# SUMMARY FOR THE CALIFORNIA INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS QUARTERLY COUNCIL MEETING

September 5, 2024 1:00pm – 4:00pm

### I. Call to Order, Tribal Land Acknowledgment, and Roll Call

Cal ICH Executive Officer, Meghan Marshall called the meeting to order at 1:03 PM

#### Council Members Present:

- Tomiquia Moss (Co-Chair) Secretary, Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency
- Dr. Mark Ghaly (Co-Chair) Secretary, California Health and Human Services Agency
- Tomás J. Aragón State Public Health Officer and Director, Department of Public Health
- **Michelle Baass** State Medicaid Director and Chief Deputy Director of Health Care Programs, Department of Health Care Services
- Susan DeMarois Director, Department of Aging
- Chris Edens, designee for Stephanie Clendenin Director, Department of State Hospitals
- **Gina Buccieri-Harrington, designee for Nancy Ward** Director, Governor's Office of Emergency Services
- Kim Johnson Director, Department of Social Services
- Margot Kushel Director, Benioff Homelessness and Housing Initiative
- Veronica Lewis Director, Homeless Outreach Program Integrated Care System (HOPICS)
- **Jeffrey Macomber** Secretary, Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
- Sandee Nieves, designee for Kaina Pereira Executive Director, Workforce Development Board
- Rebecca Ruan-O'Shaughnessy Vice Chancellor for Educational Services, Community Colleges Chancellor's Office
- Lindsey Sin Secretary, Department Veterans Affairs
- Gail Tateyama, designee for Tiena Johnson Hall Executive Director, Housing Finance Agency
- **Tony Tavares** Director, Department of Transportation
- Gustavo Velasquez Director, Department of Housing and Community Development
- Marina Wiant Executive Director, Tax Credit Allocation Committee
- **Joe Xavier** Director, Department of Rehabilitation

#### Council Members Not Present:

 William McGee – Director, Student Achievement and Support Division, California Department of Education

#### **II. Consent Calendar**

There is one item on the Consent Calendar: Adoption of the <u>Meeting Summary from the June 12</u>, 2024 Council <u>Meeting.</u>

No Council Members made comments on this item. There were no public comments. The Council voted to approve the consent calendar.

**Vote**: The Committee voted to approve the Consent Calendar with 18 members voting yes, 1 member abstaining, and 1 member absent during the vote.

## III. Council Co-Chair Opening Remarks

**Co-Chair Secretary Tomiquia Moss**: Today, the focus is on goals, emphasizing accountability and action-oriented outcomes. It's vital that bold language leads to real actions. Appreciation goes to the racial equity working group for their important contributions. Addressing racial equity means tackling the structural issues behind disparities. Collaboration with the group aims to create a clear roadmap for these initiatives.

**Co-Chair Secretary Mark Ghaly:** The governor is deeply invested in this issue, emphasizing that each of us is responsible for solving it. Incredible projects led by directors, such as the Master plan for Aging and Medicaid initiatives, demonstrate the impact of determined efforts. Applying that same dedication to the Action Plan can achieve meaningful results. It's crucial that bold plans lead to real actions, with the Racial Equity Working Group playing a key role in addressing structural challenges. DHCS is also advancing housing interventions, with their leadership set to make these initiatives a reality by 2026.

## IV. Executive Officer Updates

**Cal ICH Executive Officer, Meghan Marshall**: Updated on the June 28th Supreme Court ruling, which stated that enforcing laws against camping on public property is not cruel and unusual punishment. This allows local governments to enforce these regulations more freely. In response, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N124, urging state agencies to address encampments compassionately and encouraging local jurisdictions to develop similar policies. There is a two-part webinar series and upcoming communities of practice.

#### V. Bold Action Plan Activities Share- Out

**Director Cody Zeger:** Each participant will share one bold new activity that supports primary goals, including creating housing, reducing homelessness inflow, assisting those exiting unsheltered homelessness, and improving access to health and social services.

**Susan DeMarois:** Reported that the California Department of Aging aims to enhance connections between health and social services for older adults, especially those experiencing homelessness. Many agencies lack awareness and cross-referral relationships. To address this, the department will facilitate connections among agencies, county staff, and medical managed care plans. The initiative includes raising awareness of resources, implementing outreach strategies, and launching a training series called "Partnerships to Support Older Adults.

