLICATIVE AND WE'RE COMPLIMENTARY AND ALIGNED  
17 IN THE WORK THAT WE'RE DOING.

18 SO BEFORE I MOVE ON TO TALK MORE ABOUT THIS  
19 BROADER SCHOOL READINESS, I WANT TO SEE IF THERE'S ANY  
20 QUESTIONS AROUND THIS SLIDE. OKAY. I'LL KEEP GOING.  
21 HAPPY TO COME BACK. AND WE DO HAVE DETAILED ACTION PLANS  
22 FOR EACH OF THESE PRIORITY AREAS IF COMMISSIONERS ARE  
23 INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE SPECIFIC AREAS.

24 SO AS I MENTIONED BEFORE, THIS COLLECTIVE IMPACT  
25 EFFORT REQUIRES CROSS-SECTOR COLLABORATION. SO FIRST 5

1 HAS BEEN VERY INTENTIONAL ABOUT INCLUDING A DIVERSITY OF  
2 STAKEHOLDERS. THESE ARE SYSTEM LEVEL ACTORS THAT  
3 REPRESENT DIFFERENT SECTORS ACROSS OUR COUNTY, ALL WITH  
4 THE COMMON INTEREST IN IMPROVING SCHOOL READINESS FOR  
5 CHILDREN IN LA COUNTY.

6 AND OUR MEMBERSHIP IS REALLY EVOLVING AS ACTION  
7 PLANS ARE REFINED, ADDITIONAL MEMBERS ARE IDENTIFIED AND  
8 INVITED TO JOIN. AND RIGHT NOW THIS IS A COMPOSITE OF  
9 WHAT OUR SCHOOL READINESS WORK GROUP LOOKS LIKE. SO  
10 YOU'LL SEE WE HAVE REPRESENTATION FROM FOUNDATIONS,  
11 NONPROFITS, SCHOOL DISTRICTS, CITY AND COUNTY AGENCIES,  
12 HIGHER EDUCATION, ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS, AND THE BUSINESS  
13 SECTOR.

14 AND I JUST WANT TO NOTE THAT WE REACHED OUT TO  
15 ADDITIONAL MEMBERS AND ORGANIZATIONS THAT AREN'T REFLECTED  
16 HERE. THIS CHART ONLY REFLECTS THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN ABLE  
17 TO ATTEND AND PARTICIPATE TO DATE. BUT WE ARE ALWAYS OPEN  
18 TO INCLUDING MORE FOLKS AS THEY ARE INTERESTED AND  
19 AVAILABLE.

20 SO WE'RE AT A REALLY EXCITING POINT IN THE SCHOOL  
21 READINESS SUPPORT GROUP. WE'VE BEEN TOGETHER FOR 12  
22 MONTHS NOW. AND SINCE LAUNCHING ALMOST A YEAR AGO, WE'VE  
23 DEVELOPED ACTION PLANS FOR EACH OUR SUBGROUPS FOR EACH  
24 THOSE THREE PRIORITY AREAS, AND WE'RE NOW MOVE INTO  
25 IMPLEMENTATION. HERE YOU'LL SEE SOME OF OUR KEY

1 ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE. AND MOMENTUM IS REALLY BUILDING  
2 AS WE TRANSITION FROM PLANNING TO ACTION. WE'VE  
3 EXPERIENCED GROWTH AND PARTICIPATION AND MEMBERSHIP. AND  
4 IN FACT, IN OUR LAST MEETING WE HAD 14 NEW WORK GROUP  
5 MEMBERS, WHICH WAS MORE THAN A 30 PERCENT INCREASE SINCE  
6 OUR -- SINCE OUR LAST MEETING, WHICH WAS VERY EXCITING TO  
7 SEE THE INTEREST AND COMMITMENT. AND THAT FOLKS HAVE SAID  
8 THAT THIS IS A GOOD USE OF THEIR TIME ON BEHALF OF THEIR  
9 ORGANIZATION REALLY SAYS SOMETHING WHEN WE LOOK AT THEIR  
10 LEVEL OF COMMITMENT.

11 SO AS WE CONTINUE TO IDENTIFY EXISTING AND  
12 EMERGING EFFORTS AT BOTH THE STATE AND LOCAL LEVEL, WE'LL  
13 CONTINUE TO REFINE OUR ACTION PLANS AND INCLUDE NEW  
14 MEMBERS.

15 AS I MENTIONED BEFORE, THE GPG TEAM, GLEN PRICE  
16 GROUP, HAS PLAYED A CRITICAL ROLE IN OUR WORK TO DATE IN  
17 GUIDING AND FACILITATING THE SCHOOL READINESS WORK GROUP.  
18 AND WE BELIEVE THAT, IN ORDER TO SUSTAIN AND BUILD UPON  
19 THIS MOMENTUM, WE SHOULD CONTINUE OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH  
20 THEM THROUGH THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR, SO THROUGH FISCAL YEAR  
21 16-17. WE INITIALLY CONTRACTED WITH GPG A YEAR AGO IN  
22 MARCH 2015 BEFORE WE HAD LAUNCHED THE INITIATIVE. SO WE  
23 COULD ANTICIPATE WHAT THE WORK WOULD LOOK LIKE AND THE  
24 RESPONSE FROM OUR STAKEHOLDERS, BUT WE DIDN'T REALLY KNOW  
25 UNTIL WE ACTUALLY GOT INTO THE WORK AND WE WERE VERY

1 PLEASED TO SEE THE LEVEL OF ENGAGEMENT AND COMMITMENT OF  
2 ORGANIZATIONS AND THE NUMBER OF PRIORITIES THAT THE GROUP  
3 HAD IDENTIFIED AND DETERMINED THAT THEY WANTED TO ADDRESS.

4 SO IN THAT TIME, WE EXPANDED GPG'S SCOPE SO THAT  
5 THEY COULD FULLY SUPPORT AND ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF THE  
6 SCHOOL READINESS WORK GROUP AND THE THREE SUBGROUPS ON  
7 KRA, QRIS, AND PARENT ENGAGEMENT. AND WE WERE ABLE TO DO  
8 THAT BECAUSE OUR PARTNER, THE LA PARTNERSHIP FOR EARLY  
9 CHILDHOOD INVESTMENT, AND ONE OF OUR COLLEAGUES ARE HERE  
10 TODAY -- THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE -- STEPPED UP AND SAID,  
11 THIS WORK IS ALSO IMPORTANT AND ALIGNED WITH WHAT WE DO.  
12 AND SO THEY WERE ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE \$25,000 TO HELP ENSURE  
13 THAT WE COULD FUND GPG AT LEVEL WE FELT LIKE THE SCHOOL  
14 READINESS WORK GROUP NEEDED.

15 SO NOW WE'RE ENDING THAT CONTRACT AND EXPENDING  
16 THE FUNDS THAT WE HAD PLANNED TO. AND GIVEN THAT THEIR  
17 CURRENT CONTRACT IS ENDING, WE'RE SEEKING YOUR APPROVAL TO  
18 RENEW OUR COMMITMENT AND PARTNERSHIP WITH GPG.

19 SO OUR EXISTING CONTRACT WITH GPG ENDS AT THE END  
20 OF FEBRUARY AND FUNDS FROM THE LA PARTNERSHIP WILL ALLOW  
21 IT TO CONTINUE THROUGH MARCH. OUR NEW CONTRACT, PENDING  
22 BOARD APPROVAL, WOULD BEGIN APRIL 1ST. SO THERE WOULD BE  
23 NO LAPSE IN THEIR WORK. AND CONCURRENTLY -- ACTUALLY,  
24 TOMORROW THE LA PARTNERSHIP FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD INVESTMENT  
25 IS ALSO CONSIDERING ANOTHER INVESTMENT TO COFUND WITH

1 FIRST 5 LA. SO WE'RE EXCITED ABOUT THAT. AND WE WOULD BE  
2 ABLE TO SHARE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THAT AT THE MARCH  
3 BOARD MEETING.

4 SO THE PROPOSED PARTNERSHIP WOULD BE 15 MONTHS.  
5 AND THIS BUDGET AND SCOPE IS BASED ON OUR CURRENT BURN  
6 RATE AND EXISTING ACTIVITY WITH THEM. AND IF YOU'RE  
7 INTERESTED IN MORE DETAILS ON THE GPG WORK, WE'VE INCLUDED  
8 MORE OF THAT IN YOUR BOARD PACKET IN THE MEMO.

9 SO NEXT STEPS. IN MARCH, WE'LL BE SEEKING BOARD  
10 APPROVAL TO ESTABLISH A STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP WITH GPG AND  
11 CONTRACT WITH GPG TO CONTINUE THEIR WORK WITH AN  
12 ANTICIPATED START DATE OF MARCH 1ST. AND AT THAT TIME,  
13 WE'LL ALSO BE ABLE TO CONFIRM THE LA PARTNERSHIP'S  
14 COMMITMENT TO THIS PROJECT.

15 MS. BELSHE: MARCH 1ST OVER APRIL 1ST?

16 MS. COWAN: THE ACTIVE DATE, APRIL 1ST. YES.

17 THANK YOU.

18 SO THAT CONCLUDES MY SUMMARY. AND I HAVE TO JUST  
19 END WITH WHERE MY DAUGHTER IS NOW ALMOST ON HER WAY TO  
20 THIRD GRADE. AND THESE PICTURES -- THE ONE ON THE RIGHT  
21 IS ACTUALLY HER FROM THE OTHER NIGHT. SHE WOULDN'T SMILE  
22 FOR ME, BUT RECENTLY SHE DISCOVERED HARRY POTTER. SO  
23 SHE'S DEEP IN THE WORLD OF HARRY POTTER, WHICH IS REALLY  
24 EXCITING, BUT SHE WANTS TO READ ALONE SO I'M A LITTLE SAD  
25 WE'RE NOT READING THAT ONE TOGETHER. BUT I WAS JUST

1 EXCITED TO SHARE THAT PICTURE.

2 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS WITH  
3 THOSE EIGHT-YEAR OLDS.

4 MS. COWAN: I KNOW. SO I RECOGNIZE THERE'S A LOT  
5 OF INFORMATION AND DETAIL. I'M HAPPY TO ANSWER ANY  
6 QUESTIONS OR REVIEW ANY OF THE PIECES --

7 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: COMMISSIONERS? ANY  
8 QUESTIONS FOR JENNIFER? JUDY.

9 COMMISSIONER ABDO: WHEN YOU TALK ABOUT THE  
10 READINESS FOR KINDERGARTEN, HAVE YOU TALKED AT ALL ABOUT  
11 KINDERGARTEN BEING READY FOR KIDS?

12 MS. COWAN: THAT'S A REALLY GOOD QUESTION.

13 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: THAT'S A TRICK QUESTION.

14 COMMISSIONER ABDO: I HAVE TO REVEAL THAT I WAS A  
15 KINDERGARTEN TEACHER.

16 MS. COWAN: WE'VE TALKED A LOT IN THE KRA  
17 SUBGROUP ABOUT.

18 MS. BELSHE: KRA.

19 MS. COWAN: KINDERGARTEN READINESS ASSESSMENT  
20 ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF ALIGNMENT ACROSS THE PRESCHOOL  
21 THROUGH KINDERGARTEN, THAT CONTINUUM, AND HOW OUR WORK CAN  
22 HELP BRIDGE AND ADDRESS THAT GAP. SO WE ARE AIMING TO  
23 INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES FROM BOTH THE EARLY -- EARLY  
24 CHILDHOOD PERSPECTIVE AS WELL AS THE K THROUGH 12 SYSTEM.

25 MS. BELSHE: ELABORATE ON YOUR QUESTION BECAUSE

1 BOTH -- BOTH THE KINDERGARTEN READINESS ASSESSMENT, AS  
2 JENNIFER SAID, IS INTENDED AND THERE'S A LOT OF WORK TO BE  
3 DONE THERE AND THERE ARE A LOT OF DIFFERENT TOOLS AND  
4 THERE'S NO CONSISTENCY, BUT IT IS INTENDED TO PROVIDE SOME  
5 SUPPORT TO SCHOOLS THAT ARE RECEIVING NEW KINDERGARTNERS.  
6 QUALITY RATING IMPROVEMENT SYSTEM IS MORE FOCUSED ON THE  
7 PRESCHOOL PIECE, NOT THE KINDERGARTEN PIECE. SO ELABORATE  
8 ON YOUR PERSPECTIVE.

9 COMMISSIONER ABDO: WELL, THIS IS A CONCERN THAT  
10 A NUMBER OF US HAVE HELD FOR A LONG TIME, AND THAT IS THE  
11 ALIGNMENT OF KINDERGARTEN THROUGH TWELFTH IS STRONG, AND  
12 PROBABLY LEAVES OUT FROM THEIR PERSPECTIVE THE ALIGNMENT  
13 WITH EARLY CHILDHOOD. AND SO IT'S -- IT SEEMS TO ME THAT  
14 WE NEED TO HAVE OUR KIDS READY FOR KINDERGARTEN, BUT WE  
15 DON'T WANT THEM READY FOR KINDERGARTEN TO SIT DOWN AT A  
16 DESK AND DO PAPERWORK. THAT'S NOT DEVELOPMENTALLY WHERE  
17 THEY ARE. AND YET, THAT'S THE PUSH FROM THE K-12 WORLD,  
18 IS TO HAVE CHILDREN BE ACTING MORE LIKE THIRD GRADERS.  
19 AND I THINK THAT WE WHO UNDERSTAND CHILD DEVELOPMENT FROM  
20 AN EARLIER PERSPECTIVE HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO GET THAT  
21 MESSAGE INTO THE K-12 WORLD.

22 LET ME JUST SAY, IN SANTA MONICA, WE'RE WORKING  
23 WITH THE CHILD CARE TASK FORCE AND BRAND TO GET ON  
24 CONFERENCES -- ONE-DAY CONFERENCES THAT INCLUDE PRESCHOOL  
25 TEACHERS AND KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS SO THEY CAN SIT DOWN AT

1 SAME TABLE AND TALK ABOUT ISSUES TOGETHER. AND OFTEN,  
2 YOU'LL SEE KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS SAY, WELL, WHAT I NEED  
3 FOR MY CHILDREN TO COME IN THROUGH THE DOOR IS THEY NEED  
4 TO BE ABLE TO SIT DOWN AND BE QUIET AND LISTEN. WELL,  
5 THAT'S NOT REALLY WHAT KIDS NEED. SO, YOU KNOW, IT'S A  
6 TWO-WAY STREET.

7 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: JENNIFER, LET ME TRY TO  
8 HELP WITH THIS. IT'S A SYSTEMS QUESTION AND IT DEALS WITH  
9 AN ISSUE -- YOU KNOW, FOR EXAMPLE, IN HEAD START -- HEAD  
10 START USED CREATIVE CURRICULUM AS THEIR MODE TO TEACH --  
11 TEACH CHILDREN DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATELY. OKAY? AND  
12 -- AND SO IN THE CREATIVE CURRICULUM, YOU HAVE A LOT OF  
13 PLAY. HAVE YOU A LOT OF ACTIVITY. AND SO WHEN A CHILD  
14 GETS INTO KINDERGARTEN, THAT MODE OF LEARNING GOES AWAY  
15 BECAUSE HAVE YOU TESTING AND THIS SORT OF THING. SO JUDY  
16 IS TALKING ABOUT THE SYSTEMS ISSUE, AND THAT'S A DEBATE.

17 COMMISSIONER ABDO: IT'S A HUGE ONE.

18 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: THAT'S A DEBATE. SO WHAT  
19 IT BOILS DOWN TO, ARE KINDERGARTNERS -- I MEAN, IS K  
20 THROUGH 12 READY FOR KINDERGARTEN SPEAKS TO THE ISSUE OF  
21 THE DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATE LEARNING THAT A FOUR OR  
22 FIVE-YEAR OLD NEEDS AND WHAT THEY ACTUALLY GET. SO I  
23 DON'T KNOW IF YOU CAN ANSWER THAT.

24 MS. COWAN: I THINK THAT THE -- SO THE DIVIDE  
25 BETWEEN THE SYSTEM IS REALLY WHAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT AND

1 I THINK THIS EFFORT TO DEVELOP KINDERGARTEN READINESS  
2 ASSESSMENT THAT IS DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE IS AN  
3 OPPORTUNITY TO ENGAGE IN A DIALOGUE ACROSS THE SYSTEMS AND  
4 A POINT OF CONNECTION POTENTIALLY WHERE THE EARLY  
5 CHILDHOOD COMMUNITY CAN ADVOCATE AND CAN INFORM K THROUGH  
6 12 SYSTEMS ABOUT WHAT IS REALLY DEVELOPMENTALLY  
7 APPROPRIATE. I THINK THAT'S WHAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT IN  
8 TERMS OF THE CONTENT OF THE ASSESSMENT, IS ABSOLUTELY  
9 DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE. I THINK THAT, YOU KNOW, OUR  
10 WORK AROUND KRA WILL INVOLVE A LOT OF THAT DIALOGUE WITH  
11 DISTRICTS AND I THINK THAT THERE WON'T BE A LOT OF  
12 EDUCATION THAT NEEDS TO HAPPEN AND KIND OF CONNECTING THAT  
13 -- THAT IS GOING TO BE A BIG CHALLENGE. BUT I THINK,  
14 ULTIMATELY -- I MEAN, WE CARE ABOUT THE ASSESSMENT BECAUSE  
15 THAT'S THE WAY WE'RE GOING TO KNOW IF WE'RE SUCCESSFUL,  
16 BUT I THINK THE PROCESS OF GETTING TO THAT ASSESSMENT AND  
17 GETTING EMBEDDED WITHIN THE K THROUGH 12 SYSTEM IS AN  
18 OPPORTUNITY TO CREATE SOME SYSTEMS CHANGE AND SOME GREATER  
19 CONNECTION THERE.

20 MS. BELSHE: SO THAT WOULD BE A GOOD ISSUE FOR US  
21 TO COME BACK TO PPC ON BECAUSE, AS COMMISSIONERS WILL  
22 RECALL, WE HAVE -- THE BOARD SUPPORT HAVE SUPPORTED BOTH  
23 THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND CHILDREN NOW TO DO AN --  
24 CHILDREN NOW WAS DOING A STATEWIDE REVIEW OF KINDERGARTEN  
25 READINESS ASSESSMENT TOOLS. WITH BOARD SUPPORT, WE FUNDED

1 CHILDREN NOW TO DO AN LA COUNTY SPECIFIC ASSESSMENT. AND  
2 ONE OF THE THINGS WE'RE LEARNING, NOT SURPRISINGLY -- AND  
3 YOU KNOW THIS, JUDY. YOU SHARED WITH US YOUR EXPERIENCE  
4 AS A KINDERGARTEN TEACHER -- THERE ARE A LOT OF DIFFERENT  
5 TOOLS AND THEY HAVE A LOT OF DIFFERENT OBJECTIVES. AND  
6 JUST BEING CLEAR ABOUT WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF ASSESSMENT:  
7 IS IT TO FOCUS ON DEVELOPMENTAL APPROPRIATENESS AND THE  
8 KEY DEVELOPMENTAL MILESTONES? IS IT TESTING KIDS TO SEE  
9 WHETHER OR NOT THEY CAN PASS? YOU KNOW, THERE'S SOME BIG  
10 POLICY QUESTIONS THERE.

11 SO I THINK WE'RE GETTING CLOSE TO BEING IN A  
12 POSITION -- CORRECT ME IF I'M WRONG, KATIE -- TO INVITE  
13 CHILDREN NOW BACK AND KIND OF SHARE -- I THINK THIS WOULD  
14 BE THE APPROPRIATE PLACE -- WHAT ARE WE LEARNING AND HOW  
15 CAN WE USE IT TO INFORM OUR WORK BROADLY AND I THINK THE  
16 WORK OF THIS SPECIFICALLY.

17 COMMISSIONER ABDO: AND I WOULD JUST ADD THAT I  
18 THINK THERE'S REAL WORK TO BE DONE WITH PRINCIPALS AND  
19 OTHER SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS AND THEIR PLANS WITH WHATEVER  
20 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT THEY ARE OFFERING TO KINDERGARTEN  
21 TEACHERS AND K THROUGH THREE TEACHER SO THAT THEY  
22 UNDERSTAND THE DEVELOPMENTAL ISSUES ALONG THE WAY. I  
23 THINK THAT K THROUGH TEACHERS DON'T NECESSARILY GET THE  
24 POINT OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT TRAINING THAT --

25 MS. FALLIN: OR PRINCIPALS.

1           COMMISSIONER ABDO:   DEFINITELY.   THAT WOULD BE  
2   VERY HELP TO THEM AS WELL AS TO THE KIDS SO THAT IT'S  
3   APPROPRIATE IN KINDERGARTEN.

4           MS. BELSHE:   YUP.

5           COMMISSIONER DENNIS:   OKAY.   NANCY AND THEN BILL  
6   AND THEN CINDY.

7           COMMISSIONER AU:   THIS, AGAIN, IS DEJA VU ALL  
8   OVER AGAIN BECAUSE I STILL REMEMBER -- AND I'M TURNING TO  
9   DUANE BECAUSE OF THE --

10          COMMISSIONER DENNIS:   DON'T BE TURNING TO ME.  
11   YOU HAVE TO BE THINKING ABOUT SOMEONE ELSE.

12          COMMISSIONER AU:   IT'S THE CHILDREN'S PLANNING  
13   COUNCIL DAYS.   AND WHEN WE WERE DEBATING THIS ISSUE EVEN  
14   BACK THEN AND STILL --

15          COMMISSIONER DENNIS:   LONG STANDING ISSUES.

16          COMMISSIONER AU:   -- IT'S STILL GOING ON.   AND I  
17   REMEMBER THE CONTROVERSY WHEN WE WERE TRYING TO DEVELOP A  
18   CURRICULUM FOR KINDERGARTENS.   WE'RE IN SACRAMENTO WHERE  
19   VOTES WERE JUST IN AN UPROAR.   AND STILL TODAY THE DEBATE  
20   IS GOING ON.   IN FACT, I'VE BEEN READING THAT MORE SO  
21   KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS ARE EXPECTING CHILDREN TO BE ABLE TO  
22   COUNT TO A HUNDRED, KNOW THEIR ABCS, AND BE ABLE TO DO  
23   SOME SIMPLE READING OF THREE-LETTER WORDS AND SO ON AND SO  
24   FORTH.   I'M SAYING, WAIT A MINUTE.   WHAT HAPPENED TO THEIR  
25   CHILDHOOD.   AND SP I THINK THERE REALLY NEEDS TO BE NOT --

1 I THINK WHEN THE CHILDREN'S PLANNING COUNCIL WERE HAVING  
2 THEIR DEBATE, IT WAS CLEAR THAT THE FOCUS NEEDED NOT TO BE  
3 ON THE CHILD PER SE, BUT REALLY THE SYSTEM. AND SO REALLY  
4 LEAVING CHILDREN TO BE CHILDREN AND REALLY EMPHASIZING THE  
5 FACT THAT CHILDREN DEVELOP AT THEIR OWN PACE, AND PLAY IS  
6 REALLY THEIR MECHANISM FOR THEIR LEARNING AND WE NEED TO  
7 HONOR THAT, AND THAT THE SYSTEM NEEDS TO BE FLEXIBLE IN  
8 ORDER TO SUPPORT THAT CHILD'S LEARNING PROCESS. SO I --  
9 BUT IT'S CLEAR THAT WE HAVEN'T QUITE GOTTEN THERE IN A  
10 SYSTEMIC WAY.

11 SO I'M CONCERNED ABOUT MOVING FORWARD IN THIS  
12 PROJECT UNLESS WE GET THAT CLARIFIED. AND AS A FIRST 5 LA  
13 COMMISSIONER, I REALLY DON'T WANT THIS EFFORT TO BE ON  
14 PUTTING THE ONUS OF READINESS ON THE CHILD. I REALLY --  
15 BECAUSE WE REALLY NEED TO SUPPORT CHILDREN. SO I REALLY  
16 HAVING SOME ANGST ABOUT THIS RIGHT NOW.

17 MS. BELSHE: SO I GUESS THE QUESTION I WOULD --  
18 OR AN OBSERVATION I WOULD MAKE IS THAT -- AND MANY OF YOU  
19 HAVE MORE HISTORY THAN I WHEN YOU SAY DEJA VU ALL OVER  
20 AGAIN AND THE CHILDREN'S PLANNING COUNCIL, THAT'S MANY,  
21 MANY YEARS AGO. THESE ARE HARD ISSUES.

22 COMMISSIONER AU: UH-HUH, IT IS.

23 MS. BELSHE: AND THIS COMMISSION ON ITS OWN, I  
24 THINK WE WOULD ALL AGREE, ISN'T GOING TO ANSWER THOSE  
25 QUESTIONS, RIGHT? I MEAN, THIS IS AN EXAMPLE OF A BIG,

1 HARD, COMPLEX ISSUE. IT'S A SYSTEMIC ISSUES. AND I THINK  
2 ONE OF THE STRENGTHS OF THE CAMPAIGN FOR THIRD GRADE LEVEL  
3 READING, AND SPECIFICALLY THE SCHOOL READINESS WORK GROUP  
4 IS, WE'VE GOT ALL THE RIGHT PEOPLE AT THE TABLE AND IF --  
5 IF THIS GROUP AND WITH -- AND I WANT TO COMMEND JENNIFER  
6 AND THE WORK THAT FIRST 5 LA HAS DONE, IS THAT SCHOOL  
7 READINESS WORK GROUP FRANKLY WAS VERY BROAD AND KIND OF --  
8 THEY'VE BEEN MEETING FOR A LONG TIME. AND IT WAS WITH OUR  
9 SUPPORT AND SOME GOOD LEADERSHIP FROM JENNIFER THAT  
10 THERE'S NOW FOCUS, ALONG WITH SOME GOOD WORK OBVIOUSLY  
11 FORM EVERYONE ELSE. THERE'S NOW SOME FOCUS, SOME  
12 AGREEMENT. THESE ARE THE THREE THINGS WE NEED TO FOCUS ON  
13 TO SUPPORT CHILDREN IN TERMS OF THEIR DEVELOPMENT AND  
14 LEARNING.

15 SO KINDERGARTEN READINESS IS ONE PIECE OF THAT.  
16 THAT GROUP, AND BY EXTENSION WE AS A PART OF THAT GROUP,  
17 ARE GOING TO HAVE TO WRESTLE WITH THAT ISSUE. SO FIRST 5  
18 LA'S SUPPORT OF THIS TABLE WITH VERY GOOD FACILITATION BY  
19 THE GLEN PRICE GROUP, IN OUR JUDGMENT -- THAT'S WHY WE'RE  
20 RECOMMENDING THIS TO THE BOARD -- THAT THAT'S THE TABLE TO  
21 HELP SORT THROUGH AND TRY TO MAKE PROGRESS ON THAT. THAT  
22 WILL BE COMING BACK PERIODICALLY TO THIS COMMISSION. BUT  
23 I WOULD HATE TO THINK THAT WE ALONE ARE GOING TO RESOLVE  
24 THIS BIG ISSUE, BUT WE GOT A TERRIFIC TABLE WITH SOME  
25 EXCELLENT FACILITATION THAT IS AGREED, WE'VE GOT TO

1 RESOLVE THIS AS A PART OF THE PRIORITY.

2 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: BILL AND THEN WE GO TO  
3 CINDY AND THEN BACK TO YOU, JUDY.

4 COMMISSIONER ARROYO: SO I WAS WONDERING IF OTHER  
5 FOUNDATIONS WERE APPROACHED TO SUPPORT THIS, SUCH AS THE  
6 LUCILLE PACKARD FOUNDATION OR SOME OTHER FOUNDATION IN THE  
7 STATE.

8 MS. COWAN: MANY OF THE FOUNDATIONS ARE  
9 SUPPORTING THE CAMPAIGN AT DIFFERENT LEVELS, SO THEY --  
10 THEY -- SOME OF THEM ARE INVOLVED AT SUPPORTING SOME OF  
11 THE WORK AT THE STATE LEVEL. IN LOS ANGELES THE -- IT'S  
12 BEEN FIRST 5, LA PARTNERSHIP, AND THE CALIFORNIA ENDOWMENT  
13 HAD FUNDED SOME OF THE WORK THROUGH THE CAMPAIGN, SO --  
14 BUT A LOT OF THAT WORK HAS BEEN SIMILAR TO WHAT -- HOW  
15 FIRST 5 HAS SUPPORTED ALIGNED WITH THE PRIORITIES AND THE  
16 MISSION OF THEIR ORGANIZATION. SO, FOR EXAMPLE, FIRST 5'S  
17 RESOURCES HAVE BEEN DEDICATED ON KINDERGARTEN READINESS  
18 PIECE. BUT WE'RE ALSO -- WE ARE INVOLVED IN CONVERSATIONS  
19 WITH THE PACKARD FOUNDATION ABOUT THE KINDERGARTEN  
20 READINESS ASSESSMENT AS WELL AS A LOT OF THE OTHER WORK  
21 THAT THEY'RE DOING. SO WE'RE CONNECTED TO PACKARD AT A  
22 NUMBER OF DIFFERENT LEVELS BEYOND JUST --

23 MS. NUNO: THE ANNIE E. CASEY IS THE UMBRELLA.

24 MS. COWAN: YES. FOR THIS -- YES, FOR THIS  
25 CAMPAIGN ANNIE E. CASEY.

1           COMMISSIONER ARROYO:   THE OTHER SECTOR THAT MAY  
2 BE WORTH CONSIDERING IS THE DISABILITY SECTOR BECAUSE  
3 THROUGH FEDERAL LAW IDEA, INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITY  
4 EDUCATION ACT, YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE -- YOUNG PEOPLE --  
5 YOUNG CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF FIVE, REALLY ZERO TO FIVE,  
6 WHO ARE IDENTIFIED AS HAVING A DISABILITY GET -- ARE  
7 ENTITLED TO SPECIALIZED EDUCATIONAL SERVICES PRIOR TO  
8 THEIR ENROLLMENT IN K THROUGH 12.   SO I'M WONDERING IF  
9 THERE HAS BEEN ANY KIND OF OUTREACH TO THAT SECTOR.   THERE  
10 MAY BE SOMETHING THERE TO EXPAND OR FURTHER SUPPORT THIS.

11           MS. FALLIN:   AT THIS POINT IN TIME, THEY HAVEN'T BEEN  
12 INCLUDED IN THE CONVERSATION, BUT THANK YOU FOR THAT  
13 RECOMMENDATION AND WE'LL CERTAINLY REACH OUT.

14           MS. BELSHE:   IF YOU HAVE A SPECIFIC GROUP OR TWO,  
15 BILL, THAT'D RECOMMEND THAT WE REACH OUT TO, THAT WOULD BE  
16 -- YOU DON'T NEED TO DO IT RIGHT NOW, BUT THAT YOU CAN  
17 SHARE.

18           COMMISSIONER ARROYO:   I'LL HAVE TO GIVE THAT SOME  
19 MORE THOUGHT, BUT IT JUST -- BECAUSE THOSE CHILDREN AND  
20 FAMILIES ARE ALREADY ENERGIZED INTO THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM  
21 PRIOR TO KINDERGARTEN BY FEDERAL ENTITLEMENT.

22           AND THEN THE LAST THING IS, DOES THIS PROJECT  
23 LEND ITSELF TO THE LCAF EFFORT THAT SCHOOL DISTRICTS ARE  
24 ALL INVOLVED IN TERMS OF LOCAL BUDGET PLANNING AS OPPOSED  
25 TO MORE CENTRALIZED BUDGET PLANNING AS IT HAS BEEN IN THE

1 PAST?

2 MS. COWAN: SO I'VE BEEN MOST DEEPLY INVOLVED IN  
3 THE WEEDS IN THE KRA SUBGROUP, SO I CAN SHARE SOME OF THE  
4 CONNECTIONS THERE. IT'S -- IT'S COME UP IN TERMS OF  
5 ACCOUNTABILITY AND USING A KINDERGARTEN READINESS  
6 ASSESSMENT TO LOOK AT HOW WE'RE MEASURING PROGRESS AND TO  
7 INFORM INVESTMENTS IN EARLY CHILDHOOD THAT WOULD BE  
8 REQUESTED IN THE LCAF. WE'RE ALSO THINKING ABOUT HOW WE  
9 CAN LEVERAGE ALL THE GOOD WORK AND PROGRESS WE'VE MADE  
10 LOCALLY WITH OUR SCHOOL DISTRICTS AROUND THE LCAF BECAUSE  
11 IMPLEMENTING A KRA AND GETTING SUPPORT FOR A KRA IN LA  
12 COUNTY WILL REQUIRE A LOT OF STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND  
13 EDUCATION AND SUPPORT. AND WE HAVE LEARNED A LOT AND HAVE  
14 A LOT OF EXPERIENCE FROM OUR LCAF EXPERIENCE. SO KIND OF  
15 COORDINATING BOTH OF THOSE EFFORTS IS SOMETHING THAT'S  
16 BEEN ON OUR MIND AS WE TALK IN OUR LCFF COALITION THAT  
17 FIRST 5 SUPPORTS KRA HAS COME UP THERE, TOO.

18 COMMISSIONER ARROYO: YOU KNOW, AS I'M THINKING  
19 MORE ABOUT THIS, I'M THINKING ACTUALLY HAVING HAD DINNER  
20 LAST NIGHT WITH A GOOD FRIEND WHO HAS A TWO-YEAR OLD,  
21 WHICH TO ME SOUNDS LIKE HAS MULTIPLE DISABILITIES, AND  
22 PROVIDING SOME ADVICE AS TO HOW THAT -- THOSE PARENTS  
23 SHOULD PURSUE MUCH EARLIER EDUCATION FOR THIS CHILD SO  
24 THAT, WHEN THE TIME COMES TO ENTER KINDERGARTEN, THAT  
25 CHILD IS BETTER EQUIPPED TO SORT OF MANAGE THE EDUCATIONAL

1 ENVIRONMENT.

2 I'M THINKING THAT IN THE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT  
3 PROCESS, BECAUSE IF FAMILIES INDEED ARE ENGAGED, THIS MAY  
4 BE AN OPPORTUNITY TO HELP THEM IDENTIFY THEIR CHILDREN WHO  
5 COULD TAKE ADVANTAGE OF FEDERAL ENTITLEMENTS BEYOND WHAT  
6 MIGHT BE OFFERED HERE. SO PERHAPS PARTNERING WITH SOME  
7 EDUCATIONAL LEGAL ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS MIGHT BE A  
8 WORTHWHILE CONSIDERATION.

9 MS. COWAN: AND WE DO HAVE PUBLIC HEALTH AS ONE  
10 OF OUR PARTNERS.

11 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: THANKS, BILL.

12 CINDY.

13 COMMISSIONER HARDING: SO I HAVE A COUPLE OF  
14 QUESTIONS. FIRST, IN TERMS OF OTHER SUBGROUPS, I KNOW  
15 FIRST 5 IS FOCUSED ON SCHOOL READINESS. I THINK THAT'S  
16 TOTALLY APPROPRIATE, BUT THE CHRONIC ABSENCE AND THE  
17 SUMMER LEARNING. IN TERMS OF CHRONIC ABSENCE, IS THERE  
18 ANY FIRST 5 INVOLVEMENT OR ARE WE JUST ONLY IN SCHOOL  
19 READINESS?

20 MS. COWAN: AT THIS POINT IN TIME, WE'VE FOCUSED  
21 OUR RESOURCES ON SCHOOL READINESS. THERE IS A -- FAMILIES  
22 AND SCHOOLS IS LEADING THE OVERALL CAMPAIGN. SO THEY'RE  
23 KIND OF THE UMBRELLA FOR LA FOR SCHOOL -- FOR CONNECTING  
24 TO THE NATIONAL CAMPAIGN IN LOOKING AT ATTENDANCE. AND  
25 ATTENDANCE WORKS IS THE LEAD ORGANIZATION THERE AND

1 FAMILIES AND SCHOOLS HAVE BEEN REALLY INVOLVED AND FOCUSED  
2 ON LAUSD.

3 WE HAVE BEEN UPDATED AND WERE ACTUALLY -- THAT'S  
4 THE TOPIC OF OUR NEXT SCHOOL READINESS WORK GROUP MEETING  
5 NEXT -- NEXT MONTH, IS TO LOOK AT THOSE DIFFERENT STRANDS  
6 AND HOW OUR WORK CONNECTS NOW THAT WE'RE OFF -- OFF AND  
7 RUNNING.

8 COMMISSIONER HARDING: THE ONLY REASON I BRING IT  
9 UP IS BECAUSE THERE'S A NUMBER OF THEMES THAT ADDRESS  
10 ABSENCE THAT FIT IN WITH THE WORK THAT WE DO OR CARE ABOUT  
11 OR PROMOTING THROUGH POLICY IN FIRST 5, AND I'M THINKING  
12 ABOUT THE ROLE THAT CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT CAN HAVE IN  
13 TERMS OF IMPACTING ABSENCE. I'M THINKING ABOUT THE WAYS  
14 IN WHICH COMMUNITIES ARE SUPPORTIVE OF PARENTS OR NOT THAT  
15 MAY IMPACT SOME OF THE WORK WE'RE DOING IN BEST START. SO  
16 I THINK THERE'S A NUMBER OF THINGS THAT WE'RE BUILDING  
17 THAT PROVIDE RESILIENCY FOR COMMUNITIES AND FAMILIES THAT  
18 WOULD HELP REDUCE ABSENCE AND JUST TO LET FOLKS KNOW ABOUT  
19 THOSE THINGS. I'M NOT SUGGESTING YOU CHANGE ANYTHING  
20 DIFFERENTLY YOU'RE DOING, BUT THERE IS SOME STRANDS THERE  
21 THAT MIGHT MAKE SENSE TO TRY TO MORE INTENTIONALLY LINK  
22 WITH.

23 AND THE SECOND QUESTION OR COMMENT I HAD IS THAT,  
24 I THINK IT'S VERY NICE THE WAY YOU CARVED OUT WHAT FIRST  
25 5'S ROLE WOULD BE UNDER SCHOOL READINESS. I THINK IT

1 MAKES A LOT OF SENSE. MY COMMENT -- AND I'M NOT  
2 SUGGESTING YOU CHANGE IT. THE ONLY -- IT'S NOT EVEN A  
3 CONCERN. IT'S AN OBSERVATION. IT'S KIND OF NARROW  
4 BECAUSE THERE'S A LOT THAT FIRST 5 DOES THAT IMPACTS  
5 SCHOOL READINESS. WE THINK ABOUT SOME OF OUR OTHER MAJOR  
6 INVESTMENTS. WELCOME BABY AND HOME VISITATION ARE HUGE  
7 CONTRIBUTORS TO SCHOOL READINESS. THE WORK THAT WE'RE  
8 DOING IN LEARNING FROM BEST START COMMUNITIES ARE HUGE  
9 CONTRIBUTORS AGAIN TO SCHOOL READINESS. I'M NOT  
10 SUGGESTING THAT WE CHANGE ANYTHING IN WHAT YOU'RE  
11 PROPOSING HERE, BUT THAT WE INTENTIONALLY THINK ABOUT  
12 THAT. SO WHERE THERE ARE OPPORTUNITIES TO PRESENT ON WHAT  
13 FIRST 5 DOES OR IS INVOLVED IN THAT WE DON'T FORGET ABOUT  
14 THOSE OTHER STRANDS IN HOW IT MAY BE IMPACTING -- HOW  
15 FIRST 5'S ABLE TO IMPACT.

