

**CITY OF ANAHEIM**  
**HOMELESS POLICY WORKING GROUP**

**MINUTES**  
**September 22, 2017**

Agenda Posting: A complete copy of the Homeless Policy Working Group Agenda was posted on Tuesday, September 19, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. at Anaheim City Hall and at the Anaheim West Tower.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, September 22, 2017 at the Gordon Hoyt Conference Room, Anaheim West Tower, 201 S. Anaheim Blvd., Anaheim, California.

1. Natalie Wieckert, County of Orange
2. Mike Robbins, People's Taskforce
3. Eve Garrow, ACLU
4. Linda Lehnkering, Poverty Taskforce
5. Captain Eric Carter, City of Anaheim
6. Matt Bates, CityNet
7. Mayor Pro Tem James Vanderbilt, City of Anaheim
8. Council Member Jose Moreno, City of Anaheim
9. Council Member Denise Barnes, City of Anaheim
10. Claudia Peña, State Assembly
11. Norma Campos Kurtz, State Assembly
12. Sebastian Calderon, State Senate
13. Jay Burres, Visit Anaheim
14. Esther Wallace, West Anaheim Development Council
15. Kevin Sorkin, Central Anaheim Resident

The following staff members were present:

Kristine Ridge, Assistant City Manager  
Jackie Rodarte, Senior Council Aide to Council Member Moreno  
Sal Figueroa, Council Aide to Council Member Moreno

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments were open for two minutes.

Wes Jones stated that after a past meeting, he pulled out of the driveway and there was a homeless woman lying on a flowerbed. Jones stated that she was on crutches and he invited her in his home, gave her food, and Lou Noble took her to her chosen destination. Jones said that this woman had been camping in a local park, but she had a warrant, so the Anaheim Police Department took all of her belongings, but did not take her into custody. Jones questioned whether this is a policy, but whether it is or isn't, he believes that this is not humane. Jones said that a week or two before this incident he went to

Vons and there was a man in a wheelchair panhandling. Jones stated that the Anaheim Police Department also took this man's possessions after seeing him with a shopping cart.

Chair Moreno asked that Jones give details to Captain Carter about these instances. Jones stated that he wasn't there when these instances happened so he did not attempt to report it. Captain Carter recommended that any details still be provided.

Chair Moreno moved to the next item on the agenda.

### III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Moreno asked for a Motion to approve the minutes from the August 11, 2017 and August 25, 2017 Homeless Policy Working Group meetings.

Council Member Vanderbilt offered a Motion to approve the August 11, 2017 minutes and Council Member Barnes seconded the Motion. There being no questions or comments by the working group, the minutes were approved as presented.

Norma Campos Kurtz offered a Motion to approve the August 25, 2017 minutes and Council Member Barnes seconded the Motion. There being no questions or comments by the working group, the minutes were approved unanimously as presented.

Chair Moreno moved to the next agenda item.

### IV. END HOMELESSNESS THE ANAHEIM WAY PRESENTATION

Chair Moreno welcomed Bill Taormina.

Taormina said that he was representing his son William Taormina as well as Cal State Fullerton, and all the students William Taormina represents. Taormina thanked the Working Group for the ability to update them on this work.

Taormina discussed how "The Anaheim Way" was founded in 1969.

Taormina said his goal with this project was to include the business sector into the homelessness problem. Taormina thanked Mishal Montgomery and Kristine Ridge for making numerous introductions between the CSUF students and various stakeholders. Taormina said that what has been seen as a longtime stakeholder in the community is that there is a current trend that needs to be reversed. Taormina said it is a bigger issue than people just sleeping in sleeping bags on the street and stealing bicycles, but it is a trend that needs to be reversed. Taormina then referenced the comment that was made about it costing more to have people sleeping in the riverbed than to house them. Taormina said it's an easy thing to address but it must be done in a collective fashion, in a smart and efficient way and that that is what the students are studying. Taormina said that through the Illumination Foundation they found that a group home that has a common area with a number of private sleeping modules seem to be the best solution. Taormina said that the students are currently studying this and this is being done through an architectural design competition that is currently taking place in hopes of designing the best methodology for

this type of housing solution, with their findings. Taormina said, this competition will be judged on the following: is the solution feasible, is it affordable, are all potential resources utilized, does it promote safety and security, can it endure weather and time, can it be replicated, is it scalable, does it encourage dignified living experiences, does it reflect empathetic thinking, does it promote family and community, and how well does it stand up to constructive criticism. Taormina said that the final goal is to get the students findings and come together with the groups like the Working Group to create much more housing. Taormina said they are currently looking for 50-100 acres to build the first template of housing which will be a 1,000 bedroom facility; it will be known as a complete life restoration and rebuilding facility, not just a place to sleep. Taormina said this would be launched privately and then hopefully supported by a government partnership in the long-term. Details will follow at the conclusion of the study.

