



Transmitted via email on:
March 13, 2008

Re: 2008-20014 Housing Element

Rebecca Isaacs
Executive Director

Michael Arnold
Chief Operating Officer

Board of Commissioners

Larry Adamson
Chair

Douglas Mirell
Vice-Chair

Rebecca Ávila

Howard Katz

Antonio Manning

Rev. Cecil L. Murray

Owen Newcomer

Louisa Ollague

Ramona Ripston

Administrative Office

453 S. Spring Street
12th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90013

213 683.3333 - Ph
213 892.0093 - Fx
213 553.8488 - TTY

www.lahsa.org

Dear Colleague:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) to offer you our assistance as you draft and adopt your housing element update for 2008-2014.

LAHSA is a Joint Powers Authority established in 1993 as an independent agency by the County and the City of Los Angeles. As the lead agency in the Los Angeles Continuum of Care, LAHSA coordinates and manages over \$67 million dollars annually in Federal, State, County and City funds for homeless services across Los Angeles County. LAHSA also performs policy and planning research and analysis, with the goal of supporting, creating and sustaining solutions to homelessness.

As you know, State law requires each housing element to include an analysis of the special housing needs of the homeless, which must then be addressed by specific action programs. In addition, under Senate Bill 2, each housing element must identify zones where emergency shelters can locate "by right" and must analyze any constraints to the development of emergency, transitional or permanent housing.

I encourage you to use LAHSA as a resource during your community's analysis and program planning efforts. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to help.

To that end, you will find attached a list of policies enacted by cities across California in their housing elements. You will also find a sample inventory of homeless services by city and a brief overview of SB2. Additional information, including LAHSA's 2007 Homeless Count, can be obtained by contacting Paria Kooklan, LAHSA Policy & Planning Analyst, at 213-225-6549, as well as through our website, www.lahsa.org.

We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Isaacs
Executive Director