**Rebecca Ruan-O'Shaughnessy:** Focused on data from the pilot housing program. CCCCO's goal is to identify gaps and inequities in service delivery through an equity lens, maximizing our program's impact. We aim to help students transition from temporary to permanent housing and connect them with health and social services. We will analyze data to identify targeted interventions needed to achieve these goals.

**Tony Tavares**: Stated that the department addresses multiple goals in the Governor's executive order, focusing on connecting people to services and housing rather than just removing encampments. Highlighted outreach efforts to tribal populations experiencing homelessness, collaborating with the Native American Advisory Committee and Tribal Leaders to identify needs and facilitate connections to services. Additionally, the department has created career opportunities for individuals who have faced homelessness, offering jobs and pathways to upward mobility, and living wages to help them achieve housing stability and pursue their goals.

**Marina Wiant**: Emphasized the goal of building a more robust database for analyzing their portfolio. While there is substantial front-end data, there is insufficient information on resident outcomes, which needs improvement.

Currently, properties are checked primarily for compliance, but a more critical analysis of inspection findings is necessary to ensure programs truly benefit residents and prospective tenants.

**Gustavo Velasquez**: Focused on increasing housing in California, addressing a shortfall of 2.5 million homes. HCD ensures local governments plan for affordable housing, guided by the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) every eight years. The aim is to effectively distribute the 2.5 million homes statewide. The Housing and Homelessness Accountability Unit provides education and technical assistance, and if jurisdictions fail to meet state obligations, HCD collaborates with the Attorney General for legal action, consistently achieving success in those cases.

**Lindsey Sin**: Discussed a partnership with the Housing Community Development Department to build 2,600 housing units for Veterans experiencing homelessness, particularly those with behavioral health and substance use needs. The team is focusing on policies to prevent homelessness among Veterans by examining how disability compensation affects access to safety net programs.

**Jeffrey Macomber**: Emphasized the need for jobs, housing, and sobriety for individuals released from prison, many of whom struggle with serious mental illness. CDCR's initiative aims to improve access to housing, health, and social services through partnerships with other State departments. This includes formalizing referral pathways from CDCR to community-based resources by collaborating with the DHCS, the CDSS, and housing navigation services. The goal is to connect at-risk individual's pre-release or those becoming unhoused while on parole or probation with essential community resources for successful reintegration.

**Tomás J. Aragón**: Focused on incorporating homelessness into their equity strategy across all programs, ensuring health initiatives address it as part of equity considerations. This includes developing a Tribal Affairs section within the Office of Health Equity and enhancing Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health programs, where local health departments help vulnerable families at home. CDPH also supports local health jurisdictions in collaborating on homelessness issues and is committed to improving data collection and surveillance to address these challenges effectively.

**Sandee Nieves**: Highlighted goals two and six, focusing on reducing homelessness by addressing inflow and preventing recidivism through workforce development. The strategy strengthens connections with state departments to link individuals to local workforce regions, including jobs-first areas. Partnerships, like those with CDCR for P2E programs, will expand. A key focus is ensuring individuals are aware of available resources and workforce development funding. Funds training programs for livable-wage jobs, collaborating with high-road training partners to equip individuals with essential skills.

**Joe Xavier:** Outlined a dual approach, first, ensuring local service delivery systems coordinate effectively to connect individuals with necessary services for a holistic support experience. Second, focus on integrating employment services and preventing job loss by connecting at-risk individuals with support and encouraging employers to assist them.

**Michelle Baass:** Highlighted Prop 1 as the top priority for housing and homelessness, allocating 30% of funding—around a billion dollars annually—to local entities for initiatives like rental and operating subsidies. The department is working with partners to ensure transparency in fund utilization and effective impact tracking. They aim to provide technical assistance to maximize resources and integrate them with other initiatives, particularly through Cal AIM, focusing on a continuum of housing services for individuals with behavioral health needs.

**Gail Tateyama:** Focused on racial equity and resource access for tribal communities. The goal is to create housing and improve access. They will hold listening to sessions with California Native American Tribes to understand their homeownership needs and provide technical assistance. An outreach campaign will inform Native Americans about available resources, fostering dialogue to enhance the accessibility of homeownership programs.

**Gina Buccieri-Harrington:** The focus is on disaster response and victim assistance. Key initiatives include the Priority Populations Task Force, which coordinates resources for at-risk populations, including the unhoused. The office also funds programs supporting unhoused individuals affected by domestic violence and human trafficking, such as the Domestic Violence Assistance Program and transitional housing for homeless youth, to help them access essential support services.