Chair Moreno opened up the discussion to questions.

Norma Campos Kurtz asked for clarification as to why the City seal is on the report, asking if the report is done in partnership or for the City of Anaheim.

Taormina said that it is nothing formal and just for illustrative purposes.

Matt Bates also clarified that the logo appears on the publication because they are happy to work with this project and share ideas.

Chair Moreno stated that maybe it should be better differentiated when a product has been worked on with an organization versus receiving official endorsement.

Council Member Barnes asked if there is a website with the information.

Taormina said it is in the process of being developed.

Chair Moreno said that the information was very informative but suggested a policy component. What would be the policies that local cities or municipalities would have to think about in order to accommodate if the City wanted to engage in this plan and what are the relevant legal parameters around those kind of agreements?

Natalie Wieckert asked if Taormina had been in contact with anyone at the county.

Taormina said that yes his son has been in contact with Susan Price, her staff and other members.

Chair Moreno thanked Taormina.

Chair Moreno moved to the next agenda item.

V. OPERATION HOME SAFE PRESENTATION

Chair Moreno asked Kristine Ridge to do a quick overview of the 15 point plan known as Operation Home Safe.

Ridge provided some background on the plan. At the August 29 City Council meeting, Council Member Kris Murray asked staff to bring back a resolution for the September 12 City Council Meeting to authorize comprehensive services to the homeless in the city and to expand law enforcement efforts to address the rise in criminal activity associated with homeless encampments. Ridge stated staff worked hard with the legal team to propose a resolution that was brought before council on September 12 and it was approved with some amendments. Ridge stated that the version the Working Group has in front of them is the amended version. Ridge then said that the most critical part of the resolution are the 15 specific action items. The first action item creates a single point of contact that would oversee the remaining actions. This has already been established via the designation of Ridge as the single point of contact. The second item asks for collaboration with the county and other cities; item three and five has to do with enforcement; item four asks the county to begin the phase 2 opening of the Bridges at Kraemer which was intended to have 200 beds but only 100 have been opened.

Chair Moreno asked why it is that 100,000 square feet can be added to the convention center in one year, but we can't rehab a warehouse for 200 beds.

Ridge said that that wasn't a question for her to answer.

Ridge moved forward with item six that states, to identify all available resources and to make recommendations; item seven asks for the county to provide field unit staff with social workers and care providers, Ridge then pointed to Matt Bates to ask whether or not there has been an increase in social service workers to match the enforcement efforts.

Bates said that there is a regular presence there and that he does know that new positions have been provided but he doesn't know if that means that there is an increase.

Ridge proceeded with action item eight which ask for the support of county efforts to provide emergency shelter for up to 500 people, Ridge said that this has been progressing and that there are sites that are being looked at. Item nine asks for the City to work with the county for available funding sources, Ridge said that that was an ongoing effort. Item ten asked for outreach to local state and federal homeless partnership programs, Ridge said that calls have been received from regional agencies who want to help identify different funding sources. Item 10 asks for a specific day, week, or weekend for a community triage day, Ridge said that that is a big item and it is currently being planned. Item 11 says to educate, Ridge said that in Operation Home Safe, Safe is an acronym that stands for Support Aid Forewarning and Enforcement. Item 12 ensures the cleanup of any area that needs repair. Item 13 is better provisioning of SB 2 Zones. Ridge then mentioned the requirement to report back to council and the last addition that was added by Council Member Barnes on giving priority to veterans, which is currently being worked on with Veterans First.

Chair Moreno opened up the discussion to questions.

Council Member Vanderbilt referenced the triage day and stated that the Council might want to make a revision to make it a triage plan that is done in phases as opposed to waiting for everything to align in one day which could be difficult.

Ridge said that she agrees that it could be difficult and that Vanderbilt's suggestion could be accommodated if he wanted to request it.

Council Member Barnes asked what would be the benefit of having a triage day.

Ridge said that she believes that it is symbolic and this would be a concerted effort to bring partners that the City might not have worked with before, in an effort to bring everyone together at one time and therefore have a bigger impact.

Council Member Barnes then asked if the City is working hard to get people identification cards.

Ridge said that as for the river, she would defer that question to Bates, but as for the courtyard, she knows that the necessary state agencies have had a location nearby to process identification cards.

Bates said that it is an ugly challenge and that the decision from the county has been to provide transportation from the flood control channel to the courtyard when identification is an issue.

Council Member Barnes mentioned how it has been noted that some people feel overwhelmed when there is too much help and that she could see that problem arising. Barnes then asked about item eight and whether or not community input will be asked for on the emergency shelter.

Ridge said certainly and that the county has the ability to locate the shelter anywhere, but that as with the Bridges of Kraemer project a lot of time was spent on community outreach to ensure neighbors were okay with the facility and she would hope the same would be done in the future.