16 MS. COWAN: YES. AND I THINK THAT GETS AT WHEN  
17 WE TALK ABOUT MUTUALLY REINFORCING ACTIVITIES, WE WILL --  
18 AND WE HAVE -- WE HAVE ABOUT EIGHT STAFF RIGHT NOW WHO ARE  
19 INVOLVED IN EACH OF THESE SUBGROUPS AT DIFFERENT LEVELS AS  
20 WELL AS MANY OF OUR PARTNERS. SOME OF THEM ARE HERE  
21 TODAY, THOSE REPRESENTING THE HOME VISITING COMMUNITIES.  
22 SO THEIR ROLE IS TO HELP US CONNECT THAT WORK AND MAKE  
23 THOSE CONNECTIONS. SO THAT THAT -- THAT PIECE ISN'T LAST  
24 AND THAT WE'RE RECOGNIZING ALL THE RESOURCES AND EFFORTS  
25 THAT ARE ALREADY HAPPENING AND -- AND COORDINATING THOSE

1 TO ADDRESS.

2 MS. BELSHE: I'M ALSO HEARING A SUGGESTION OF  
3 JUST HOW WE TALK ABOUT EARLY LEARNING AND PRESENT IT.  
4 THIS ORGANIZATION IS ALL ABOUT PROMOTING EARLY LEARNING.  
5 AND INDEED THE BOARD HAS MADE A VERY SIGNIFICANT STATEMENT  
6 IN TERMS OF SAYING, LEARNING BEGINS BEFORE BIRTH, AT  
7 BIRTH, AT HOME, AND WITH PARENTS. THAT'S WHY WE'RE MAKING  
8 THE SIGNIFICANT INVEST WE ARE IN WELCOME BABY. SO AS WE  
9 THINK ABOUT EARLY LEARNING ALONG THE CONTINUUM, IT MIGHT  
10 BE HELPFUL FOR US IN THE FUTURE PRESENTATIONS TO BE REALLY  
11 EXPLICIT ABOUT WHERE THIS PARTICULAR POLICY-ORIENTED,  
12 COLLECTED IMPACT APPROACH FITS IN BECAUSE THIS IS NOT THE  
13 ONLY THING CERTAINLY FIRST 5 LA IS DOING AROUND EARLY  
14 LEARNING. THAT'S VERY HELPFUL.

15 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: VERY GOOD POINT.

16 BILL.

17 COMMISSIONER ARROYO: AND JUST A LAST THING. I  
18 -- I WAS A LITTLE BIT SURPRISED AND CHAGRINED HERE THAT  
19 UNDER PUBLIC AGENCY, OUR DEPARTMENT IS NOT INCLUDED  
20 BECAUSE IN FACT WE HAVE AN EXTENSIVE NETWORK OF INFANT AND  
21 EARLY CHILDHOOD MENTAL HEALTH THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY. AND  
22 IN THE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PRACTICES, THERE MAY BE A NEED  
23 FOR SOME ADDITIONAL SERVICES FOR THOSE PARENTS AND YOUNG  
24 CHILDREN TO OUR NETWORK. SO I WOULD JUST WANT TO STRONGLY  
25 RECOMMEND THAT.

1 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: THANK YOU.

2 JUDY.

3 COMMISSIONER ABDO: JUST ONE MORE THING ON THE  
4 READINESS. IF YOU COULD GET ACROSS TO ALL OF THESE  
5 STAKEHOLDERS THAT READINESS IS A TWO-WAY STREET, I THINK  
6 THAT WOULD BE A HUGE STEP FORWARD. I DON'T MEAN THAT WE  
7 WOULD REALLY DO A LOT IN A DIFFERENT WAY, BUT FOR  
8 KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS AND SCHOOLS TO BE READY FOR THE  
9 KINDERGARTNERS COMING IN IS REALLY DIFFERENT THAN OUR  
10 SECOND GRADE TEACHERS READY FOR SECOND GRADERS BECAUSE  
11 KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS ARE TAKING WHATEVER COMES THROUGH  
12 THE DOOR. AND IT'S NEVER GOING TO BE THAT THEY ALL COME  
13 IN WITH THE SAME LEVEL OF READINESS. AND SO THAT  
14 KINDERGARTEN TEACHER IS REALLY, REALLY NEEDING TO BE  
15 SKILLED IN A WAY THAT OTHER TEACHERS ARE NOT IN THOSE  
16 STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT AND BEING ABLE TO RECOGNIZE, AS BILL  
17 SAYS, CHILDREN WHO NEED EXTRA OUTSIDE HELP BUT ALSO TO NOT  
18 CATEGORIZE CHILDREN WHO ARE NOT IN THE TYPICAL READINESS  
19 GROUP AS PROBLEMS, BECAUSE THEY'RE NOT. THEY'RE CHILDREN.  
20 AND THEY ARE ABSOLUTELY READY TO LEARN BECAUSE CHILDREN  
21 ARE READY TO LEARN. BUT THEY MIGHT NOT BE AS READY AS  
22 CHILDREN WHO KNOW ALL THEIR LETTERS, ALL THEIR NUMBERS TO  
23 A HUNDRED, CAN ADD AND SUBTRACT AND READ. BUT THAT  
24 DOESN'T MEAN THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH THEM. SO THAT'S  
25 -- THAT'S MINE.

1           COMMISSIONER DENNIS: WE HAVE -- LET'S GET A  
2 COUPLE OF MORE COMMENTS AND THEN WE HAVE TO MOVE ON,  
3 FOLKS. BUT WHAT I WANT TO SAY AS CHAIR IS THAT ANY  
4 OPPOSITION TO THIS \$170,000 INVESTMENT, BECAUSE THAT'S  
5 WHAT STAFF STARTED OUT WITH, \$170,000 REQUEST, WHICH WE  
6 WILL MAKE THE SUGGESTION TO THE FULL BOARD DURING OUR  
7 MARCH MEETING. SO NO OBJECTIONS, I CAN CONTINUE WITH THE  
8 COMMENT FROM -- FROM NANCY AND THEN I'LL SUMMARIZE. BUT  
9 IF WE DON'T HAVE ANY OBJECTIONS, I JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE  
10 THERE IS, YOU KNOW, SOME SORT OF CONSENSUS AROUND THIS  
11 TABLE AS A COMMITTEE THAT WE SUPPORT THE \$170,000  
12 INVESTMENT THROUGH THE GLEN PRICE GROUP.

13           DO I HEAR -- AM I HEARING ANYTHING? NANCY AND  
14 THEN I'LL FINISH.

15           COMMISSIONER AU: WHAT I WOULD LIKE TO SAY IS NOT  
16 JUST AGAIN MAKING REALLY EXPLICIT THAT PERHAPS WHAT WE  
17 NEED IS ALSO AN ASSESSMENT OF KINDERGARTEN, THE SYSTEM  
18 ITSELF. WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO DO IT SINGULARLY, BUT I  
19 THINK IN THE PROCESS OF DOING AN ASSESSMENT IN TERMS OF  
20 KINDERGARTEN READINESS, WE -- AGAIN, THE FOCUS NEEDS TO BE  
21 ON THE SYSTEM ITSELF. SO I WOULD LIKE TO SEE EQUALLY NOT  
22 ONLY AN ASSESSMENT OF A CHILD'S READINESS SO TO SPEAK, BUT  
23 ALSO WHAT IS REQUIRED OF KINDERGARTNERS AS A SYSTEM SO  
24 THAT THEY WILL BE READY FOR ALL CHILDREN COMING THROUGH  
25 THEIR DOOR.

1           AND JUDY AND DR. ARROYO EXPRESSED IT REALLY  
2 CLEARLY. CHILDREN WILL BE COMING IN ALL LEVELS, AND THE  
3 KINDERGARTEN SYSTEM NEEDS TO BE OPEN AND READY FOR THEM.

4           MS. BELSHE: DOES THE KINDERGARTEN READINESS  
5 ASSESSMENT REPORT FROM CHILDREN -- DOESN'T THAT CREATE AN  
6 OPENING TO TALK ABOUT THAT?

7           MS. FALLIN: YEAH.

8           MS. BELSHE: IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT THE CHILD.

9           MS. FALLIN: I THINK OUR APPROACH TO KINDERGARTEN  
10 READINESS IS MORE ABOUT ELEVATING THE EARLY CHILDHOOD  
11 SUPPORT -- EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND THE NEED FOR  
12 GREATER INVESTMENT IN THAT IN ORDER FOR THE POPULATION OF  
13 CHILDREN TO BE READY FOR SCHOOL. SO IT'S NOT ABOUT  
14 INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN OR --

15          MS. BELSHE: IT'S ABOUT THE SYSTEM.

16          MS. FALLIN: IT'S ABOUT THE SYSTEM AND CALLING  
17 ATTENTION TO THE NEED FOR GREATER INVESTMENT FOR BIRTH  
18 THROUGH FIVE SO THAT KIDS ARE PREPARED APPROPRIATELY FOR  
19 THE APPROPRIATE LEVEL. AND THE SYSTEM WHICH IS ABSOLUTELY  
20 AN ISSUE TOO. SO I DEFINITELY HEAR WHAT YOU'RE SAYING,  
21 BUT I JUST WANT TO CALL OUT AND I THINK OUR PRESENTATION  
22 ON KRA THAT WE WILL BRING TO YOU WILL CLARIFY THAT.

23          MS. BELSHE: THAT WOULD BE OUR SUGGESTION TO THE  
24 COMMITTEE. LET'S BRING THE LEARNING FROM THAT BACK, SEE  
25 HOW IT RELATES TO THE VERY IMPORTANT AND HARD ISSUES WE'RE

1 TALKING ABOUT HERE AND THEN DETERMINE THE NEXT STEPS. BUT  
2 I DO WANT TO UNDERSCORE WE HAVE SOME GOOD WORK UNDERWAY  
3 THAT CAN HELP INFORM A GOOD PART OF THIS CONVERSATION.

4 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: THEN I'LL FINISH UP WITH A  
5 COUPLE OF THINGS, THE FIRST OF WHICH IS, I AGREE WITH BILL.  
6 AND -- AFTER YOU -- GO AHEAD, DEANNE.

7 COMMISSIONER TILTON: YOU'RE HARD TO GET  
8 ATTENTION FROM.

9 I REALLY ESPECIALLY LOVE WHAT CINDY SAID IN TERMS  
10 OF INTEGRATING THIS WITH OUR OTHER INITIATIVES. I JUST  
11 WANT TO THEN ADD TO JUDY'S COMMENTS ABOUT THINKING ABOUT  
12 IF KINDERGARTEN IS READY FOR THE KIDS, TO REMEMBER THAT  
13 THERE'S KINDERGARTEN AND THERE'S PRESCHOOL AND THEN  
14 THERE'S THE HOME AND THE FAMILY THAT THE KIDS GO HOME TO.  
15 AND THAT CAN MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD BECAUSE,  
16 IF YOU'RE GOING INTO KINDERGARTEN AND THERE'S AN  
17 EXPECTATION AND THERE IS ACTUALLY THAT YOU'LL BE ABLE TO  
18 COMPLETE HOMEWORK, THEY'RE ACTUALLY SENDING KIDS HOME WITH  
19 HOMEWORK, AND THERE ISN'T THIS FLEXIBILITY OR THIS  
20 KNOWLEDGE OR THIS UNDERSTANDING OF HOW DIFFERENT EACH OF  
21 THESE KIDS' HOMES ARE: DO THEY HAVE PARENTS, DO THEY HAVE  
22 A SINGLE PARENT, DO THEY HAVE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN THE  
23 HOME, ARE THEY HUNGRY. THERE'S SO MANY THINGS THAT WILL  
24 IMPACT THEIR SCHOOL READINESS. AND I THINK THAT THAT  
25 WOULD BE PART OF PREPARING KINDERGARTEN FOR THE KIDS, BUT

1 ALSO FOR US TO LOOK AT WHAT WE DO TO PREPARE KIDS. IT'S  
2 BOTH. IT'S BOTH THE KINDERGARTEN AND THE KIDS BECAUSE  
3 THEY ARE COMING FROM AN ENVIRONMENT THAT COULD BE TOTALLY  
4 DIFFERENT FOR EACH KID.

5 AND I WORRY ABOUT SOME KIDS FAILING BECAUSE, WHEN  
6 THEY LEAVE KINDERGARTEN, THERE IS NO PLACE FOR THEM TO DO  
7 THEIR HOMEWORK, THERE'S NO SAFE PLACE FOR THEM, THEY'RE  
8 DEALING WITH A LOT OF MAYBE MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES, BUT  
9 DEPRESSION AND FEAR AND, OH, MY GOSH, JUST -- AT AGE FIVE,  
10 YOU'RE -- YOU'RE AT THAT POINT NOW WHERE YOU'RE EXPECTED  
11 TO BE ABLE TO DO THINGS ON YOUR OWN. YOU'RE NOT A BABY  
12 ANYMORE. AND I DON'T THINK WE UNDERSTAND THAT FIVE-YEAR  
13 OLDS ARE REALLY NO DIFFERENT THAN THEY WERE AT TWO, THREE,  
14 AND FOUR UNLESS SOMETHING IS THERE FOR THEM WHEN THEY  
15 REACH FIVE OR BEFORE THEY REACH FIVE.

16 SO I JUST WANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE -- I JUST WANT US  
17 TO FOCUS ON OUR ABILITY TO ACKNOWLEDGE HOW MANY THINGS  
18 IMPACT THESE KIDS WHEN THEY ENTER KINDERGARTEN. IT'S NOT  
19 JUST -- THE KINDERGARTEN TEACHER MIGHT BE GREAT. A LOT OF  
20 SCHOOLS ARE CUTTING OUT ART NOW BY THE WAY. I MEAN, THEY  
21 AREN'T EVEN DOING MUSIC OR ART OR -- THEY'RE JUST, YOU'RE  
22 RIGHT, SITTING AT A DESK WITH PAPERS. AND THESE ARE KIDS  
23 WHO HAVE ENORMOUS POTENTIAL AND ENORMOUSLY DIFFERENT  
24 CAPABILITIES BASED ON NOT JUST THEIR PHYSICAL OR MENTAL  
25 STATUS BUT THEIR EXPERIENCES WHEN THEY COME AND GO FROM

1 SCHOOL.

2 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: AND I'LL JUST END UP WITH A  
3 COUPLE OF THINGS. TO BILL'S POINT EARLIER, YOU KNOW, I  
4 THINK THERE IS CONSENSUS THAT, YOU KNOW, THIS COMMITTEE  
5 WILL GO TO THE BOARD AND APPROVE, YOU KNOW, AND RECOMMEND  
6 THAT THIS INVESTMENT OF \$170,000. BUT IN THE FUTURE, I  
7 THINK WE NEED TO LOOK AT MORE INVESTORS AND PERHAPS A  
8 GREATER INVESTMENT. SO WHEREAS WE MAY CONTINUE \$170,000,  
9 I WOULD LIKE TO SEE ANOTHER 170,000 FROM THE OUTSIDE  
10 COMMUNITY. THAT'S THE FIRST ONE.

11 AND THE SECOND POINT IS, YOU DID THREE LIKE  
12 RECTANGLES LOOKING AT KRA, QRIS, AND PARENT ENGAGEMENT.  
13 AND I WOULD TWEAK THAT A LITTLE BIT. I THINK PARENT  
14 ENGAGEMENT PERMEATES BOTH KRA AND QRIS. SO I THINK THE  
15 DIAGRAM SHOULD NOT READ SEGMENTED AS IT IS, BUT TO HAVE  
16 PARENT ENGAGEMENT TO PERMEATE BOTH.

17 MS. COWAN: YEAH. THAT'S SOMETHING THAT WE HAD A  
18 LOT OF CONVERSATIONS ABOUT BECAUSE IT IS -- WE RECOGNIZE  
19 IT'S CROSS CUTTING BUT WE ALSO FELT LIKE THERE WERE  
20 SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES THAT THE GROUP WANTED TO EXPLORE ON  
21 PARENT ENGAGEMENT. SO IT IS -- I THINK WE COULD DO A  
22 BETTER JOB OF SHOWING THAT CROSS CUTTING --

23 MS. BELSHE: IT'S NOT EITHER/OR; IT'S BOTH/AND.

24 MS. COWAN: EXACTLY. YES. THANK YOU FOR THAT.

25 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: AND THEN, FINALLY, I WOULD

1 WANT TO HEAR MORE CONNECTION OF THE KRA GROUP AND THE QRIS  
2 GROUP BECAUSE THERE IS A LOT OF CONNECTIVITY THERE. AND I  
3 HOPE THEY'RE NOT WORKING IN SILOS AND THAT THEY'RE  
4 BEGINNING THE CONVERSATION, YOU KNOW, CONNECTING WITH ONE  
5 ANOTHER I THINK THERE IS A LOT TO LEARN AND A LOT TO BE  
6 GAINED FROM THAT INTERCONNECTION EARLY ON AS OPPOSED TO --  
7 SO THAT'S IT.

8 THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH. YOU GOT OUR APPROVAL.  
9 GOOD JOB.

10 ALL RIGHT. LET'S GO INTO ITEM NUMBER 2. THAT  
11 WAS SHORTER THAN YOU THOUGHT.

12 MS. BELSHE: SIMPLE.

13 MS. FICEK: ALL RIGHT. WELL, GOOD AFTERNOON,  
14 EVERYONE.

15 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: TARA, WE HEAR FROM YOU  
16 EVERY MONTH.

17 MS. FICEK: THANK YOU FOR ACKNOWLEDGING THAT,  
18 DUANE.

19 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: YOU'VE BECOME THE STAR.

20 MS. FICEK: OH, THANKS.

21 TODAY THE STAFF IS GOING TO BE PRESENTING PART  
22 TWO OF OUR ANNUAL EXPIRING INITIATIVES REVIEW AND BOARD  
23 REPORT PROCESS. EARLIER THIS MONTH AT OUR COMMISSION  
24 MEETING, STAFF DID PROVIDE PART ONE OF THAT PROCESS. AND  
25 YOU'LL RECALL THAT PRESENTATION WAS JUST ON THE PROCESS

1 ITSELF -- THE PROCESS ITSELF. AND WE CLOSED THAT  
2 PRESENTATION NOTING THAT WE WOULD BE COMING BACK TO  
3 TODAY'S PROGRAM AND PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING TO REPORT  
4 ON FINDINGS FOR THE FOUR INITIATIVES THAT ARE EXPIRING BY  
5 DECEMBER OF 2017. AND THEN WE WILL ALSO OUTLINE NEXT  
6 STEPS FOR THE EXPIRING INITIATIVES REVIEW AND BOARD REPORT  
7 PROCESS, INCLUDING FUTURE BOARD PRESENTATIONS.

8 SO AS DUANE ALREADY HIGHLIGHTED IN THE  
9 INTRODUCTION, MANY OF YOU HAVE HEARD ME GIVE THIS  
10 PRESENTATION BEFORE, PERHAPS A FEW TIMES. HOWEVER, IT IS  
11 STILL PERHAPS NEW TO SOME OF YOU. SO FOR THOSE THAT ARE  
12 HEARING THIS FOR THE FIRST, LET ME -- I ALWAYS START WITH  
13 SOME BACKGROUND IN ORDER TO PROVIDE SOME CONTEXT FOR THE  
14 PROCESS ITSELF, BECAUSE SERVING AS THE FOUNDATION OF THE  
15 EXPIRING INITIATIVES PROCESS ARE OUR BOARD APPROVED  
16 GOVERNANCE GUIDELINES, SPECIFICALLY GUIDELINE NUMBER 7,  
17 WHICH DOES STATE, ALL FIRST 5 LA MULTIYEAR SERVICE RELATED  
18 INVESTMENTS DO END, AND THAT THAT EXPIRATION IS BASED ON  
19 THE TIME STATED IN THE ORIGINAL ALLOCATION OR GRANT AWARD.

20 GUIDELINE NUMBER 7 ALSO DOES REQUIRE STAFF TO  
21 PROVIDE A REPORT BACK TO THE BOARD ANNUALLY ON EXPIRING  
22 INITIATIVES, SO THAT IS OF COURSE OUR PRESENTATION EARLIER  
23 THIS MONTH AND THEN ALSO TODAY.

24 SO AGAIN JUST AS A QUICK REMINDER OF THE PURPOSE  
25 OF THIS REVIEW AND BOARD REPORT PROCESS IS NOTED HERE, AND

1 THAT IS TO SUCCESSFULLY CLOSE OUT AND CAPTURE LESSONS  
2 LEARNED FROM OUR EXPIRING INVESTMENTS AND THEN TO TAKE  
3 THAT LEARNING TO USE IT TO INFORM OUR NEW WORK INTERNALLY  
4 AND, WHEN POSSIBLE, TO INFORM OTHERS IN THE FIELD.

5 AND IN ORDER TO CAPTURE LESSONS LEARNED AND ALSO  
6 TO BE CONSISTENT WITH LAST YEAR'S PROCESS, WE DO LOOK AT  
7 THE FOLLOWING COMPONENTS: WE FIRST ASKED, WAS THE  
8 INITIATIVE TIME LIMITED OR DID IT HAVE A CAPACITY BUILDING  
9 FOCUS. WE ALSO LOOK AT THE SUCCESS OF THE INITIATIVE IN  
10 COMPLETING ITS INTENDED DELIVERABLES AND MEETING AND  
11 ACHIEVING ITS OUTCOMES. AND THEN WE ALSO LOOK AT THE  
12 INITIATIVE'S ABILITY TO ACHIEVE IMPACT ON A COUNTYWIDE OR  
13 POPULATION LEVEL.

14 AND IN ADDITION, THE REVIEW PROCESS ALSO LOOKS AT  
15 WHETHER THE INITIATIVE HAS A CLEAR, VIABLE SUSTAINABILITY  
16 OPPORTUNITY; WHETHER THE INITIATIVE ALIGNS WITH OUR  
17 2015-2020 STRATEGIC PLAN, AND THAT'S NOT ONLY THE OUTCOMES  
18 BUT ALSO AT THE STRATEGY AND INVESTMENT GUIDELINES LEVEL.  
19 AND THEN FINALLY WE LOOK AT WHETHER OR NOT THERE HAVE BEEN  
20 ANY RELEVANT CHANGES IN THE CURRENT LANDSCAPE OR IN THE  
21 ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT OF THAT INVESTMENT.

22 AND AS YOU WILL RECALL THERE ARE BEEN RARE  
23 INSTANCES WHEN STAFF HAS COMPLETED THE REVIEW PROCESS AND  
24 OUR REPORT BACK TO THE BOARD HAS INCLUDED A RECOMMENDATION  
25 TO WAVE GOVERNANCE GUIDELINE NUMBER 7 AND PROVIDE

1 CONTINUED FUNDING FOR A SPECIFIC INVESTMENT FOR A SET FAUX  
2 TIME FRAME. AND IN EACH OF THOSE OCCASIONS, IT HAS BEEN  
3 WHEN ONE OF THOSE LAST THREE CONSIDERATIONS HAVE BEEN MET.  
4 THERE WAS SUSTAINABILITY IDENTIFIED OR THERE WAS CLEAR OR  
5 POTENTIAL ALIGNMENT WITH OUR 2015-2020 STRATEGIC PLAN OR  
6 SOMETHING SIGNIFICANT WAS HAPPENING IN THE LANDSCAPE OR  
7 ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT OF THAT INVESTMENT.

8 I PROVIDED EXAMPLES AT THE PREVIOUS BOARD  
9 MEETING. I'LL GO THROUGH THOSE QUICKLY AGAIN JUST FOR  
10 THOSE, AGAIN, WHO ARE HEARING IT FOR THE FIRST TIME OR  
11 EARLY ON SO THAT YOU UNDERSTAND, FOR AN EXAMPLE, FOR A  
12 CLEAR AND VIABLE SUSTAINABILITY OPPORTUNITY WITH OUR  
13 PARTNERSHIPS FOR FAMILY INVESTMENT, WE HAD IDENTIFIED  
14 THERE WAS CLEAR SUSTAINABILITY WITH DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN  
15 AND FAMILY SERVICES TAKING OVER THAT INVESTMENT. AND SO  
16 WE CAME BACK TO THE BOARD TO ASK FOR A WAIVE OF GOVERNANCE  
17 GUIDELINE FOR SIX MONTHS UNTIL DCFS WAS READY TO TAKE OVER  
18 THAT INVESTMENT. AND THAT WAS IN JANUARY OF LAST YEAR.

19 AND THEN FOR ALIGNMENT WITH OUR NEW STRATEGIC  
20 PLAN, YOU MIGHT RECALL LAST YEAR STAFF RECOMMENDED  
21 CONTINUED FUNDING FOR AN ADDITIONALLY YEAR THROUGH JUNE OF  
22 THIS YEAR OF OUR CONTRACT WITH 211 LA COUNTY. AND THAT  
23 WAS BECAUSE WE HAD IDENTIFIED THERE WAS POTENTIAL  
24 ALIGNMENT OF 211'S CURRENT IR AND R WORK TO OUR NEW WORK  
25 BUT WE NEEDED TO BE FURTHER ALONG IN IMPLEMENTATION OF OUR

1 NEW WORK IN ORDER TO DETERMINE THAT THE DEGREE OF  
2 ALIGNMENT.

3 AND THEN LASTLY FOR CHANGES IN THE LANDSCAPE AND  
4 ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT, AGAIN, LAST YEAR THERE WERE  
5 SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES IN THE FIELD OF CHILDREN'S HEALTH  
6 INSURANCE COVERAGE WHEN MEDI-CAL WAS EXPANDED TO COVER  
7 UNDOCUMENTED CHILDREN. AS A RESULT OF THAT IMPORTANT  
8 DEVELOPMENT, STAFF CAME BACK AND RECOMMENDED AN EXTENSION  
9 OF OUR HEALTHY KIDS CONTRACT WITH LA CARE HEALTH PLAN TO  
10 CONTINUE THAT INVESTMENT UNTIL THIS SUMMER UNTIL MEDI-CAL  
11 IS READY AND ABLE TO ENROLL THOSE CURRENT ELIGIBLE HEALTHY  
12 KIDS MEMBERS.

13 SO THIS SPRING THE EXPIRING INITIATIVES REVIEW  
14 AND REPORT PROCESS IS LOOKING AT THE INVESTMENTS NOTED  
15 HERE. AND THAT IS, OF COURSE, DUE TO THEIR UPCOMING END  
16 DATES. ENDING THIS JUNE IS OUR PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE  
17 HOUSING INVESTMENT, IN PARTICULAR THE RENTAL ASSISTANCE  
18 PROGRAM THAT'S ENDING IN JUNE. AND THEN ALSO OUR  
19 INFORMATION RESOURCE AND REFERRAL WORK WHICH INCLUDES OUR  
20 CONTRACT WITH 211 LA COUNTY. STAFF ALSO REVIEWED  
21 INVESTMENTS THAT ARE ENDING NEXT YEAR BY DECEMBER OF 2017,  
22 AND THOSE INCLUDE, AGAIN, PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING  
23 INVESTMENT. THIS IS FOR THE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM  
24 OF THAT INVESTMENT. OUR EARLY IDENTIFICATION AND  
25 INTERVENTION, AUTISM AND OTHER DEVELOPMENTAL DELAYS. THIS

1 IS ALSO KNOWN AS OUR FIRST CONNECTIONS INITIATIVE. AND  
2 THEN PCIT, OR PARENT/CHILD INTERACTION THERAPY. THOSE ARE  
3 ALL ENDING BY DECEMBER OF NEXT YEAR.

4 SO LET'S GET RIGHT INTO EACH OF THOSE  
5 INVESTMENTS. PERMANENT -- WE'LL START WITH OUR PERMANENT  
6 SUPPORTIVE HOUSING. THE UNIQUE THING TO REMEMBER ABOUT  
7 THIS INVESTMENT WAS THAT ALL FUNDS WERE ADVANCED TO THE LA  
8 COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION, WHO I'LL CONTINUE  
9 TO REFER TO AS THE CDC, TO SERVE AS OUR LEAD CONTRACTOR  
10 FOR THAT INVESTMENT. THE PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING  
11 INVESTMENT DOES INCLUDE, AS I'VE ALREADY NOTED, TWO  
12 DISTINCT PROGRAMS: THERE'S THE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT  
13 PROGRAM AND THEN THERE'S ALSO THE RENTAL ASSISTANCE. SO  
14 YOU CAN SEE THEY HAVE VERY DIFFERENT END DATES NOTED HERE.  
15 THE RENTAL ASSISTANCE END DATE YOU ALSO MAY RECALL WAS  
16 ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR NEXT MONTH, OF MARCH OF 2016.  
17 HOWEVER, THE CDC DID RECENTLY REQUEST A NO-COST EXTENSION  
18 TO USE UNSPENT FUNDING TO EXTEND THAT PROGRAM AND SERVICES  
19 TO FAMILIES THROUGH JUNE OF THIS YEAR. SO THE NEW DATE --  
20 END DATE HAS BEEN NOTED HERE.

21 PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING WAS A \$35 MILLION  
22 ALLOCATION FOR BOTH PROGRAMS. AND KEY FINDINGS FROM THE  
23 EXPIRING INITIATIVES REVIEW PROCESS INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:  
24 NUMBER ONE, THIS INITIATIVE FUNDED DIRECT SERVICES AND  
25 CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT AND, THEREFORE, IT IS NOT SPECIFICALLY

1 PROVIDED FOR IN OUR 2015-2020 STRATEGIC PLAN. THE CURRENT  
2 LANDSCAPE AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT IS HEAVILY FOCUSED  
3 RIGHT NOW ON HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS ISSUES. AS WE ALL  
4 KNOW AND WE HEARD AT THE LAST BOARD MEETING AND WE WILL  
5 HEAR HOPEFULLY MORE ABOUT SHORTLY IN THE FOLLOWING  
6 PRESENTATION FROM THE COUNTY CEO'S OFFICE, A LOT OF  
7 ACTIVITY IS HAPPENING ON A LOCAL LEVEL WITH THE RECENT  
8 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS APPROVAL OF A VERY EXTENSIVE  
9 COLLABORATIVE HOMELESS PLAN FOR THE REGION NOW BETTER  
10 KNOWN AS THE HOMELESS INITIATIVE.

11 AND THEN NUMBER THREE, THE THIRD BULLET THERE  
12 UNDER THE FINDINGS, AS A RESULT OF ALL OF THIS LOCAL  
13 ACTIVITY, THERE IS CLEAR, VIABLE SUSTAINABILITY  
14 OPPORTUNITIES THAT NOW EXIST FOR RAPID REHOUSING, WHICH IS  
15 WHAT OUR RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM USES AS A FORM OF RAPID  
16 REHOUSING NOT ONLY AT THE COUNTY LEVEL AS WE'LL HEAR MORE  
17 ABOUT BUT ALSO AT THE CITY AND FEDERAL LEVEL AS WELL.

18 SO LET'S TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT THOSE  
19 SUSTAINABILITY OPPORTUNITIES. AGAIN, BECAUSE OF THE TWO  
20 DISTINCT PROGRAMS THAT ARE PART OF PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE  
21 HOUSING, WE'RE GOING TO CONTINUE TO SEPARATE THOSE OUT SO  
22 IT'S EASIER TO UNDERSTAND EACH PROGRAM'S SUSTAINABILITY.  
23 STARTING WITH CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT, THIS INVESTMENT WAS  
24 STRUCTURED IN A WAY TO BE SUSTAINED FOR MANY YEARS TO  
25 COME. THE FIVE HOUSING SITES THAT WERE BUILT AS A RESULT

1 OF FIRST 5 LA FUNDS WILL SERVE OUR POPULATION FOR THE NEXT  
2 55 YEARS. AND AS FOR THE SUPPORTIVE SERVICES PROVIDED TO  
3 THOSE FAMILIES RESIDING IN THE HOUSING UNITS, CDC STAFF  
4 HAS BEEN WORKING VERY CLOSELY WITH BOTH DEVELOPERS AND  
5 INVESTORS AND HAS IDENTIFIED FUNDING TO CONTINUE SERVING  
6 THOSE FAMILIES WELL BEYOND FIRST 5 LA DOLLARS.

7 MOVING ON THEN TO RENTAL ASSISTANCE. AS WE  
8 ALREADY NOTED IN THE PREVIOUS SLIDE, RENTAL ASSISTANCE  
9 AGAIN IS A FORM OF RAPID REHOUSING, SO WE'RE GOING TO BE  
10 USING THOSE TERMS INTERCHANGEABLY. IT HAS RECENTLY GAINED  
11 QUITE A BIT OF NATIONAL RECOGNITION AS THE PRIMARY METHOD  
12 TO ADDRESS FAMILY HOMELESSNESS. AND, AGAIN, FUNDING FOR  
13 OUR RENTAL ASSISTANCE OR RAPID REHOUSING IS NOW CLEARLY  
14 AVAILABLE AT THE CITY, COUNTY, AND FEDERAL LEVELS. WE'RE  
15 GOING TO PROVIDE A BREAKDOWN OF THAT FOR YOU.

16 SO WHAT EXACTLY ARE THOSE COUNTY, CITY, AND  
17 FEDERAL SUSTAINABILITY OPPORTUNITIES FOR RAPID REHOUSING?  
18 WE'RE GOING TO START WITH THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MOTION  
19 THAT WAS APPROVED LAST OCTOBER, AND THAT WAS TO AUGMENT  
20 AND EXTEND FIRST 5 LA'S RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. THAT  
21 FIVE MILLION IS IN PLACE AND IS HELPING OUR FIRST 5 LA  
22 HOUSING PROVIDERS TO ENROLL AN ADDITIONAL 183 FAMILIES,  
23 THAT'S THROUGH JUNE OF THIS YEAR, AND THEN CONTINUE  
24 SERVING THOSE FAMILIES THROUGH DECEMBER OF 2016.

25 AND ALSO MOVING ON NOW TO THE COUNTY'S HOMELESS

1       COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO COMBAT HOMELESSNESS, THE HOMELESS  
2       INITIATIVE THAT WILL BEGIN IN JULY OF THIS YEAR. THEIR  
3       RAPID REHOUSING STRATEGY HAS DEDICATED FIVE MILLION FOR  
4       FAMILIES IN 2016-2017. AND AN IMPORTANT FEATURE OF THIS  
5       STRATEGY IS THAT THE COUNTY WILL BE PARTNERING WITH CITIES  
6       TO FURTHER EXPAND THAT FIVE MILLION. THE NUMBER OF  
7       FAMILIES THOUGH TO BE SERVED AND PROVIDERS TO BE FUNDED  
8       HAS YET TO BE DETERMINED. IT'S STILL TOO EARLY ON, BUT  
9       THESE TWO SUSTAINABILITY OPPORTUNITIES, BOTH THE BOARD OF  
10      SUPERVISOR MOTION FROM LAST OCTOBER AND THE COUNTY'S  
11      HOMELESS INITIATIVE, HAVE BEEN APPROVE AND ARE IN PLACE.  
12      SO IT'S IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT.

13               THE NEXT TWO THOUGH ARE STILL PENDING APPROVAL  
14      BUT ARE IMPORTANT POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES AS WELL.  
15      FIRST, THERE IS THE LA HOMELESS SERVICES AUTHORITY, OR  
16      LAHSA, HAS SUBMITTED AN APPLICATION TO HUD REQUESTING 3.8  
17      MILLION. THEY DO EXPECT TO HEAR BACK NEXT MONTH, MARCH,  
18      HOW MUCH THEY WILL BE AWARDED. LAHSA THEN DOES  
19      SUBCONTRACT THOSE DOLLARS, OBVIOUSLY, TO HOUSING  
20      PROVIDERS. LAST YEAR THEIR HUD APPLICATION DID RESULT IN  
21      1.87 MILLION IN FUNDING AND THEN LAHSA TURNED AROUND AND  
22      SUBCONTRACTED THOSE TO VARIOUS PROVIDERS FOR ONE-YEAR  
23      TERMS. SO WE'RE WAITING TO HEAR MORE INFORMATION ON THAT.

24               AND THEN, FINALLY, WE ALSO MENTIONED THIS AT THE  
25      FEBRUARY COMMISSION MEETING. PRESIDENT OBAMA DID ANNOUNCE

1 THE INCLUSION OF RENTAL SUBSIDIES IN HIS 2016-2017 BUDGET  
2 PROPOSAL FOR HOUSING FOR FAMILIES. HE HAS PROPOSED 11  
3 BILLION. THAT, OF COURSE, THOSE IS FOR THE NATION, BUT  
4 WE'LL NEED TO WAIT TO SEE IF HIS PROPOSAL RESULTS END UP  
5 IN ANY MONEY FOR LA COUNTY.

6 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: GOOD LUCK WITH THAT.

7 MS. FICEK: STAY POSITIVE, DUANE, STAY POSITIVE.

8 PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING THOUGH NEXT STEPS.  
9 BOARD ACTION THEN THAT WOULD BE REQUIRED IS NONE BECAUSE,  
10 AS WE JUST NOTED, STAFF HAS IDENTIFIED CLEAR  
11 SUSTAINABILITY OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE CONTINUATION OF  
12 RENTAL ASSISTANCE AND RAPID REHOUSING EFFORTS COUNTYWIDE.  
13 AND AS PSH AS IT IS CURRENTLY CONFIGURED, IT IS NOT  
14 SPECIFICALLY PROVIDED FOR IN OUR CURRENT STRATEGIC PLAN;  
15 THEREFORE, PER GOVERNANCE GUIDELINES NUMBER 7, PERMANENT  
16 SUPPORTIVE HOUSING DOES END AT IS SCHEDULED END DATE OF  
17 JUNE 2016.

18 HOWEVER, CONSIDERING ALL THAT IS HAPPENING  
19 REGIONALLY AROUND HOMELESSNESS, IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE  
20 STAFF WILL BE LOOKING AT POTENTIAL FIRST 5 LA ENGAGEMENT  
21 OPPORTUNITIES WITH LA COUNTY HOMELESS INITIATIVE, BUT THAT  
22 ARE OF COURSE IN ALIGNMENT WITH OUR NEW STRATEGIC PLAN.

23 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: TARA, IS THE FORMAT YOU  
24 WANT TO GO THROUGH ALL THREE OF THEM FIRST, OR DO WE WANT  
25 TO TAKE -- HEAR FROM THE CDC FOLKS AND -- I DON'T KNOW

1 WHERE LESLIE IS.

2 MS. BELSHE: NO. THAT'S A SEPARATE AGENDA ITEM.

3 MS. FICEK: I THINK WE PREFER TO GET THROUGH.

4 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: DO WE WANT TO --

5 MS. FICEK: I SAY LET'S GET THROUGH AND THEN OPEN  
6 IT UP AT THE END FOR QUESTIONS.

7 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: OKAY.

8 MS. FICEK: SO OUR NEXT INVESTMENT IS INFORMATION  
9 RESOURCE AND REFERRAL. THAT INCLUDES OUR CONTRACT WITH  
10 211 LA COUNTY. THIS CONTRACT IS SCHEDULED TO END IN JUNE  
11 OF THIS YEAR. CURRENTLY, IT IS FUNDED AT 1.2 MILLION.  
12 KEY FINDINGS FROM THE REVIEW PROCESS INCLUDE A STAFF  
13 REPORTED LAST YEAR AS WELL, WE CONTINUE TO SEE POTENTIAL  
14 ALIGNMENT WITH OUR STRATEGIC PLAN IN PARTICULAR WITH OUR  
15 DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING HELP ME GROW WORK AS THAT DOES  
16 INCLUDE A TELEPHONIC COMPONENT AND 211 LA COUNTY PROVIDES  
17 THEIR INFORMATION RESOURCE AND REFERRAL VIA A TELEPHONIC  
18 PLATFORM. STAFF IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDING A ONE-YEAR  
19 EXTENSION OF OUR STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP WITH 211 LA COUNTY.  
20 THAT WOULD TAKE IT THROUGH JUNE OF NEXT YEAR, 2017, TO  
21 CONTINUE THEIR CURRENT TELEPHONIC SERVICES. BOARD ACTION  
22 DOES REQUIRE A WAIVING OF GOVERNANCE GUIDELINE NUMBER 7  
23 FOR THIS ONE. THIS WOULD TAKE PLACE AT OUR MARCH BOARD  
24 MEETING, AND THEN ONCE DONE, STAFF WOULD MOVE STAFF -- IF  
25 THAT'S APPROVED, THEN STAFF WOULD MOVE TO EXECUTE

1 CONTRACTS AND IT WOULD BE A PART OF THE 2016-2017  
2 PROGRAMMATIC BUDGET APPROVAL.

3 OUR NEXT INVESTMENT, EARLY IDENTIFICATION AND  
4 INTERVENTION, EII AUTISM, AND OTHER DEVELOPMENTAL DELAYS.  
5 THIS IS ALSO BETTER KNOWN AS FIRST CONNECTIONS. THIS IS  
6 SCHEDULED TO END APRIL OF NEXT YEAR, 2017. THIS IS A \$2.5  
7 MILLION ALLOCATION FOR A THREE-YEAR INVESTMENT. IT DOES  
8 INCLUDE SIX ORGANIZATIONS WERE FUNDED THROUGH THIS AND ONE  
9 TA PROVIDERS. KEY FINDINGS THAT CAME OUT OF THE EXPIRING  
10 INITIATIVES REVIEW PROCESS INCLUDE, THERE IS POTENTIAL  
11 ALIGNMENT AS WELL WITH OUR STRATEGIC PLAN, AGAIN, WITHIN  
12 THE DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING, HELP ME GROW WORK WHICH  
13 FOCUSES ON IMPROVING COORDINATION AND FUNCTIONING OF  
14 DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING ASSESSMENT AND EARLY INTERVENTION  
15 PROGRAMS. SO STAFF HAS IDENTIFIED THAT FUTURE HELP ME  
16 GROW WORK HAS THE POTENTIAL TO LEVERAGE THE EXISTING WORK  
17 AND PARTNERS THAT HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED AS PART OF THIS  
18 EII TASK FORCE.

