

Lopez, Maria [COB]

From: Pat D <pat7oaks@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2021 12:18 AM
To: Page, Leon; COB_Response; Chaffee, Doug
Subject: BOS Comments

Attention: This email originated from outside the County of Orange. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

Dear Mr Page,

Because of my medical disability/condition and my COVID-19 vulnerability, I continue to be advised by my health care professionals to maintain my shelter-at-home status during the COVID pandemic. This renders me unable to attend the Board meeting in person. Therefore, I am submitting my comments here and I ask that you accommodate my needs under ADA by reading these remarks into the record at the appropriate time.

I am concerned why you have not responded to my ask what you are doing to coordinate and provide for real time virtual comments from those of us sheltering at home? Even with the vaccine being in that Board room is not likely to occur anytime soon.

Thank you
Pat Davis

Item 10

I can hardly wait to hear how members of the board will spin "how well we are doing in OC" as relates to the impact of COVID - 19. You know COVID continues to devastate our families and communities. The Othena registration program is not working and as vaccine sites are moving along (thanks to the workers on site) the waits and access issues for the elderly and those without transportation are harming many. And locations, why is there not a large vaccination pod location in Santa Ana, one of the most impacted communities? However you think your pricey PR program is working, your inadequacy and incompetencies are seen by all!

In January 2021, 40 persons died without fixed abode on the streets of Orange County. (Last January there were 23.) In case you missed it, I encourage you to read Mr. Riley's story in the very poignant Opinion piece in the Voice of OC - "Retiring into Homelessness and Dying on the Streets of San Clemente". It perfectly captures how deadly your system of care is in its current form. (<https://voiceofoc.org/2021/02/mikulec-retiring-into-homelessness-and-dying-on-the-streets-of-san-clemente/>) This is inexcusable, especially with the Roomkey program funded since last April allowing for reimbursements to cover 75% of motel room costs for the at risk unhoused population including those in the highly infected shelters/congregate living environs. (Don't get me going on the Sheriff and his mismanagement of COVID in the jails, denying court orders to come up with a reasonable social distancing plan.) Took you months to get going on Roomkey and never were those persons/families on the street fully served. Your use of CARES monies will always be a big question as to irregularities in allocation and spending. The County and your incompetent though favored service providers underutilized what was available to protect our unhoused friends. Now, more than two weeks into FEMA reimbursing at 100% of project roomkey style arrangements, why are your providers still so slow in getting people safely housed in motel rooms? There are so many target populations that would benefit from this help. The confusion over timely reimbursement has kept some agencies from utilizing the program. Yes, that reimbursement is at 100% and now we find it is retroactive to the beginning of the program! RETROACTIVE! You failed to get the program up and running using the resources as intended and 100% return would be a win-win had you done the work so needed. Instead you caused deaths, massive outbreaks and a public that cannot trust you if they ever did. There are no excuses that are acceptable, but I know you will come up with some doozies. I repeat - you have chosen to let people deteriorate and often die. Many still await the promised contacts and call backs for too many days if ever. All of you know that single room occupancy type of "housing" saves lives and supports struggling motel/hotel hospitality businesses. Your shelters are virus bowls, life altering and deadly for many. By the way, how many you served are now in housing - not shelters - housing?

I hope whatever higher power you recognize, if any, you are offered mercy for your incompetence - unfortunately from those of us losing our friends and family, it will never be forgiveness!.

Public Comment:

Lest you forget, folx are still dying on the street as the collective County and City outreach programs for our unhoused are not working. In fact they are DEADLY! Almost twice as many have died in January of 2021 as compared to January 2020. Today at 12:15 the monthly Office of the Dead Memorial for the Homeless will be held via Zoom at Saint Philip Benizi's church in Fullerton.

Our 40 Brothers and Sisters who died here in Orange County "Without Fixed Abode" (Homeless) during the Month of January 2021 (source: OC Coroner's Office)

In Memoriam please say their names:

Dong YI

Miguel LOPEZ

Samantha HERZIK

Michael LLAMAS

Dionte VALDEZ

Leuren LOSITO

Salvador AVILABRAVO

Jose PANO MEDINA

Albert ARCHIBEQUE JR

Edith GUZMAN

Dean TELASKY

Leon WILLIAMS

Kathleen HURLEY

Hermenegildo ORTEGA

Jeffrey JENKINS-SMITH

Algerine CLARK

Rick GARCIA

Max GAMBOA

David BANKS

Hector AGUIRRE

Patrick MCKENNA

Eva AMEZCUA

Martin ZAPATALARA

Donald PIERCE

Nicholas JARVIS

Daniel HUDSON

Antonio RODRIGUEZ

Harold ROSE

James SALISBURY

Lonnie MORGAN

Jacob CONROY

Juan TORRESCHAVEZ

Andy TRAN

Carlos CORTES

Steven RILEY who died on January 28 in San Clemente

Dylan NOEL

Mario ALFARO VASQUEZ

Steven SMITH

Luis POLANCOARGUETA

Neva SELLEY

May they rest in peace. And perpetual light shine upon them.

Numbers who died in the following cities:

Santa Ana 8

Anaheim 7

Westminster 5

Orange 5

Garden Grove 3

Huntington Beach 3

Fullerton 2

Brea 1

Mission Viejo 1

San Clemente 1

Newport Beach 1

Buena Park 1

Laguna Beach 1

Fountain Valley 1

