






**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SEAN ELO-RIVERA
NINTH COUNCIL DISTRICT**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM MONICA MONTGOMERY STEPPE
FOURTH COUNCIL DISTRICT**

**COUNCILMEMBER JOE LACAVA
FIRST COUNCIL DISTRICT
M E M O R A N D U M**

DATE: February 16, 2023

TO: Jeff Davis, Interim Chief Executive Officer, San Diego Housing Commission

FROM: City Council President Sean Elo-Rivera 
City Council President Pro Tem Monica Montgomery Steppe 
Councilmember Joe LaCava 

SUBJECT: Request Inclusion of Ad-Hoc Committee on Addressing Homelessness Among Black San Diegans Recommended Action Items in Staff Reports

In January 2020, the San Diego City and County Continuum of Care approved the creation of the Ad Hoc Committee on Addressing Homelessness Among Black San Diegans (“the Committee”). The creation of the Committee came amidst the racial reckoning of 2020 and in response to 2020 Point-in-Time data that demonstrated that Black San Diegans accounted for 21 percent of the region’s unsheltered population and 30 percent of the sheltered population despite comprising only 5.5 percent of San Diego County’s total population.

After two years of intensive work, the Committee published the *ACTION PLAN: Addressing Homelessness Among Black San Diegans*¹ (Plan) and presented it to San Diego City Council and Housing Authority that same month. The Plan offered six action items aimed at addressing the impacts of systemic racism and its effects within the homeless crisis response system. The six action items are:

¹ San Diego Regional Task Force on Homelessness. ACTION PLAN: Addressing Homelessness Among Black San Diegans (September 2022). Available at https://www.rtfhsd.org/wp-content/uploads/RTFH_ActionPlan_BlackSanDiegans_Interactive.pdf.

1. Develop a HMIS Data Dashboard to Track Our Progress on Equity Goals
2. Inclusive Procurement
3. Training and Education
4. Mentorship of Black-Led Organizations
5. Center the Voices of People with Lived Experience Who Are Black
6. Transform the Crisis Response System

Each action item includes multiple specific action steps that can be incorporated into the San Diego Housing Commission's (Housing Commission) work to address and reduce homelessness.

It is critical to us that the work of the Ad Hoc Committee be honored by the Housing Commission through the incorporation of its recommendations. We request that all Housing Commission agenda items and all Housing Authority agenda items include how the staff recommendation incorporates the six action items. We further request that the Housing Commission provide a memorandum or report identifying actions taken to date regarding the six action items and continue to do so on an annual basis.

Myriad factors contribute to homelessness and the severe disparities Black San Diegans experience related to homelessness. The Housing Authority, Housing Commission, and the Mayor cannot alone solve systemic racism. We all have a responsibility to address and reduce the unacceptable disparities facing Black San Diegans. Incorporating the requested information into each staff report will allow the Housing Commission and the Housing Authority to better understand how we can support this critical endeavor.

CC: Lisa Jones, Executive Vice President, San Diego Housing Commission
 Charles Modica, Independent Budget Analyst