19 SO DUE TO THAT POTENTIAL ALIGNMENT, STAFF IS  
20 RECOMMENDING AN EXTENSION OF THIS INITIATIVE FOR UP TO 18  
21 MONTHS THROUGH JUNE OF 2018. AND THAT WOULD BE FOR 1.25  
22 MILLION TO CONTINUE THAT EARLY IDENTIFICATION AND  
23 INTERVENTION SERVICES AND TASK FORCE SUPPORT. BOARD  
24 ACTION AGAIN WOULD BE WAIVING OF GOVERNANCE GUIDELINE 7  
25 AND ALSO EXECUTING CONTRACTS AND APPROVAL THROUGH THE

1 16-17 PROGRAMMATIC BUDGET.

2 AND THEN LAST IS PARENT/CHILD INTERACTION  
3 THERAPY. THIS IS SCHEDULED TO END IN OCTOBER OF 2017.  
4 THE ALLOCATION WAS FOR 20 MILLION OVER A FIVE-YEAR PERIOD.  
5 KEY FINDINGS FROM THE REVIEW PROCESS INCLUDE POTENTIAL  
6 ALIGNMENT WITH OUR STRATEGIC PLAN, THOUGH IT'S NOT YET  
7 CLEAR AND IS PENDING FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF OUR HEALTH  
8 OUTCOME IN PARTICULAR AND OUR TI, TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE  
9 STRATEGY WORK. IT'S ALSO IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT THERE IS  
10 AN ANTICIPATED REMAINING BALANCE OF AT LEAST 4.6 MILLION  
11 IN THIS INVESTMENT.

12 SO GIVEN THESE TWO POINTS, STAFF WILL -- DOES  
13 PLAN TO COME BACK TO THE BOARD NEXT YEAR IN SPRING OF  
14 2017, WELL BEFORE THE INVESTMENT ENDS IN OCTOBER OF 2017,  
15 TO RECOMMEND ANY USE OF THOSE REMAINING FUNDS INFORMED, OF  
16 COURSE, BY FURTHER PROGRESS MADE WITH OUR TRAUMA-INFORMED  
17 CARE IMPLEMENTATION WORK.

18 SO NEXT STEPS. TODAY'S RECOMMENDATIONS WERE  
19 PRESENTED AS INFORMATION. SO STAFF WILL BE BRINGING THEM  
20 BACK TO THE MARCH BOARD MEETING FOR ACTION TO SEEK  
21 APPROVAL TO WAIVE GOVERNANCE GUIDELINE NUMBER 7 FOR BOTH  
22 THE INFORMATION RESOURCE AND REFERRAL AND FOR EARLY  
23 IDENTIFICATION AND INTERVENTION AUTISM AND OTHER  
24 DEVELOPMENTAL DELAYS. AND THEN OF COURSE, AS I ALREADY  
25 NOTED, ANY FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS WOULD BE PROVIDED WITHIN

1 THESE RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE NOTED IN THE 15-16 BUDGET  
2 APPROVAL THAT TAKES PLACE IN JUNE.

3 AND THEN A PICTURE OF MY CHILDREN. I WAS FEELING  
4 THE PRESSURE TO MOVE QUICKLY ONCE YOU MENTIONED THAT,  
5 DUANE.

6 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: THANK YOU, TARA. AS USUAL,  
7 YOU'RE VERY COMPREHENSIVE AND --

8 MS. FICEK: IT WAS A LOT TO GO THROUGH.

9 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: YOU DO IT IN FINE FASHION.

10 COMMISSIONERS, ANY QUESTIONS FROM STAFF?

11 JUDY.

12 COMMISSIONER ABDO: IS THERE ANY POSSIBLE CHANGE  
13 THAT YOU'RE GOING TO THINK ABOUT IN LIGHT OF THE LA CITY  
14 MONEY NOT NECESSARILY BEING THERE?

15 MS. FICEK: WELL, I THINK WE'RE GOING TO CONTINUE  
16 TO TRACK AND MONITOR, YES, WHAT COMES OUT, WHAT COMMITMENT  
17 COMES FROM THE CITIES. AS I MENTIONED, THAT IS A KEY PART  
18 OF THAT STRATEGY OUT OF THE COUNTY HOMELESS INITIATIVE  
19 THAT SAYS, PARTNERING WITH CITIES TO EXPAND RAPID  
20 REHOUSING, BUT WE DO HAVE THE COMMITMENT FROM THE COUNTY  
21 OF FIVE MILLION FOR 16-17. SO THAT'S WHAT IS THERE AND  
22 WHAT HAS BEEN COMMITTED TO AND BEEN EAR MARKED IN THE  
23 INITIATIVE FOR FAMILIES. AND THEN IT'S, YES, CONTINUING  
24 TO TRACK WHAT COMES OUT OF THE CITIES. BUT AT THIS POINT,  
25 THAT HASN'T BEEN IDENTIFIED YET.

1           COMMISSIONER ABDO: I JUST THINK WE SHOULD NOT  
2 LEAVE THAT ALONE JUST BECAUSE WE'RE NOT GOING TO BE  
3 FUNDING. IT'S STILL A BIG ISSUE AND WE MAY HAVE A ROLE TO  
4 PLAY IN HELPING AT LEAST LA CITY BE SUCH A HUGE AMOUNT OF  
5 MONEY A BODY. AND THAT -- THAT WAS GOING TO BE  
6 SIGNIFICANT IN THE COUNTYWIDE PLAN, I THINK. AND IT WAS  
7 CLEAR THAT THEY HAVE NOT IDENTIFIED THE MONEY THAT THEY  
8 HAD HOPED TO HAVE.

9           MS. FICEK: THEY HAVE NOT. THERE WAS A WIDE  
10 REPRESENTATION OF CITIES AT THE EARLY FEBRUARY UNVEILING  
11 OF THE PLAN AND A LOT OF STRONG SUPPORT, WHICH WAS VERY  
12 ENCOURAGING. BUT ACTUAL MONEY COMING FROM THE CITIES HAS  
13 NOT YET ABOUT BEEN IDENTIFIED SO --

14           COMMISSIONER DENNIS: BILL.

15           COMMISSIONER ARROYO: I WAS JUST WONDERING, WITH  
16 YOUR LIST HERE ON PAGE 9, KEEPING TRACK OF ALL THE  
17 HOMELESS INITIATIVES, I KNOW THERE ARE SOME THAT ARE  
18 STATEWIDE THAT MAYBE ARE MORE CONCEPTUAL IN NATURE THAN  
19 THE ONES YOU HAVE DOWN HERE. BUT ARE YOU FOLLOWING THE  
20 DEVELOPMENT OF THOSE?

21           MS. FICEK: WE WILL CONTINUE TO TRACK. THAT'S  
22 WHY WE WANTED TO MAKE CLEAR WHAT HAS BEEN APPROVED AND HAS  
23 BEEN COMMITTED. AND WE KNOW AN AMOUNT AND IT'S BEEN  
24 COMMITTED TO IN PARTICULAR FAMILIES WHICH IS OBVIOUSLY OF  
25 GREATEST CONCERN, BUT WANTED TO SPELL OUT, YES, WHAT ONES

1 WE ARE AWARE OF BUT ARE YET AWAITING APPROVAL. THAT'S WHY  
2 WE WANTED TO MAKE THAT CLEAR IN THE SLIDE. BUT WE'LL BE  
3 WAITING TO HEAR, YES, FROM LAHSA WITH THE INCREASE IN  
4 FUNDING THAT THEY SUBMITTED THIS YEAR, WHAT WAS THE  
5 RESPONSE, HOW MUCH ARE THEY GETTING BACK, AND HOW WILL  
6 THEY BE FUNDING OR PUTTING THOSE AWARDS OUT.

7 SO WE HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH LAHSA TO IDENTIFY  
8 AND GET THE LATEST INFORMATION ON THAT BUT WE WON'T KNOW  
9 UNTIL NEXT MONTH, PROBABLY THE END OF MARCH ACTUALLY WHEN  
10 -- WHAT THAT MEANS FOR PROVIDERS.

11 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: CINDY.

12 COMMISSIONER HARDING: SHE WAS FIRST.

13 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: I'M SORRY. TRISH.

14 COMMISSIONER CURRY: I'M WONDERING THE EXPECTED  
15 REMAINING BALANCE FOR THE PCIT OF 4.6 MILLION, WHY DO WE  
16 THINK THAT THERE'S GOING TO BE THAT LARGE AN -- THAT'S A  
17 HEFTY AMOUNT.

18 MS. FICEK: I AM GOING TO ASK THE PROGRAM OFFICER  
19 THAT OVERSEES THAT INVESTMENT TO -- ALL RIGHT. BILL.

20 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: BILL IS THE MAN. THAT'S  
21 WHY HE CAME DOWN HERE. HE KNEW HE WAS --

22 MS. BELSHE: BILL'S LOOKING READY.

23 SPEAKER: SO I THINK THERE'S A COMBINATION OF  
24 ISSUES THAT THAT FIRST, THE FIRST YEAR FOR DMH IT TOOK --  
25 TOOK A WHILE FOR STARTUP TO HIRE AND GET THE

1       INFRASTRUCTURE READY.   THEN THEY'VE HAD SOME STAFF TURN  
2       OVER AT THE DMH TEAM WHICH HAS LED TO SOME MONEY BEING  
3       LEFT OVER.   AND THEN I WOULD SAY, THIRDLY, JUST IN TERMS  
4       OF, IT'S BEEN A PROCESS IN IMPLEMENTATION JUST KNOWING HOW  
5       MANY AGENCIES ARE INTERESTED AND CAN VIABLY DELIVER THE  
6       PCIT SERVICES.   SO THAT WAS -- YOU KNOW, IT'S BEEN AN  
7       ONGOING PROCESS IN IMPLEMENTATION JUST SORT OF  
8       UNDERSTANDING HOW MANY AGENCIES CAN PARTICIPATE IN THIS  
9       PROCESS.   AND THEN WE'RE WORKING WITH DMH AND UC DAVIS TO  
10      -- IT'S MORE BREADTH AND DEPTH AS WE FINISH UP THE PROJECT  
11      IN THE NEXT YEAR AND A HALF.

12               COMMISSIONER CURRY:   AND WELL WE STILL THINK THAT  
13      THERE WILL BE MONEY LEFT OVER AFTER THE END.

14               SPEAKER:   YES.

15               COMMISSIONER CURRY:   AND SO I THINK SOMEWHERE IT  
16      SAID -- ON PAGE 13, I THINK IT SAID, POTENTIAL ALIGNMENT  
17      WITH 2015-20 STRATEGIC PLAN IS NOT YET CLEAR.   FOR ME,  
18      IT'S -- I THINK IT'S CLEAR.   I MEAN, IT'S PREVENTION.   IT  
19      -- IT -- IT REALLY FALLS INTO THAT PREVENTION.

20               MS. BELSHE:   WHICH IS A VERY IMPORTANT INVESTMENT  
21      GUIDELINE THAT THE BOARD HAS BEEN VERY CLEAR ON, BUT IT'S  
22      INVESTMENT GUIDELINES IN THE CONTEXT OF OUR OUTCOMES AND  
23      OUR PRIORITY FOCUS AREAS.   SO THAT'S -- ANYTHING --  
24      EVERYTHING THAT RELATES TO PREVENTION IS NOT BY DEFINITION  
25      ALIGNED WITH THE PLAN.   AND I KNOW YOU'RE NOT SAYING THAT,

1 BUT I THINK WHAT YOU'RE HEARING FROM STAFF IS A  
2 RECOMMENDATION THAT, NUMBER ONE, THERE'S NOT A NEAR-TERM  
3 ACTION THAT THE BOARD NEEDS TO TAKE UNLESS THE BOARD WERE  
4 TO SAY, YOU KNOW, WE WANT TO RECOUP THAT REMAINING BALANCE  
5 AND END PCIT. THAT IS A DECISION POINT THE BOARD COULD  
6 CROSS. IT'S NOT WHAT STAFF IS RECOMMENDING.

7 WE THINK PCIT IS AN IMPORTANT PROGRAM. WE WANT  
8 TO SUPPORT OUR PARTNERS TO COMPLETE IMPLEMENTATION WHILE  
9 WE CONTINUE TO FURTHER DEVELOP OUR TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE  
10 STRATEGY WHICH MAY OR MAY NOT BE VERY CLEARLY ALIGNED WITH  
11 PCIT. WE JUST DON'T KNOW YET. BUT FROM A BIG PICTURE  
12 PREVENTION PERSPECTIVE, YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY RIGHT. PCIT IS  
13 A VERY IMPORTANT SECONDARY PREVENTION STRATEGY.

14 COMMISSIONER CURRY: I THINK IT'S VERY IMPORTANT,  
15 IT'S IMPORTANT TO KEEPING FAMILIES TOGETHER AND OUT OF THE  
16 FOSTER CARE SYSTEM, AND I -- I THINK IT'S IMPORTANT TO BE  
17 A PART OF BEST START COMMUNITIES. AND SOME OF THE YOUNG  
18 PEOPLE LIKE WE SAW OVER AT THE HOSPITAL LAST WEEK, SOME OF  
19 US WENT TO THAT, YOU KNOW, BEEN THROUGH WELCOME BABY. YOU  
20 KNOW, WHEN THE CHILDREN ARE THREE, FOUR-YEARS OLD, THERE  
21 ARE STILL PROBLEMS, YOU KNOW. AND HOW AS A PARENT I DO  
22 WORK WITH THE KIDS. AND PCIT JUST SEEMS TO BE A WONDERFUL  
23 PROGRAM. SO -- SO I -- I THINK THAT WE WANT IT -- I DON'T  
24 KNOW. I WANT TO CONTINUE IT. I HOPE EVERYONE ELSE SEES  
25 THE MERITS OF IT BECAUSE I JUST THINK WE'VE GOT TO KEEP

1 FAMILIES OUT OF CHILD PROTECTIVE SYSTEM AND I THINK THAT  
2 THIS PROGRAM IS EXTREMELY HELPFUL IN DOING THAT.

3 MS. BELSHE: AGAIN, IF I MAY, TRISH, TO BE CLEAR,  
4 UNLESS I'M MISUNDERSTANDING, TARA, BUT JUST TO CLARIFY,  
5 THE SCHEDULED END DATE FOR THIS PROGRAM ISN'T UNTIL THE  
6 END OF NEXT YEAR.

7 COMMISSIONER CURRY: I KNOW.

8 MS. BELSHE: AND A SIGNIFICANT UNEXPENDED  
9 BALANCE, WHICH MEANS FIRST 5 LA -- AGAIN, UNLESS THE BOARD  
10 HAD A DIFFERENT DIRECTION TO STAFF, STAFF IS SUGGESTING WE  
11 SUPPORT DMH TO MAINTAIN THOSE DOLLARS WELL INTO 2018.

12 COMMISSIONER CURRY: AND I GUESS WHAT I'M DOING  
13 IS SAYING I AGREE WITH THAT.

14 MS. BELSHE: AND CHALLENGING US TO MAKE SURE  
15 WE'RE DOING ALL WE CAN TO CONNECT THAT IMPORTANT  
16 INVESTMENTS WITH OUR OTHER INVESTMENTS.

17 COMMISSIONER CURRY: RIGHT.

18 MS. BELSHE: OKAY.

19 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: NANCY.

20 COMMISSIONER AU: JUST TO BE CLEAR FOR MYSELF,  
21 PCIT IS ACTUALLY -- THE GOAL OF PCIT IS TO BUILD CAPACITY  
22 WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH IN ORDER FOR THE  
23 DEPARTMENT'S GRANTEEES OR CONTRACTORS TO BE ABLE TO DEAL  
24 WITH THIS PARTICULAR VERY YOUNG INFANT OF POPULATION. I'M  
25 LOOKING AT YOU, BILL.

1 COMMISSIONER ARROYO: YEAH.

2 COMMISSIONER AU: AND JUST TO BE CLEAR.

3 SO AT SOME POINT IN TIME, MY EXPECTATION IS THAT  
4 THIS INVESTMENT IS TO BUILD THIS CAPACITY AND THAT DMH AT  
5 SOME POINT WILL BE ABLE TO MAINTAIN THAT CAPACITY; THAT  
6 THIS FUNDING IS NOT IN PERPETUITY.

7 COMMISSIONER ARROYO: BUT I THINK I HEAR TRISH'S  
8 POINT, WHICH IS ONE THAT DIDN'T OCCUR ME UNTIL SHE  
9 RESTATED IT AGAIN. IT'S A GREAT STRATEGIC EFFORT TO TRY  
10 TO KEEP KIDS OUT OF THE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM.

11 COMMISSIONER AU: UNDERSTAND.

12 COMMISSIONER ARROYO: AND SO THE -- THE -- THE  
13 TREATMENT OR INTERVENTION MONEY CAN COME FROM ELSEWHERE.  
14 BUT THIS WOULD CERTAINLY SERVE TO EXPAND THE CAPACITY, THE  
15 POTENTIAL. BUT THE TREATMENT DOLLARS WOULD COME FROM SOME  
16 OTHER POT.

17 COMMISSIONER AU: EXACTLY.

18 COMMISSIONER CURRY: RIGHT. IT COMES FROM A  
19 VARIETY OF PLACES. IT CAN COME FROM MMHSA, EPSD.

20 MS. BELSHE: IT'S ABOUT TRAINING.

21 COMMISSIONER AU: IT'S ABOUT TRAINING, RIGHT,  
22 BECAUSE THAT'S THE PART -- THAT IS NOT PROVIDED FOR WITH  
23 THE --

24 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: BUT I THINK STAFF HAS  
25 RECOMMENDED EVERYTHING THAT YOU ALL --

1           COMMISSIONER CURRY: I KNOW.

2           COMMISSIONER ARROYO: SHE'S UNDERSCORING STAFF  
3 RECOMMENDATION.

4           COMMISSIONER DENNIS: IT IS --

5           MS. BELSHE: IT'S AN IMPORTANT OBSERVATION.

6           COMMISSIONER DENNIS: I JUST WANT TO BE CLEAR.  
7 THAT STAFF IS SAYING, LET'S CONTINUE --

8           COMMISSIONER ARROYO: AND SHE MAY BE.

9           COMMISSIONER CURRY: I STRONGLY AGREE WITH THAT.

10          COMMISSIONER ARROYO: AND SHE MAY BE WARNING  
11 OTHER COMMISSIONERS NOT TO --

12          COMMISSIONER DENNIS: I GOT IT. I GOT IT.  
13 YOU FINISHED?

14          COMMISSIONER AU: NO. I JUST GOT OFF ON A  
15 TANGENT ON TRISH'S COMMENT FOR MY CLARITY SAKE.

16          OKAY, AND THEN REALLY THE -- THE PART I WANT TO  
17 ADDRESS IS THE HOMELESS CASE. AND OF THE -- I DID READ  
18 THAT THE CITY DOES NOT HAVE THE DOLLARS -- LA CITY DOES  
19 NOT HAVE THE DOLLARS IN PLACE ALTHOUGH THEY HAVE MADE A  
20 COMMITMENT TO HAVE A HUNDRED MILLION AVAILABLE. BUT  
21 LOOKING AT THEIR BUDGET, IT'S OBVIOUSLY THEIR -- THEY  
22 DON'T HAVE IT. SO IT'S IMPORTANT THAT WE STILL HAVE THIS  
23 PARTICULAR AREA OF -- IN TERMS OF OUR COMMITMENT IN  
24 PARTNERSHIP. SO I'M IN FULL AGREEMENT WITH THAT.

25          BUT THERE'S ANOTHER PIECE TO THIS. YOU MENTIONED

1 THAT AT THE LAST MEETING THERE WERE A NUMBER OF CITIES  
2 THAT WERE ALSO PRESENT. AND ALTHOUGH THEY DID NOT SAY,  
3 OH, LET ME PARTICIPATE IN THIS, LET ME, YOU KNOW, BRING  
4 FORTH OUR -- OUR RESOURCES SO WE CAN ADDRESS THE HOMELESS  
5 ISSUES WITHIN THEIR CITIES BECAUSE IT'S NO LONGER JUST ON  
6 SKID ROW. IT'S ALL OVER THE COUNTY.

7 SO I GUESS I'M TURNING TO FIRST 5 LA IN TERMS OF  
8 OUR ABILITY -- YOU KNOW, WE'RE FOCUSING ON POLICY HERE.  
9 AND I THINK THIS IS CLEARLY AN AREA THAT WE MAY WANT TO  
10 THINK ABOUT BECAUSE IT DOES IMPACT THESE VULNERABLE  
11 CHILDREN.

12 MS. BELSHE: IN TERMS OF ADVOCACY WHETHER IT BE  
13 AT A CITY, COUNTY, STATE LEVEL?

14 COMMISSIONER AU: EXACTLY. AND THE OTHER PIECE  
15 IS WITH THE CITIES BECAUSE WE TEND NOT TO THINK ABOUT ALL  
16 THE 83 DIFFERENT CITIES THAT WE HAVE IN LA COUNTY THAT MAY  
17 NEED SOME ADDITIONAL LEVERAGING INFORMATION THROUGH OUR  
18 COMMUNICATIONS SMARTIE PANTS PEOPLE THAT CAN HELP THEM  
19 CRAFT MESSAGING SO THAT -- I DON'T KNOW WHO THEIR  
20 CONSTITUENCY MAY BE, BUT I THINK WE DON'T HEAR IT -- YOU  
21 KNOW, IN MY PARTICULAR CITY, I DON'T HEAR THAT CONCERN  
22 ABOUT HOMELESSNESS AND HOW IT IMPACTS FAMILIES, BUT WE SEE  
23 THEM WHENEVER WE'RE OUT IN THE COMMUNITY. SO I THINK  
24 THAT, IF THERE'S A WAY FOR US TO PACKAGE AND SOME KIND OF  
25 MESSAGING THAT THEY COULD THEN UTILIZE TO HELP CONVINC

1 THEIR RESIDENTS TO SUPPORT SOME -- I DON'T KNOW THE CITY  
2 OF LA IS SPEAKING OF SOME BOND MEASURES I THINK OR SOME  
3 AVENUE. THE CITY OF LONG BEACH, I'M SURE THEY HAVE A  
4 DAUNTING ISSUE, AND SANTA MONICA AS WELL. SO I -- I  
5 WONDER IF WE CAN LEND SOME SUPPORT TO THEIR PART. THAT'S  
6 THE ONLY THING.

7 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: BILL.

8 COMMISSIONER ARROYO: YES. AND SO -- THIS IS  
9 SOMETHING I WAS ALLUDING TO WITH KIM WHEN SHE WAS  
10 ORIENTING ME TO THE NEW -- TO THE NEW STATUS OF FIRST 5 A  
11 MONTH OR SO AGO, AND THAT IS -- AND TO MY POINT EARLIER  
12 THAT THERE ARE SOME STATE INITIATIVES AND DEVELOPMENT TO  
13 ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS. AND SO TO THAT END, SHOULD FIRST 5  
14 LA, ALONG WITH OTHER STATE ASSOCIATION, OTHER COUNTY FIRST  
15 5 LA'S NUDGE THOSE DEVELOPING INITIATIVES ALONG SOME WAY.

16 MS. BELSHE: WE'LL TAKE A LOOK AT WHAT'S PENDING  
17 IN SACRAMENTO. IT HASN'T BEEN NEARLY AS CONCRETE. THE  
18 REAL LEADERSHIP HAS BEEN COMING FROM OUR BOARD OF  
19 SUPERVISORS, FRANKLY.

20 COMMISSIONER ARROYO: YEAH, WELL, YOU KNOW --

21 MS. BELSHE: WHICH ISN'T SURPRISING BUT YOU'RE  
22 ABSOLUTELY RIGHT.

23 COMMISSIONER ARROYO: BUT THE SPEAKER HAS HAD HIS  
24 PRESS CONFERENCE ABOUT WHERE TO GET SOME MONEY AND  
25 STEINBERG IS -- IS JOINING HIM. AND SO THERE IS SOMETHING

1 AFOOT ALREADY. AND SO TO THAT END, AGAIN, WOULD BEHOOVE  
2 FIRST 5'S STATE ASSOCIATION, OTHER COUNTY FIRST 5'S TO --

3 MS. BELSHE: WE'LL TAKE A LOOK.

4 COMMISSIONER ARROYO: -- TO JUMP ON THE BANDWAGON  
5 TOGETHER TO PUSH FORWARD SOME POLICY.

6 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: ALL RIGHT.

7 MS. BELSHE: WE'LL TAKE A LOOK.

8 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: DEANNE, DID YOU HAVE  
9 SOMETHING?

10 COMMISSIONER TILTON: NO. WE'RE GOING TO MOVE  
11 INTO THE HOMELESS INITIATIVE. WE'VE MOVED INTO IT, SLID  
12 INTO IT.

13 MS. BELSHE: YEAH.

14 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: CINDY AND THEN JUDY.

15 COMMISSIONER HARDING: I'LL BE REALLY BRIEF.

16 THANK YOU, TARA. I THINK IT'S REALLY NICE THE  
17 YOU'RE SHOWING US HOW YOU'RE APPLYING THIS NEW FRAMEWORK.  
18 AND IT'S ALWAYS DIFFICULT FOR US TO HEAR ABOUT EXPIRING  
19 INITIATIVES BECAUSE WE ALL HAVE BABIES THAT WE WANT TO  
20 SAVE. BUT I REALLY APPRECIATE IT'S A CONSISTENT APPROACH  
21 AND IT'S VERY THOUGHTFUL AND I REALLY APPRECIATE HOW  
22 YOU'RE DOING THAT.

23 IN TERMS OF THE PERMANENT HOUSING, I JUST WANT TO  
24 ECHO WHAT MY COLLEAGUES HAVE SAID. I REALLY THINK WE NEED  
25 TO BE THINKING ABOUT, WE'RE NOT IN THE BUSINESS OF

1 CONTINUING TO FUND THE BUILDING OF SUPPORTIVE HOUSING OR  
2 THE RENTAL ASSISTANCE, BUT WE DO HAVE -- WE SHOULD HAVE  
3 THAT STRONG ROLE IN POLICY AND ADVOCACY. AND I'M LOOKING  
4 FORWARD TO THE PRESENTATION FROM MY COLLEAGUES AT THE  
5 COUNTY WHO CAN GIVE US SOME IDEAS. AND ALL OF US AS  
6 COMMISSIONERS NEED TO BE THINKING ABOUT WHAT'S THERE.

7 AND I'M REALLY GLAD THAT PETER'S HERE BECAUSE IT  
8 SHOULD SPARK SOME IDEAS ABOUT WHERE FIRST 5 CAN PUT THEIR  
9 MUSCLE IN -- IN, YOU KNOW, THE WHOLE ARENA OF POLICY AND  
10 ADVOCACY ON THIS ISSUE BECAUSE I THINK IT'S REALLY  
11 IMPORTANT.

12 MY QUESTION WAS AROUND 211. I'M REALLY GLAD TO  
13 SEE THAT WE'RE EXTENDING THAT AN ADDITIONAL YEAR. IT'S A  
14 REALLY IMPORTANT COMPONENT TO SUPPORT OUR WORK WITH HELP  
15 ME GROW. I'M GLAD THAT WE'RE BUILDING AND LEVERAGING OUR  
16 EXISTING INVESTMENTS RATHER THAN REINVENTING THE WHEEL.  
17 WHY ONLY ONE YEAR THOUGH? ISN'T HELP ME GROW MUCH LONGER  
18 THAN ONE YEAR? AND WHY AREN'T WE RECOMMENDING IT MORE  
19 THAN ONE YEAR?

20 MS. FICEK: HELP ME GROW IS DEFINITELY MUCH  
21 LONGER THAN ONE YEAR. AT THIS POINT, WE THINK THOUGH ONE  
22 YEAR IS AN APPROPRIATE TIMELINE TO GET MUCH FURTHER ALONG  
23 IN THE HELP ME GROW WORK TO SEE -- TO REVIEW AGAIN THAT  
24 ALIGNMENT. SO YOU'LL SEE AT THIS POINT WE SEE POTENTIAL  
25 ALIGNMENT RELATED TO THE TELEPHONIC PIECE OF HELP ME GROW

1 AND OBVIOUSLY 211 LA COUNTY'S APPROACHING PROVIDING IR  
2 AND R SERVICES. SO WE SEE THAT PIECE OF IT, BUT WE ALSO  
3 NEED TO GET FURTHER ALONG WITH THE HELP ME GROW WORK TO  
4 SEE IF THERE'S OTHER AREAS OF ALIGNMENT OR IF THAT  
5 ALIGNMENT -- IF THAT DEGREE OF ALIGNMENT GROWS OR  
6 DECREASES. SO I THINK -- WE THINK A YEAR'S AN APPROPRIATE  
7 AMOUNT OF TIME TO FURTHER THE WORK OF HELP ME GROW TO SEE  
8 WHERE THAT ALIGNMENT GOES AND THEN REASSESS AT THAT POINT.

9 COMMISSIONER HARDING: I WOULD ENCOURAGE YOU TO  
10 TAKE A LONGER TIME, BECAUSE IF YOU'RE GOING TO INVEST --  
11 AS WE AGREED AS A COMMISSION TO INVEST IN HELP ME GROW,  
12 THE TELEPHONIC COMPONENT OF THAT NEVER GOES AWAY. SO AT A  
13 MINIMUM, THAT WE INVEST WITH 211 AT SAME TIME THAT WE'RE  
14 DOING HELP ME GROW AND THEN, IF THERE'S ADDITIONAL THINGS  
15 THAT WE WANT 211 TO DO TO SUPPORT THAT INITIATIVE, THAT WE  
16 THINK ABOUT COMING BACK TO THE COMMISSION, ADDING ON TO  
17 THAT. BUT I THINK IT'S SHORTSIGHTED FOR US TO JUST DO IT  
18 FOR ONE YEAR WHEN WE KNOW WE'VE GOT THAT INVESTMENT FOR  
19 HELP ME GROW.

20 AS I RECALL FROM THE PRESENTATION, THE OTHER  
21 AREAS THAT ARE DOING IT, THEY'RE USING THEIR 211  
22 RESOURCES. IT MAKES SENSE TO DO THAT INSTEAD OF  
23 REINVENTING THE WHEEL. SO IT'S JUST MY SUGGESTION.

24 MS. BELSHE: WE'LL TAKE THAT BACK AND LOOK AT IT.  
25 THERE'S A DIVERSITY OF APPROACHES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY --

1 COUNTRIES AND COUNTRY IN TERMS OF THAT TELEPHONIC  
2 COMPONENT. SOME USE 211, SOME USE OTHER PARTNERS, SOME DO  
3 SOLE SOURCE, SOME DO COMPETITIVE BIDS. SO THAT'S PART OF  
4 THE EXPLORATION WE HAVE UNDERWAY IN THE CONTEXT OF HELP ME  
5 GROW.

6 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: ANY OTHER QUESTIONS? JUDY.

7 COMMISSIONER ABDO: I -- I WILL FIRST SAY I -- I  
8 AGREE WITH WHAT TRISH SAID TOTALLY. SO I DON'T HAVE TO  
9 SAY THAT AGAIN.

10 BUT ON THE 211 ISSUE, I JUST WANT TO RAISE AGAIN  
11 THE -- WHAT'S SELF-EVIDENT IS THAT MOST OF THE YOUNG  
12 FAMILIES OR THE PARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN ARE MILLENNIALS  
13 NOW. AND IT ISN'T ONLY THE TELEPHONE WHERE THEY GO FOR  
14 INFORMATION. AND WE TALKED ABOUT THIS ALMOST A YEAR AGO I  
15 THINK IN ONE OF THE COMMITTEE MEETINGS. I DON'T KNOW  
16 WHETHER WE CAN USE OUR CLOUT TO TRY AND PUSH FOR MORE  
17 INTERNET BASED EVEN TWEETS, BUT AT LEAST SOMETHING WHERE  
18 INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE WITHOUT MAKING A PHONE CALL WHICH  
19 THEN LEADS TO BEING ON HOLD WHICH -- YOU KNOW, THOSE  
20 THINGS JUST TURN OFF THAT FLOW OF INFORMATION AND  
21 COMMUNICATION. AND THERE'S A WAY TO DO IT, TO PUSH THEM  
22 TO BE THINKING IN A DIFFERENT WAY.

23 MS. BELSHE: AND JUDY, I WANT TO UNDERSCORE,  
24 WE'VE HEARD THAT MESSAGE, WE EMBRACE IT, AND WE ARE COMING  
25 BACK TO THE BOARD, GABE, IN APRIL --

1 SPEAKER: YES.

2 MS. BELSHE: -- WITH OUR -- THE CONTRACT FOR OUR  
3 NEW COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING FIRM. SO WE ARE BRINGING  
4 IN -- WE'LL HAVE SOME EXPERTISE AND CAPACITY TO HELP US  
5 REALLY DO THE DEEP DIVE WE NEED TO DO AROUND WHAT ARE THE  
6 KEY COMMUNICATIONS CHANNELS. WE'VE DONE SOME INTERNAL  
7 WORK FROM A STAFF PERSPECTIVE IN TERMS OF HAVING SOME  
8 COMMUNICATIONS EXPERTISE TO REALLY DIG INTO WHAT ARE THE  
9 DIFFERENT WAYS THAT YOUNG ADULTS, YOUNG PARENTS  
10 PARTICULARLY ACCESS INFORMATION, BOTH IN TERMS OF TAKING  
11 MESSAGES IN AS WELL AS PUSHING THEM OUT.

12 I WAS MEETING JUST YESTERDAY WITH HUGO MORALES,  
13 WHO IS THE HEAD OF RADIO BILINGÜE. AND, YOU KNOW, SHOWING  
14 THE DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF WHO LISTENS TO THAT  
15 SPANISH-SPEAKING RADIO. IT'S REALLY, REALLY POWERFUL.

16 SO THERE'S A LOT OF DIFFERENT COMMUNICATION  
17 CHANNELS. IT DOESN'T MEAN THAT TELEPHONIC IS NO LONGER  
18 IMPORTANT. IT JUST MEANS IT'S A LOT MORE COMPLEX AND WE  
19 NEED TO BETTER UNDERSTAND OUR MARKET, AND WE'RE GOING TO  
20 GET SOME HELP TO DO THAT.

21 WE'RE ALSO FINALLY DEVELOPING -- AND THIS WILL BE  
22 COMING BACK TO THE BOARD AT A HIGH LEVEL AND THEN A MORE  
23 DETAILED OVER THE COURSE OF THE NEXT COUPLE MONTHS --  
24 BUILDING OUT A PARENTING WEB SITE THAT WILL BE A  
25 COMPLIMENT TO OUR SOCIAL MARKETING CAMPAIGN WHICH IS

1 FOCUSING ON PARENTS AND HOW TO SUPPORT THEM GETTING ACCESS  
2 TO SERVICES AND SUPPORTS AND INFORMATION. SO USING OUR  
3 INTERNET MORE ROBUSTLY.

4 GABE.

5 SPEAKER: AND I JUST WANTED TO ADD THAT ALSO THIS  
6 PORTAL, IT'S BUILT USING RESEARCH ON HOW OUR TARGET  
7 AUDIENCES ARE ACCESSING INFORMATION. SO WE'RE DOING THIS  
8 WHERE WE'RE -- THANK YOU. WE'RE DOING THIS WHERE -- IN  
9 THE SAME WAY WE'RE USING DATA TO GUIDE HOW WE MAKE THESE  
10 DECISIONS AND IN WHAT WE BUILT SO WE CAN REACH OUR  
11 AUDIENCES IN WAY THEY DO ACCESS LIKE YOU'RE SAYING, LIKE  
12 THROUGH ALL SORTS OF DIFFERENT CHANNELS.

13 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: THANK YOU.

14 TRISH.

15 COMMISSIONER CURRY: AND, YES, I REALIZE THAT  
16 MANY OF THESE ARE THE STAFF'S RECOMMENDATIONS. SO I'M NOT  
17 -- I JUST WANT TO REITERATE HOW IMPORTANT SOME OF THEM I  
18 THINK ARE. AND THE AUTISM EARLY IDENTIFICATION AND  
19 INTERVENTION -- AND I RECOGNIZE THAT THEY'RE RECOMMENDING  
20 TO EXTEND IT TO 2018. BUT IN TERMS OF SUSTAINABILITY,  
21 WHICH I THINK WE ALWAYS ARE TRYING TO LOOK TO THE FUTURE  
22 FOR, I WONDERING WHY THAT ISN'T COVERED IN THE HEALTH  
23 PLANS ALONG WITH THE OTHER MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES AND IF  
24 THERE'S SOME ADVOCACY WE CAN DO IN SPENDING THE NEXT YEAR  
25 OR TWO THAT WE HAVE THE MONEY ADVOCATING THAT THIS BE

1 COVERED IN HEALTH PLANS SO THAT WE CAN WALK AWAY FROM IT  
2 IN 2018.

3 MS. BELSHE: YEAH, YOU'RE RAISING A REALLY  
4 IMPORTANT POINT THAT WE'VE HAD SOME DISCUSSIONS ABOUT.  
5 INDEED, IT'S AN IMPORTANT FOCUS OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN'S  
6 HEALTH OUTCOME AREA AROUND DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING, WHICH  
7 IS JUST WHAT YOU'RE SAYING; THAT THE BENEFIT ITSELF, THE  
8 PREVENTATIVE ASSESSMENTS ARE A COVERED PREVENTATIVE  
9 SERVICE AS A PART OF THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT. BUT YOU'LL  
10 RECALL AS A PART OF OUR WORK WITH LA CARE WHERE WE  
11 SUPPORTED LA CARE TO DO AN ASSESSMENT OF THE NUMBER OF  
12 KIDS UNDER FIVE WHO ARE GETTING TIMELY AND APPROPRIATE  
13 SCREENS, WE LEARNED THAT IT'S ACTUALLY A RELATIVELY SMALL  
14 PERCENTAGE.

15 SO WHAT THE BOARD HAS DIRECTED US TO DO AS PART  
16 OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN IS TO FIND PARTNERS AND WAYS TO HELP  
17 ENSURE THAT THE SYSTEMS BETTER SUPPORT KIDS TO GET TIMELY  
18 AND APPROPRIATE SERVICES. SO WE'RE NOT RECOMMENDING AND  
19 THIS IS NOT FUNDING THE SERVICE ITSELF. THIS IS  
20 CONTINUATION OF A MULTIYEAR INVESTMENT THAT PREDATED THE  
21 CURRENT STRATEGIC PLAN WHICH IS REALLY ABOUT SUPPORTING,  
22 IMPROVED COORDINATION AND INTEGRATION IN -- HOW MANY DO WE  
23 HAVE, RENA, SIX?

24 SPEAKER: SIX.

25 MS. BELSHE: SIX COMMUNITY -- THANK YOU, KAREN

1 AND LEE. SIX COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS. SO IT'S ABOUT HOW  
2 DO WE HELP THEM GET CONNECTED TO SERVICES THAT ARE ALREADY  
3 COVERED. BUT AT THE END OF THE DAY, THE HELP ME GROW  
4 MODEL, WHICH IS A SYSTEMS MODEL TO SUPPORT PARENTS AND  
5 PROVIDERS ALONE, AT END OF THE DAY, THAT'S REALLY GOING TO  
6 BECOME THE FRAMEWORK FOR THE COUNTY OVERALL. HOW THIS  
7 TYPE OF INVESTMENT FITS INTO HELP ME GROW, WE DON'T KNOW  
8 YET. AND THAT'S WHY STAFF IS RECOMMENDING, LET'S CONTINUE  
9 THIS FOR ONE MORE YEAR UNTIL HELP ME GROW'S APPROACH IS A  
10 BIT MORE CONCRETE.

11 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: BILL.