**Kim Johnson:** Outlined their goal of providing integrated housing and homelessness programs for vulnerable populations, including families in poverty and individuals with disabilities. Their approach has achieved over 85% housing retention six months post-exit, reducing inflow into homelessness.

Chris Edens: Discussed initiatives to reduce homelessness by improving discharge planning for vulnerable populations, such as patients leaving state hospitals and those found incompetent to stand trial. Immediate court-ordered releases complicate housing arrangements, increasing homelessness risk. Efforts include raising awareness among community providers to develop tailored housing options and enhancing training for successful placements. Many individuals released from county jails also face homelessness, highlighting the need for stronger partnerships with county behavioral health and service providers for better transitions back into the community.

**Cody Zeger:** Outlined the updated goals, focusing on achieving "functional zero" in homelessness—one housing placement for every person served within 30 days. The aim is to improve the ratio of exits from homelessness to entries into services from 1:3.8 to 1:2. Key housing targets include building over 940,000 homes, with at least 390,000 for low-income households, contributing to a broader goal of 2.5 million homes by 2030. Currently, over 500,000 units have been submitted since 2022, with about 81,000 for low-income households. Initiatives like the Behavioral Health Infrastructure Bond and CDCR's community re-entry programs, along with HCD's Homekey Plus and Section 811 rental assistance, are essential for addressing homelessness and ensuring housing stability.

**Susan DeMarois:** Emphasized the need to clarify the definition of "homes" in their discussions. While her initial focus is on new constructions like apartment units and single-family houses, the second bold goal highlights shared housing as a viable solution for addressing housing needs.

**Gustavo Velasquez:** Noted that while preservation and shared housing are important, the focus is on new housing needs. The target of 2.5 million new homes includes nearly one million for moderate-income households, but he urged prioritizing those with acute and extremely low incomes. He recommended refining the numbers with the data unit while recognizing that shared housing and preservation are crucial to a comprehensive strategy.

**Cody Zeger:** Highlighted that while voucher and assistance programs don't create new housing units, they provide essential opportunities for securing housing. These initiatives will be tracked under the goal of moving people into housing, as they contribute to stable living situations.

**Gina Buccieri-Harrington:** Asked if the discussion on new housing initiatives includes both single-family and multifamily homes, and whether the focus is on home ownership or rentals. She also inquired about mapping areas in California with the greatest housing needs and the state's plans for new home development.

**Gustavo Velasquez:** Stated that the tracking of housing numbers can be detailed down to the neighborhood level, enabling analysis by region, jurisdiction, and community.

**Cody Zeger:** Stated that goal three aims to increase by 70% the transition of individuals from unsheltered homelessness to emergency or permanent housing. Currently, over 98,000 people moved into sheltered settings in 2023, and efforts include the Encampment Resolution Fund, the Behavioral Health Bridge Housing Program, and community colleges providing emergency housing for students. The Priority Populations Task Force will also address needs during emergencies.

**Gina Buccieri-Harrington:** Emphasized the need to share statistics on transitional housing efforts to assist the unhoused in finding both temporary and permanent homes. She highlighted the importance of discussing these initiatives to ensure alignment on approaches and goals.

**Cody Zeger:** Outlined goal number four, aiming for an 89% increase in individuals moving into permanent housing, building on over 73,000 placements in 2023. Key programs supporting this include CDSS rental assistance initiatives and DHCS's transitional rent program. Goal five is under development, focusing on improved data sharing. Goal six targets a 100% success rate for individuals not returning to homelessness, currently at 91%.

**Veronica Lewis**: Highlighted key concerns about the draft goals, emphasizing the need for clearer strategies to achieve proposed increases. While programs like Bringing Families Home are impactful, she stressed the importance of scaling efforts beyond current successes. She called for actionable steps to enhance integration and minimize barriers for individuals navigating multiple systems. Lewis urged a cohesive framework that outlines integration at both state and local levels, recommending a reassessment of policies to eliminate redundancies and facilitate access for those in need.

**Margot Kushel:** Underscored the importance of setting bold goals, recognizing their potential intimidation due to previous unmet objectives. She argued that ambitious targets foster accountability and often yield better outcomes than modest ones. Additionally, she backed Council Member Vasquez's call for new revenue streams considering the current budget crisis, encouraging a bold approach to overcoming challenges.

