Date: January 15, 2019

To: Patrick H. West, City Manager

From: Kelly Colopy, Director of Health and Human Services

For: Mayor and Members of the City Council

Subject: 2019 Point-in-Time Homeless Count

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires that all Continuum of Care (CoC) jurisdictions complete a point-in-time (PIT) count of people experiencing homelessness on the streets and in residential-based locations every two years during the last week of January. These PIT counts are conducted to arrive at local, regional, and national counts defining the scope of homelessness across the nation. The results from this count are reported in the CoC competitive application process each year to assess existing resources, identify gaps, and to highlight progress made towards ending homelessness as part of the “Opening Doors Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness.”

The PIT count involves two distinct processes - a residential-based count of all people living in emergency and transitional housing programs in Long Beach and a street-based count. For the street-based count, the Long Beach jurisdiction will be divided into 47 GIS mapped segments and canvassed by a team of volunteers. Along with the street count component is the service locations count, whereby food banks, employment one-stop centers, and transit areas are also canvassed.

The Long Beach CoC network of service providers work together to conduct the biennial homeless count. The PIT count is a necessary component in Long Beach’s annual CoC competitive application that yields approximately $9 million in annual federal dollars to support addressing homelessness. It is vital that City leaders mobilize the community to participate in this count and encourage participation to learn about homeless services and the resources in the City, as well as to provide Citywide outreach and engagement to people experiencing homelessness in Long Beach.

The 2019 PIT Homeless Count is scheduled for Thursday, January 24, 2019, rain or shine. City Council offices are strongly encouraged to participate in this event, canvassing a map segment in each council district, volunteering at the Multi-Service Center on the day of the count, or by donating food and beverages to support the 300 volunteers who participate in this critical process.

If you desire additional information, please contact Shannon Parker, Homeless Services Officer, at (562) 570-4581.

ATTACHMENT

cc: CHARLES PARKIN, CITY ATTORNEY
    LAURA DOUD, CITY AUDITOR
    TOM MODICA, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER
    KEVIN JACKSON, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER
    REBECCA GARNER, ADMINISTRATIVE DEPUTY TO THE CITY MANAGER
    DEPARTMENT HEADS
The 2017 Homeless Count was conducted on January 26, 2017 with the help of over 400 community members. Data collected during this process is based on self-report.
Survey respondents who identified as:

- LGBTQ: 58 People
- Students: 61 People
- Former Foster Care: 101 People

59% of respondents reported a disabling condition*

- Mental Illness: 53%
- Substance Use Disorder: 35%
- HIV: 5%

Six Year Trend

- Unsheltered
- Sheltered
- Chronic

Map Comparison

Maps reflect data collected during the street enumeration portion of the count process.

*Percentages reflect duplicative counts as respondents may report multiple disabling conditions.