12 COMMISSIONER ARROYO: AND TO TRISH'S POINT, WHICH  
13 I THINK IS A REALLY GOOD ONE, THE HEALTH PLANS ALREADY  
14 HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY. AND I GUESS I'M WONDERING, IN  
15 TRYING TO ALIGN SOME OF THIS WITH THE 15-20 STRATEGIC PLAN  
16 AND BEING MORE POLICY FOCUSED, AS SOME OF YOU MAY KNOW AT  
17 THE STATE LEVEL ALL OF THE MANAGED CARE PLANS ARE BEING  
18 HELD TO A CERTAIN METRICS, WHETHER IT'S DEVELOPMENTAL  
19 SCREENING OR SOME OTHER THING, BY WHICH THEY ARE GOING TO  
20 BE GRADED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF MANAGED HEALTH CARE AS WELL  
21 AS DHCS. SO THAT MAYBE, JUST MAYBE IDENTIFYING SOME OF  
22 THESE THINGS THAT SPECIFICALLY RELATE TO EARLY  
23 IDENTIFICATION AND HAVING THE STATE AGENCIES ADOPT ONE OF  
24 THESE METRICS FOR THE HEALTH PLANS MIGHT BE THE POLICY WAY  
25 TO AFFECT WHAT WAS ONE OF THE INTENTS OF THIS PARTICULAR

1 INITIATIVE.

2 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: THANK YOU.

3 MS. BELSHE: YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY RIGHT.

4 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: OKAY. AND I'LL JUST END UP  
5 BY ASKING SOMETHING, TARA, FROM THE HOUSING PIECE BECAUSE  
6 I REMEMBER, WHEN WE INITIATED THE HOUSING PIECE, THERE WAS  
7 SOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES AND, YOU KNOW -- AND I DON'T KNOW  
8 IF YOU CAN GIVE ME THAT INFORMATION TODAY, BUT WOULD I  
9 LIKE A BREAKDOWN OF THOSE SUPPORTIVE SERVICES THAT WE'VE  
10 DONE OVER THE DURATION AND WHAT TYPE OF SUPPORTIVE  
11 SERVICES. SO, FOR EXAMPLE, WAS IT CHILD CARE, WAS IT  
12 WHATEVER. AND WE'VE NEVER HAD -- HAVE BEEN GIVEN A  
13 BREAKDOWN. AND SO THAT MAY BE -- THAT MAY INFORM SOME OF  
14 THE WORK THAT WE PROBABLY COULD WRAP OUR ARMS AROUND  
15 MOVING FORWARD. AND I'M JUST NOT SURE BECAUSE I KNEW THAT  
16 WAS PART OF THAT IMPLEMENTATION. SO THAT WOULD BE  
17 EXTREMELY HELPFUL. I'M NOT SAYING WE NEED IT RIGHT NOW,  
18 BUT SOMETIME BETWEEN NOW AND THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR,  
19 THAT WOULD BE HELPFUL.

20 OKAY. WE HAVE ONE SPEAKER ON THIS ISSUE, NICKY  
21 VIOLA.

22 MS. BELSHE: NICKY'S HERE.

23 SPEAKER: HI. NICKY VIOLA FROM SHELTER  
24 PARTNERSHIP. I JUST WANT TO SAY THAT, WHILE WE'RE  
25 DISAPPOINTED THAT THE RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IS ENDING,

1 WE WANT TO THANK FIRST 5 FOR THE FUNDING THAT YOU  
2 PROVIDED. THIS PROGRAM WAS VERY SUCCESSFUL. AS OF  
3 DECEMBER 31ST, OVER 1,400 HOMELESS FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN  
4 ZERO TO FIVE RECEIVED LIFE-CHANGING RENTAL ASSISTANCE.

5 RESEARCH CONTINUES TO PROVE THAT YOUNG CHILDREN  
6 EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS SUFFER SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES IN  
7 TERMS OF EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND OTHER AREAS. WE HOPE THAT  
8 AS FIRST 5 PIVOTS TO MORE OF AN ADVOCACY ROLL, THAT YOU  
9 WILL FOCUS YOUR EFFORTS ON POLICY ISSUES THAT IMPACT  
10 HOMELESS FAMILIES SUCH AS INCREASING THE CALWORKS GRANT.  
11 CALWORKS ASSISTANCE IS CURRENTLY SET AT A MAXIMUM OF \$704  
12 PER MONTH FOR A FAMILY OF THREE, WHICH IS \$450 BELOW THE  
13 FAIR MARKET RENT FOR A ONE-BEDROOM IMPORTANT IN LA COUNTY.

14 ADVOCACY IS ALSO NEEDED TO ELIMINATE THE MAXIMUM  
15 FAMILY GRANT RULE, WHICH BANS ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE TO  
16 FAMILIES WHO HAVE A BABY WHILE RECEIVING CALWORKS.  
17 CHANGES IN CALWORKS POLICIES LIKE THESE WILL MAKE A  
18 TANGIBLE DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF HOMELESS FAMILIES WHO  
19 STRUGGLE TO SECURE AND THEN MAINTAIN AFFORDABLE HOUSING.

20 THANK YOU.

21 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: THANK YOU, NICKY. THANK  
22 YOU VERY MUCH.

23 ANY OTHER QUESTIONS? NOT HEARING NONE, THIS IS  
24 THE TIME WE TAKE OUR BREAK, BUT I DO HAVE SOMETHING TO  
25 SHARE WITH YOU ALL. I WAS -- I SHOULDN'T TELL.

1 VALENTINE'S DAY I WAS READING THE NEW YORK TIMES --

2 MS. BELSHE: NOTHING SAYS I LOVE YOU MORE THAN --

3 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: AND IN THE NEW YORK TIMES  
4 THEY TALKED ABOUT UNIVERSAL PRE-K THAT NEW YORK HAS  
5 UNDERTAKEN. NEW YORK HAS 65,000 FOUR-YEAR OLDS IN PRE-K.  
6 SO I WANTED TO SHARE THE ARTICLE WITH COMMISSIONERS. AND  
7 IF WE HAVE ENOUGH COPIES, WE ARE SHARING WITH OTHERS AS  
8 WELL. SO YOU KNOW WHAT I DID ON MY VALENTINE'S DAY.

9 THAT'S IT. WE'LL TAKE A BREAK, GUYS. COME BACK  
10 IN ABOUT TEN MINUTES.

11 (A BRIEF BREAK.)

12 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: OKAY. I THINK REVEREND  
13 JOHN IS UP.

14 MR. WAGNER: THANK YOU, PASTOR DUANE. GOOD  
15 AFTERNOON, EVERYONE.

16 WHAT I WANTED TO DO BEFORE WE GET INTO THE NEXT  
17 PRESENTATION IS JUST TO SAW A FEW BRIEF COMMENTS AND THEN  
18 ALSO INTRODUCE LESLIE BLACHER WHO IS HERE FROM THE COUNTY.

19 AS WE HEARD FROM TARA, BACK IN 2012 AND 2013,  
20 FIRST 5 LA MADE A SIGNIFICANT INVESTMENT IN HOMELESSNESS  
21 AND -- BY PROVIDING THE \$35 MILLION THAT WE JUST TALKED  
22 ABOUT IN BOTH CAPITAL AND RENTAL ASSISTANCE. AND THE  
23 STAFF ANALYSIS INDICATES THAT THE PUBLIC SUPPORTIVE  
24 HOUSING INITIATIVE SHOULD EXPIRE AS SET OUT BY THE BOARD  
25 APPROVED GOVERNANCE GUIDELINES.

1 HOMELESSNESS, OBVIOUSLY, CONTINUES TO BE A VERY  
2 SIGNIFICANT AND PRESSING ISSUE FACING FAMILIES AND KIDS  
3 ACROSS LOS ANGELES COUNTY, WHICH MANY COMMISSIONERS SPOKE  
4 TO. SO THE COUNTY IS REALLY TO BE COMMENDED ON A NUMBER  
5 OF FRONTS. FIRST OF ALL, BY PROVIDING AND PULLING  
6 TOGETHER THE RESOURCES TO ADDRESS RENTAL ASSISTANCE AFTER  
7 OUR FUNDING EXPIRES IN JUNE AS TARA WALKED US THROUGH, BUT  
8 ALSO FOR CREATING SUCH A COMPREHENSIVE INITIATIVE CALLED  
9 THE HOMELESS INITIATIVE THAT REALLY WEAVES TOGETHER 47  
10 RECOMMENDATIONS ACROSS SIX AREAS. AND WE'LL HEAR A LITTLE  
11 BIT MORE ABOUT THAT FROM LESLIE WHO HAS OVER A DECADE'S  
12 EXPERIENCE, I BELIEVE, WITH THE CEO'S OFFICE AND HAD ALSO  
13 WORKED FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH BEFORE THAT.

14 BUT WE DO WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT THE COMMISSION  
15 AND SPECIFICALLY THE PPC HAS AN OPPORTUNITY TO HEAR  
16 FIRSTHAND FROM THE COUNTY WHICH IS SOMETHING WE DISCUSSED  
17 AT OUR LAST BOARD MEETING. BUT IT'S ALSO AN EXAMPLE OF AN  
18 ITEM THAT WE'RE GOING TO BE TALKING ABOUT IN THE NEXT PART  
19 OF THE AGENDA, WHICH IS HOW DO WE THINK ABOUT DIFFERENT  
20 WAYS TO PARTNER WITH AND SUPPORT THE COUNTY.

21 AND SO I THINK AS WE LISTEN TO THIS PRESENTATION,  
22 IT'S REALLY AN OPPORTUNITY TO FOR US TO BEGIN TO SET THE  
23 TABLE FOR WAYS IN WHICH WE THINK ABOUT HOW WE BEST DO THAT  
24 GOING FORWARD.

25 SO WITH THAT, I'LL JUST TURN IT OVER TO LESLIE.

1           COMMISSIONER DENNIS:   WELCOME, LESLIE.   NICE  
2   SEEING YOU AGAIN.

3           MS. BLACHER:   YOU, TOO, DUANE.   THANK YOU SO MUCH  
4   FOR HAVING ME.   SO GOOD AFTERNOON TO EVERYONE.

5           COMMISSIONER DENNIS:   LESLIE IS AN OLD FRIEND.

6           MS. BELSHE:   LONG TIME FRIEND.

7           MS. BLACHER:   YEAH, WE WORKED TOGETHER SEVERAL  
8   YEARS AGO WHEN I WAS WITH THE OFFICE OF CHILD CARE.

9           SO I'M GOING TO GO OVER -- THIS IS A PRESENTATION  
10   THAT PHIL AND SAL MADE AT THE BOARD MEETING ON FEBRUARY  
11   9TH WHEN OUR HOMELESS INITIATIVE PLAN WAS ADOPTED.   SO  
12   IT'S PRETTY BRIEF BUT -- AND IT'S VERY HIGH LEVEL, BUT  
13   I'LL JUST GO THROUGH IT REALLY QUICKLY AND MAKE SURE THAT  
14   WE HAVE ENOUGH TIME FOR DISCUSSION AFTERWARD.

15           SO AS JOHN MENTIONED, THE COUNTY IN ABOUT AUGUST  
16   OF 2015, THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE LAUNCHED THIS AD HOC  
17   HOMELESS INITIATIVE.   AND IT WAS ONE OF THE BOARD'S  
18   PRIORITIES.   THERE WERE A NUMBER OF OTHER BOARD  
19   PRIORITIES.   THERE WAS ONE THAT WAS LOOKING AT THE  
20   INTEGRATION OF A HEALTH AGENCY.   THERE WAS ONE THAT WAS  
21   LOOKING AT THE CREATION OF AN OFFICE OF CHILD PROTECTION.  
22   AND THEN THERE WAS ONE THAT WAS ALSO LOOKING AT KIND OF  
23   HOW THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT AND KIND OF SOME OF OUR  
24   JUSTICE RELATED POLICIES WERE BEING ORGANIZED.   SO THIS  
25   WAS ADDED TO A LIST OF THOSE INITIATIVES.

1           AND THE INITIATIVE WAS REALLY FORMED TO ADDRESS  
2 THE GROWING HOMELESS POPULATION THAT HAD BEEN WITNESSED IN  
3 THE LAST HOMELESS COUNT IN 2015. IN THAT LAST HOMELESS  
4 COUNT WE SAW AN 85 PERCENT INCREASE IN MAKESHIFT TENTS AND  
5 SHELTERS FOR UNSHELTERED HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS. AND WE  
6 ALSO SAW AN OVERALL INCREASE -- AND THIS IS EXCLUDING THE  
7 CITIES OF GLENDALE, PASADENA, AND LONG BEACH. BUT JUST  
8 WITHIN THE COUNTY, WE SAW AN INCREASE OF 16 PERCENT IN THE  
9 NUMBER OF HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS FROM 2013 TO 2015. SO  
10 THERE'S BEEN A REAL -- I MEAN, THE NUMBERS HAVE JUST BEEN  
11 DRAMATICALLY INCREASING OVER THE LAST SEVERAL YEARS.

12           SO THE GOAL OF THIS HOMELESS INITIATIVE WAS  
13 REALLY TO COME UP WITH A GROUP OF KIND OF INTEGRATED  
14 STRATEGIES. THERE WAS A GREAT DEAL OF COMMUNITY  
15 PARTICIPATION THAT INDIVIDUAL CITIES COULD ALSO BECOME  
16 INVOLVED IN TO KIND OF ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS. AND, YOU  
17 KNOW, TO DO THAT THE COUNTY EMBARKED -- THE CEO CREATED  
18 THIS AD HOC INITIATIVE. AND A PLANNING PROCESS BEGAN THAT  
19 BROUGHT TOGETHER NEARLY 30 CITIES. WE HAD 80 COMMUNITY  
20 ORGANIZATIONS, 25 COUNTY DEPARTMENTS THAT PARTICIPATED IN  
21 A SERIES OF NINE POLICY SUMMITS, AND THEN THERE WERE NINE  
22 COMPLIMENTARY STRATEGY SESSIONS TO DEVELOP THE  
23 RECOMMENDATIONS. SO THERE WERE A TOTAL OF ABOUT 18  
24 SESSIONS OVER A VERY BRIEF PERIOD BETWEEN OCTOBER AND  
25 DECEMBER OF 2015.

1            THEN WE KIND OF WENT INTO -- BETWEEN NOVEMBER OF  
2            2015 THROUGH JANUARY OF 2016, WE HAD A NUMBER OF FOCUS  
3            GROUPS THAT WERE CONDUCTED WITH CURRENTLY AND FORMERLY  
4            HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS THAT WERE ALSO USED THAT WERE  
5            INCORPORATED INTO THE REPORT TO INFORM RECOMMENDATIONS.

6            ON JANUARY 7TH, WE HAD THE DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS  
7            WERE POSTED ONLINE AND THERE WAS PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD  
8            THAT WAS OPENED. AND THEN ON JANUARY 13TH, WE HAD A  
9            500-PERSON COMMUNITY MEETING AT THE UNITED WAY TO GET  
10           INPUT ON THE 47 DRAFT RECOMMENDED STRATEGIES THAT WERE  
11           DEVELOPED FOR THIS HOMELESS INITIATIVE. AND THEN ON  
12           JANUARY 21ST, THE PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ENDED. WE HAD  
13           ABOUT 200 COMMENTS, AND RESPONSES TO THOSE COMMENTS WERE  
14           POSTED ONLINE SHORTLY AFTER. AND THEN, OF COURSE, THIS  
15           CAME TO THE BOARD FOR ADOPTION OF FEBRUARY 9TH. AND IT  
16           WAS ADOPTED ON FEBRUARY 9TH. SO THAT'S KIND OF A BRIEF  
17           OVERVIEW OF THE PLANNING PROCESS.

18           THE NEXT SLIDE JUST IS A PICTURE OF -- IT WAS  
19           FROM THE JANUARY 13TH ON -- THE VERY TOP PICTURE ON THE  
20           LEFT WAS FROM THE JANUARY 13TH COMMUNITY MEETING. AND  
21           THEN CAN YOU SEE BELOW ONE OF THE SUMMITS. AND SOME OF  
22           THE SUMMITS WE HAD CLOSE TO A HUNDRED PEOPLE ATTENDING.  
23           SO YOU CAN IMAGINE HOW DIFFICULT IT IS TO KIND OF MANAGE A  
24           HUNDRED PEOPLE WHO HAVE A LOT OF INPUT TO GIVE IN A SHORT  
25           TWO TO THREE-HOUR PERIOD.

1           GOING ON TO THE NEXT SLIDE, THE 47 STRATEGIES ARE  
2           BASICALLY KIND OF CATEGORIZED. THE NINE FOCUS AREAS THAT  
3           WE HAD WERE CONDENSED DOWN INTO SIX AREAS, AND THEY'RE  
4           LISTED: PREVENT HOMELESSNESS, SUBSIDIZED HOUSING,  
5           INCREASE INCOME, CASE MANAGEMENT, CREATIVE COORDINATED  
6           SYSTEM, AND THEN LOOKING AT AFFORDABLE AND HOMELESS  
7           HOUSING.

8           SO I'LL JUST BRIEFLY GO THROUGH EACH AREA JUST  
9           REALLY QUICKLY. SO IN LOOKING AT PREVENTING HOMELESSNESS,  
10          WE HAVE SEVERAL STRATEGIES AROUND THIS. AND I THINK  
11          THERE'S ONE WHERE FIRST 5 COULD BE A PARTICIPANT. AND  
12          I'LL TALK ABOUT IT IN JUST A SECOND. IT'S REALLY AIMED AT  
13          REDUCING THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO WERE NOT ONLY  
14          DISCHARGED FROM INSTITUTIONS SUCH AS JAILS OR HOSPITALS OR  
15          FROM FOSTER CARE AND THAT END UP HOMELESS, BUT ALSO  
16          LOOKING AT INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES WHO WE WANT TO PREVENT  
17          FROM LOSING THEIR HOUSING, WE WANT TO KEEP THEM STABLY  
18          HOUSED.

19          WITHIN SUBSIDIZED HOUSING, WE HAVE OBVIOUSLY A  
20          SEVERE SHORTAGE OF SUBSIDIZED HOUSING FOR FAMILIES,  
21          INDIVIDUALS WHO LACK, YOU KNOW, SUFFICIENT INCOME TO PAY  
22          FOR MARKET RATE RENTALS IN THE COUNTY. AND GIVEN THE  
23          SCARCITY OF THE SUBSIDIES THAT EXIST IT'S REALLY IMPORTANT  
24          THAT WE MATCH THESE SUBSIDIES EFFECTIVELY TO THE NEEDS OF  
25          INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES WHO NEED THEM THROUGH THINGS LIKE

1 PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING, RAPID REHOUSING, AND THINGS  
2 LIKE THAT.

3 IN LOOKING AT INCREASING INCOME, WE KNOW THAT A  
4 LARGE NUMBER OF HOMELESS ADULTS AND FAMILIES HAVE THE  
5 ABILITY TO WORK AND THEREBY CAN PAY AT LEAST SOME OF OR  
6 ALL OF THEIR RENT. AND BY ENABLING A LARGE PERCENT OF  
7 HOMELESS ADULTS AND FAMILIES TO BASIC BE ABLE TO PAY FOR  
8 THEIR RENT MAYBE THROUGH EMPLOYMENT SUPPORTS OR THROUGH  
9 FEDERAL DISABILITY BENEFITS, THAT WOULD REALLY BE TO OUR  
10 BEST INTEREST. SO WE'RE LOOKING AT STRATEGIES TO EXPLORE  
11 THAT AS WELL.

12 WE KNOW THAT VIRTUALLY ALL HOMELESS FAMILIES AND  
13 INDIVIDUALS NEED SOME FORM OF CASE MANAGEMENT TO BASICALLY  
14 BE ABLE TO SECURE PERMANENT HOUSING AND, OF COURSE, THESE  
15 NEEDS CAN VARY, BUT WE KNOW THAT WHEN WE MATCH CASE  
16 MANAGEMENT WITH RENTAL SUBSIDIES, EMPLOYMENT SUPPORTS, OR  
17 DISABILITY BENEFITS, AS WELL AS ACCESS TO SUPPORTIVE  
18 SERVICES, THOSE ARE REALLY THE KEY INGREDIENTS TO  
19 ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS.

20 THE LAST ONE IN TERMS OF INCREASING AFFORDABLE  
21 HOUSING, THE COUNTY AND THE CITY RIGHT NOW, THEY'RE  
22 LOOKING AT WAYS TO INCREASE THE AVAILABILITY OF AFFORDABLE  
23 HOUSING THROUGH INNOVATIVE LAND USE POLICIES AND SUBSIDIES  
24 FOR HOUSING DEVELOPMENT. JUST RECENTLY, IT WAS BACK IN  
25 OCTOBER -- TOWARD THE END OF OCTOBER OF 2015, THE BOARD

1       CREATED AN AFFORDABLE HOMELESS COORDINATING COMMITTEE TO  
2       REALLY LOOK AT THIS ISSUE ON AN ONGOING BASIS.   SO THAT  
3       WORK IS JUST BEGINNING AS WELL FOR THE COMMITTEE.

4                IN TERMS OF GOING ONTO THE NEXT SLIDE, AND KIND  
5       OF WHAT ARE THE KEY PRINCIPLES THAT CAME OUT OF THESE 18  
6       POLICY SUMMITS.   I THINK THE MAIN ONE THAT RESONATED WAS  
7       COLLABORATE, COLLABORATE, COLLABORATE.   IT TOOK US SEVERAL  
8       YEARS TO GET TO THE HOMELESS CRISIS THAT WE'RE IN RIGHT  
9       NOW AND IT'S GOING TO TAKE A COLLECTION OF EFFORTS AND  
10      INNOVATIVE IDEAS TO BASICALLY COME UP WITH SOLUTIONS TO  
11      MOVE US OUT OF THIS CRISIS.

12               WE ALSO DIDN'T WANT TO REINVENT THE WHEEL.   WE  
13      HEARD VERY, VERY STRONGLY AT THESE SUMMITS, YOU KNOW,  
14      THERE ARE PROVEN STRATEGIES THAT WORK, LIKE HOUSING FIRST  
15      MODELS AND RAPID REHOUSING, PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING.  
16      SO THOSE ARE THE THINGS THAT WE TRIED TO INVEST IN.   WE  
17      ALSO KNOW THAT WE NEED TO LEVERAGE OUR MAINSTREAM SERVICES  
18      SUCH AS HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH, KIND OF SUBSTANCE DISORDER  
19      SERVICES, SOCIAL SERVICES IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SECTOR,  
20      ESPECIALLY NOW WITH THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT AND THE  
21      ENHANCEMENTS FOR THE MEDICAID ELIGIBLE POPULATION.  
22      THERE'S A LOT THAT WE SHOULD BE DRAWING DOWN AND KIND OF  
23      EXPLORING MORE REVENUE OPTIONS IN THAT ARENA.

24               AND THEN THE OTHER THING THAT WE HEARD WAS THAT,  
25      YOU KNOW, SERVICES FOR CLIENTS REALLY NEEDED TO BE

1 CLIENTCENTRIC AND SEAMLESS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.

2 SO THOSE WERE THE MAIN MESSAGES THAT WERE COMING  
3 OUT OF THE SUMMITS.

4 SO IN LOOKING AT THE 47 STRATEGIES THAT ARE  
5 BROKEN UP INTO THOSE SIX AREAS, WE LOOKED AT ABOUT 12 THAT  
6 WE THOUGHT IN THE SHORT AND MEDIUM TERM HAD THE LARGEST  
7 IMPACT; NOT TO SAY THAT THE OTHER ONES DON'T, BUT WE  
8 WANTED TO MAKE SURE THAT WE COULD MOVE THESE ONES AS  
9 QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE SO WE COINED THESE PHASE ONE  
10 STRATEGIES. AND I'LL JUST GO OVER A FEW OF THEM REALLY  
11 QUICKLY.

12 THE HOMELESS PREVENTION PROGRAM FOR FAMILIES,  
13 THIS IS A COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY TO HELP FAMILIES WHO ARE  
14 ON THE VERGE OF HOMELESSNESS. AND IT COULD BE A GOOD ONE  
15 TO PARTNER WITH FIRST 5 ON VIA YOUR HOME VISITATION  
16 PROGRAM FOR FAMILIES WHO MIGHT BE AT RISK OF HOMELESS OR  
17 PRECARIOUSLY HOUSED THAT YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT. LAHSA  
18 RIGHT NOW IS WORKING WITH FAMILIES THAT HAVE LOST THEIR  
19 HOUSING THROUGH THE HOMELESS FAMILY SOLUTION SYSTEM, BUT  
20 THERE'S NOT REALLY A UNIFORM APPROACH. THE COUNTY HASN'T  
21 EMBARKED ON ONE AND THERE'S NOT ONE THROUGH KIND OF THE  
22 OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS THAT EXIST WHERE IT'S A SEAMLESS  
23 KIND OF PREVENTION PROGRAM FOR FAMILIES -- IT'S VERY KIND  
24 OF NEW -- AS WELL AS FOR SINGLE ADULTS. BUT THIS ONE IS  
25 BASICALLY FOCUSED JUST ON FAMILIES.

1 THE NEXT ONE THAT WE'RE LOOKING AT IS PROVIDING  
2 SUBSIDIZED HOUSING TO HOMELESS DISABLED INDIVIDUALS  
3 PURSUING SSI. AND THAT'S REALLY AIMED AT MAXIMIZING THE  
4 NUMBER OF DISABLED HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS APPLYING FOR SSI.  
5 AND DURING THAT TIME, ONCE THEY GET IT, WE CAN RECOVER THE  
6 SSI, BASICALLY THE ASSISTANCE THAT THEY GOT. IT'S CALLED  
7 INTERIM ASSISTANCE REIMBURSEMENT. SO THAT'S SOMETHING  
8 THAT WE'RE EXPLORING AS WELL.

9 B3, WHICH IS OUR RAPID REHOUSING ONE. WE KNOW  
10 THAT RAPID REHOUSING IS A VERY EFFECTIVE INTERVENTION FOR  
11 MORE THAN 50 PERCENT OF THE FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS THAT  
12 HAVE LOW TO MODERATE HOUSING BARRIERS. AND SO THIS IS  
13 ANOTHER ONE THAT WE'RE INVESTING HEAVILY IN TO HELP  
14 FAMILIES GET BACK ON THEIR FEET QUICKLY.

15 THE NEXT ONE IN TERMS OF LOOKING AT THE  
16 UTILIZATION OF FEDERAL HOUSING SUBSIDIES. THIS IS ONE  
17 THAT FOLKS WERE REALLY EXCITED ABOUT AT SUMMITS AND SAW IT  
18 AS BEING SOMETHING THAT WOULD REALLY HELP IN TERMS OF  
19 SECURING UNITS FOR TENANTS THAT HAVE SUBSIDIES. AND IT'S  
20 -- ONE OF THE WAYS THAT THEY'RE LOOKING AT DOING THAT IS  
21 THROUGH A DAMAGE MITIGATION FUND. SO WHERE A TENANT  
22 CAUSES DAMAGE TO A UNIT, THAT THERE WOULD BE A FUND TO  
23 REPAIR THOSE DAMAGES. THEY'RE ALSO LOOKING AT VACANCY  
24 PAYMENTS TO HOLD UNITS SO WE DON'T LOSE UNITS WHILE WE'RE  
25 IDENTIFYING CLIENTS TO FILL THOSE UNITS. THE OTHER THING

1 IS, BASICALLY, SECURITY DEPOSITS, HELPING TO LIKE SECURE A  
2 UNIT AND MAKING SURE THAT WE HAVE FUNDS TO DO THAT.

3 SO THE LAST -- ACTUALLY, THERE ARE JUST TWO MORE  
4 ON THIS LIST AND THEN I'LL GO TO THE NEXT SIX.

5 BUT INTERIM BRIDGE HOUSING. THIS WAS ANOTHER ONE  
6 THAT WAS VERY EXCITING AND IT'S LOOKING AT DEVELOPING A  
7 PLAN TO INCREASE THE INTERIM OR BRIDGE HOUSING THAT'S  
8 AVAILABLE FOR INDIVIDUALS, PARTICULARLY THOSE THAT ARE  
9 LEAVING INSTITUTIONS LIKE THE JAILS AND HOSPITALS AS A  
10 PLACE TO STAY UNTIL THEY CAN SECURE SOME MORE PERMANENT  
11 KIND OF STABLE HOUSING. SO THAT'S ONE IS ANOTHER ONE THAT  
12 RAISED A LOT OF INTEREST.

13 HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHERS FOR PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE  
14 HOUSING. THIS ONE WAS ALSO VERY EXCITING. IT'S LOOKING  
15 AT A WAY OF PRIORITIZING THOSE SECTION 8 VOUCHERS AND  
16 PROJECT BASED VOUCHERS FOR CHRONICALLY HOMELESS  
17 INDIVIDUALS. SO NOT ONLY IS OUR HOUSING AUTHORITY LOOKING  
18 AT IT, BUT THE CITY'S HOUSING AUTHORITY. WE'RE HOPING  
19 THAT OTHER HOUSING AUTHORITIES WILL ALSO BE PARTICIPATING.

20 THE NEXT GROUP OF SIX ON -- WE HAD ONE THAT WAS  
21 LOOKING AT BASICALLY SOCIAL ENTERPRISE, HOW WE WOULD  
22 ENHANCE SOCIAL ENTERPRISE. AND THESE ARE MISSION-DRIVEN  
23 BUSINESSES THAT ARE FOCUSED ON HIRING AND ASSISTING PEOPLE  
24 THAT HAVE THE GREATEST BARRIERS FOR WORK BY GETTING THEM  
25 JOB READY WITH BASIC SKILLS, TRAINING. SO THERE'S ONE

1 THAT'S REALLY LOOKING AT THIS TO MOVE KIND OF HOMELESS  
2 CLIENTS INTO MORE MAINSTREAM JOBS AND SERVICES, THOSE THAT  
3 HAVE THE ABILITY TO GO IN THAT DIRECTION. THE OTHER ONE  
4 THAT WE'RE LOOKING AT IS EXPANDING THE JAIL AND REACH  
5 PROGRAM FOR HOMELESS -- BASICALLY HOMELESS INMATES, MAKING  
6 SURE THAT THEY'RE GETTING THE HELP, THE MENTAL HELP, THE  
7 SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER SERVICES WHILE THEY'RE INCARCERATED  
8 AND THEN ONCE THEY'RE RELEASED AND REINTEGRATED BACK INTO  
9 THE COMMUNITY, MAKING SURE THAT THOSE SUPPORTS CONTINUE SO  
10 THEY DON'T RECIDIVATE AND THEY HAVE BETTER OUTCOMES.

11 WE'RE ALSO LOOKING AT -- IT'S KIND OF A JOINT  
12 STRATEGY, A FIRST RESPONDERS TRAINING AND  
13 DECRIMINALIZATION POLICY. AND THIS IS AGAIN LOOKING AT  
14 DEVELOPING KIND OF A UNIFORM TRAINING PROGRAM FOR LAW  
15 ENFORCEMENT, FIRE, PARAMEDICS, FIRST RESPONDERS THAT ARE  
16 COMING IN CONTACT WITH HOMELESS POPULATIONS AND HAVING A  
17 PROTOCOL TO ADDRESS THOSE HOMELESS POPULATIONS,  
18 PARTICULARLY THOSE THAT ARE DEALING WITH ENGAGING THEIR  
19 FOLKS THAT ARE IN ENCAMPMENTS AS WELL AS LOOKING AT A  
20 DECRIMINALIZATION POLICY SO THAT WE'RE NOT PENALIZING  
21 HOMELESS FOLKS FOR BEING HOMELESS. AND THAT'S BEEN --  
22 JUST ACTUALLY THERE WAS AN ARTICLE IN THE LA TIMES TODAY  
23 ON THAT.

24 THE NEXT ONE IS LOOKING AT CREATING A COUNTYWIDE  
25 OUTREACH SYSTEM. AND AGAIN, THERE'S SO MANY DIFFERENT

1       OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT TEAMS RIGHT NOW THAT ARE GOING OUT  
2       AND ENGAGING HOMELESS FOLKS. WE'RE LOOKING AT REALLY  
3       COORDINATING KIND OF MULTIDISCIPLINARY OUTREACH AND  
4       ENGAGEMENT TEAMS TO KIND OF HAVE THE SAME MISSION, THE  
5       SAME FOCUS, USE THE SAME STRATEGIES TO MOVE FOLK INTO  
6       PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING.

7               AND THEN THE LAST ONE, ENHANCE THE EMERGENCY  
8       SHELTERS SYSTEM, THIS IS REALLY TO KEEP SHELTERS OPEN  
9       24/7. WE KNOW THAT SOME OF THE PROBLEMS WHEN FOLKS ARE  
10      GOING OUT ON THESE OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT TEAMS AND  
11      CONNECTING WITH HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS AND THEN A HOUSING  
12      SPOT OPENS UP, IT'S OFTEN DIFFICULT TO GO BACK OUT IN THE  
13      COMMUNITY AND FIND THESE FOLKS. IF WE HAVE A PLACE WHERE  
14      THEY CAN GO, LIKE THE SHELTERS AND THEY'RE THERE KIND OF,  
15      YOU KNOW, FOR A COUPLE OF DAYS, WE'RE ABLE TO THEN  
16      IDENTIFY THEM THERE AND MOVE THEM INTO HOUSING. SO IT'S  
17      ALSO A WAY TO ESTABLISH A CONNECTION WITH THEM AND GET  
18      THEM IN A CENTRAL LOCATION WHERE IT'S EASIER TO FIND THEM  
19      ONCE A UNIT DOES OPEN UP.

20             SO THOSE WERE THE 12 PRIORITY STRATEGIES THAT WE  
21      IDENTIFIED OR THE FIRST PHASE ONE STRATEGIES THAT WE'RE  
22      LOOKING AT IMPLEMENTING BY JUNE 30TH OF 2016. SO THE --  
23      THE HOMELESS INITIATIVE, IN TERMS OF BRINGING TOGETHER SO  
24      MANY DIFFERENT CITIES, COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS,  
25      COUNTY DEPARTMENTS. THE CITY OF LA WAS -- WAS CLOSELY

1 INVOLVED IN OUR PLANNING PROCESS AND ATTENDED I'D SAY  
2 PRETTY MUCH EVERY SUMMIT THAT WE HAD. IT'S REALLY A  
3 UNIQUE WAY FOR CITIES RIGHT NOW TO CONTRIBUTE TO SOME OF  
4 THESE STRATEGIES. AND SOME OF THE KEY ONES THAT WE'VE  
5 IDENTIFIED ARE, YOU KNOW, PARTICIPATING IN TERMS OF OUR  
6 RAPID REHOUSING ONE BY IDENTIFYING FUNDING IN TERMS OF  
7 MATCHING. THERE IS -- THE OTHER ONE IN TERMS OF THE  
8 FEDERAL HOUSING SUBSIDIES AND BEING ABLE TO PLACE  
9 CHRONICALLY HOMELESS FOLKS IN A PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE  
10 HOUSING THROUGH THESE SECTION 8 AND PROJECT-BASED  
11 VOUCHERS.

12 WE'RE ALSO LOOKING, LIKE I SAID, AT THE WAY THAT  
13 WE TRAIN AND RESPOND TO HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS IN  
14 ENCAMPMENTS AND HAVING SOME KIND OF UNIFORM TRAINING  
15 POLICY FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT, AS WELL AS KIND OF INNOVATIVE  
16 WAYS TO LOOK AT SOME OF THE LAND USE POLICY THAT WE HAVE  
17 ON, YOU KNOW, SECOND DWELLING UNITS, USING COUNTY LAND TO  
18 BASICALLY BUILD HOUSING OR SOME KIND OF TEMPORARY HOUSING  
19 TO HOUSE HOMELESS FOLKS.

20 SO THESE ARE SOME OF THE STRATEGIES THAT WE SEE  
21 THAT THERE'S AN ABILITY TO PARTNER WITH THE CITIES. AND  
22 WE HAVE A CITY SUMMIT PLANNED THE END OF MARCH, MARCH  
23 31ST, IN THE CITY OF SOUTH GATE. SO IN ALL, 88 CITIES ARE  
24 INVITED TO THIS. SO THERE WILL BE MORE DISCUSSIONS AROUND  
25 SOME OF THESE STRATEGIES IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

1           IN TERMS OF OVERALL FUNDING, WE LOOKED AT KIND OF  
2 -- THERE WAS A RESEARCH ANALYSIS THAT WAS A SUPPLEMENT TO  
3 THE HOMELESS INITIATIVE REPORT THAT WENT FORWARD ON  
4 FEBRUARY 9TH. AND THIS WAS CONDUCTED BY THE CEO SERVICE  
5 INTEGRATION BRANCH. THEY CONDUCTED A STUDY TO DETERMINE  
6 WHAT WERE THE COST OUTLAYS FOR SERVING THE COUNTY'S  
7 HOMELESS POPULATION. AND THIS WAS PARTICULARLY IN FISCAL  
8 YEAR 14-15. AND WHAT THEY FOUND IS THERE ARE, BASICALLY,  
9 SIX COUNTY DEPARTMENTS: DMH, DHS, DPH, DPSS, PROBATION,  
10 AND THE SHERIFF. THEY SPENT CLOSE TO A BILLION TO SERVE  
11 HOMELESS SINGLE ADULTS IN ONE FISCAL YEAR. 965 MILLION.  
12 AND OF THOSE FUNDS, 40 PERCENT WERE SPENT ON JUST FIVE  
13 PERCENT OF THE HOMELESS SINGLE ADULTS WITHIN THE STUDY  
14 SAMPLE.

15           SO BY TARGETING HOUSING AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES,  
16 SO THESE HIGH USERS OF COUNTY SERVICES, WE WOULD BE ABLE  
17 TO REINVEST THESE FUNDS AND BE ABLE TO SERVE ADDITIONAL  
18 PEOPLE. SO THIS WAS KIND OF DEFINITELY EYE OPENING FOR US  
19 AND IT WAS REALLY GREAT RESEARCH THAT THE CEO'S SERVICE  
20 INTEGRATION BRANCH CONDUCTED.

21           THE LAST SLIDE, JUST TO GIVE YOU AN IDEA IN TERMS  
22 OF THE FUNDING THAT WAS COMMITTED TO THE PLAN, IT WAS 99.7  
23 MILLION ONE TIME-GENERAL FUND. 55.7 MILLION WAS ADDED  
24 THROUGH THIS HOMELESS INITIATIVE. EARLIER IN THE YEAR, WE  
25 HAD 50 MILLION ADDED IN BASE FUNDING AND THEN WE ALSO HAD

1 SOME CATEGORICAL FUNDING THAT WAS COMING THROUGH  
2 DEPARTMENTS AB109, SB678, AND WE HAD SOME CALWORKS  
3 FUNDING.

4 AND IN TERMS OF LOOKING AT ONGOING FUNDING, THERE  
5 WAS JUST ACTUALLY A MOTION THAT WAS ADOPTED AT THE BOARD  
6 ON TUESDAY, AND IT WAS TO LOOK AT KIND OF NEW  
7 REVENUE-GENERATING IDEAS. AND WE'RE TO COME BACK IN ABOUT  
8 30 DAYS IN TERMS OF MAYBE HAVING A TAX SIMILAR TO WHAT  
9 PROP 63 HAD. SO WE'LL BE REPORTING BACK ON THAT IN ABOUT  
10 30 DAYS AS WELL AS POLING TO SEE WHAT OTHER KIND OF  
11 REVENUE-GENERATING OPPORTUNITIES MIGHT VOTERS BE AMENABLE  
12 TO IN THE FUTURE TO RAISE ADDITIONAL FUNDS TO SUPPORT  
13 THESE STRATEGIES.

14 SO, BASICALLY, JUST IN CONCLUSION, ALL OF THE  
15 INFORMATION -- AND, UNFORTUNATELY, IT'S NOT CAPTURED IN  
16 THIS POWERPOINT, BUT OUR INFORMATION IS ON A WEB SITE.  
17 IT'S ON THE LA COUNTY WEB SITE. AND I CAN SEND ACTUALLY,  
18 JOHN, IT TO YOU TO SEND TO FOLKS. IT'S  
19 [HTTP://PRIORITIES.LACOUNTY.GOV/HOMELESS/](http://PRIORITIES.LACOUNTY.GOV/HOMELESS/).

20 I CAN SEND IT OUT IF ANY--

21 MS. BELSHE: IF YOU SEND IT TO JOHN, WE'LL GET  
22 IT.

23 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: YEAH. THAT WAS KIND OF  
24 HARD.

25 MS. BLACHER: IT'S VERY FAST I KNOW.

1           COMMISSIONER DENNIS:    THANK YOU, LESLIE.    AND  
2    THANK YOU FOR CAPTURING A WHOLE LOT OF INFORMATION IN A  
3    SHORT PERIOD OF TIME.