**Sandee Nieves:** Concerned about the omission of CalFresh from the slide related to Health and Human Services. The speaker pointed out that once individuals become eligible for CalFresh, they gain access to employment and training opportunities, which ultimately qualify them for support services and housing. They also noted the collaboration between community colleges and the CalFresh program, suggesting that including these connections could enhance the overall framework.

**Kim Johnson:** Highlighted the need to connect the action plan with CalWORKs and Medi-Cal, noting existing data-sharing capabilities that enhance collaboration. The speaker acknowledged the importance of CalFresh in integrating housing, health, and social services but emphasized the challenge of demonstrating change due to federal policy barriers. They called for identifying how these policies hinder local integration efforts.

**Rebecca Ruan-O'Shaughnessy:** Highlighted her team's work on an MOU to improve student access to CalFresh and raised concerns about the tension between collective impact and individual agency goals. She noted that action plans were being created in silos, hindering alignment, and emphasized the need for collaboration to address gaps in serving two million students annually with limited housing funding.

**Secretary Tomiquia Moss:** Raised concerns about reaching individuals experiencing homelessness across systems and urged better resource leveraging. She suggested breaking down goals by region to create a more coordinated approach to homelessness in California.

**Susan DeMarois:** Discussed the need to enhance connections between Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) and Continuums of Care (CoCs), noting a lack of familiarity with CoCs despite significant trust. She emphasized the complexity of managing 33 AAAs and 44 CoCs across 58 counties and stressed the importance of a regional approach to better understand and address the needs and capacities of these organizations.

**Meghan Marshall:** Highlighted the key role of Continuums of Care (CoCs) in local jurisdictions and the need to focus on controllable factors and set realistic expectations for these federally funded entities managing long-term projects.

**Veronica Lewis**: Suggested focusing on department intersections to identify gaps and align efforts for collective action. She also asked how CalHFA could enhance regional support and encouraged colleagues to align their goals for better collaboration.

**Meghan Marshall:** Emphasized the importance of collaboration among council members since the July meeting. She noted that Cal ICH staff had been analyzing previous discussions and identifying opportunities for the new action plan. While independent engagement remained key, staff had reached out with specific suggestions and noted relevant policy developments to connect with Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs).

**Lindsey Sin:** Stressed the need for bold integration of services and departments, arguing that focusing on individual programs limits collaboration. She cited successful coordination with DHCS as a model for preventing homelessness and called for better local representation within Cal ICH and a structured response to regional issues. She concluded that aligning agencies and engaging local jurisdictions were crucial for meaningful progress.

**Mark Ghaly:** Stressed the critical role of integration but warned about federal barriers complicating the process. He noted that Medicaid and social service rules can create duplicate interactions for individuals, hindering alignment efforts.

**Meghan Marshall:** Emphasized commitment to supporting the council's work, noting representation from local governments, cities, counties, COCs, and tribal governments on their advisory committee and working groups.

**Rebecca Ruan-O'Shaughnessy:** Endorsed a regional approach to goal setting, highlighting its fit with local governance. Noted integration is vital, but structural barriers lack quick fixes. Emphasizing awareness, arguing for guiding people to resources and enhancing transparency would be a major improvement.

**Margot Kushel:** Pointed out that the Action Plan hasn't effectively highlighted challenges or advocated for investments. She stressed it should serve as a guiding document for the legislature, clearly outlining what is needed to support California's goals.

**Meghan Marshall:** Noted that the Action Plan had not historically outlined challenges or advocated for increased investments. She suggested it should serve as a guiding document for the legislature, identifying what is needed to advance California's goals.

**Veronica Lewis**: Emphasized that understanding federal policies can help address major challenges and ease burdens on individuals. Despite budget constraints, investing time in these issues can yield solutions. She highlighted California's role in the U.S. ICH All-In campaign, which helps clarify controllable versus federal barriers.

**Mark Ghaly:** Acknowledged federal challenges but stated they were not insurmountable. He noted California's influence in Washington, D.C., leading to flexibilities like those during COVID, and stressed the need to advocate for more federal flexibility to enhance integration efforts.

**Tomiquia Moss:** Encouraged prioritizing people in policy discussions. Drawing on her social work experience, she highlighted the frustrations individuals face navigating benefit systems and advocated for a human-centered training approach to guide people to resources. She stressed the importance of building supportive relationships, especially for vulnerable individuals.

**Cody Zeger:** Stressed that the Action Plan's aim is to provide clarity and set bold goals, thanking everyone for their insights and committing to creating a plan that balances ambition with essential information for progress.