4           QUESTIONS BY COMMISSIONERS?    JUDY.

5           COMMISSIONER ABDO:    HOW ARE YOU COORDINATING WITH  
6    THE CITIES, PARTICULARLY THE CITY OF LA?    WE ALL READ THE  
7    ARTICLE THAT THEY DON'T HAVE THE MONEY THAT THEY PROMISED.  
8    SO WHAT ARE YOU -- WHAT ARE YOU DOING ABOUT IT?

9           MS. BLACHER:    I CAN TELL YOU WE'VE BEEN MEETING  
10   WITH -- SO THE CITY OF LA HAS BEEN VERY INVOLVED IN ALL OF  
11   OUR SUMMITS.    AND WHEN YOU LOOK AT CITY PLAN, THEY HAVE A  
12   VERY SIMILAR TEMPLATE TO THE ONE THAT WE USED TO REPORT  
13   OUR STRATEGIES.    WE HAVE REGULAR MEETINGS WITH THE CITY IN  
14   TERMS OF TALKING ABOUT HOW WE'RE COORDINATING OUR  
15   STRATEGIES AND LEVERAGING KIND RESOURCES AS EFFECTIVELY AS  
16   WE POSSIBLY CAN.    SO THERE'S MORE COORDINATION THAN HAS  
17   EVER OCCURRED BEFORE.    AND IN FACT, JUST THIS WEEK MIGUEL  
18   SANTANA, THE CEO FROM THE CITY, AND THEN PHIL ANSELL, WHO  
19   IS THE DIRECTOR OVER THE HOMELESS INITIATIVE AT THE  
20   COUNTY, THEY WERE UP TESTIFYING IN SACRAMENTO TOGETHER  
21   SIDE BY SIDE.

22           SO THERE IS A LOT OF COORDINATION.    IT'S NEVER  
23   HAPPENED TO THIS LEVEL BEFORE, BUT IT'S HAPPENING.    SO WE  
24   HAVE A NUMBER OF CROSS-OVER STRATEGIES THAT WE'RE KIND OF  
25   MAPPING AND TALKING ABOUT, HOW DO WE IMPLEMENT THEM SO

1       THEY MAKE SENSE, WE'RE NOT KIND OF BIFURCATING RESOURCES.  
2       SO WE'RE VERY AWARE OF THAT AND WORKING VERY CLOSELY WITH  
3       THAT.

4               COMMISSIONER DENNIS:    DEANNE.

5               COMMISSIONER TILTON:    OBVIOUSLY, I'M CONCERNED  
6       ABOUT FAMILIES AND THAT WE'RE SPENDING ALL THIS MONEY ON  
7       FIVE PERCENT OF THE SINGLE ADULTS.

8               SO FIRST OF ALL, I HAD ANOTHER QUESTION.  IS THE  
9       INVESTMENT BY LAW ENFORCEMENT THE JAILS THE -- BASICALLY,  
10      INCARCERATED HOMELESS PEOPLE?  IS THAT THEIR HOMELESS  
11      SERVICE EXPENDITURE?  OR ARE THEY PARTICULARLY REACHING  
12      OUT TO PROVIDE SERVICES?

13              MS. BLACHER:  NO.  THERE ARE SERVICES THAT ARE  
14      PROVIDED WITHIN THE JAILS.  LIKE I SAID, THIS -- THROUGH  
15      THE JAIL AND REACH PROGRAM.

16              COMMISSIONER TILTON:  BUT THEY'RE INCARCERATED.

17              MS. BLACHER:  THEY'RE INCARCERATED.  SO THESE ARE  
18      FOLKS WHO HAVE BEEN INCARCERATED THAT WERE PREVIOUSLY  
19      HOMELESS, WILL BE HOMELESS ONCE THEY'RE RELEASED.  AND  
20      PROGRAMS LIKE JAIL AND REACH MAKE SURE THAT THEY GET ALL  
21      THE SERVICES THAT THEY NEED AND THAT THERE'S SOME KIND OF  
22      SEAMLESS TRANSITION ONCE THEY REINTEGRATE INTO THE  
23      COMMUNITY SO THEY CONTINUE TO GET THOSE SERVICES.

24              COMMISSIONER TILTON:  I KNOW THERE'S A NEW  
25      FATHER'S PROGRAM GRANT THAT FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS GIVEN

1 FRIENDS OUTSIDE \$5 MILLION JUST TO FOCUS ON FATHERS WHEN  
2 THEY'RE RELEASED FROM JAIL AND WHERE THEY GO INTO THE  
3 COMMUNITY AND IT'S MOSTLY FOR THAT SOUTH CENTRAL AREA, BUT  
4 HOMELESSNESS WOULD BE A NUMBER ONE PRIORITY. I MEAN,  
5 HAVING A HOME AND THEN REUNITING WITH THE FAMILY, WHICH IS  
6 TOUGH, BECAUSE THAT INVOLVES A WHOLE LOT OF OTHER ISSUES,  
7 NOT JUST FINDING A PLACE, BUT MAKING SURE THEY'RE CAPABLE  
8 OF TAKING CARE. SO THAT WAS MY QUESTION ABOUT WHAT LAW  
9 ENFORCEMENT WAS SPENDING MONEY ON.

10 SO GETTING BACK TO TRYING TO REACH OUT TO OTHER  
11 THAN THE SINGLE ADULTS, SOME OF THESE SINGLE ADULTS MAY BE  
12 WOMEN WHO ARE VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?

13 MS. BLACHER: CORRECT.

14 COMMISSIONER TILTON: SO DO WE HAVE ANY  
15 PERSPECTIVE ON THE PERCENTAGE OF THESE SINGLE ADULTS ARE  
16 VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE? IS THAT BEING TRACKED IN  
17 ANY WAY?

18 AND I ALSO HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT PETS. I REALLY  
19 WORRY ABOUT FAMILIES NOT -- LOSING THEIR PETS. AND, OF  
20 COURSE, KIDS GOING INTO FOSTER CARE LOSE PETS. BUT  
21 OVERALL, I THINK WE FORGET THAT THERE ARE CONNECTIONS THAT  
22 FAMILIES HAVE AND CHILDREN HAVE AND OLDER CHILDREN. HAS  
23 ANYBODY EVER BROUGHT THIS UP? IS THERE ANY RESOURCE --

24 MS. BLACHER: THERE ACTUALLY IS. IT'S FUNNY THAT  
25 YOU BRING THAT UP. SO WITHIN THE ENHANCE THE EMERGENCY

1 SHELTER SYSTEM RECOMMENDATION, THAT WAS -- THAT WAS  
2 CONSIDERED. AND ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL IS A PARTNER IN  
3 THAT. AND WE ARE LOOKING AT MAKING SURE WE HAVE -- IF --  
4 IF HAVE YOU A FAMILIES THAT'S GOING INTO SHELTER, THAT  
5 THERE'S A PLACE FOR THEIR PETS TO BE HOUSED WHILE THEY'RE  
6 IN SHELTER. SO THAT IS CONSIDERED.

7 YOUR QUESTION REGARDING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, WE ARE  
8 TRACKING THAT. SO THERE ARE -- THROUGH THE LOS ANGELES  
9 HOMELESS SERVICES AUTHORITY, THROUGH THEIR HOMELESS  
10 MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM, THEY DO TRACK. BASICALLY,  
11 THERE ARE SPECIALLY SHELTERS THAT ARE DESIGNED FOR VICTIMS  
12 THAT ARE FLEEING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE. SO THOSE NUMBERS ARE  
13 BEING TRACKED AND THERE ARE SERVICES AVAILABLE THROUGH THE  
14 SHELTER SYSTEM.

15 COMMISSIONER TILTON: -- AND THEN THERE ARE  
16 SERVICES.

17 SO THE DEMOGRAPHIC OF THE 95 PERCENT HOMELESS, IS  
18 THAT FIVE PERCENT OF HOMELESS SINGLE ADULTS, WHAT --

19 MS. BLACHER: SO IT'S -- WITHIN THE MONEY THAT WE  
20 WERE SPENDING, JUST A HUGE PROPORTION OF THAT IS GOING ON  
21 FREQUENT USERS, SINGLE ADULTS. SO THESE ARE BASICALLY THE  
22 FOLKS THAT YOU'RE SEEING OUT ON THE STREETS THAT ARE  
23 CIRCLING THROUGH THE ERS. LIKE IT'S NOT ONE VISIT, IT'S  
24 NOT TWO VISITS, IT'S 30, 40, 50 VISITS. AND, BASICALLY,  
25 THEY'RE KIND OF OUTREACH TEAMS RIGHT NOW. THERE'S AN

1 ENDEAVOR IN THE SKID ROW AREA CALLED C-3, CITY COUNTY  
2 COMMUNITY, WHERE THEY'RE BASICALLY TARGETING SKID ROW INTO  
3 QUADRANTS. THEY'RE GOING OUT IN TEAMS EVERY DAY. THEY'RE  
4 ESTABLISHING KIND OF RAPPORT RELATIONSHIP. THEY'RE CASE  
5 MANAGING THESE FOLKS, TRACKING WHERE THEY ARE TO TRY AND  
6 MOVE THEM INTO PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING.

7 SO THE MAJORITY OF THE FOLKS THAT -- THE CITY HAS  
8 A HUGE NUMBER OF FOLKS, OBVIOUSLY, WITHIN THIS AREA THAT  
9 WE'RE TRYING TO MOVE INTO PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING.  
10 AND MY GUESS WOULD BE A LARGE NUMBER OF THEM ARE IN THE  
11 SKID ROW AREA.

12 COMMISSIONER TILTON: WELL, YOU JUST HAVE TO  
13 DRIVE THROUGH THERE TO SEE.

14 MS. BLACHER: EXACTLY.

15 COMMISSIONER TILTON: I HAVE A STAFF MEMBER WHO  
16 WENT OUT TO -- ON THE SURVEY WHERE --

17 MS. BLACHER: THE HOMELESS COUNT?

18 COMMISSIONER TILTON: -- WENT OUT TO COUNT  
19 HOMELESS PEOPLE. I WON'T TALK ABOUT HER FINDINGS BECAUSE  
20 THEY WERE SURPRISING, BUT I JUST DON'T SEE -- I JUST DON'T  
21 FEEL COMFORTABLE THAT WE'RE REALLY ADDRESSING THE PROBLEMS  
22 THAT RESULTED IN THESE PEOPLE BEING HOMELESS. SOME OF  
23 THESE PEOPLE ARE DOCTORS, LAWYERS, SOME OF THEM -- SOME OF  
24 THE FAMILIES -- I LOVE THE VIDEO. THANK YOU FOR SENDING  
25 IT.

1 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: YOU'RE WELCOME.

2 COMMISSIONER TILTON: THE FAMILY WAS -- IT WAS  
3 VERY WONDERFUL TO HAVE THAT VIDEO FOR PEOPLE TO UNDERSTAND  
4 THAT THESE ARE FAMILIES WITH KIDS WHO WEREN'T JUST BUMS,  
5 YOU KNOW. THEY'RE NOT JUST PEOPLE WHO DON'T WANT TO GET  
6 UP AND, YOU KNOW, MAKE A LIVING, BUT PEOPLE THAT ARE  
7 FAMILIES. AND THEN THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO ARE PROBABLY THE  
8 FIVE PERCENT WHO IN ANY FORESEEABLE FUTURE PROBABLY WILL  
9 NOT ESCAPE THIS TERRIBLE CYCLE OF HOMELESSNESS THAT --  
10 THAT IS A WAY OF LIFE FOR PEOPLE THAT JUST FOLD INTO  
11 THEMSELVES AND AREN'T SO REACHABLE. BUT THE ONES THAT ARE  
12 REACHABLE, WE SHOULD BE SPENDING 95 PERCENT ON THEM.

13 SO THAT'S MY THOUGHTS.

14 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: THAT'S A COMMON THOUGHT.  
15 NANCY.

16 COMMISSIONER AU: WELL, I APPRECIATE YOUR TRAIN  
17 OF QUESTION BECAUSE IT WAS PROBABLY WHAT I WANTED.

18 DO YOU HAVE IN YOUR REPORT A PROFILE OF THE  
19 HOMELESS SO THAT WE HAVE A BETTER SENSE OF, WHEN YOU TALK  
20 ABOUT THE FIVE PERCENT, THE SINGLE ENTITIES THAT ARE  
21 UTILIZING 95 PERCENT OF THE RESOURCES? IT'S HELPFUL TO  
22 SORT OF GET A BETTER SENSE OF WHAT YOU'RE DEALING WITH  
23 BECAUSE I -- YOU MENTIONED THE JAILS -- I MEAN, THE  
24 SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT. THE WHOLE BULK OF THEM MUST  
25 NORTHBOUND LAPD. AND DID WE GET THAT DATA INTO THE MIX IN

1 TERMS OF WHAT RESOURCES THEY'RE UTILIZING?

2 MS. BLACHER: YEAH. YOU KNOW, SO THIS IS  
3 OBVIOUSLY A FIRST ATTEMPT AT KIND OF LOOKING AT WHAT ARE  
4 THE OVERALL COST OUTLAYS THAT WE'RE SPENDING PER YEAR AND  
5 SEEING IF THERE'S A WAY THAT WE CAN BASICALLY, YOU KNOW,  
6 UTILIZE THESE RESOURCES MORE EFFECTIVELY. SO IT'S VERY --  
7 THERE PROBABLY WILL BE ADDITIONAL, YOU KNOW, RESEARCH  
8 EVALUATIONS THAT LOOK AT MORE OF THE COMPOSITION OF THE  
9 POPULATION, BUT THIS WAS JUST LOOKING AT THE FOLKS THAT  
10 WERE COMING IN FROM DEPARTMENTS, LOOKING AT CLIENTS THAT  
11 ARE BEING SERVED AND WHAT ARE THE COSTS.

12 SO THAT WAS THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF THE  
13 EVALUATION.

14 COMMISSIONER AU: I -- I GUESS IT'S -- IT'S  
15 REALLY DAUNTING, AS DEANNE REFERENCED, BECAUSE THE OTHER  
16 PIECE TO IT IS ULTIMATELY VARIETY OF CHALLENGES EACH ONE  
17 OF THEM ARE EXPERIENCING, WHETHER IT'S MENTAL HEALTH  
18 ISSUES OR SUBSTANCE ABUSE ISSUES, AND OTHER SOCIAL  
19 EMOTIONAL ISSUES THAT THEY'RE STRUGGLING WITH THAT PUT  
20 THEM ON THE PATHWAY TO BECOME HOMELESS THAT CLEARLY WE'RE  
21 JUST SORT OF GLOSSING OVER THE SURFACE AND OUR RESPONSE IS  
22 ESSENTIALLY NOT GOING TO GET AT THE MEAT OF IT.

23 MS. BLACHER: WELL, THERE ARE PROGRAMS RIGHT NOW  
24 THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES HAS A PROGRAM  
25 HOUSING FOR HEALTH. THEY'RE WORKING VERY CLOSELY WITH THE

1 C-3 OUTREACH TEAMS IN THE SKID ROW AREA. AND I MEAN, THE  
2 RECIPE REALLY IS, ESPECIALLY FOR THOSE FOLKS THAT ARE  
3 CHRONICALLY HOMELESS, THAT HAVE SEVERE MENTAL HEALTH  
4 ISSUES, HAVE SEVERE SUBSTANCE USE ISSUES, HEALTH ISSUES,  
5 IT'S REALLY GETTING THEM INTO PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE  
6 HOUSING.

7 IT'S -- YOU FIRST HOUSE THEM. YOU'RE NOT GOING  
8 TO, YOU KNOW, SET PRECONDITIONS ON HOUSING THEM BY HAVING  
9 THEM, YOU KNOW, CLEAR UP THEIR SUBSTANCE USE PROBLEMS  
10 BECAUSE THEY'RE NOT GOING TO BEFORE THEY GET INTO HOUSING.  
11 YOU HOUSE THEM AND THEN YOU START WRAPPING THE SERVICES  
12 AROUND THEM. THESE SERVICES DON'T TAPER OFF REALLY. I  
13 MEAN, YOU CAN HAVE FOLKS THAT MAYBE CAN STEP DOWN WITHIN  
14 PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING AND NOT HAVE AS MANY  
15 SUPPORTIVE SERVICES AND CASE MANAGEMENT WRAPPED AROUND  
16 THEM. BUT WITHOUT THAT CASE MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORTIVE  
17 SERVICE, YOU'RE NOT GOING TO KEEP THEM IN HOUSING. AND  
18 WE'VE SEEN THAT TIME AND TIME AGAIN.

19 AND IT'S WORKING. WHEN YOU LOOK AT THE HOUSING  
20 FOR HEALTH PROGRAMS STATS, THEY ARE WORKING. THEY'RE  
21 KEEPING 95 PERCENT OR 97 PERCENT OF THE PEOPLE THAT THEY  
22 -- THE PEOPLE THAT THEY PUT INTO HOUSING HOUSED AND THEIR  
23 NUMBERS KEEP GETTING BETTER AND BETTER EVERY YEAR.

24 COMMISSIONER AU: IT'S INTERESTING HOW I SAW THE  
25 RECENTLY THE FRONTLINE PROGRAM ON -- ON SUBSTANCE ABUSE OR

1 HEROIN USE OR HEROIN EPIDEMIC. THEY FOCUSED IN ON SEATTLE  
2 AS A SITE WITHIN TO TRACK SOME OF THAT ISSUE. AND ONE OF  
3 THE THINGS -- THE TAKEAWAY THAT I GOT FROM THAT IS,  
4 SIMILARLY, THAT THERE IS A -- A BRAIN PREDISPOSITION TO  
5 ADDICTIVE BEHAVIOR. AND THEY SAID PROBABLY THE BEST WAY  
6 TO ADDRESS SUBSTANCE ABUSE ISSUES IS THE PREVENTION MODE,  
7 YOU KNOW, TO PREVENT FOLKS FROM EVEN BECOMING ADDICTED.

8 SIMILAR, I THINK WITH HOMELESSNESS. THERE'S  
9 MAYBE A COMPONENT OF LOOKING AT OF A -- WHEN YOU SAY  
10 PREVENT HOMELESSNESS, IT'S REALLY LOOKING -- AND WE'RE  
11 BACK TO EARLY CHILDHOOD INDICATORS THAT THERE MAY BE A --  
12 A BRAIN COGNITIVE -- NOT COGNITIVE, BUT A BRAIN SETUP THAT  
13 ALLOWS -- I MEAN, IT MAKE AS A PERSON VULNERABLE IS THE  
14 ONLY WAY TO PUT IT. SOME NEUROLOGICAL BASIS.

15 I KNOW I'M GOING OFF ON A TANGENT HERE, BUT WHEN  
16 YOU TALK ABOUT OTHER HEALTH ISSUES, LIKE PEOPLE WITH  
17 DIABETES OR HEALTH DISEASE OR HEART DISEASE OR OTHER KINDS  
18 OF ISSUES, WE TEND TO NOT -- WE JUST ACCEPT IT AND THEN WE  
19 MANAGE THE SYMPTOMS. WE FIND MEDICATIONS FOR THEM. MAYBE  
20 SOMEWHERE DOWN THE ROAD, AS YOU SAY, IT'S A MATTER OF  
21 BEING ABLE TO SUPPORT THESE INDIVIDUALS THAT ARE  
22 PREDISPOSED TO HAVING HOMELESSNESS.

23 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: NANCY, I WOULD REALLY  
24 CHALLENGE THAT BECAUSE I THINK WE NEED NOT TO GET INTO  
25 THIS NOTION THAT THERE'S A PREDISPOSITION FOR POVERTY OR

1       THERE'S A PREDISPOSITION FOR HOMELESSNESS. I THINK THAT  
2       SAYING GOOD PEOPLE BECOME HOMELESS. I THINK PEOPLE WHO  
3       ARE DOING WELL FIND THEMSELVES HOMELESS. I THINK FAMILIES  
4       WHO HAVE HIGH EXPECTATIONS FOR THEIR CHILDREN FIND  
5       THEMSELVES HOMELESS AND IT'S NOT A RESULT OF ANY  
6       PATHOLOGY. SO I THINK WE BETTER BE CAREFUL WHEN WE GET  
7       INTO THIS TYPE OF SENSIBILITY THAT THERE'S A  
8       PREDISPOSITION.

9               MY QUESTION, LESLIE, GETS INTO SIMILAR TO WHAT  
10       DEANNE AND NANCY WERE SAYING ABOUT, YOU KNOW, IS THERE A  
11       PROFILE FOR FAMILIES, ESPECIALLY FAMILIES WHO HAVE  
12       CHILDREN UNDER FIVE? DO WE KNOW HOW MANY CHILDREN -- HOW  
13       MANY FAMILIES WHERE THERE ARE CHILDREN UNDER FIVE IN THE  
14       SYSTEM?

15               AND MY SECOND QUESTION LINKED TO THAT IS, HOW IS  
16       THE HOMELESS POPULATION SIMILAR TO THE UNEMPLOYMENT  
17       POPULATION? WE ONLY KNOW PEOPLE ARE UNEMPLOYED IF THEY GO  
18       TO THE UNEMPLOYMENT OFFICE, BUT WHEN WE REALLY LOOK AT THE  
19       -- WHEN WE REALLY DEAL WITH REALITY, UNEMPLOYMENT NUMBERS  
20       FAR EXCEED THOSE NUMBERS WHICH WE GET, YOU KNOW, FROM  
21       LABOR AND THAT SORT OF THING. SO IF YOU COULD ADDRESS  
22       BOTH OF THOSE WOULD BE HELPFUL.

23               MS. BLACHER: SURE. SO THE HOMELESS FAMILY  
24       SOLUTION SYSTEMS, FROM WHAT WE'RE BEING TOLD, IS MOST  
25       HOMELESS FAMILIES ARE BEING IDENTIFIED THROUGH THAT

1 SERVICE NETWORK. AND IT'S A VERY GOOD SERVICE NETWORK, SO  
2 WE'RE NOT SEEING AS MANY FAMILIES AT LEAST COME UP ON THE  
3 STREETS. THEY'RE GENERALLY QUICKLY IDENTIFY AND HAD  
4 THEY'RE KIND OF IMMEDIATELY PUT INTO THAT SYSTEM AND  
5 THEY'RE EITHER, YOU KNOW, PUT IN A MOTEL FOR A WEEKEND  
6 UNTIL SOME KIND OF -- MAYBE THEY NEED SOME RAPID REHOUSING  
7 FOR A LITTLE BIT, THEY'VE HAD SOME KIND OF CATASTROPHIC  
8 EVENT HAPPEN, AN ILLNESS OR JOB LOSS AND THEY -- THEY'VE  
9 LOST THEIR HOUSING AND THEY JUST NEED SOME HELP GETTING  
10 BACK ON THEIR FEET. IT'S A VERY SHORT-TERM RENTAL SUBSIDY  
11 VERSUS THOSE THAT MIGHT NEED MORE SUPPORTIVE SERVICES.  
12 MAYBE THEY NEED JOB COUNSELING OR EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT OR  
13 THEY NEED TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL, A NEW TRADE, THAT KIND OF  
14 THING. DEPENDING ON WHAT THE ISSUE IS -- OR A MENTAL  
15 HEALTH ISSUE OR A SUBSTANCE USE ISSUE, IT CAN BE FOR  
16 LONGER.

17 BUT GENERALLY WE'RE HEARING THAT HOMELESS  
18 FAMILIES ARE BEING IDENTIFIED PRETTY QUICKLY, ESPECIALLY  
19 WHEN THEY SHOW UP TO SHELTERS, THEY CALL INTO 211.  
20 THERE'S A PRETTY GOOD SAFETY NET IN TERMS OF MOVING THOSE  
21 FAMILIES QUICKLY.

22 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: SO THE FAMILIES ARE AT  
23 LEAST BEING IDENTIFIED SO WE KNOW THAT --

24 I'M SORRY. THAT WAS MY -- SO THAT -- THAT HELPS  
25 US WITH THE WORK THAT WE DO HERE AT FIRST 5 BECAUSE, IF WE

1 CAN IDENTIFY FAMILIES WHO HAVE CHILDREN UNDER FIVE, THAT  
2 COULD GIVE US AN IDEA OF HOW TO TARGET MAYBE SOME OF THE  
3 WORK WE WOULD WANT TO DO GOING FORWARD. AND SO -- I MEAN,  
4 THAT INFORMATION IS REALLY EXTREMELY HELPFUL FOR US. YOU  
5 KNOW, THE NUMBER OF FAMILIES WHO HAVE YOUNG CHILDREN AND  
6 THE AGES OF THOSE CHILDREN WOULD BE EXTREMELY AN ASSET TO  
7 THE WORK THAT WE DO.

8 MS. BLACHER: RIGHT. AND WE CAN DEFINITELY GET  
9 THAT INFORMATION FOR YOU. I THINK AN AREA THAT IS WORTH  
10 EXPLORING AND IN TERMS OF HAVING RESEARCH DONE IN TERMS OF  
11 PREVENTION OVERALL FOR THOSE FAMILIES WHERE, YOU KNOW,  
12 THEY'RE AT IMMINENT RISK OF LOSING THEIR HOUSING AND KIND  
13 OF DIVERTING THEM FROM COMING INTO THE SYSTEM, THAT'S THE  
14 BEST POSSIBLE OUTCOME. WHEN A FAMILY IS ON THE VERGE AND  
15 MAYBE THEY HAVE A WEEK OR TWO WEEKS TO LOSE THEIR HOUSING,  
16 HAVING AN ABILITY -- AND IT COULD BE MAYBE THERE'S AN  
17 ISSUE WITH THE LANDLORD, HAVING LEGAL SERVICES THERE TO  
18 HELP SUPPORT THEM SO THEY DON'T LOSE THEIR HOUSING.  
19 THAT'S THE MAIN THING. WE DON'T WANT THEM TO SHOW UP AT  
20 OUR DOORSTEP AFTER THEY'VE LOST THEIR HOUSING.

21 SO THERE'S BEEN PHILANTHROPY AND OTHER FOLKS  
22 WITHIN, YOU KNOW, THE HOMELESS SERVICES CONTINUUM. THERE  
23 HASN'T BEEN A LOT OF WORK ON PREVENTION. AND PEOPLE SHY  
24 AWAY FROM THAT, BUT THAT'S A HUGE NEED. AND THAT'S  
25 SOMETHING RIGHT THAT UNITED WAY IS ALSO KIND OF PARTNERING

1 WITH US ON AND TRYING TO EXPLORE THAT A LITTLE BIT MORE.  
2 BUT THE BEST OUTCOME IS PREVENTING THEM FROM COMING INTO  
3 THE SYSTEM. THAT'S THE BEST OUTCOME.

4 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: THANK YOU.

5 CINDY, TRISH, JUDY.

6 COMMISSIONER HARDING: SO I WAS JUST GOING TO  
7 BUILD ON WHAT YOU JUST SAID. I COULDN'T AGREE WITH YOU  
8 MORE. PREVENTION IS GOING TO BE ABSOLUTELY KEY BECAUSE I  
9 DON'T THINK WE'LL EVER BUILD OUR WAY OUT OF THIS. I THINK  
10 IN TERMS OF PREVENTION, WE NEED TO THINK ABOUT NOT SO MUCH  
11 THE INDIVIDUALS, BUT THE COMMUNITY CONDITIONS THAT LEAD  
12 PEOPLE TO HOMELESSNESS. AND SO IT'S NOT ABOUT BLAMING THE  
13 INDIVIDUAL, BUT IT'S ABOUT THINKING WHAT WE IN THE SOCIETY  
14 HAVE BUILT AND WHAT ARE THE THINGS THAT WE COULD DO  
15 DIFFERENTLY. SO I THINK YOU'VE GOT THE RIGHT SET OF  
16 INITIATIVES HERE BECAUSE I SAW IN THAT YOU'RE LOOKING AT  
17 DEVELOPMENT AND OTHER AREAS IN WHICH WE CAN BE THINKING  
18 ABOUT, HOW DO WE MAKE SURE THERE'S MORE AFFORDABLE HOUSING  
19 INCLUDED IN, AND OTHER KINDS OF ISSUES THAT WILL ADDRESS  
20 THAT BECAUSE I THINK, IF WE DON'T FOCUS IN ON THE  
21 PREVENTION, WE'RE GOING TO -- WE'RE NEVER GOING TO BE ABLE  
22 TO SERVE EVERYBODY WHO NEEDS IT. WE'RE NEVER GOING TO  
23 HAVE ENOUGH MONEY. WE NEED TO BE THINKING ABOUT THAT.

24 IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY SEEN IT, I THINK FIRST 5  
25 LA DID A FABULOUS JOB IN TERMS OF THEIR EVALUATION OF

1 THEIR INITIATIVE AND INVESTING IN THIS. IT GIVES YOU A  
2 LOST INSIGHT INTO WHAT WE NEED TO FOCUS IN ON IN  
3 PREVENTION. ONE OF THE THINGS THAT WE LEARNED FROM TRYING  
4 TO HELP FAMILIES FOR SEVERAL YEARS AND WHAT THEY SAID  
5 WOULD HAVE HELPED THEM INTO FALLING INTO HOMELESSNESS. SO  
6 I THINK THAT'S A GREAT PLACE FOR FOLKS TO START WITH  
7 BUILDING THAT. SO I DON'T THINK WE HAVE TO DO A WHOLE LOT  
8 MORE RESEARCH ON IT. THERE'S A LOT OF RESEARCH. LET'S  
9 JUMP INTO AND DELVE INTO THAT DEEPER AND BUILD UPON THAT  
10 AND THEN LEVERAGE THAT TO DEVELOP WHATEVER IS DEVELOPED.

11 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: TRISH AND THEN JUDY.

12 COMMISSIONER CURRY: SO IN LOOKING AT THE NUMBERS  
13 OF HOMELESS, WERE YOU ABLE TO IDENTIFY FORMER FOSTER  
14 YOUTH, PARTICULARLY THOSE WHO WERE MAYBE PREGNANT OR  
15 PARENTING?

16 MS. BLACHER: THEY DIDN'T GET DOWN TO THAT LEVEL  
17 OF ANALYSIS, NO. THAT'S NOT TO SAY IT COULD BE DONE IN  
18 THE FUTURE, BUT THIS INITIAL REPORT DIDN'T GO DOWN TO THAT  
19 KIND OF GRANULARITY.

20 COMMISSIONER CURRY: SO I THINK THAT, WHEN WE  
21 TALK ABOUT SOME OF THE FACTORS THAT CREATE HOMELESSNESS,  
22 AND WE TALKED ABOUT DRUGS AND MENTAL HEALTH, WE NEED TO  
23 ALSO TALK ABOUT THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM AND -- AND THE  
24 EFFECT IT HAS ON CHILDREN LEAVING. AND THE PROBATION  
25 SYSTEM ALSO, THE KIDS LEADING THE PROBATION SYSTEM AND

1 WHAT AFFECTS THAT HAS ON THEM AND HOMELESSNESS.

2 AND I'M WONDERING, WHEN WE TALK ABOUT PHASE ONE  
3 STRATEGIES AND THE HOMELESS PREVENTION PROGRAM FOR  
4 FAMILIES, HOW WILL FIRST 5 AND OUR BEST START INTERACT  
5 WITH THE COUNTY? MAYBE JOHN, I DON'T KNOW IF YOU'RE  
6 TALKING ABOUT THAT.

7 MR. WAGNER: I WILL TALK A LITTLE BIT ABOUT,  
8 YEAH, SOME EARLY THINKING ON THAT.

9 COMMISSIONER CURRY: SO HOW ARE WE GOING TO WORK  
10 WITH --

11 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: JUDY.

12 COMMISSIONER ABDO: I SHARE THE CONCERNS  
13 EVERYBODY HAS RAISED, BUT I ALSO WANT TO ASK WHETHER YOU  
14 LOOKED AT THE ISSUE OF HOMELESS FAMILIES LOSING THEIR  
15 CHILDREN BECAUSE THEY'RE HOMELESS AND THEN FURTHER  
16 BURDENING ALL THE SYSTEMS BECAUSE WE'VE GOT FAMILIES THAT  
17 ARE SEPARATED.

18 MS. BLACHER: YEAH, WE ACTUALLY HAVE A STRATEGY  
19 ON THAT THAT LOOKS AT -- IT'S A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE  
20 DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES AND THE  
21 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES. SO FOR THOSE  
22 FAMILIES WHO HAVE LOST THEIR CHILDREN AND THAT, OBVIOUSLY,  
23 THE CHILDREN CAN'T BE RETURNED BECAUSE THERE ISN'T A  
24 STABLE PLACE FOR THEM TO LIVE, BASICALLY, KIND OF  
25 DEVELOPING ADDITIONAL SUPPORTIVE PROGRAMMING TO HELP

1 RETURN THOSE CHILDREN TO THEIR FAMILIES AND HELP THEM GET  
2 HOUSING. SO THAT IS A -- IT'S OWN STAND ALONE STRATEGY.

3 COMMISSIONER ABDO: I SEE THAT SO CONNECTED TO  
4 PREVENTION. IT'S ONE STEP BEYOND PREVENTING IT HAPPENING,  
5 BUT THE -- THE LENGTH OF TIME OF SEPARATION I THINK SHOULD  
6 BE, YOU KNOW, A PRIORITY TO TRY TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO GET  
7 THAT TO THE SHORTEST PERIOD OF TIME POSSIBLE BECAUSE THOSE  
8 BONDS ARE REALLY IMPORTANT.

9 MS. BLACHER: YEAH.

10 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: ANYWAY.

11 COMMISSIONER CURRY: JUST A FOLLOW-UP ON THAT.  
12 ISN'T THERE A PROGRAM WITH THE CDC AND THE COURTS THAT  
13 FIRST 5 IS INVOLVED IN?

14 MS. MURPHY: EXACTLY. SO WE STARTED TO -- WE  
15 HELPED PILOT THAT PROGRAM AND THAT'S NOW WHAT LESLIE IS  
16 SPEAKING TO THAT THE COUNTY AND DPS ARE LEADING NOW. SO  
17 WHILE WE EXPERIMENTED ESSENTIALLY WITH 24 FAMILIES IN  
18 FORMING THIS PARTNERSHIP, WITH DCFS AN LAHSA AND CDC. NOW  
19 THEY'VE REALLY EMBRACED THAT AT THE COUNTY LEVEL. AND SO  
20 THAT GOOD PILOT WORK NOW IS REALLY BEING EMBRACED AS ONE  
21 OF THE HIGH PRIORITY STRATEGIES.

22 COMMISSIONER CURRY: NICE JOB.

23 COMMISSIONER TILTON: WHAT DOES IT DO?

24 MS. MURPHY: YEAH, SO ESSENTIALLY, AS LESLIE'S  
25 EXPLAINING, WE DON'T HAVE TO WORRY SO MUCH ABOUT CHILDREN

1 BEING SEPARATED FROM FAMILIES PURELY BECAUSE A FAMILY IS  
2 HOMELESS. THEY SHOULD NOT BE REMOVED FOR THOSE  
3 CONDITIONS. WHAT WE'RE FINDING HAPPENING THOUGH IS THAT,  
4 AFTER THE CHILDREN ARE REMOVED FROM THE HOME, THEN  
5 SOMETIMES WE SEE THOSE PARENTS ESSENTIALLY FALL INTO  
6 HOMELESSNESS.

7 OUR CHILDREN'S COURT JUDGES ARE NOW ALLOWED TO  
8 REUNIFY THAT FAMILIES, EVEN IF THE FAMILY IS READY,  
9 THEY'VE GONE THROUGH WHATEVER THE JUDGE ORDERED, THEY'RE  
10 NOT ALLOWED TO REUNIFY THAT FAMILY IF THE PARENTS ARE NOW  
11 HOMELESS. SO THAT'S WHERE, AGAIN, WE WORKED WITH ALL  
12 THESE DIFFERENT PARTNERS TO COME TOGETHER TO FIGURE OUT,  
13 HOW CAN WE HOUSE THOSE FAMILIES. WE HAVE TO BE CAREFUL.  
14 WE DIDN'T WANT TO BE IN THE BUSINESS OF HOUSING PARENTS  
15 WHERE KIDS WEREN'T GOING TO BE WITH THEM. BUT WE WERE  
16 ABLE TO FIGURE OUT THAT, IF WE KNEW FROM THE JUDGE THAT IT  
17 WAS CERTAIN AND IMMINENT THAT THEY WERE GOING TO BE  
18 REUNIFIED, THEN WE WORKED WITH DCFS TO FIGURE OUT HOW  
19 COULD WE CONFIRM THAT AND THEN GO AHEAD AND HOUSE THOSE  
20 FAMILY. SO, AS I SAID, THE COUNTY REALLY IS PICKING THAT  
21 UP AND DCFS AND LAHSA ARE REALLY LEADING THAT STRATEGY.

22 COMMISSIONER TILTON: SO NO KIDS CAN EVER BE  
23 TAKEN AWAY FROM THEIR PARENTS BECAUSE THEY'RE HOMELESS,  
24 BUT THEY MAY HAVE HAD THEM TAKEN AWAY AND BECAME HOMELESS.

25 MS. MURPHY: EXACTLY.

1 MS. BLACHER: AND ONCE THEY'RE TAKEN AWAY,  
2 ESPECIALLY IF THEY'RE GETTING A CALWORKS GRANT, THIS IS  
3 USUALLY -- THAT'S ELIMINATED. SO IF THE FAMILY WAS  
4 DEPENDING ON THAT INCOME AND NEEDED THAT INCOME FOR RENT,  
5 THAT WOULD BE GONE. SO THAT CAN FURTHER KIND OF THEIR --  
6 THEIR -- YOU KNOW, THEIR DROP INTO HOMELESSNESS.

7 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: ANYWAY, FOLKS, I HATE TO  
8 END THIS VERY RICH CONVERSATION. LESLIE, YOU WILL BE  
9 COMING BACK. DON'T THINK THIS IS YOUR ONLY VISIT. WE  
10 WILL BE GETTING UPDATES IN THE FUTURE FROM YOU. AND THANK  
11 YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR PRESENTATION.

12 ALL RIGHT. JOHN, I MEAN, YOU HAVE TO FOLLOW UP  
13 THAT STELLAR PERFORMANCE WITH AN EVEN MORE STELLAR  
14 PERFORMANCE.

15 MR. WAGNER: THE ONE THING THAT'S CONSISTENT IS  
16 THIS NEXT TOPIC WILL ALSO LIKELY BE A FURTHER CONVERSATION  
17 OF PPC AND THE BOARD. ACTUALLY, THIS WAS A REALLY GOOD  
18 SEGUE TO THIS NEXT TOPIC, WHICH IS COUNTY AGENCY  
19 PARTNERSHIPS.

20 THE OTHER THING I JUST WANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE IS,  
21 YOU KNOW, KIND OF WHAT LEAD INTO THIS CONVERSATION IS A  
22 DESIRE TO BRING TO THE PROGRAM PLANNING COMMITTEE AND  
23 EVENTUALLY THE BOARD SOME EARLY THINKING ON HOW WE ARE  
24 ENGAGING DIFFERENTLY IN THESE SORTS OF PARTNERSHIPS. SO  
25 THIS IS REALLY KIND OF SETTING THE FOUNDATION ON THAT

1 CONVERSATION AND ALSO SOME EARLY THINKING THAT WE'VE HAD.

2 SO WITH THAT, IT'S ALWAYS IMPORTANT, AS WE SPOKE  
3 ABOUT EARLIER IN THIS MEETING, HOW WE GROUND OUR WORK IN  
4 OUR STRATEGIC PLAN AND OUR MISSION. AND SO WHAT I DID  
5 HERE IS JUST SPELL OUT, AGAIN, TO REMIND OURSELVES WHAT  
6 THE FIRST 5 MISSION IS AND TO HIGHLIGHT TWO IMPORTANT  
7 CONCEPTS THAT I THINK REALLY TOUCH UPON THE CONVERSATION  
8 WE'RE HAVING ON COUNTY PARTNERSHIPS.

9 FIRST IS THAT FIRST 5 LA IN PARTNERSHIP WITH  
10 OTHERS STRENGTHENS FAMILIES, COMMUNITIES, AND SYSTEMS OF  
11 SERVICES AND SUPPORTS SO ALL CHILDREN IN LA COUNTY ENTER  
12 KINDERGARTEN READY TO SUCCEED IN SCHOOL AND LIFE. THE  
13 FIRST POINT I'D LIKE TO HIGHLIGHT, WHICH IS IN RED, IS  
14 THIS NOTION OF, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH OTHERS. FOR THOSE OF  
15 YOU WHO WERE INVOLVED IN THE STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS  
16 AND THOSE OF YOU WHO MAY HAVE BEEN NEW AND WEREN'T, AN  
17 EARLY PIECE OF THAT CONVERSATION WAS WHAT WE EVENTUALLY  
18 BECAME AN INVESTMENT GUIDELINE WE CALLED THE LEVER EARLY  
19 IN THE PROCESS, AND THAT IS, SHOULD FIRST 5 LA CARVE OUT  
20 AN AREA OF WORK AND DO IT ALONE OR DO WE WANT TO BE MORE  
21 ON THE CONTINUUM WHERE WE'RE ALIGNING OUR WORK WITH OTHERS  
22 AND MOVING THAT WORK FORWARD IN PARTNERSHIP. AND THE  
23 BOARD WAS VERY CLEAR THAT THERE WAS AN IMPORTANT ROLE THAT  
24 WE HAD IN PULLING TOGETHER AND PARTNERING WITH OTHERS TO  
25 MOVE OUR WORK FORWARD. SO THAT BECAME KNOWN AS AN

1 INVESTMENT GUIDELINE. AND I THINK THAT'S REALLY RELEVANT  
2 TO HOW WE WANT TO BEGIN TO APPROACH OUR SUPPORT OF THE  
3 COUNTY. IT'S IN THAT SPIRIT OF PARTNERSHIP.

4 THE OTHER THING TO CALL OUT IN THIS MISSION  
5 STATEMENT IS THE SYSTEMS OF SERVICES AND SUPPORTS. SO WE  
6 JUST HEARD ABOUT -- FROM LESLIE ABOUT HOW ALL OF THESE  
7 COUNTY SYSTEMS ARE SO IMPORTANT IN THE RESOURCES THEY  
8 PROVIDE THE HOMELESS. AND FIRST 5 LA IS NOT -- THOSE ARE  
9 NOT OUR SYSTEMS. AND IF IN FACT I HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO  
10 GO TO AN EARLIER MEETING WITH PHIL ANSELL, WHO WAS  
11 BASICALLY TALKING ABOUT THIS PLAN, IS REALLY THE COUNTY  
12 RESPONSIBILITY FOR BETTER INTEGRATING THESE SYSTEMS  
13 BECAUSE THESE SYSTEMS ARE WHAT PROVIDES THESE RESOURCES TO  
14 HOMELESS FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS. WE WILL NEVER BE ABLE  
15 TO CARVE OUT A HOMELESS PROGRAM AND FUND A HOMELESS  
16 PROGRAM THAT WILL MEET THE NEEDS OF THE POPULATION. IT'S  
17 HOW DO WE BETTER CONNECT THEM TO THESE SYSTEMS THAT THE  
18 COUNTY ADMINISTERS.

19 AND SO I THINK THIS AN EXAMPLE ABOUT -- OF WHERE  
20 FIRST 5 LA PERHAPS CAN ADD VALUE AND WAYS IN WHICH WE  
21 MIGHT APPROACH WORKING WITH THE COUNTY AND THE SYSTEMS  
22 THAT THE COUNTIES OVERSEE IN WAYS THAT MIGHT BETTER MEET  
23 THE NEEDS OF THE POPULATION, NOT TO SAY THAT THOSE  
24 POPULATIONS HAVEN'T BEEN WELL SERVED BY THEIR -- BY THE  
25 COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, BUT HOW CAN FIRST 5 LA ADD VALUE IN

1 THAT PARTNERSHIP IN THOSE DEPARTMENTS THAT MANAGE THESE  
2 REALLY CRITICAL SYSTEMS. AND OFTENTIMES WE CAN ADD VALUE  
3 BY ADDING THE VOICE OF KIDS ZERO TO FIVE OR ADDING THE  
4 VOICE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT OR ADDING  
5 THE VOICE OF WHAT COMMUNITIES ARE DOING AND HOW COMMUNITY  
6 VOICES ARE MISSING OR NOT MISSING FROM THOSE SYSTEMS.

7 SO I'M GOING TO WALK THROUGH THREE VERY BRIEF  
8 EXAMPLES. I KNOW WE'RE RUNNING BEHIND. SO I'LL BE BRIEF  
9 IN THIS. BUT JUST TO TRY TO ILLUSTRATE HOW WE'RE  
10 APPROACHING THIS WORK AND THIS PARTNERSHIP IN A DIFFERENT  
11 WAY. THE FIRST IS, FOLKS WILL RECALL THAT THE BLUE RIBBON  
12 COMMISSION CAME OUT WITH A REPORT BACK IN 2014, CAME UP  
13 WITH 60-PLUS RECOMMENDATIONS REALLY FOCUSED ON PREVENTION  
14 AND CALLED OUT FOR A ROLE OF FIRST 5 LA AND THE DEPARTMENT  
15 OF PUBLIC HEALTH IN MOVING FORWARD WITH A PREVENTION PLAN.  
16 AND ALTHOUGH WE WEREN'T IN A POSITION IN 2014 TO -- TO  
17 LEAD THAT EFFORT, WE WERE VERY MUCH IN A POSITION TO  
18 SUPPORT AND MET EARLY ON WITH THE BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION  
19 AND THE OFFICE OF CHILD PROTECTION ONCE IT WAS SET UP AND  
20 AGREED TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO THAT OFFICE. AND OCP  
21 ACTUALLY AGREED TO LEAD THAT WORK BUT FIRST 5 LA WAS VERY  
22 MUCH INVOLVED IN THAT PROCESS. AND ONE OF THE FIRST  
23 THINGS THAT THE OFFICE OF CHILD PROTECTION DECIDED TO DO  
24 AFTER SOME OF THESE EARLY MEETINGS WITH THE BLUE RIBBON  
25 COMMISSION WHICH INCLUDED SOME MEETINGS WITH OUR EXECUTIVE

1 DIRECTOR AND DPH WAS TO LEARN FROM THE COMMUNITY-BASED  
2 ORGANIZATIONS THAT ARE DOING THIS WORK, THE PREVENTION  
3 AFTERCARE NETWORK, RATHER THAN TRY TO CREATE SOMETHING IN  
4 GOVERNMENT UNINFORMED BY WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE  
5 COMMUNITIES.

6 FIRST 5 LA HAD A VERY INSTRUMENTAL ROLE IN  
7 PULLING TOGETHER THAT MEETING, ACTUALLY IN THIS ROOM,  
8 WHICH PROVIDED MORE OF A NEUTRAL TRUSTED ENVIRONMENT FOR  
9 THE PROVIDERS TO ENGAGE IN WHAT'S WORKING AND NOT WORKING.  
10 THAT MIGHT NOT HAVE OTHERWISE OCCURRED IF -- IF IT WAS  
11 DONE ELSEWHERE. AND WE WERE ALSO PROVIDED FACILITATION  
12 SERVICES. CECILIA SANDOVAL WAS ABLE TO BE THE FACILITATOR  
13 OF THAT MEETING. AND IT REALLY DID EXPLORE WITH THESE  
14 COMMUNITY PROVIDERS KIND OF WHAT HAS BEEN WORKING IN  
15 BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES AND FAMILIES AND WHERE ARE  
16 THERE GAPS AND WAYS THAT WE CAN IMPROVE THAT WORK AND,  
17 MORE IMPORTANTLY, AS WE THINK ABOUT PROVIDING A  
18 COMPREHENSIVE PREVENTION STRATEGIES, AGAIN, FOR OCP, WHAT  
19 ARE THE THINGS WE SHOULD TAKE WOULD ACCOUNT. SO THAT  
20 MEETING WAS VERY FOUNDATIONAL. AND WHAT WE HEAR IS AN  
21 EMERGING PREVENTION PLAN THAT OCP IS WORKING ON.

22 THE OTHER THING WE DID IS OCP DECIDED TO FOCUS  
23 PREVENTION, ACKNOWLEDGING THAT PREVENTION MUCH BROADER  
24 THAN THIS, BUT WANTED TO FOCUS ON THE HIGHEST ZIP CODE --  
25 ZIP CODES THAT WERE FUELING REFERRALS TO THE DCFS HOTLINE.

1 NOT TO SAY THAT REFERRALS ARE BAD, BUT TO SAY, WE NEED TO  
2 FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON IN THESE COMMUNITIES. AND SO  
3 THERE WERE THREE ZIP CODES THAT WERE THE HIGHEST ACROSS  
4 THE COUNTY. IN WEST ATHENS, BROADWAY/MANCHESTER, AND  
5 LANCASTER. AND AS THAT ANALYSIS WAS UNDERWAY, OCP ASKED  
6 US TO PULL TOGETHER SOME FOCUS GROUPS OR MEETINGS WITH  
7 PARENTS SO THAT THEY COULD ACTUALLY, RATHER THAN JUST LOOK  
8 AT THE NUMBERS, TALK TO SOME PARENTS ABOUT WHAT WAS GOING  
9 ON IN THE COMMUNITY THAT MIGHT BE FUELING THOSE CALLS TO  
10 THE HOTLINE.

11 KIM AND I HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO GO TO THE MEETING  
12 WITH SOME FOLKS -- OTHER FOLKS IN BEST START AND REALLY  
13 HEAR DIRECTLY FROM PARENTS AS TO SOME IDEAS AND THINGS AND  
14 THE IMPORTANT ROLE THAT SCHOOLS PLAYED IN THAT COMMUNITY.  
15 AND THEN A SIMILAR FOCUS GROUP MEETING OCCURRED IN  
16 LANCASTER LATER IN THE YEAR.

17 ABOVE AND BEYOND KIND OF HELPING US SUPPORT THOSE  
18 OCP EFFORTS, WE'VE ALSO BEEN PARTICIPANTS, LIKE DPH AND  
19 TRISH, THE CHILDREN'S AND FAMILIES COMMISSION ON A REGULAR  
20 MONTHLY PREVENTION WORK GROUP THAT HAS BEEN MEETING WITH  
21 OCP. SO WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO MAKE SURE THAT THEY ARE AWARE  
22 OF OUR INVESTMENTS, OUR RESOURCES AS THEY DO THIS ANALYSIS  
23 OF ZIP CODES BECAUSE I THINK IT'S IMPORTANT NOT ONLY TO  
24 LOOK AT REFERRALS AND THE NUMBERS OF DCF REFERRALS, BUT  
25 ALSO WHAT ARE THE ASSETS IN THESE COMMUNITIES THAT WE CAN

1 BUILD UPON. AND OCP HAS BEEN TAKING THAT INFORMATION TO  
2 OVERCOME.

3 SO I THINK THAT ONE EXAMPLE IS -- ILLUSTRATES A  
4 NUMBER OF WAYS FIRST 5 LA CAN HELP SUPPORT A VERY  
5 IMPORTANT COUNTY PARTNERSHIP TO DO SOME CRITICAL WORK AND  
6 MOVE IT FORWARD SERVING A POPULATION WE CARE A LOT ABOUT.

7 THE SECOND EXAMPLE IS ON THE HOMELESS INITIATIVE.  
8 AND I WILL VERY BRIEFLY JUST SAY THAT WE WANT TO FOLLOW UP  
9 A LOT OF THE CONVERSATION THAT WE HAD TODAY AND TO MEET A  
10 LITTLE BIT MORE AND GET A LITTLE BIT MORE IN DEPTH WITH  
11 THE DISCUSSION ON THE CEO'S OFFICE ON THE HOMELESSNESS  
12 INITIATIVE TO ASSESS, YOU KNOW, OUR 30-PLUS INVESTMENTS  
13 AND WHERE DO OUR INVESTMENTS CONNECT TO THOSE 47  
14 RECOMMENDATIONS THAT LESLIE GAVE US AN OVERVIEW OF, PCIT,  
15 TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE, WELCOME BABY, AND THE HOME  
16 VISITATION WHICH -- ASSESSMENT THAT IS DONE, YOU KNOW,  
17 WHICH -- WHICH DOES TO SOME DEGREE ASK ABOUT HOUSING  
18 STABILITY. I MEAN, MAKING THESE CONNECTION. PROJECT  
19 DULCE IS ANOTHER ONE AS WE TRAIN FAMILY SPECIALISTS WITH  
20 SOME LEGAL SUPPORT. HOW DO WE MAKE SURE WE'RE LOOKING AT  
21 THESE INVESTMENTS THROUGH THE LENS OF THE HOMELESS  
22 POPULATION I THINK IS AN EFFORT THAT WE CAN DEFINITELY  
23 UNDERTAKE TO SUPPORT THE COUNTY.

24 AND THE THIRD -- THIRD EXAMPLE JUST TO  
25 ILLUSTRATE, WHICH JUST TO MAKE SURE THE COMMISSION IS

1 AWARE OF IS A -- A CONVERSATION THAT HAS BEGUN THAT I'VE  
2 BEGUN WITH A NUMBER OF LEADERS OF COUNTY DEPARTMENTS TO  
3 BETTER ASSESS WHAT THEIR PAIN POINTS AND WHAT THEIR  
4 PRIORITIES ARE, NOT TO JUST LEAD WITH FIRST 5 LA'S  
5 STRATEGIC PLAN AND OUR PROJECTS, BUT TO REALLY BETTER  
6 UNDERSTAND WHAT IS GOING ON IN THE LIFE OF A COUNTY  
7 DEPARTMENT HEAD AND WHAT ARE YOUR PRIORITIES. SO THAT --  
8 AND I THINK THAT'S IMPORTANT BECAUSE STAFF DOES A REALLY  
9 GREAT JOB REACHING OUT TO OUR COUNTY DEPARTMENTS AND  
10 WORKING VERY COLLABORATIVELY. BUT AS WE DEVELOP OUR WORK  
11 GOING FORWARD AND WE HAVE EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES, KEEPING  
12 THOSE COUNTY PRIORITIES, COUNTY DEPARTMENTAL PRIORITIES  
13 AND PAIN POINTS IN MIND AS WE DEVELOP THAT WORK GOING  
14 FORWARD IS REALLY GOING TO BE CRITICAL AND IS A WAY THAT  
15 FIRST 5 LA CAN INFORM AND ADD VALUE TO SOME OF THIS WORK.

16 SO WITH THAT, AGAIN, THOSE WERE VERY THREE --  
17 VERY BRIEF EXAMPLES OF WAYS IN WHICH WE CAN CONTINUE TO  
18 SUPPORT OUR COUNTY PARTNERS AND IN SOME WAYS DO THAT  
19 DIFFERENTLY THAN WE HAVE HISTORICALLY. NOT TO SAY THAT WE  
20 HAVE NOT SUPPORTED THE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, BUT WE HAVE A  
21 DIFFERENT ENVIRONMENT WHICH WE'RE TRYING TO DO THIS WORK.

22 SO BEFORE I TAKE QUESTIONS, I JUST WANT TO SHARE  
23 MY VERY UBER FEROCIOUS PIT BULL. YOU ASKED ABOUT PETS.  
24 AND I THINK SHE -- LAYLA WOULD BE A GREAT MASCOT FOR THIS  
25 WORK. SHE'S VERY DOGGED AND VERY COMMITTED TO MOVING THIS

1 PARTNERSHIP FORWARD. AND AS YOU CAN SEE, SHE PLAYS WELL  
2 WITH OTHERS.

3 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: JOHN HAS A PIT BULL.

4 MR. WAGNER: I RESCUED HER FROM THE PASADENA  
5 ANIMAL SHELTER.

6 COMMISSIONER AU: HOW OLD IS SHE?

7 MR. WAGNER: SHE'S FOUR YEARS. SO SHE'S IN OUR  
8 AGE BRACKET.

9 MS. BELSHE: I WANT TO REALLY ACKNOWLEDGE LOVELY  
10 LAYLA, BUT REALLY ACKNOWLEDGE JOHN'S LEADERSHIP IN THIS  
11 AREA. FIRST 5 LA'S HAD LONG-STANDING RELATIONSHIPS WITH  
12 COUNTIES. WE DO A LOT OF REALLY GOOD SUBSTANTIVE WORK  
13 WITH COUNTIES, BUT WHAT JOHN IS SHARING WITH YOU DOES  
14 REFLECT A BROADENING OF OUR -- OUR ROLE. WE WILL ALWAYS  
15 NO DOUBT CONTINUE TO BE A GRANT MAKER AND COUNTY AGENCIES  
16 IN DIFFERENT WAYS GRANT RECEIVERS, BUT THIS IS -- THE  
17 STARTING POINT IS REALLY MORE ABOUT PARTNERSHIP, AS JOHN  
18 WAS SAYING. AND PARTNERSHIP WITH AN EYE TOWARDS, HOW CAN  
19 WE HELP OUR COUNTY PARTNERS BE SUCCESSFUL IN WAYS THAT GO  
20 TO THE BENEFIT OF YOUNG KIDS. SO IT'S HARD WORK, IT'S A  
21 DIFFERENT WAY OF WORKING. WE'RE LUCKY TO HAVE SOMEONE OF  
22 JOHN'S STATURE AND KNOWLEDGE ON SO MANY OF THESE COUNTY  
23 ISSUES DOING THIS WORK.

24 WE JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE THE BOARD -- WE BRING  
25 THE BOARD ALONG IN TERMS OF HOW THIS IS A DIFFERENT WAY OF

1 OUR ENGAGING AND PARTNERING AND REALLY MAXIMIZING --  
2 LOOKING AT CINDY, THE LEADERSHIP, THE COUNTY AGENCY  
3 LEADERSHIP WE HAVE ON THOSE BOARD. SO THANK YOU.

4 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: ANY QUESTIONS?

5 CINDY.

6 COMMISSIONER HARDING: NOT A QUESTION. I JUST  
7 WANT TO BUILD ON THAT. I'M JUST SO HAPPY TO SEE THIS  
8 HAPPENING. I'VE WANTED TO SEE THIS HAPPEN FOR A LONG TIME  
9 BECAUSE, YOU KNOW, IT'S A CHANGE IN LEADERSHIP AT FIRST 5  
10 IT'S REFLECTING. IT'S A CHANGE IN SORT OF POLICY AND  
11 ATTITUDE AT FIRST 5 WHICH I'M SO ENCOURAGED TO SEE BECAUSE  
12 IT'S SO IMPORTANT THAT WE BUILD THE BRIDGES TOGETHER.  
13 IT'S ABOUT WHAT FIRST 5 CAN OFFER TO THE COUNTIES, WHAT  
14 THE COUNTY CAN OFFER TO FIRST 5 THAT WE DON'T HAVE  
15 REINVENT THE WHEEL, THAT SOME OF US MAY BE FURTHER ALONG  
16 THE LEARNING CONTINUUM IN SOMETHING AND WE CAN HELP TO  
17 BRING OTHERS ALONG QUICKER WITH US. WE CAN -- I ALWAYS  
18 THOUGHT FIRST 5 SHOULD BE THE ONE FUNDING THE PROJECTS  
19 SEPARATELY, BUT FUNDING THE GLUE THAT HELPS US TO DO THOSE  
20 THING SO OUR SYSTEMS TAKE OFF IN THE RIGHT WAY.

21 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: ALL RIGHT. ALL RIGHTY.  
22 ANYBODY ELSE?

23 COMMISSIONER AU: JUST ONE COMMENT. I KNOW THAT  
24 YOU REBUKED ME.

25 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: I DIDN'T REBUKE YOU. I

1 JUST TOLD YOU YOU WERE WRONG. I'M NOT REBUKING YOU. I  
2 JUST TOLD YOU YOU WERE WRONG.

3 COMMISSIONER AU: NO, NO, NO. THE FUNDAMENTAL  
4 THINGS FROM MY PERSPECTIVE IS THAT WE REALLY NEED TO LOOK  
5 AT THAT INTRANSIGENT POPULATION DIFFERENTLY AND THAT WE  
6 REALLY NEED TO PROBABLY ADOPT A MORE HEALTH PERSPECTIVE  
7 BECAUSE THEY MAY NEED COMMUNITY SUPPORT IN -- AS LESLIE  
8 MENTIONED, AND -- AND I THINK WE NEED TO BEGIN THINKING  
9 THAT THROUGH AND -- ANYWAY, THAT WAS JUST MY LITTLE BIT OF  
10 PERSPECTIVE.

11 BUT WANTING TO TALK TO -- REGARDING THE APPROACH  
12 THAT THE HOMELESS TASK FORCE, I -- I THOUGHT IT WAS QUITE  
13 ENCOURAGING AND THEY -- THE WILLINGNESS FOR THEM TO BE  
14 TOTALLY OPEN AND WELCOMING TO ALL PERSPECTIVES. THE WHOLE  
15 PROCESS I THINK WAS SO RICH THAT I'M REALLY QUITE  
16 ENCOURAGED. I THINK WE WILL EVENTUALLY GET THIS RIGHT.  
17 WE MAY NOT ERADICATE HOMELESSNESS AND SIMILARLY WITH  
18 DIABETES, SIMILARLY WITH MENTAL ILLNESS, BUT I THINK WE  
19 CAN RETHINK HOW WE GO ABOUT SUPPORTING POPULATIONS THAT  
20 ARE AFFECTED IN SOME MANNER THAT THEY HAVE NO CONTROL OVER  
21 IT. SO THAT WAS MY POINT, MR.

22 MS. BELSHE: OKAY. ALL RIGHT.

23 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: THANK YOU, COMMISSIONER.

24 ANYWAY, THANK YOU ALL. AND THANK YOU, JOHN. I  
25 THINK, YOU KNOW, JUST WHAT KIM SAID, IS THIS IS A NEW

1 HORIZON FOR FIRST 5. AND THIS INTERCONNECTION WITH COUNTY  
2 GOVERNMENT IS SO CRITICAL AND ESSENTIAL. LIKE CINDY SAID,  
3 THERE'S SO MUCH TO BE LEARNED BOTH WAYS AND TO INFORM  
4 DIRECTION ON BOTH PATHS IS SOMETHING THAT WE SHOULD  
5 CONTINUE TO STRIVE FOR AND WE NEVER CAN STOP.

6 KIM HALL, YOU'RE UP.

7 MS. BELSHE: AND I KNOW KIM HALL AND KATIE ARE  
8 MINDFUL OF THE CLOCK. SO WE ARE LIKELY GOING TO GO A  
9 LITTLE BIT OVER, BUT I KNOW OUR COLLEAGUES HERE WILL HIT  
10 ON THE KEY HIGH POINTS. WE DO WANT TO TALK TO YOU THIS  
11 AFTERNOON ABOUT THIS ISSUE THAT YOU'LL SEE. WE WANT TO  
12 BRING THIS BACK TO FOR ACTION AT THE NEXT BOARD MEETING.

13 MS. HALL: SO GOOD AFTERNOON, COMMISSIONERS.  
14 AGAIN, I'M KIMBERLY HALL, RESEARCH AND EVALUATION  
15 DEPARTMENT. AND I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU THIS MORNING  
16 ABOUT AN OPPORTUNITY THAT FIRST 5 LA HAS TO LEAD THE  
17 EVALUATION OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE PRESCHOOL PROGRAM  
18 QUALITY RATING AND IMPROVEMENT SYSTEM BLOCK GRANT HERE IN  
19 LA COUNTY. SO IT'S QUITE LONG. I WILL BEGIN TO USE AN  
20 ACRONYM IN JUST A MINUTE.

21 SO WITH THIS PRESENTATION, THERE ARE THREE  
22 OBJECTIVES: ONE, I WANTED TO GIVE YOU A LITTLE BIT OF  
23 BACKGROUND AROUND THE CSPP QRIS PROGRAM AND A LITTLE BIT  
24 ABOUT WHAT IT IS. I WANTED TO SHARE DETAILS ABOUT THE  
25 PROPOSED CONTRACT TO CONDUCT THE EVALUATION AND THEN

1 OUTLINE THE REQUEST THAT WE'LL BE BRINGING TO THE MARCH  
2 COMMISSION MEETING.

3 A LITTLE BIT CSPP QRIS BLOCK GRANT IT IS  
4 ESSENTIALLY A NEW FUNDING STREAM FOR QRIS IN THE STATE OF  
5 CALIFORNIA WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED IN 2014 WHICH ESSENTIALLY  
6 AUTHORIZES \$50 MILLION TO SUPPORT LOCAL QRIS LEARNING  
7 EFFORTS. SO THE GOAL THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION HAS  
8 WITH THIS BLOCK GRANT IS INCREASE THE NUMBER OF LOW-INCOME  
9 CHILDREN THAT ARE IN HIGH-QUALITY STATE PRESCHOOL  
10 PROGRAMS.

11 SO LOCALLY, CSPP QRIS BLOCK GRANT IS BEING  
12 IMPLEMENTED BY A NUMBER OF PARTNER AGENCIES. IT'S A  
13 COLLABORATIVE EFFORT AMONG, AS I SAID, MULTIPLE AGENCIES.  
14 SO LACOE IS THE LEAD AGENCY FOR THIS PARTNERSHIP AND  
15 THEY'RE WORKING IN COLLABORATION WITH, AS YOU CAN SEE  
16 HERE, THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY OFFICE OF CHILD CARE, THE  
17 CHILD CARE ALLIANCE OF LOS ANGELES, WHICH IS A MEMBER  
18 AGENCY REPRESENTING THE R AND RS IN LA COUNTY, AS WELL AS  
19 LAUP AND FIRST 5 LA.

20 SO IN THE PAST, WE'VE HAD VARIOUS FUNDING STREAMS  
21 FOR QUALITY RATING AND IMPROVEMENT SYSTEMS HERE IN LA  
22 COUNTY. AND IN MOST INSTANCES, THOSE -- THE PROGRAMS THAT  
23 RECEIVED THOSE FUNDINGS WERE BEING IMPLEMENTED BY  
24 INDIVIDUAL ENTITIES. SO THIS KIND OF REPRESENTS ONE OF  
25 THE FIRST TIMES THAT THE AGENCIES ARE WORKING TOGETHER TO

1 IMPLEMENT A PROGRAM, A SINGLE PROGRAM IN A WAY THAT'S VERY  
2 COLLABORATIVE.

3 SO IN TERMS OF WHERE THE PROGRAM IS, THIS IS THE  
4 SECOND YEAR OF WHAT IS THE CSPP QRIS, WHAT WE'RE BRANDING  
5 HERE AS QUALITY STAR LOS ANGELES, THE LOCAL NAME FOR THE  
6 PROGRAM. THEY'RE CURRENT VERY EARLY IN THE SECOND YEAR OF  
7 IMPLEMENTATION. I JUST WANTED TO HIGHLIGHT A FEW OF THE  
8 PRIORITIES FOR YEAR TWO. THE REASON I WANTED TO HIGHLIGHT  
9 THESE IS BECAUSE I'M GOING WANTED TO TALK A LITTLE BIT  
10 ABOUT OUR ROLE IN POTENTIALLY DESIGNING AND THE MANAGING  
11 THE EVALUATION OF THE PROGRAM. UNTIL WE GET PERMISSION TO  
12 DO THAT FROM THE BOARD -- WE HAVEN'T DESIGN THE EVALUATION  
13 YET, BUT THIS FIVES YOU A SENSE OF SOME OF THE PRIORITY  
14 AREAS THAT WE MAY POTENTIALLY FOCUS ON IN THE EVALUATION.

15 SO IN TERMS OF PRIORITIES FOR YEAR TWO, ONE IS  
16 REALLY AROUND PROVIDER RECRUITMENT. AS I MENTIONED  
17 BEFORE, THERE HAVE BEEN OTHER FUNDING STREAMS FOR QRIS IN  
18 LA COUNTY. THIS ISN'T THE FIRST. SO ONE OF THE THINGS  
19 THAT WILL HAPPEN IN TERMS OF BRINGING PROVIDERS INTO  
20 QUALITY STAR LOS ANGELES, IS THAT THERE'S AN EFFORT TO  
21 TRANSITION PROVIDERS WHO WERE PREVIOUSLY PARTICIPATING IN  
22 QRIS USING DIFFERENT FUNDING STREAMS INTO THIS PROGRAM,  
23 ESPECIALLY IN INSTANCES WHERE THOSE FUNDING STREAMS ARE  
24 GOING AWAY.

25 BUT IN ADDITION TO TRANSITIONING CURRENT

1 PROVIDERS WHO ARE PART OF QRIS, THERE WILL BE SPECIFIC  
2 OUTREACH TO WHAT WE REFER TO AS NEWBYS OR PROVIDERS WHO  
3 ARE NOT A PART OF A QRIS THAT WE WANT TO BRING INTO --  
4 INTO THE QUALITY RATING AND IMPROVEMENT SYSTEM.

5 IN ADDITION TO PROVIDING RECRUITMENT, THERE'S  
6 GOING TO BE NEW EFFORTS TO BEGIN TO EDUCATE BOTH THE  
7 GENERAL PUBLIC AS WELL AS FAMILIES AROUND SOME OF THE  
8 ELEMENTS OF HIGH-QUALITY EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION AND WHAT  
9 TO LOOK FOR IN TERMS OF PROGRAMS AND WHAT THOSE  
10 HIGH-QUALITY PROGRAMS REALLY DO IN TERMS OF BENEFIT TO  
11 CHILDREN.

12 A THIRD PRIORITY IS REALLY AROUND QUALITY  
13 IMPROVEMENT. AS I MENTIONED, THERE HAVE BEEN A NUMBER OF  
14 OTHER FUNDING STREAMS FOR QRIS. THERE HAVE BEEN VARIOUS  
15 EFFORTS OR VARIOUS TYPES OF SUPPORTS OF STRATEGIES TO HELP  
16 PROVIDERS WITH IMPROVING QUALITY. BUT AS WE BRING  
17 TOGETHER -- OR AS THE PARTNERSHIPS SORT OF TAKE SHAPE  
18 AMONG MULTIPLE AGENCIES, WE WANT TO LOOK AT DEVELOPING  
19 SORT OF A UNIFORM MODEL FOR HOW WE REALLY SUPPORT  
20 PROVIDERS WITH IMPROVING QUALITY. SO THAT'S ONE OF THE  
21 PRIORITIES FOR THIS YEAR.

22 IN ADDITION TO THE DIRECT QUALITY SUPPORT THAT'S  
23 GOING TO BE PROVIDED TO THE QRIS, THERE'S ALSO INCENTIVES  
24 THAT THE PROGRAMS RECEIVE AS PART OF PARTICIPATING. SO  
25 ONCE AGAIN, WE WANT TO BE SURE THAT WE'RE PROVIDING

1 UNIFORM SUPPORTS AS WELL AS DOING SO IN A WAY THAT IS  
2 GOING BE -- AN INCENTIVE PACKAGE THAT CAN BE SUSTAINABLE.  
3 SO WE START PROVIDING INCENTIVES AND SUPPORTS FOR  
4 PROVIDERS, WE WANT IT TO BE SOMETHING CAN BE MAINTAINED  
5 OVER TIME.

6 AND THEN AN ADDITIONAL PRIORITY IS REALLY AROUND  
7 INCREASING THE USE OF A DATABASE. SO, ONCE AGAIN, GOING  
8 BACK TO THE FACT THAT WE NOW HAVE MULTIPLE AGENCIES THAT  
9 ARE WORKING TOGETHER, THERE WILL BE A SINGLE DATABASE THAT  
10 ISSUES. SO PART OF WHAT NEEDS TO HAPPEN IS REALLY  
11 ENSURING THAT DATABASE IS -- MEETS THE NEEDS OF THE  
12 MULTIPLE AGENCIES, SERVES THE VARIOUS CONNECTIONS THAT  
13 NEED TO HAPPEN IN TERMS OF IMPLEMENTING THE RATING SYSTEM,  
14 AND THAT INFORMATION FROM THE DATABASE IS BEING USED TO  
15 SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION AS WELL AS TO SHARE INFORMATION  
16 WITH STAKEHOLDERS.

17 SO IN TERMS OF THE PROPOSED EVALUATION WORK, ONE  
18 OF THE THINGS THAT HAS HAPPENED OVER THE FIRST YEAR OF  
19 IMPLEMENTING QUALITY STAR LOS ANGELES WAS FIRST 5 LA WAS  
20 APPROACHED BY LACOE AND BY THE OTHER PARTNERS WHO  
21 EXPRESSED INTEREST IN HAVING US LEAD THE EVALUATION WORK.  
22 AND A PART OF WHAT THAT WOULD ENTAIL IS REALLY WORKING  
23 WITH THE PARTNERS TO DESIGN AN EVALUATION AND DETERMINE  
24 WHAT IT IS THAT WE REALLY WANT TO LEARN THROUGH THIS  
25 EFFORT AND THEN TO CARRY OUT AN EVALUATION TO ANSWER THOSE

1 QUESTIONS WHICH WOULD INCLUDE SOME OF THE ACTIVITIES THAT  
2 ARE LISTED HERE THAT TYPICALLY HAPPEN IN AN EVALUATION.

3 SO WHAT WE WILL BE BRINGING NEXT YEAR IS -- I'M  
4 SORRY NEXT MONTH IS A REQUEST TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT  
5 WITH LACOE TO CONDUCT THE EVALUATION OVER A SIX-MONTH  
6 PERIOD FROM MARCH TO SEPTEMBER OF THIS YEAR WITH A PROJECT  
7 BUDGET OF \$100,000 AND I -- ONE OF THE THINGS THAT I  
8 WANTED TO HIGHLIGHT AS YOU CONSIDER THIS REQUEST ARE SOME  
9 OF THE SORT OF BENEFITS OR SOME OF THE REASONS THAT WE  
10 THINK IT'S A GOOD IDEA FOR FIRST 5 LA TO SERVE IN THIS  
11 ROLE AS THE EVALUATOR FOR THE -- FOR QUALITY STAR  
12 LOS ANGELES. THERE'S A COUPLE OF REASONS THAT I WANTED TO  
13 HIGHLIGHT.

14 ONE IS THAT FIRST 5 LA SERVING IN THIS CAPACITY  
15 REALLY LEVERAGES THE EXPERTISE OF OUR RESEARCH AND  
16 EVALUATION STAFF AND DESIGNING AND MANAGING EVALUATIONS OF  
17 COMPLEX EARLY LEARNING INITIATIVES. YOU ALL ARE VERY  
18 LIKELY FAMILIAR WITH SOME OF THE WORK THAT WE'VE DONE IN  
19 EVALUATING LAUP, OUR WORKFORCE CONSORTIUM, AND A NUMBER OF  
20 OTHER EFFORTS THAT ARE SIMILARLY COMPLEX AND FOCUSED ON  
21 EARLY LEARNING.

22 THIS OPPORTUNITY ALSO WILL BUILD ON OUR  
23 INVESTMENTS OF OTHER -- OF SIMILAR QRISS IN LA COUNTY AS  
24 WELL AS PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY TO REALLY INFORM OUR WORK  
25 THAT WE'LL BE DOING THROUGH THE 2015-2020 STRATEGIC PLAN

1 AROUND CREATING -- OR SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE  
2 UNIFORMED QRIS IN LA COUNTY, AND BUILDS ON THE WORK THAT  
3 FIRST 5 LA IS LEADING THROUGH THE QRIS ARCHITECTS PROCESS.

4 SO WITH THAT, JUST WANTED TO HIGHLIGHT THE NEXT  
5 STEPS, WHICH IS TO COME BACK IN MARCH TO SEEK BOARD  
6 APPROVAL TO RECEIVE FUNDS FROM LACOE TO CARRY OUT THIS  
7 EVALUATION. AND SO PENDING BOARD APPROVAL, WE WOULD BE  
8 EXECUTING THAT CONTRACT IN MARCH AND LOOKING FORWARD TO  
9 THE EVALUATION.

10 SO THAT CONCLUDES MY PRESENTATION.

11 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: SOMEBODY WANTS TO GIVE US  
12 SOME MONEY. I LIKE THAT.

13 COMMISSIONER AU: THAT IS NOVEL.

14 MS. BELSHE: THE BOARD -- THE BOARD AGREED TO  
15 RECEIVE MONEY FOR PROJECT DULCE, SO THIS IS SOMETHING WE  
16 NEED YOUR SUPPORT TO DO.

17 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: I LIKE THAT. ANY  
18 QUESTIONS, COMMISSIONERS?

19 COMMISSIONER AU: I JUST ASSUMED THAT THERE'S A  
20 JUXTAPOSITION BETWEEN THIS PARTICULAR PROJECT AS WELL AS  
21 THE ONE THAT WAS PRESENTED EARLIER BY THE COMMUNITY  
22 INVESTMENT FOLKS WHEN THEY HAVE THE AREAS OF FOCUS --

23 MS. BELSHE: ONE OF WHICH IS QRIS.

24 MS. NUNO: QRIS IS A --

25 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: THIS IS A RATHER AMBITIOUS

1       TIMELINE, SIX MONTHS.   AND SO I'M EXCITED ABOUT GETTING  
2       THE MONEY, BUT ON THE OTHER HAND, COMPELLED TO ASK  
3       RESEARCH AND EVALUATION HOW READY ARE WE IN THIS SIX-MONTH  
4       PERIOD TO COMPLETE THIS EVALUATION WHICH HAS SOME VERY  
5       COMPLEX NUANCES TO IT AND, YOU KNOW, IT WILL CHALLENGE  
6       STAFF TO SAY THE LEAST.

7               MS. HALL:   THAT'S RIGHT.   WELL, ONE THING TO KEEP  
8       IN MIND, WE ANTICIPATE THAT OUR ROLE AS EVALUATOR IS  
9       SOMETHING THAT WILL CONTINUE FOR MULTIPLE YEARS.   SO THE  
10      TERM OF THIS CONTRACT IS ALIGNS WITH THE YEAR TWO FOR  
11      QUALITY STAR LOS ANGELES AND WE ARE GOING TO BE DESIGNING  
12      THE SCOPE OF THE EVALUATION KEEPING IN MIND THE TIME FRAME  
13      THAT WE HAVE TO COMPLETE IT.   SO WE'RE GOING TO LOOK AT  
14      THE QUESTIONS THAT WE CAN ANSWER THAT WILL ADD VALUE TO  
15      THE WORK THAT'S BEING DONE IN A SIX-MONTH TIME FRAME AND  
16      THEN CONDUCT THE EVALUATION ACCORDINGLY.

17              COMMISSIONER DENNIS:   THAT'S A GOOD ANSWER, KIM.  
18      THAT'S A REAL GOOD ANSWER.   I LIKE THAT.

19              ANYBODY ELSE?   ANYBODY ELSE?

20              COMMISSIONER AU:   QRIS HAS BEEN GOING ON FOR A  
21      WHILE.   I MEAN, THE COUNTY HAS BEEN LEADING THIS FOR --  
22      THE LAUP ALSO HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN SOME OF THAT, TOO.   SO  
23      MY GUESS IS THAT FIRST 5 LA IS GOING TO UNDERTAKE TO A  
24      LOOK AT ALL OF THOSE EFFORTS.

25              MS. HALL:   ABSOLUTELY.

1           COMMISSIONER AU:   -- THEM ALL TOGETHER.

2           MS. HALL:   YES.

3           COMMISSIONER DENNIS:   AND, KIM, WILL THIS TO SOME  
4 DEGREE INFORM A UNIFIED QRIS SYSTEM?  I HOPE THAT THIS IS  
5 ONE OF THE POSSIBLE OUTCOMES.  SO AFTER SIX MONTHS, WE  
6 SHOULD HAVE ONE SYSTEM.

7           MS. BELSHE:   NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, YOU DIDN'T  
8 HEAR THAT.

9           COMMISSIONER ABDO:   YOU'RE RIGHT THERE.

10          COMMISSIONER DENNIS:   I TRIED.  I TRIED.

11          MS. BELSHE:   IT WILL BE AN IMPORTANT INPUT, NOT  
12 JUST FOR US BUT FOR ALL THE OTHER FOLKS AT THE QRIS TABLE.

13          COMMISSIONER DENNIS:   ANYWAY, THANK YOU ALL VERY  
14 MUCH.  THANK YOU, KIM.  THANK YOU, RESEARCH AND  
15 EVALUATION.  THIS MEETING IS ADJOURNED.

16                           (AT 4:38 P.M., THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, HEATHERLYNN GONZALEZ, A CERTIFIED SHORTHAND REPORTER FOR THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, LICENSE NUMBER 13646, DO HEREBY ATTEST THAT:

THE PRECEDING IS A TRUE AND ACCURATE TRANSCRIPTION OF THE MEETING OF THE ORGANIZATION NAMED HEREIN;

THE MEETING WAS TAKEN DOWN IN SHORTHAND AND TRANSCRIBED INTO ENGLISH UNDER MY SUPERVISION AND AUTHORITY;

I HAVE NO INTEREST, FINANCIAL OR OTHERWISE, IN ANY OF THE PARTIES, ISSUES, OR INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE INVOLVED IN THIS ORGANIZATION.

ATTESTED TO ON THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2016.