## **VI. Racial Equity Work Group**

**Cody Zeger:** Introduced the Racial Equity Working Group, which focuses on advancing equity with input from staff, community members, and those with lived experience of homelessness. He acknowledged the group's leaders, Lori Pampilo Harris and Dr. Lamont Green.

**Lori Pampilo Harris:** Identifying as Indigenous and Native Hawaiian, emphasized that everyone in the room is here for a purpose and invited participants to join in a collective journey.

**LaMont Green:** Recounted his journey from homelessness to recovery as a military veteran. He faced significant challenges, including addiction, which led him to be homeless. After a suicide attempt, he connected with the Department of Veterans Affairs, receiving transformative support. Green emphasized the importance of the work being done, stating he is living proof of its positive impact.

**Lori Pampilo Harris:** Shared her lived experience with homelessness and emphasized the need for the action plan to prioritize racial equity, particularly for Black, Brown, Indigenous, and Tribal communities. She called for a framework addressing unique needs, fostering trust, and promoting continuous improvement through equity-centered community design.

**LaMont Green:** Stressed the importance of addressing not only racial inequities but also ableism, sexism, and other forms of discrimination. He explained that racism involves both prejudice and systemic power, and highlighted disparities in societal responses to crises, such as the differing treatment of crack cocaine vs. opioids. Green advocated for using targeted universalism and revisiting tools like the Vulnerability Index to enhance equitable policy support.

**Tomás J. Aragón**: Noted that targeted universalism sets universal goals but tailors implementation to specific needs. Unlike targeted policies, this approach seeks to elevate all groups to a common aspiration, recognizing that different paths may be required for each.

**LaMont Green:** Discussed the need to address unsheltered homelessness and avoid past mistakes like those from the War on Drugs. With homelessness increasing by 20% nationwide, he called for innovative solutions, such as using vacant schools and churches. He emphasized the importance of community involvement, lived experience in decision-making, and the Racial Equity Working Group's Equity Implementation Hub to streamline funding and services.

Lori Pampilo Harris: Expressed excitement about the new co-chairs of the Racial Equity Work Group, formed after months of collaboration led by Council Member Veronica Lewis. She encouraged appointees to expect monthly updates and praised co-chair Janice Waddell for her leadership during COVID. Harris also acknowledged co-chair Earl Sims's valuable insights, emphasizing their goal to address racial injustice for future generations.

**Earl Simms:** Drew from his own experiences, he focuses on addressing housing instability and racial disparities in homelessness for marginalized communities. The group meets monthly to identify service gaps and has created a charter centered on racial equity in public policy. Their mission is to elevate the voices of those affected by homelessness to drive meaningful change.

**Janice L Waddell:** Stated the group's goal to create a pathway for departments to request input and identify racial equity barriers. They plan to review tools and policies, serve as a resource hub, develop accountability mechanisms, and integrate racial equity into the action plan to support state departments.

**Earl Simms:** Emphasized the need for collaboration and boldness in their work. He shared insights from his time in prison, noting that "community" comes from "to commune," highlighting the power of connection. He pointed out that language can create barriers or facilitate communication, often reflecting deeper issues like white supremacy.

**Veronica Lewis:** Emphasized the importance of a thoughtful approach in forming the group, aiming to avoid past mistakes. She noted the inclusion of a community co-chair to address power dynamics and stressed that racial equity should be a constant priority, especially for Black and Indigenous communities. Lewis encouraged everyone to seek support and integrate racial equity into all discussions to effectively address disparities and achieve their goals.

**Earl Simms:** Shared that their group includes 17 members: 10 from government agencies and 7 community members. Highlighted the importance of this diverse composition, noting that as a Black man with experience in housing instability and incarceration, his perspective adds value and helps empower others in the community.

**Tomiquia Moss**: Emphasizing the need to connect equity efforts across agencies. The Governor's Executive Order is requiring departments to report on equity goals and stressed the importance of disaggregating data to accurately represent affected communities and called for regular updates on actions and impacts, aiming to integrate this work into ongoing discussions within the Action Plan.

**Rebecca Ruan-O'Shaughnessy:** Asked whether the implementation hub and knowledge source would operate as a curated website for information or involve more one-on-one outreach. Need for clarity on how these connections and support will be facilitated effectively.