-----  
CERTIFIED SHORTHAND REPORTER  
FOR THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

**FIRST 5 LA**

**SUBJECT:**

**First 5 LA 2016 Legislative Agenda**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**Staff recommends the approval of the 2016 Legislative Agenda**

**BACKGROUND:**

First 5 LA seeks to achieve lasting change in the lives of children, families and communities by working toward long-term public policy change. Actively engaging in state legislation related to First 5 LA's policy priorities is one opportunity to improve the lives of children and their families. In March 2015, the Commission approved a set of criteria for staff to use in focusing its advocacy activities during the state legislative and budget season. The criteria include:

- Opportunities to advance First 5 LA priorities related to early learning and home visiting;
- Policies that directly affect First 5 LA (e.g., tobacco taxes, bills or proposals that affect Proposition 10);
- Near-term opportunities related to the new Strategic Plan; and
- Opportunities that support First 5 LA's current investments (e.g. oral health, vision and others).

Per Governance Guidelines, staff is bringing First 5 LA's proposed Legislative Agenda to the Program and Planning Committee meeting for information and discussion, and will submit the Agenda to the Commission for action at the April Board meeting.

**DISCUSSION:**

Staff seeks the Commission's approval of the proposed 2016 State Legislative Agenda (Attachment A), which reflects the list of bills toward which First 5 LA staff will direct advocacy activities in the current legislative session. Per Commission-approved policy, the list is subject to modification as bills are amended or new legislation is introduced.

The proposed Legislative Agenda includes a brief description of each item, the author, and the current status of the bill (at time of submission). As in prior years, First 5 LA's position on legislation is informed by internal staff and partners in the field, including the Intergovernmental and External Affairs Branch of the L.A. County's CEO Office.

The Policy Department will continue to provide updates to the Commission as bills advance. As part of the approval process set into place by the Commission in April 2012, any additional legislative items that are identified at a later period as relevant to First 5 LA's priorities will be brought to the Executive Director for approval.

Attachment A: First 5 LA 2016 Legislative Agenda

**First 5 LA 2016  
DRAFT Legislative Agenda**

Bill #	Author	Description	Sponsors	Status
SB 1042	Loni Hancock	<b>Child care: state preschool programs: age of eligibility</b> Defines 3-year-old children, for purposes of state preschool programs, as children who will have their 3rd birthday on or before December 1 of the fiscal year in which they are enrolled in a California state preschool program.	State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson	Senate Education Committee
AB 1644	Rob Bonta	<b>Healing from Early Adversity to Level the Impact (HEAL) of Trauma in Schools Act or the HEAL Trauma in Schools Act.</b> Expands the definition of an eligible pupil, for purposes of providing school-based early mental health intervention and prevention services, to include a pupil who attends a preschool program at a publicly funded elementary school and a pupil who is in transitional kindergarten. Includes charter schools in the definition of local educational agency. The bill would also establish a 4-year pilot program, the School-Based Early Mental Health Intervention and Prevention Services Support Program, to provide outreach, free regional training, and technical assistance for local educational agencies in providing mental health services at school sites. The bill would make the implementation of the pilot program contingent upon an appropriation in the annual budget act. The bill would repeal these provisions as of January 1, 2022.	Children Now and Attorney General Kamala Harris	Assembly Education Committee
AB 2770	Adrin Nazarian	<b>Cigarette and Tobacco Product Licensing: Fees</b> Requires a fee to be submitted with each license application. Requires a retailer to file an application for renewal of a retailer's license accompanied with a fee per retail location, in the form and manner prescribed by the State Board of Equalization. Two hundred sixty-five dollars (\$265) shall be submitted with each application. For calendar years beginning on and after January 1, 2017, every retailer shall file an application for renewal of the license prescribed in Section 22972, accompanied with a fee of two hundred sixty-five dollars (\$265) per retail location, in the form and manner prescribed by the board.		Assembly Governmental Organization Committee
AB 2150	Miguel Santiago and	<b>Subsidized Child Care and Development Services</b> Extends eligibility for child care assistance to families for a period no less than 12	Parent Voices and the Child Care Law Center	Assembly Human Services

Bill #	Author	Description	Sponsors	Status
	Shirley Weber	months. The bill changes existing thresholds by establishing income eligibility upon the most recent State Median Income (SMI) data published by the US Census Bureau (rather than current SMI) and raises the income limit of eligibility from 70% of the current SMI to 85% of the most recent SMI. AB 2150 would also reduce the frequency with which a family is required to verify and/or report changes to income by allowing re-verification of eligibility only after a minimum period of 12 months.		Committee

**Watch List**

Bill #	Author	Description	Sponsors	Status
AB 598	Ian Calderon	<b>Family Child Care Home Education Networks</b> Amends existing law that requires family child care home education network programs to include an assessment of each family child care home provider. This bill would require that tools used to make these assessments be appropriate to family child care home settings. The bill would require the network to complete the developmental profile in collaboration with the provider by including conducting a parent survey of a child's developmental progress as directed by the department and incorporating it into the profile; would also require a family child care home education network to conduct a minimum of 9 site visits to each affiliated provider in a calendar year, as provided, among other things; would require a provider in a family child care home education network to adopt and use a curriculum or curricula of the provider's choosing that is appropriate for the age range of children in the home, and include age and developmentally appropriate educational activities for children.		Introduced in 2015 Currently in: Assembly Appropriations
AB 1565	Tom Lackey	<b>Developmental Services: Funding</b> Requires the State department of Developmental Services to submit a plan to the Legislature to ensure the sustainability, quality, and transparency of community-based services for individuals with developmental disabilities. Requires the Department to regularly consult with stakeholders in developing the plan. Relates to funding regional centers. Relates to rate increase negotiation.		Assembly
AB 1568)/ SB 815	Rob Bonta/ Ed Hernandez	<b>Medi-Cal 1115b Waiver Demonstration Pilots</b> Requires DHCS to implement a waiver or demonstration project authorized under a specified federal waiver that includes a delivery system transformation and alignment incentive program for designated public hospital systems and district municipal hospitals. The bill would require DHCS to consult with interested stakeholders and the Legislature in implementing this waiver or demonstration project.		Assembly Health Committee

AB 1679	Shirley Weber	<b>Child care: state preschool programs eligibility military families</b> Excludes the amount of the basic allowance for housing provided to an individual who is on federal active duty, state active duty, active duty for special work, or Active Duty and Reserve duty in the military that is equal to the lowest rate of the allowance for the military housing area in which the individual resides from income for purposes of determining eligibility for state preschool services.		
AB 1897	Kevin Mullin	<b>Day care centers: birth to first grade license option</b> Requires the State Department of Social Services to, adopt regulations that develop and implement a birth to entering first grade license option for day care centers. Requires the regulations to include age appropriate transition times, a requirement that a single integrated license option list the age groups of children being served at a day care center, a requirement that all other licensing regulations that apply to a day care center shall also apply to a birth to entering first grade license option		Assembly Human Services Committee
AB 2036	Patty Lopez	<b>Online child care job posting services: consumer education background check service providers</b> Requires an online child care job posting service posting information on an Internet Web site to include, among other things, a statement about the trustline registry and, if the service provides access to a background check, a written description of the background check provided to it by the background check service provider		Assembly Human Services Committee
AB 2207	Jim Wood	<b>Wood Medi-Cal: dental program</b> Requires the Department of Health Care Services to undertake specified activities for the purpose of improving the Medi-Cal Dental Program, such as expediting provider enrollment and monitoring dental service access and utilization. Requires a Medi-Cal managed care health plan to provide dental health screenings for eligible beneficiaries and refer them to the appropriate Medi-Cal dental providers. Relates to data regarding the dental fee-for-service dental program		Assembly Health Committee
AB 2410	Rob Bonta	<b>Local Control School Readiness Act of 2016</b> This bill would enact the Local Control School Readiness Act of 2016. The bill would require the department to develop prekindergarten learning development guidelines, focused on preparing 4- and 5-year-old children for kindergarten, based on current science that reflects how publicly funded programs can close the school readiness gap. The bill would authorize a local educational agency, as defined, in		Assembly Human Services Committee

		partnership with community-based organizations, to apply to the State Board of Education for a waiver from the department's Desired Results Quality Improvement System. The bill would specify material to be submitted with such a waiver request. The bill would require the department to submit to the state board, by July 1, 2018, a kindergarten readiness definition that has clear benchmarks for skills that are predictive of later success in academics and social-emotional, health, and executive functioning skills as evidenced by current research.		
AB 2631	Miguel Santiago	<b>CalWORKs: Housing Assistance</b> This bill would increase the duration of homeless assistance benefits to 30 days and would delete the limitation on the number of times a recipient may receive homeless assistance or permanent housing assistance benefits. The bill would also delete the authority for the county to require a homelessness avoidance case plan as a condition of eligibility for homeless assistance benefits.		Assembly Human Services Committee
AB 2660	Kevin McCarty	<b>Early Education</b> This bill would require the State Department of Education, in consultation with the State Board of Education and the State Advisory Council on Early Learning and Care, on or before July 1, 2017, to submit to the Legislature and the Department of Finance a plan that provides a 3-year plan for providing access to income eligible children to high-quality prekindergarten programs for a minimum of one year before enrollment in kindergarten and a 3-year plan for ensuring that publicly funded prekindergarten programs focus on certain areas associated with positive childhood outcomes.	Early Edge California	Assembly Education Committee
AB 2676	Rocky Chavez	<b>Income taxes credit: dependent care</b> Amends the Personal Income Tax Law to increase the amount of an applicable state credit percentage and revise adjusted gross income amounts for dependent care		Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee
AB 2677	Rocky Chavez	<b>Subsidized child care limit on services</b> Amends the Child Care and Development Services Act, which authorizes the Superintendent of Public Instruction to enter into and execute local contractual agreements with any public or private entity or agency for the delivery of child care and development services. Limits a family to a total of not more than 8 years of subsidized child care services under the act		Assembly Human Services Committee

AB 2680	Susan Bonilla	<b>Parent, Pupil and Family Engagement Support and Services: Plans</b> This bill would require local educational agencies, including state subsidized preschools and child development programs, that elect to participate in family, parent, and pupil engagement support and services to develop a plan that addresses at least one specified parent, pupil, and family engagement element relating to active and meaningful participation and training. If a local educational agency accepts funds appropriated in the annual Budget Act for purposes of this provision, as a condition of receiving those funds, the LEA would be required to develop an additional plan that aligns to the school district's or county office of education's local control and accountability plan that delineates how funds apportioned for purposes of this section would be spent. One year pilot program		Assembly Education Committee
SB 818	Jim Neilsen	<b>Developmental Services: Medi-Cal: Rate Increases</b> Appropriates certain sums to the Department of Developmental Services to provide a 10% rate increase for certain developmental service providers and regional center operating budgets, and appropriates certain sums to the Department of Health Care Services to restore rates paid to Medi-Cal providers to those levels in effect prior to the implementation of the provider rate reductions.		Senate Health Committee
SB 1034	Holly Mitchell	<b>Health Care Coverage: Autism Screening</b> Modifies requirements to be a qualified autism service professional to include providing behavioral health treatment, such as clinical management and case supervision. The bill would require that a treatment plan be reviewed no more than once every 6 months, unless a shorter period is recommended by the qualified autism service provider.		Senate Health Committee
SB 1071	Ben Allen	<b>Special education funding: preschool-age individuals with exceptional needs</b> Establishes a new formula for a permanent one-time total adjustment to the base funding calculation, to support special education as required under the individualized education program for each 3-and 4-year-old preschool individual with exceptional needs		To SENATE Committee on EDUCATION.
SB 1113	Jim Beall	<b>Pupil health: mental health services funding</b> Declares the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation relating to mental health services in schools that would require counties to enter into agreements with special education local plan areas to allow access to Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) funding through the county mental health programs by providing EPSDT mental health services.		Senate Rules Committee

SB 1146	Ricardo Lara	<p><b>Education programs: Head Start</b> Makes nonsubstantive changes to existing law which provides that the Legislature finds and declares certain things about the federal Head Start program, including that the Congress has recognized the importance of the transfer from preschool to primary school.</p>		Senate Rules Committee
SB 1154	Carol Liu	<p><b>Child care and development services: resource and referral</b> Establishes the Patricia Siegal Child Care Resource and Referral Memorial Act of 2016. Requires a child care resource and referral program to provide specified additional services, including, providing training and workshops relating to child care services, providing community resource assistance, and collaborating with and assisting other community agencies in planning, coordinating and improving child care. Repeals provisions regarding short-term respite care. Requires written complaint procedures.</p>		Senate Education Committee
SB 1466	Holly Mitchell	<p><b>Mental health benefits: children medical necessity</b> Requires the Department of Health Care Services to convene a stakeholder workgroup to revise and update the existing definition of medically necessary and medical necessity to be applied with respect to children, youth, and their families for purposes of access to mental health services provided under the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment Program</p>		Senate Health Committee

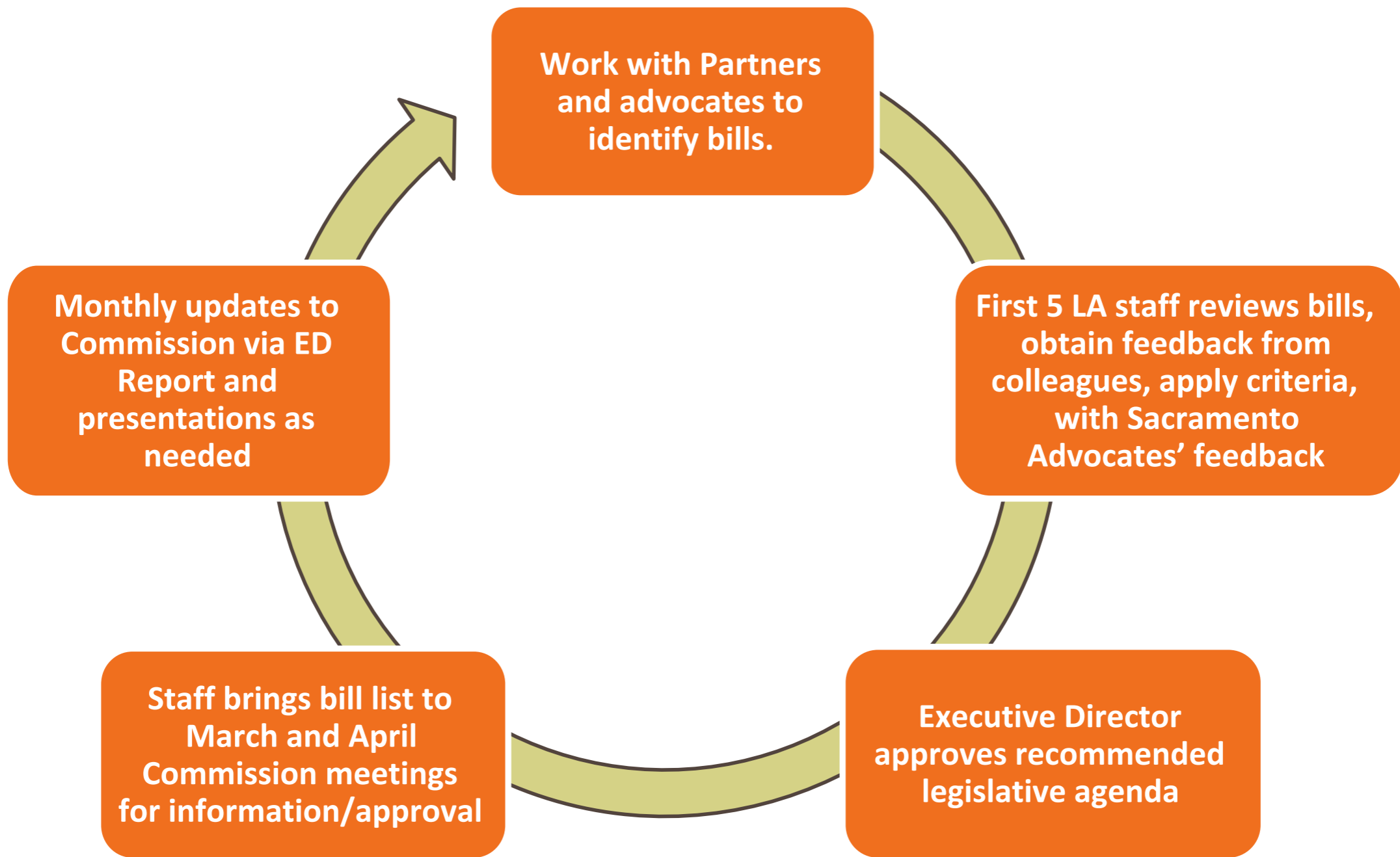
# First 5 LA Legislative Agenda Review, 2016

Tessa Charnofsky,  
Government Affairs Manager

March 30, 2016



# Legislative Agenda Development Process



# Criteria for Support

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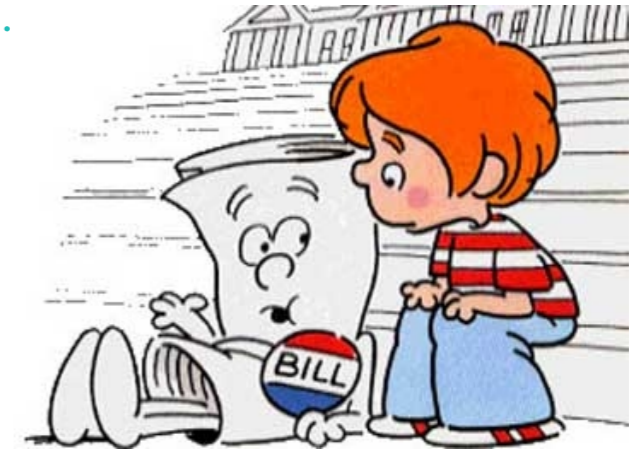
- Opportunities to advance First 5 LA priorities related to early learning and home visiting;
- Opportunities related to the new Strategic Plan;
- Opportunities that support First 5 LA's legacy investments (e.g. oral health, vision and others);
- Policies that directly affect First 5 LA (e.g., tobacco taxes, bills or proposals that affect Prop. 10).

138

# Advocacy Efforts

## Support List Bills

- Letters of support where appropriate
- Testimony at Hearings
- Meetings with Legislators



139

## Watch List Bills

- Bills are in development, which provides an opportunity to suggest amendments
- *Can be moved to the support list during the legislative season*
- Testimony at Hearings
- Meetings with Legislators

# 2016 (Draft) Legislative Agenda

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# First 5 LA 2016 DRAFT Legislative Agenda

Bill #	Author	Description	Sponsors	Criteria
SB 1042	Loni Hancock	<b>Child care: state preschool programs: age of eligibility</b> Defines 3-year-old children, for purposes of state preschool programs, as children who will have their 3rd birthday on or before December 1 of the fiscal year in which they are enrolled in a California state preschool program.	State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson	Early Childhood Education
AB 1644	Rob Bonta	<b>Healing from Early Adversity to Level the Impact (HEAL) of Trauma in Schools Act or the HEAL Trauma in Schools Act.</b> Expands the eligibility for school-based early mental health intervention and prevention services to include a pupil who attends a preschool program at a publicly funded elementary school and a pupil who is in transitional kindergarten.	Children Now and Attorney General Kamala Harris	Strategic Plan: Trauma Informed Care
AB 2150	Miguel Santiago and Shirley Weber	<b>Subsidized Child Care and Development Services</b> Subsidized Child Care and Development Services Extends eligibility for child care assistance to families for a period no less than 12 months. Establishes income eligibility upon the most recent State Median Income (SMI) data published by the US Census Bureau and raises the income limit of eligibility from 70% of the current SMI to 85% upon exit of the most recent SMI.	Parent Voices Child Care Law Center	Early Childhood Education
AB 2770	Adrin Nazarian	<b>Cigarette and Tobacco Product Licensing: Fees</b> Imposes an annual renewal fee of \$265 for each retail location that sells tobacco products.		Tobacco Taxes

# Example of Watch List Bill- *will likely move to support*

AB 2660

Kevin McCarty

## Early Education

This bill would require the State Department of Education to submit to the Legislature and the Department of Finance a 3-year plan for providing access to income eligible children to high-quality prekindergarten programs for a minimum of one year before enrollment in kindergarten.

*Criteria-Early Childhood Education*



# Toby, 9 months



## FIRST 5 LA

### **SUBJECT:**

**Strategic Plan Implementation - Parks & Health Equity: Assessing Los Angeles County Parks**

### **BACKGROUND:**

July 2015 marked the launch of First 5 LA's 2015-2020 Strategic Plan, which outlines four key outcomes, strategies, and investment areas involving families, early childhood education, communities, and health systems improvement related to health, mental health and substance abuse. Overall, the aim of these strategies is to strengthen families, the communities they live in, and the systems that support them. The Strategic Plan acknowledges that First 5 LA is one organization, among many, that has a vested interest in improving the condition of children and families, and that the path to broad impact and sustainability runs through community, systems and policy change.

First 5 LA seeks to achieve the Communities Priority Outcome Area results through *Best Start*, a key anchor investment that focuses on the places where families live — combining strategies across all four outcomes, the aim is to strengthen families with those that build community capacity to create and sustain thriving and healthy environments for all children.

The Communities Outcome activities outline three focus areas that include:

1. Communities have a shared vision and act collectively to improve policies, services and environments that impact families;
2. Communities have ECE and health related supports that meet family needs; and
3. Communities have physical places and spaces that promote healthy living and encourage interaction.

This presentation and discussion will highlight the third focus area: *the availability of and access to physical places and spaces (also referred to as the built environment) that promote healthy living and encourage social interaction*. First 5 LA has identified a strategic opportunity to maximize impact in this area by partnering with existing built environment advocacy stakeholders. Specifically, First 5 LA's collaboration with the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation is advocating for physical spaces such as parks and is working with communities to promote sustained investments and commitment by civic leaders and key stakeholders who influence resources that address these issues.

The Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation is providing a "once-in-a-generation" opportunity to engage parents, residents, and other stakeholders in a countywide parks needs assessment. The Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust, who serves as a strategic partner to First 5 LA, is playing an important role in the County's community engagement strategy. The Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation Department and the Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust are key partners to advance our collective work to improve parks and promote health equity.

## **DISCUSSION:**

Parents and caregivers need opportunities to develop positive, meaningful and lasting connections with others, and these opportunities are often influenced by the built environment. Community members and stakeholders in the *Best Start* Communities have consistently highlighted the lack of safe, accessible places and spaces to promote physical health and social connection, particularly for families that are socially isolated.

According to research from the City Project, a research and advocacy organization on issues of parks and open space, children with the lowest access to parks and open space tend to suffer from higher levels of obesity. The issue is exacerbated in underserved communities where the lack of parks and open space -- combined with high rates of obesity -- points to an unhealthy future for low-income and children of color in Los Angeles County. Parks are critical, indispensable resources that enable people to live long, productive lives. However, a pronounced lack of access and quality of parks exist, particularly in *Best Start* communities. An urgent response to these inequities can lay the foundation for informed, organized communities that support not just park equity but health equity overall. From a health equity perspective, communities that lack access to parks and open space are the same communities that have high rates of chronic diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, and hypertension. Targeted and deep investments in underserved communities will address increased access to parks and open space which ultimately will improve health outcomes. Simply put, the built environment shapes health outcomes.

The Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation is in the process of conducting a countywide assessment of parks and recreational opportunities in both cities and unincorporated areas. The assessment centers on broad community engagement to gather data and input for future decision-making on parks and recreation. The goal is to increase understanding of existing park and recreation assets and determine how to improve, expand, and make parks more accessible. Once completed, the report will identify, prioritize, and outline costs for potential park projects.

First 5 LA has been participating on the Steering Committee of the Parks Needs Assessment, representing the needs and interests of families with children prenatal to age five. Through this participation, First 5 LA has been able to leverage its own investment in *Best Start* Community Partnerships to provide a platform for parents and residents to engage in the Parks Needs Assessment and inform future County decision-making. To facilitate the Partnerships' engagement and involvement, First 5 LA established a strategic partnership with the Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust (LANLT) to implement a Park Leadership Equity Academy involving *Best Start* Community Partnerships. LANLT is committed to building resources and strategies to promote park equity countywide. The work is focused on engaging grassroots park advocates; building capacity around public policy; and furthering education on the 1975 Quimby Act requiring that developers set aside land, donate conservation easements, or pay fees for park improvements. The investment in LANLT is aligned with First 5 LA's strategy to partner with existing built environment advocacy groups to improve places and spaces in *Best Start* communities.

The panelists will provide the Commission with an overview of the County's comprehensive assessment of the park infrastructure and recreational needs and opportunities as well as the implications for overall park and health equity in underserved communities.

## **First 5 LA Program & Planning Committee Meeting**

**March 30, 2016**

### **Parks & Health Equity: Assessing Los Angeles County Parks Panelists**

#### **Norma E. Garcia, Deputy Director of Planning and Development Agency, Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation**

Norma E. Garcia serves as the Deputy Director of the Planning and Development Agency for Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation. In this capacity, she oversees planning environmental permitting, land management & compliance, landscape architecture & design, water & environmental conservation initiatives for 179 park facilities and nearly 300 miles of trails spanning over 29,000 acres throughout Los Angeles County. Norma is an ardent believer of building better communities and works to achieve this through her active participation in numerous civic and professional organizations. She currently serves as a Governing Board of Trustee for Rio Hondo College and President of the Board of the El Monte Promise Foundation. Norma has formerly served on the El Monte City Planning Commission, Watershed Conservation Authority, the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, the California Community Foundation's - Community Building Initiative and the Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust Board. She has been honored as the 49th Assembly District Latina of the Year in Community Involvement, graduated from the HOPE Leadership Institute and was awarded a Conflict Resolution Fellowship through the U.S. State Department. She graduated from UCLA, earning a bachelor's degree in political science and master's degree in urban planning. Norma and her adventurous family of boys enjoy everything about parks.

#### **Alina Bokde, Executive Director, Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust**

As the Executive Director of the Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust, Alina is responsible for overseeing the development of community green spaces in underserved neighborhoods, as well as working to create park equity through public policy and replicable models to address systemic change. Key to the work of the Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust is community organizing to engage residents as urban conservation stewards in creating and managing parks and gardens. She manages a 22 member staff and oversees a \$2.1 million operating budget and a \$12 million capital projects budget. Prior to joining the Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust, Alina served as Deputy Executive Officer for the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy where she was responsible for the development of the urban lands program. Alina also managed complex conservation-focused real estate transactions as a Project Manager for The Trust for Public Land. She serves on the Board of the California Council of Land Trusts, the City of Los Angeles Proposition O Oversight Committee, and the City of South Gate Oversight Board for its redevelopment agency; she formally served on the Board of Communities for a Better Environment, and is past president of the City of Los Angeles Environmental Affairs Commission. Alina holds a master's degree in community and regional planning from the University of New Mexico, and a bachelor's degree in biology from Macalester College.

# Strategic Plan Implementation: Parks & Health Equity

March 30, 2016

1<sup>ST</sup>  LA  
**first 5 la**  
Giving kids the best start



# Presentation Objectives

- Provide a brief overview of First 5 LA's built environment strategy as outlined in the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan Communities Outcome Focus Area
- Discuss the objectives and opportunities of the LA County Park Needs Assessment
- Highlight advocacy efforts to improve parks as a means to promote health equity

# Communities Outcome Area: 2015-2020 Strategic Plan

Support a community's ability to foster safe, healthy and engaged neighborhoods that help children and their families thrive

Strategy #1  
Communities have a shared vision and act collectively to improve the policies, practices and environments that impact families



Community Partnerships

Strategy #2  
Communities have ECE and health-related services and supports that meet family needs



Community Resource Networks

149

Strategy #3  
Communities have physical places and spaces that promote healthy living and encourage interaction



Built Environment Advocacy

# The Built Environment Advocacy Context

- Opportunities to develop positive, meaningful and lasting connections with others are often influenced by the built environment surrounding them.
- Community members and stakeholders in the *Best Start* communities have consistently highlighted the lack of safe, accessible places and spaces to promote physical health and social connection, particularly for families that are socially isolated.
- First 5 LA made a strategic choice to maximize impact in this area by partnering with existing built environment advocacy groups.<sup>150</sup>
- Promoting health equity - communities that lack access to parks and open space are the same communities that have high rates of chronic diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, and hypertension.
- Increased access to parks and open space will improve health outcomes.

# Partnership and Collaboration Opportunities

- The Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation Department and the Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust are key partners to advance our collective work to improve parks and promote health equity.
- First 5 LA is a member of the Steering Committee of the LA County Parks Needs Assessment
- Leverage investment in Best Start Communities and implementing a Park Leadership Academy
- Partnering with other stakeholders in the Built Environment Arena



**Parks & Health Equity:  
Assessing LA County  
Parks**

152

## Presenters

- LA County Park Assessment – *Norma E. Garcia, Deputy Director, LA County Parks Department*
- Park Equity – *Alina Bokde, Executive Director, LA Neighborhood Land Trust*

we all need

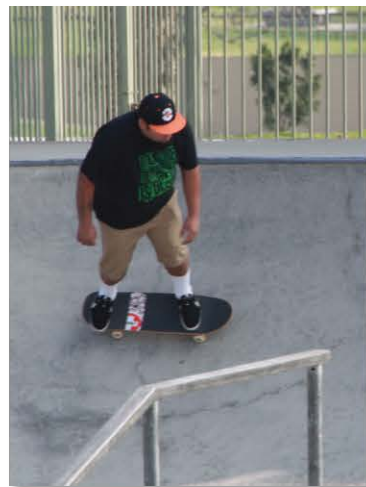


for healthy, thriving and engaged communities

## Presentation to the First 5 LA

March 30, 2016

154



LOS ANGELES COUNTYWIDE COMPREHENSIVE  
PARK & RECREATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT

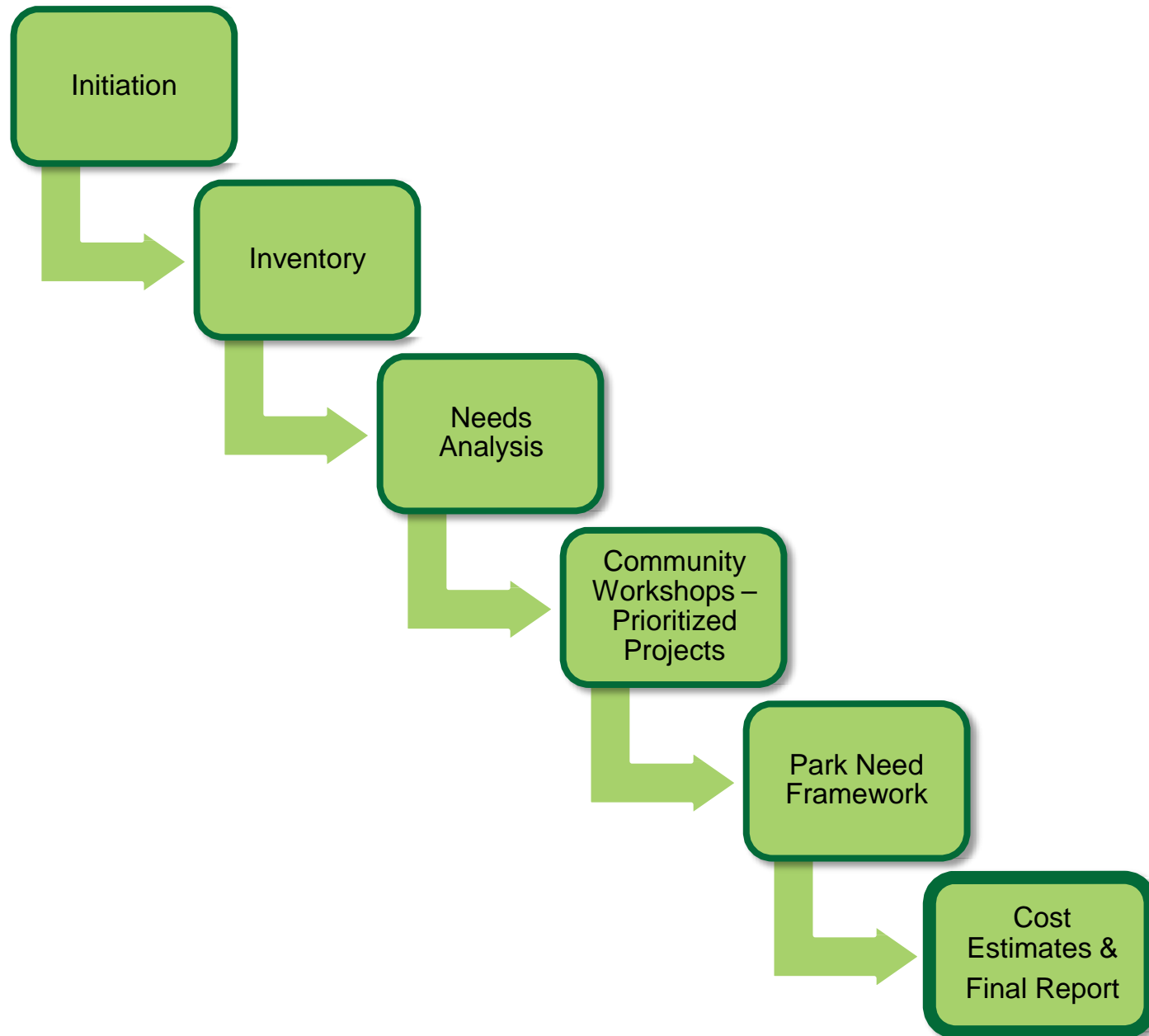
# Objectives

*Conduct a comprehensive assessment of the park, infrastructure and recreational needs and opportunities in Los Angeles County*

- Gather data and information for future decision-making
- Establish a list of priority projects for each study area
- Outline costs for future project opportunities
- Establish a transparent and best-practices approach
- Engage the County, Cities and Communities in a collaborative and shared process
- Build a constituency of support and understanding of the park, infrastructure and recreational needs and opportunities



# Components of the Assessment



156

# Initiation: Steering Committee

## 40 members selected from:

- Community-Based Organizations
- Community-at-Large
- Supervisorial District Staff
- Councils of Government (COGs)
- County Departments:
  - Parks and Recreation
  - Public Health
  - Community & Senior Services
  - Chief Executive Office
- Partnering Agencies:
  - Regional Parks and Open Space District
  - First 5 LA
  - Youth Conservation Corps

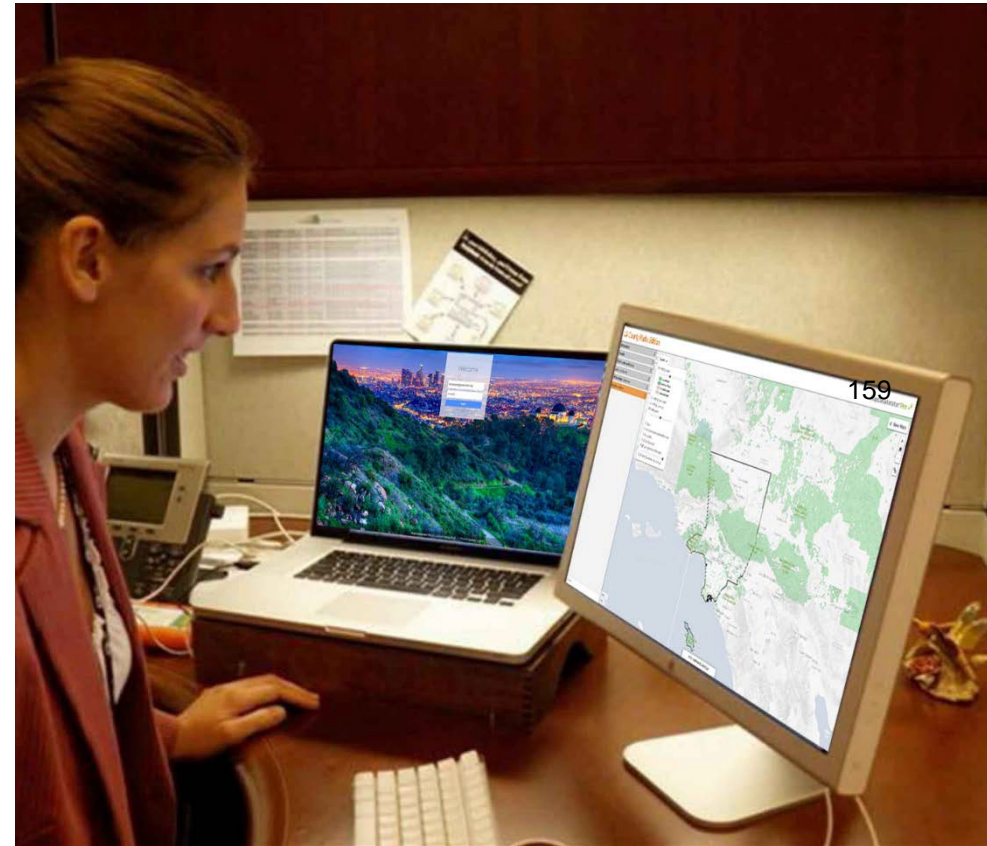




# Inventory: Recreational Assets & Existing Infrastructure Needs

## Included in the inventory:

- City and County parks, such as community parks, neighborhood parks, pocket parks and tot lots
- City and County recreational facilities, such as swimming pools, recreation centers, gyms and skate parks
- Regional parks
- School recreation facilities with joint use agreements
- Trail corridors along flood control channels
- Separately owned public trail right-of-way outside of parks



# Community Engagement & Prioritized Projects

- Community Engagement Workshops in each Study Area
- \$2,500 stipend provided to cities and community-based organizations to do outreach and facilitate meetings
- Toolkit for consistent process throughout the County
- Facilitator training for local agencies and community organizations
- Participants at each workshop generated a list of 10 priority park projects



# Needs Analysis: Park Metrics

## Park Land

How many acres of park are there per 1,000 people?

## Park Access

What percent of the population lives within 1/2 mile of a park?

## Park Pressure

How much park land is available to residents in the area around each park?

## Park Amenities

What amenities are available in each park?

## Park Condition

Is the park in good, fair, or poor condition?

### 6. PARK METRICS



**PARK PRESSURE**  
 How much park land is available to residents in the area around each park?  
 Belvedere Community Park: 3.22

### AMENITY QUANTITIES AND CONDITIONS

Park Name	Condition	Playground	Open Space	Trails	Art	Water	Shade	Lighting	Security	Other	Total
Belvedere Community Park	Good	4	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	13
City Terrace Park	Good	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Lugares Community Park	Good	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
Franklin Square Park	Good	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7
Superfondo Park	Good	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7
<b>Totals:</b>		<b>11</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>60</b>

### AMENITY CONDITIONS SUMMARY



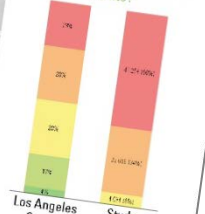
### WHERE ARE PARKS MOST NEEDED?



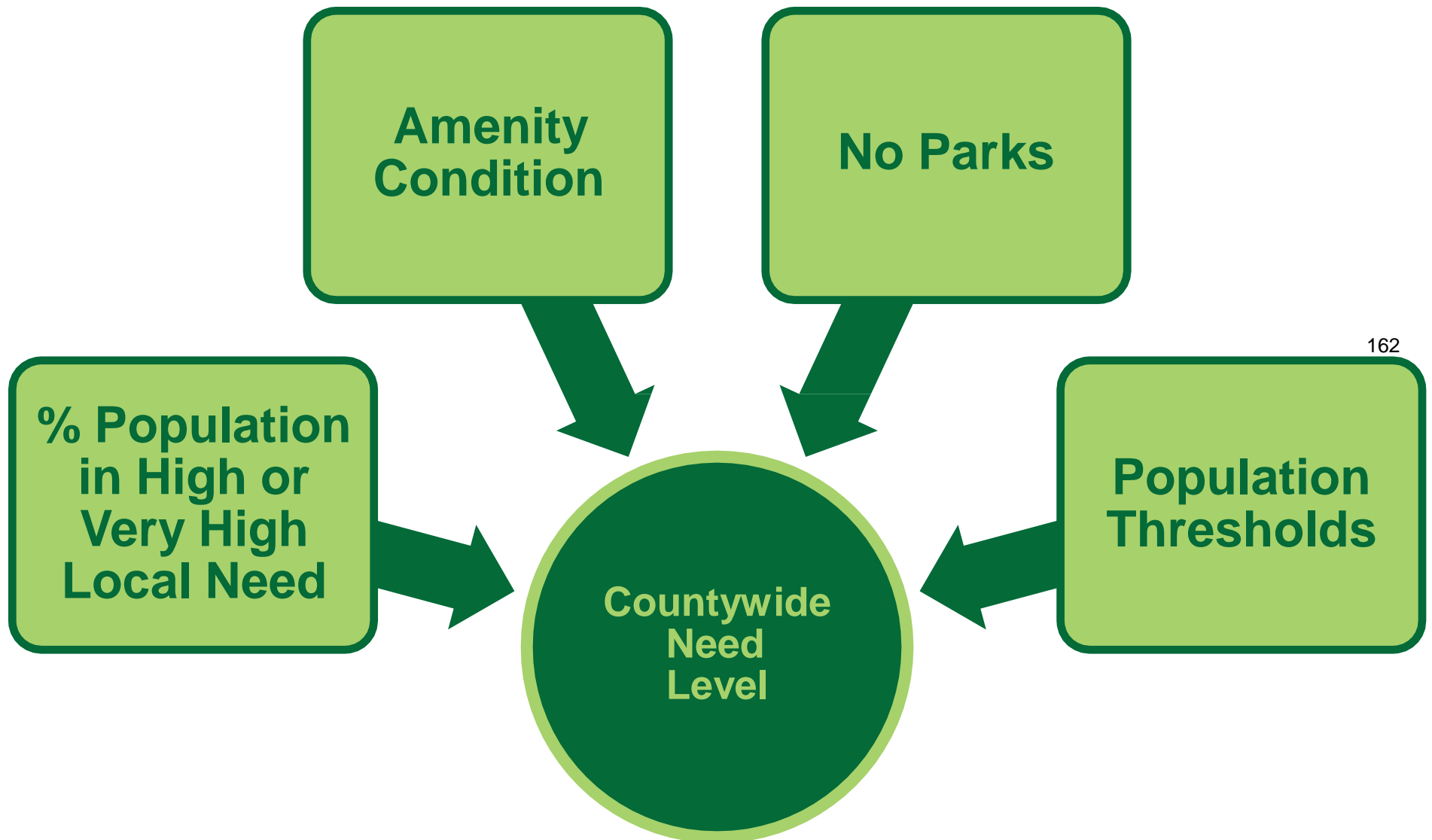
**PARK NEED** calculated using the following weighting: 40% Park Acre Need + 20% Distance to Parks + 40% Population Density



### HOW MANY PEOPLE NEED PARKS?



# Park Needs Framework



# Park Needs Framework

**% Population  
in High or  
Very High  
Need**

More than 30% of residents are in Very High need

Approximately 20% of residents are in High Need

Initial Need Category	% pop. in “High” or “Very High” need	# of Study Areas
Very Low	0-1%	37
Low	1 – 23%	36
Moderate	23 – 50%	44
High	50 – 75%	29
Very High	75 – 100%	40

# Park Needs Assessment – Next Steps

- The Department of Parks and Recreation will submit the Final Report to the County Board of Supervisors in May 2016.



164

- The Board of Supervisors may use the results to:

- Inform future County park planning decisions
- Inform potential future County park funding decisions



Mark Ridley-Thomas    Hilda L. Solis    Michael D. Antonovich    Sheila Kuehl    Don Knabe

we all need



for healthy, thriving and engaged communities

<http://lacountyparkneeds.org/>



LOS ANGELES COUNTYWIDE COMPREHENSIVE  
PARK & RECREATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT

# Park Equity is Health Equity

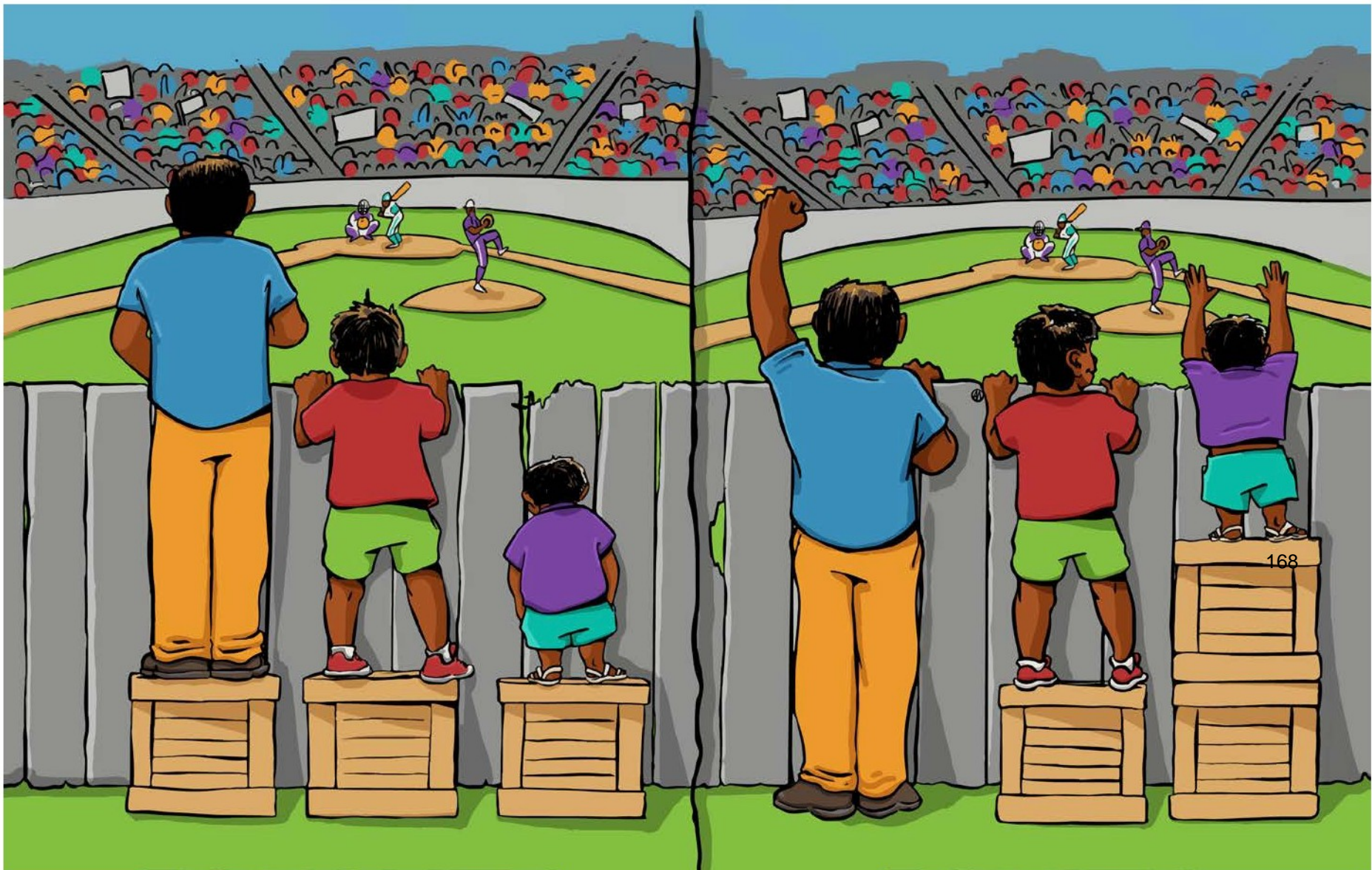
**Alina Bokde**  
**Executive Director**



# MISSION

- **ACTIVELY PROMOTE PARK EQUITY AND FOOD JUSTICE** in low income communities of color
- **ORGANIZE** neighbors around park design and stewardship
- **BUILD AND MANAGE** parks in park-poor neighborhoods
- **DEVELOP** local leadership for community and social action



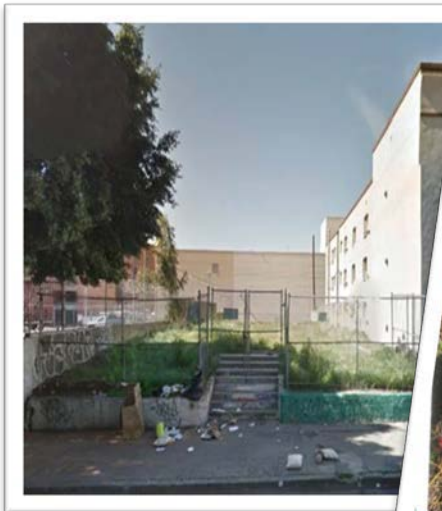


**EQUALITY**

**EQUITY**

# NEEDS

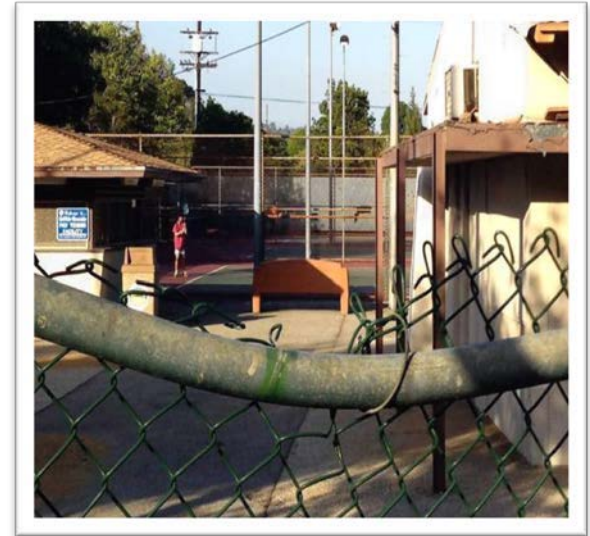
- 12 year life expectancy gap reported between Watts-Willowbrook Best Start Community and Bel Air driven in part by lack of safe, accessible park space
- Low-income, non-white neighborhoods have least access to parks
- Older, denser have less park space and poorer quality facilities
- Income, race, and ethnicity are determinates of recreational resource allocation
- Low-income communities of color highly reliant on public facilities for physical activity programming and education.



169

# URGENCY

- Park access disparities will continue to grow without substantive policy and systems change
- Growing population and real estate pressures make park acquisition and development increasingly difficult
- Deferred maintenance grows in cost yearly. In other words, disparities are more expensive to correct the longer we wait
- The lack of an organized and informed base to support environment, policy, and systems change drives park equity to the bottom of the political agenda.



# OPPORTUNITIES

- Park proximity is associated with higher levels of park use and physical activity across populations and age groups, especially youth of color.
- Having more park and more park area within in a community is associated with higher physical activity levels.
- Perceived park aesthetics, condition, and safety are associated with park visitation and physical activity within parks.
- Park renovations can increase use of facilities and increase vigorous physical activity among children.



# WHAT WE CAN DO

- Leverage results from County's Park Needs Assessment which will provide the first unified, comprehensive baseline of park needs in LA County (a national first!)
- Development of an urban parks agenda and base utilizing the Best Start Communities
- Implementation and evaluation of policies that support equitable land-use like parks, joint-use, and greening vacant land.
- Unify Agencies and Departments in an "all-in" strategy for expanding park access, quality, and programming



# IF WE ACT NOW

- Stem the tide of growing park and health disparities
- Provide “triple bottom-line” benefits to our health, our environment, and communities
- Foster community-based and community-led leadership equipped with capacity to address all drivers of health inequity
- Develop resources, networks, and capacity to support health equity



# THANK YOU



174

Contact Information  
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FIRST 5 LA

**SUBJECT:**

**HEALTH-RELATED SYSTEMS OUTCOME UPDATE – UPCOMING LAUNCHES FOR TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE AND HELP ME GROW, GROUNDED IN A PARTNERSHIP-BUILDING APPROACH**

**BACKGROUND:**

On July 1, 2015, the Commission officially began implementation of the FY 2015-2020 Strategic Plan which prioritizes outcomes, strategies and investment areas involving families, early childhood education, communities, health, mental health and substance abuse systems improvement (health-related systems). Within the health-related systems outcome, the Commission has outlined two specific areas of priority focus, which include:

- 1) Trauma-informed care (TI-C), and
- 2) Early identification of developmental/behavioral delays, screening/assessment and connection to services (Help Me Grow framework)

The strategic plan also clearly articulates our mission, which is that First 5 LA, in partnership with others, strengthens families, communities and systems of services and supports, so that all children in LA County enter kindergarten ready to succeed in school and life. Given how much the success of our collective work hinges on building strong relationships with external partners, as implementation activities continue into 2016, staff is engaging in a range of partnership-building activities with County agencies, philanthropic funders, and a diversity of health and early childhood development experts. These individuals and agencies have helped guide and support staff thinking, planning and implementation as we build the infrastructure necessary to launch two major efforts over the next few months – the Trauma-informed care working group (April) and the Help Me Grow (HMG) leadership team (May).

This presentation builds on past presentations to the Commission on the Health strategies. Most recently, at the November 2015 Program and Planning Committee meeting, Patsy Hampton from the First 5 Association provided an overview of the Help Me Grow framework, the spread of HMG across the nation, and key leveraging and funding opportunities. On September 10th, 2015, staff organized a panel focused on TI-care which included Cecilia Chen, Associate Director at The Center for Youth Wellness and coordinator of the Statewide ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences) Policy Working Group, of which First 5 LA is a participant; Lisa Kohn, Project Coordinator with the State Department of Justice Defending Childhood Initiative; and Mary Lou Fulton, Senior Program Manager with The California Endowment. The panel presented to the Board on the background/history of local, state and federal level policy/systems change efforts related to trauma-informed care.

**DISCUSSION:**

The purpose of the staff presentation is to provide Commissioners a brief overview of progress underway during this first year of implementation (fiscal year 2015-16), culminating in the launch of two exciting efforts in the coming months, which include the Trauma-informed care working group (April 1st) and the Help Me Grow leadership team (May 20th).

As we build towards these two launches, a key highlight of implementation activities is related to how grounded and authentic staff work has been in partnership-building, a fundamental principle of our strategic plan. We recognize that First 5 LA's success in reaching our overall Health outcome – which is to improve the capacity of health, mental health and substance abuse systems to meet the needs of children prenatal to age 5 and their families – is dependent on establishing strong

partnerships with entities who share a vested interest in improving these same systems, and who also have a willingness and readiness to work in collaboration towards that same north star. To that end, staff has been engaged in work to develop, cultivate and maintain partners essential to accomplishing our intended outcomes. We understand that partnerships must be developed and cultivated at the front-end of our investments so that partners are engaged and committed to the design, development and advancement of the work. The solutions and strategies must be jointly developed in order to be beneficial to all partners. This has always been an important intent and desire for the Commission, and it is being operationalized concretely through the strategies and activities outlined in our current strategic plan.

Staff has drawn from relevant resources, research, First 5 LA's past experience, and reached out to a number of experts to help guide our approach towards partnership-building. One resource that has helped to ground our thinking is "**The Pillars of Partnership**" article (attachment A) by Barbara Anderson, Director of Strategic Partnerships at the Orfalea Foundation. The article discusses a number of important components or "pillars" of effective partnerships. One of the most fundamental pillars is a common understanding and agreement amongst all partners that the collective vision we seek is unattainable alone. Another important pillar is that the shared outcomes of any effort must align with and advance the mission of all partners. Relatedly, strategic partnerships must leverage the strengths specific to engaged parties.

As our staff work related to partnership-building has evolved over the last year, many of these "pillars" have been considered and implemented in our approach as we develop and cultivate partners in a systematic way. For both strategy areas, staff has been working to develop partnerships by first coming to an understanding/agreement of our overall outcome and how our joint engagement in the work is critical to our collective success. That said, we have also been working closely with individual partners to identify how engagement in the partnership could be beneficial to advancing their specific agency efforts and goals. We recognize that the partnership must be of value to them in order for the work to be sustained in the long-term.

While there are many commonalities related to our partnership-building approach across the Health outcome area, there are some notable differences as we build the infrastructure for each of the strategies, Help Me Grow (HMG) and Trauma-informed care. The ultimate outcome for HMG is to advocate for policy and practice changes to support efforts to improve coordination and functioning of development screening, assessment and early intervention programs. This outcome is very closely and uniquely aligned to our identity as a First 5 Commission. In California, 28 county Commissions are either already a HMG affiliate or part of the HMG learning community, which is an important step towards becoming an affiliate. In March 2016, HMG-Los Angeles County (HMG—LA) was accepted in the HMG learning community. Therefore, First 5 LA serves more of a leadership role in this strategy by convening the county's developmental services system partners around this issue to leverage resources, build bridges between cross-sector partners and achieve the ultimate goal of a high functioning and well-coordinated developmental screening, assessment and early intervention system so children can enter kindergarten ready to succeed.

Our approach to partnership-building for the Trauma-informed care strategy is a bit different. In this area, we are taking more of a "back-seat" approach in that we recognize that in some ways, First 5 LA is new to this work and we have therefore chosen to join with other leading foundations to collectively identify the systems impact that can be achieved. In this area, less is defined and we are acting more as a convener and facilitator of the effort. For purposes of our presentation, we will call out some of the distinct commonalities and differences related to our partnership-building approach for each strategy within Health. We will also highlight, for each strategy, significant partnerships that have developed over the last year, the evolution of the partnership, the unique opportunities of the partnership, and how we are moving forward together. This is included in the following sections.

### **Upcoming Launch: Trauma-Informed Care Working Group (April 1, 2016)**

For TI-C, on April 1, 2016, First 5 LA, in partnership with The California Endowment, California Community Foundation and The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation, will launch a systems change effort to transform Los Angeles into a trauma informed county. The convening on April 1<sup>st</sup> will bring together leadership representing a cross-section of County agencies, philanthropic partners, and experts from various sectors, including the non-profit, health and education sectors. First 5 LA joins this field with a deep sense of humility, recognizing that while we have funded trauma-informed efforts in the past, this systems change approach is new. In order to contribute to the systems level impact we seek, we need multiple partners at the table. Therefore, as staff developed this strategy over the last year, we engaged in partnership-building and information-gathering efforts to better understand the field. Through that process, we began to identify other philanthropic peers who had a history of contributing to the field of trauma and trauma-informed care. We identified The California Endowment, who has funded this type of work in schools and communities. The California Community Foundation recognized the importance of this work and expressed interest in learning more about the field by contributing to a jointly-funded environmental scan. And, The Ralph M Parsons Foundation has a strong interest in the highly traumatized foster care population, who also interact with various systems of care. Having identified these common interests amongst these philanthropic partners, First 5 LA then worked with each of the foundations to make a commitment to support the initial infrastructure to catalyze this effort. Since this initial commitment was in place, First 5 LA staff has met with staff from the other three foundations over the course of the last 7 months to discuss a shared vision for an initial convening, developing a pooled fund to support future efforts, including an environmental scan and ongoing trauma-informed care work group that would commit to developing an action plan for Los Angeles County.

### **Upcoming Launch: Help Me Grow Leadership Committee (May 20, 2016)**

On May 20, 2016, First 5 LA, in partnership with L.A. CARE Health plan, will host a countywide convening to launch HMG-LA. This event not only launches our countywide effort but begins to officially brand and communicate HMG-LA as an innovative framework that builds on existing county resources to identify at-risk children and connect them and their families to community-based programs and services. The framework includes four core components: 1) Child Health Provider Outreach, 2) Community and Family Outreach, 3) Data Collection and Analysis, and 4) Centralized Access Point. In order to build and sustain a successful HMG-LA, it is critical to create partnerships with existing countywide systems. This ensures that HMG-LA is developed to address gaps in the system rather than duplicate existing services and that HMG-LA can address pain points within the system so that families, as well as providers, can navigate it effectively. HMG-LA can only be successful if the framework is shaped by and implemented with the support of organizations that can potentially support this work after First 5 LA's initial investment. With regards to this critical piece, L.A. Care Health Plan is one of the first and key partners at the table and is working closely with First 5 LA staff on the buildout of the framework by meeting monthly, forming a communications workgroup and utilizing their expertise and knowledge to tackle foundational issues related to HMG-LA infrastructure development. L.A. Care was identified as a key partner early on due to its existing relationship with First 5 LA, its standing as the largest public health plan in the country and capacity to reach approximately 40% of all LA County children ages 0-5 in Medi-Cal (242,000 children). May 20<sup>th</sup> will officially launch the HMG-LA effort into an intensive period of leadership and partnership development around a countywide leadership team and multiple workgroups that will inform and help shape the buildout of HMG-LA. We expect that these groups will begin meeting from July/August of 2016 into January/February of 2017. Through March to May 2017, open solicitations and/or strategic partnerships will be developed and released. It is anticipated that funding to implement HMG-LA will be awarded by Fall of 2017.

**Additional information can be found here:**

Andersen, Barbara. "The Pillars of Partnership," The Power of Philanthropic Partnerships, Fall 2015. Accessed 3/21/16 at [http://ssir.org/articles/entry/the\\_pillars\\_of\\_partnership](http://ssir.org/articles/entry/the_pillars_of_partnership).

Help Me Grow national website, [www.helpmegrownational.org](http://www.helpmegrownational.org)

-Help Me Grow timeline (included in powerpoint presentation).

-Trauma-informed care timeline (included in powerpoint presentation).

# Stanford SOCIAL INNOVATION REVIEW

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***Sponsored Supplement***  
**The Pillars of Partnership**  
By Barbara Andersen

Stanford Social Innovation Review  
Fall 2015

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# The Pillars of Partnership

When funders and grantees are aligned on mission and trust one another, lasting change stands a chance.

✿ BY BARBARA ANDERSEN

In business, the idea is to align everyone toward the same profit-driven goal. One would think that foundations and their grantees would share a similar mentality—after all, aren't we all driven to eradicate social ills?

Well, maybe, or then again, maybe not. Foundations and grantees are sometimes aligned only in the broadest sense. Drill down a level or two, and you will often discover competing priorities. That's because although a funder may prioritize one issue—say, emergency readiness—and allocate resources to making progress on that front, potential grantees are almost always already working to achieve their own organizational missions, which may not completely overlap with that of the funder. Unfortunately, some nonprofits will pivot to access additional resources even if doing so compromises their own goals.

The situation, though, suggests an important difference between everyday grantees and true partners. A grantee provides a service or operates a program that is aligned with a funder's priorities. Partners already share the funder's vision, and are even more motivated to achieve their goals with the additional funding support. Ideally, the funder and grantee collaborate to articulate a shared vision, improve how they work as they adapt to each other's approach, and inspire buy-in from additional stakeholders.

At The Orfalea Fund, we aspired to that ideal. We sought partners in all aspects of our work, from responsive grantmaking to strategic initiatives. As a small foundation with limited staff and finite resources, we knew that working in partnership would not always be the most comfortable option. But we also knew that partnerships would be essential to achieving the social change we sought.

BARBARA ANDERSEN is director of strategic partnerships at the Orfalea Foundation.

It wasn't easy. We experienced many challenges in initiating and sustaining partnerships, and found it necessary to develop a framework to assess our current partners and vet future partners, and guide us during the inevitable rough spots of developing and sustaining relationships. We called our framework the Six Pillars of Partnership, and we share it here in the hopes that others will find it as useful as we have. (See "The Six Pillars of Strategic Partnership" below.)

Our pillars aren't earth-shattering; some of them may even seem common sense. But we have seen firsthand that common sense is sometimes blinded by naiveté and hope—or by narrow thinking and funder interest. We have learned that funders need to be honest and transparent about their expectations for

the short and long term, and so do the nonprofits they support. If that transparency does not exist, neither party can be expected to adapt to the other's evolving situation, perspective, and needs. Communication is essential to building trust, and building trust is paramount in developing mutually beneficial partnerships.

As the fund approaches its sunset we are ever more mindful about how we communicate with our partners, create mutual expectations for success, maintain trust with and empower our colleagues, and ensure that our investments can continue to demonstrate value and be leveraged well into the future. It is a bittersweet but gratifying role to be in as we watch our partners take full ownership of our co-created vision. ✕

## The Six Pillars of Strategic Partnership

An effective partnership...

- 1. Reforms ineffective and/or inefficient systems** | We engage in partnerships to build scale and continuity otherwise unattainable on our own, to solve problems others either do not see or are unwilling to tackle.
- 2. Aligns with and advances the missions of all partners** | We ensure alignment of interests and values to reduce doubt and improve trust essential to risk-taking.
- 3. Fosters an entrepreneurial approach to problem-solving** | We form partnerships to achieve what has not been done before, requiring creativity, adaptability, bold action, and an attitude of possibility and embracing challenges.
- 4. Leverages strengths specific to engaged parties** | We choose partners whose knowledge, capacity, and experience are complementary and targeted to achieving the desired outcomes, and who are willing to learn and make adjustments along the way.
- 5. Focuses on building stakeholder empowerment** | We leverage existing strengths, build new skills, provide educational opportunities, and build pathways of success for beneficiaries by accessing current data and resource experts in the field to build on the overall stakeholder body of knowledge.
- 6. Commits to the attainment of visible, measurable results** | We work with our partners to develop a continuous improvement cycle, in which all partners use both data and empirical observation to refine strategies and assess progress. We are committed to explaining what was accomplished so others may take up the challenge in their own communities. We are open to honest assessments of what works and what doesn't, and to making improvements along the way.

# Strategic Plan Implementation Update: Health-Related Systems

Special Meeting of the Board of  
Commissioners / Program and  
Planning Committee

March 30, 2016



# Presentation Purpose

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## *Review:*

- Health-Related Systems Implementation to Date, Grounded in Partnership-Building
- Two Upcoming Launches:
  - 1) Trauma-Informed Care – April 1st
  - 2) Help Me Grow – May 20th

183

# Health-Related Systems Outcome Area

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## Outcome

- To improve how health-related systems – such as health, mental health, and substance abuse services – coordinate and deliver care to young children and their families.

184

## 2 Key Strategies

- Trauma Informed Care
- Developmental Screening/ Surveillance & Connection to Services

# Early Implementation: Grounded in Partnership-Building

## Partnerships

- **Building partnerships at the planning stage of new investments**
- **Reforming systems is unattainable alone**
- **Aligning with/advancing the mission of all partners**
- **Leveraging strengths specific to engaged parties**
- **Committing to the attainment of visible, measurable results**

185

# Two Upcoming Launches: Initial Partners

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April 1<sup>st</sup>

## Trauma-Informed Care

- Initial co-conveners: California Endowment, California Community Foundation, and Ralph M. Parsons Foundation

May 20<sup>th</sup>

## Developmental Screening & Connection to Services System/ Help Me Grow(HMG)

- Key Initial Partner: L.A. CARE Health Plan


186

# Significance of TIC

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Impact of trauma = long term negative implications



Physical and socio-emotional well-being and brain development of children is affected by the parent/ caregiver-provider relationship and the interaction with the child serving systems

187

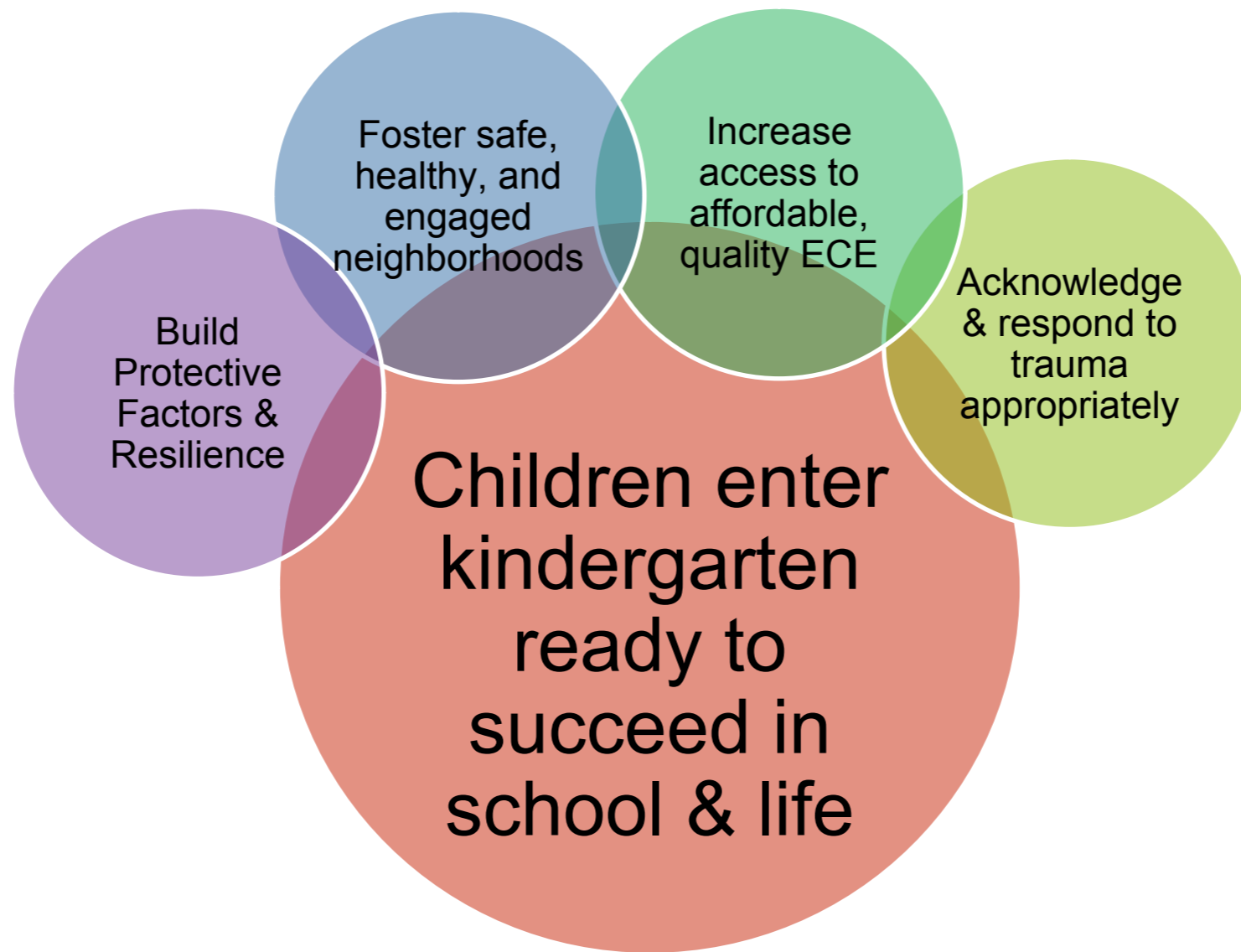


Navigating systems is complex

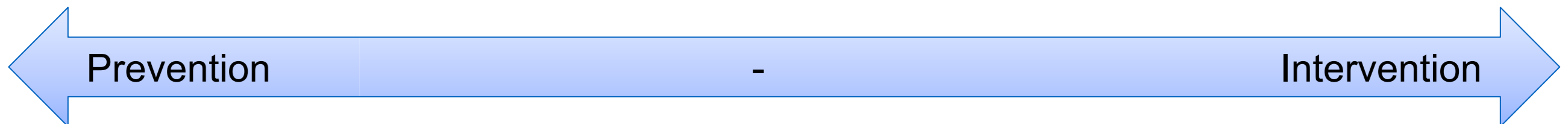


Integration across all strategic plan outcome areas

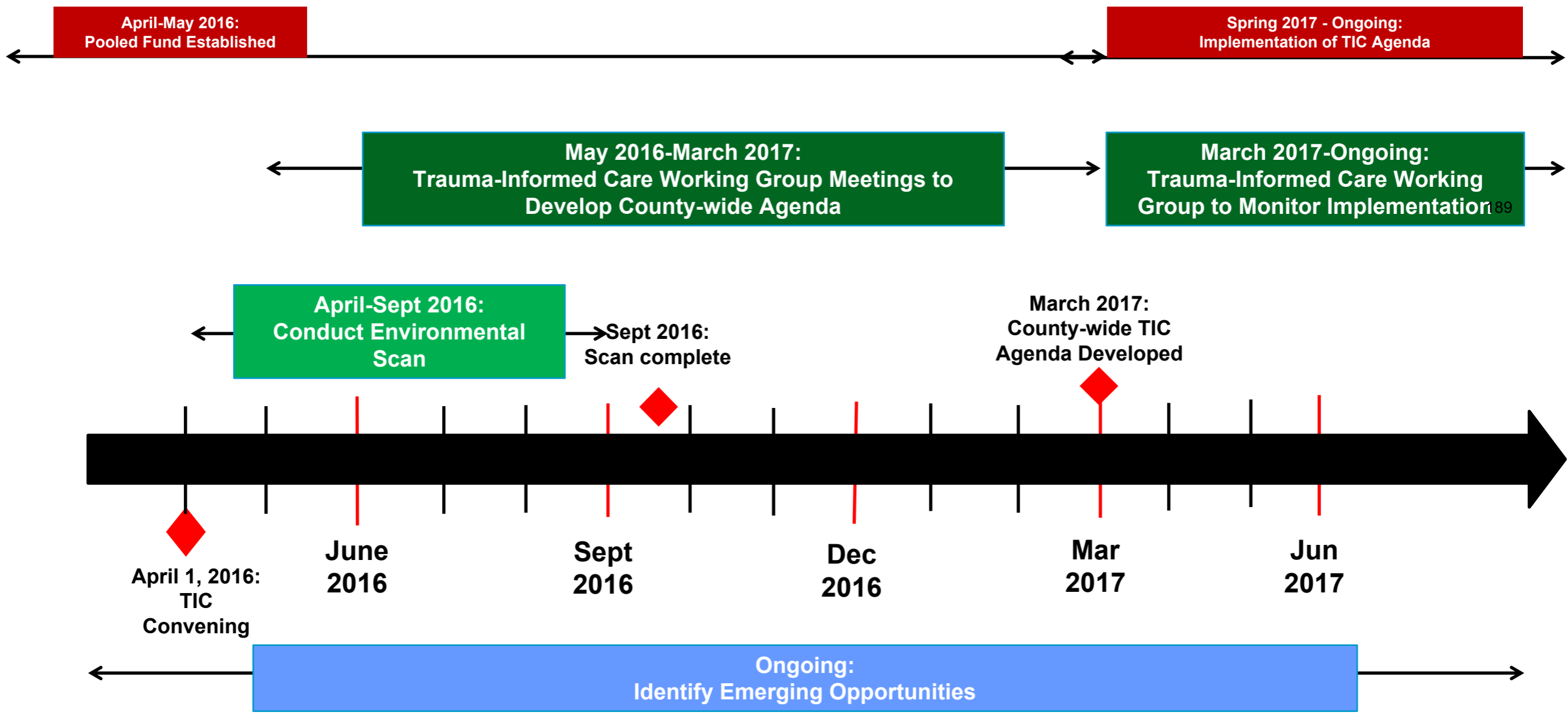
# Trauma Prevention-Intervention Spectrum



188



# Trauma-Informed Care Systems Change Timeline



# TI-Care Partnership Development: Opportunities and Next Steps

Opportunity to consider sustainability on the front end

190

Partnership development through alignment of shared interests

## Next Steps

- Pooled Fund to catalyze & support initial work (i.e. work group & environmental scan)

# Significance of Developmental Screening/Connection to Services

Children are too often eluding early detection (1 in 5 children ages 0-5 is at-risk for delay)

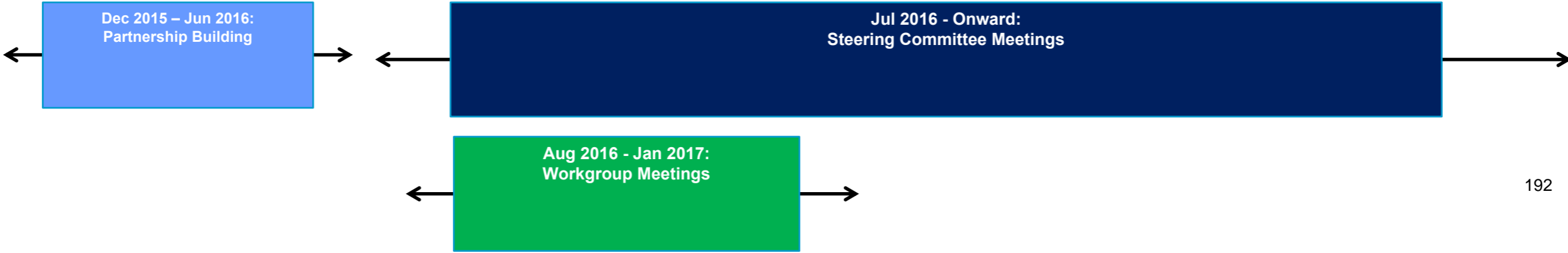
Even when children are identified as at-risk, it's difficult for families to navigate the developmental services system

191

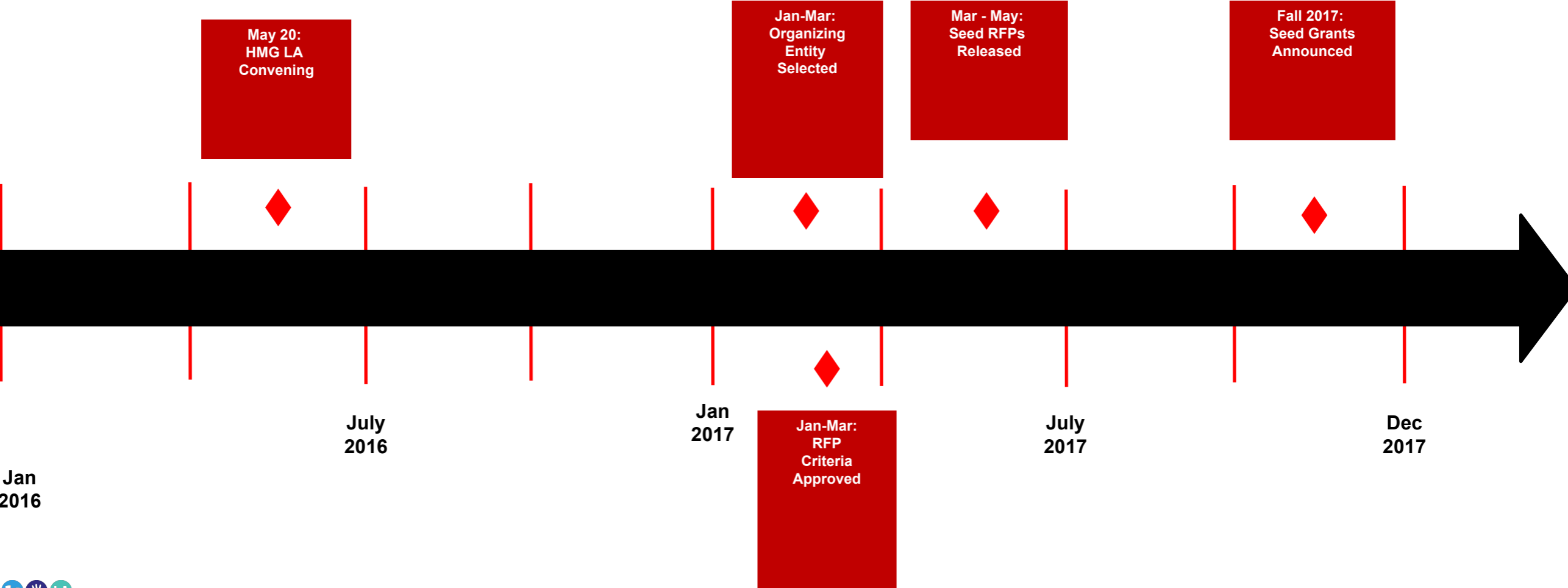
Only when developmental/behavioral delays are detected early AND children are connected to services can they have best outcomes in school and in life

Each sector has own approach/system for serving a child BUT, in order for a child to experience the best outcomes, care coordination and collaboration between service providers is needed

# Developmental Screening & Connection to Services System/Help Me Grow Timeline



192



# HMG-LA Partnership Development: Opportunities

## L.A. Care Health Plan Partnership

- One of the first cross-sector system partners
- July 1, 2003 start of funding relationship with F5LA
- Largest public health plan in country
- Serves approximately 40% of LA County's children (ages 0-5) enrolled in Medi-Cal

193

## HMG-LA Working Partnership

- Meet monthly, serve on a communications workgroup, utilize expertise to inform HMG-LA build out
- Conduct joint outreach to develop relationships with health, education and community-based partners

# HMG-LA Partnership Development: Next Steps

## Now through Summer of 2016:

- Engage key cross-sector partners by identifying alignment to HMG framework, confirming HMG value proposition and analyzing potential for sustainability
- Solidify HMG-LA Leadership Team and workgroup members (around 4 core components)
- To support HMG-LA partnership, utilize consulting expertise to provide facilitation, content development, and coordination/management of Leadership Team and workgroups

194

## Summer of 2016 through Winter 2017:

- Leadership and workgroups meet to inform criteria for HMG-LA

## Spring 2017: Develop and release RFPs

## Fall 2017: Award funding and begin HMG-LA implementation