**Janice L Waddell**: Highlighted that this is a crucial moment, as all previous groundwork has led to this point. She stressed the importance of integrating efforts and applying them in daily programs and design processes to make a real difference.

**Lori Pampilo Harris:** Proposed collecting feedback on the racial equity work in the coming months. She asked if the group preferred written materials, dialogue opportunities, or visits to discuss specific policies. She also inquired how they would like to interact to implement their racial equity goals for preventing and ending homelessness.

**Rebecca Ruan-O'Shaughnessy:** Identified two key areas of focus: developing a framework to reduce equity gaps in higher education through housing support and fostering deeper discussions on data collection and new evidence-based practices. Balancing initial concepts with detailed dialogue is essential for effective engagement.

**Kim Johnson**: Highlighted the need to share best practices across all levels and praised departments with equity offices for their data collection and accountability efforts. She acknowledged the clear disparities and thanked everyone working to address inequities for Californians facing these challenges.

**Cody Zeger:** Stated the Racial Equity Working Group as a model for similar groups at Cal ICH, like the Lived Experience Advisory Board. He mentioned plans for a resource library on the Cal ICH website to ensure accessibility of their work and stressed the importance of being bold and timely, thanking everyone for their engagement.

#### **VII. General Public Comment**

Eric Tars, Senior Policy Director at the National Housing Law Center: Praised the Racial Equity Working Group's efforts but expressed concern about Governor Newsom's Executive Order on encampments. He noted it lacked input from those with lived experience, risking racial inequities. Tars emphasized that homelessness disproportionately affects marginalized communities and asked how the group and the Council can collaborate to address these issues in the Governor's order.

**Janelle, Humboldt County:** Suggested using campgrounds as emergency housing to support the Housing First approach. She noted that while current regulations mainly address shelters, minor wording changes could recognize emergency housing within the existing codes. Janelle shared a document outlining these adjustments and expressed appreciation for the collective effort in tackling these critical issues.

Cristina Ochoa, ACLU of Southern California: Emphasized the need for careful guidance on unsheltered encampments following the Governor's Executive Order. She stressed that strategies should protect the safety and dignity of vulnerable individuals, avoiding harmful displacements and punitive measures. Advocated for voluntary access to safe, permanent housing and the protection of individuals' rights, particularly given the racial disparities in the housing crisis. By focusing on humane solutions, we can address the root causes of homelessness while preserving dignity and agency.

**Eve Garrow, ACLU of Southern California:** Raised concerns about Governor Newsom's Executive Order on encampments, warning it could lead to criminalization of unhoused individuals. She urged Cal ICH members to ensure humane interactions with this vulnerable group, framing unsheltered homelessness as a humanitarian crisis linked to economic and racial injustice. Garrow called for guidance to avoid displacements and focus on essential services like trash collection until permanent housing is available, while also emphasizing the need to protect the rights of unhoused individuals and address the racial impacts of encampment policies.

Kathleen Crowley, Executive director of the Recovery Institute: Urged California to move beyond setting goals in addressing homelessness. She criticized endless planning without measurable outcomes, likening it to fixing a sinking boat without addressing the leak. Crowley called for contracts to specify clear outcomes and necessary supports, emphasizing the need to incentivize success. She warned that without clear metrics, efforts will continue to fail.

**Ishaku Vashishta, Attorney at Inner-City Law Center in Skid Row:** Voiced concerns about Governor Newsom's executive order and the criminalization of unhoused individuals. He urged guidance to protect vulnerable citizens' rights, highlighting the difficulties caused by losing essential documents during sweeps. Vashishta criticized the lack of basic resources during these sweeps and called for a compassionate, data-driven approach to effectively address homelessness.

Betsy Montel, Policy analyst at the League of California Cities: Thanked everyone for their work on homelessness, especially Dr. Green and Mr. Sims for their testimonies. She expressed interest in how local voices are being involved in these efforts, asking for more information on who they are and their locations throughout the state.

**Patrick Hogan:** Currently homeless, shared his experiences over the past eight months, including an incident where the CHP discarded his belongings. He expressed frustration at the lack of oversight and highlighted a friend's loss of belongings after entering a shelter. Despite significant funding for homelessness, he noted it often doesn't reach those in need and urged the group to listen to those experiencing homelessness for valuable insights.

# **VIII. Final Remarks and Adjournment**

**Meghan Marshall, Cal ICH Executive Officer:** Adjourned the meeting at 4:06pm. Next Council meeting: December 3, 2024 at 1:00 pm.