Council Member Barnes asked what hope meant and if it was going to be done for certain.

Ridge said that the City has a vested interest in ensuring the community is comfortable.

Chair Moreno shared it is his hope that people in the neighborhoods step up and are okay with having these shelters in their neighborhoods.

Mike Robbins said that he believed this emergency ordinance was brought up because of the concern for all of the criminals in the riverbed, and he noticed that it was mentioned

that the enforcement on the riverbed wasn't a heavy handed approach, with a few dozen officers coming from various angles, with the use of paddy wagons, all in their great search to find criminals but they only found three criminals. Robbins asked if the community should be advised to not have any more worries.

Ridge said that this was not a fair question for her to answer.

Chair Moreno clarified that Robbins is commenting on action item ten which deals with enforcement.

Ridge said that HUD should be referred to and the Orange County Sheriffs Department because they were questioned by the media, where they stated that their goal was to establish a presence and also get to know the individuals that were down in the riverbed; that is where her comment came from in regards to enforcement not being heavy handed.

Chair Moreno said that he agrees that it is important to make a clarification on the idea of a large majority of those who are homeless being criminals. Chair Moreno referenced Supervisor Spitzer's comments that were made at a past City Council meeting when he said that enforcement would immediately decrease the homeless population by 20%, which was not the case if only three individuals were arrested. Chair Moreno then attempted to clarify what Ridge said by stating that it was clear to the City Council that enforcement would only focus on the criminality aspect of homelessness which is why Ridge stated it was not heavy handed.

Chair Moreno asked if there were any more questions.

Captain Carter said that the focus of the first weekend of enforcement, after the adoption of Operation Home Safe was to identify who was there and to get to know people at the encampment. Carter said that those who were arrested had an outstanding probation or warrant which mandates enforcement, but officers weren't looking for drugs, and it is a bit of a misrepresentation to say that all they could find was the three individuals when really the officers were just seeking to understand who and what was out there.

Chair Moreno said that that was an important clarification and the initial plan was to assess the area in cooperation with the Orange County Sheriffs.

Norma Campos Kurtz asked for clarification on the acronym of SAFE and then asked about action item eight and whether it should be assumed that the emergency shelter will be in Anaheim.

Ridge said no.

Kurtz then asked about information regarding SB 2 zone locations.

Ridge said there is a mapping system that is available on the City website that would show the overlay.

Chair Moreno asked if the link could be sent to the entire group.

Jay Burres asked a question about item fifteen and the number of veterans who are homeless.

Ridge said that she believed it was 20 individuals and asked Bates to clarify.

Bates said he wasn't sure but that it should be close to that number.

Bates asked a question in regards to item eleven and thirteen which have an education component, he suggested that there also be an education component for the general population, particularly homeowners that have property near the river trail; in order to clarify what the initiative can and cannot do.

Ridge said that was an excellent suggestion.

Chair Moreno said that a whereas should be included about making sure that the resolution is aligned with federal and state laws as well as the Jones decision from the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court.

Chair Moreno asked if there were any more questions.

Council Member Barnes asked if there was a website where people could ask questions and people could answers in relation to homelessness.

Ridge said that a special email account has been created for the Homeless Policy Working Group and that she could provide a synopsis at the next meeting of all the inquiries that have been received; in addition there are other ways to communicate with the City such as the generic city manager e-mail or Anaheim Anytime.

Chair Moreno said that this plan is an emergency declaration in a political sense where the City is telling other cities, partners and the county that all resources need to be brought together. Chair Moreno then asked how this plan effects everyone in Anaheim if the focus just seems to be on the riverbed. Chair Moreno then asked where the triage day would be located, either at the riverbed or at the operation center on Vermont.

Ridge said that the planning is so premature that she can't really answer that.

Chair Moreno said that his concern is that resources are being spent on county property while the city residents are suffering at parks and private properties.

Ridge said that she would like to provide one clarification, many of the flood control channels are within the city limits.

Chair Moreno then said that the triage wasn't going to happen at the flood control channels but at the riverbed.

Ridge said that initially the thoughts were to triage the flood control channels.

Chair Moreno then asked if there was an expected date.

Ridge said no.

Chair Moreno then asked if it would be within 60 days, since the plan calls for a 60 day timeline.

Ridge said she wasn't sure.

Chair Moreno asked if it was feasible.

Ridge said it would be a lot of work.

Chair Moreno said a lot of high expectation were set out with this plan.

Esther Wallace said that it was mentioned before that every city was required to do a plan to address homelessness. Wallace asked if the state is doing anything to encourage cities to address homelessness.

Chair Moreno asked if the Working Group could get a synopsis from the state representatives on the legislative bills aimed at addressing homelessness.

Kurtz said that she could provide that information.

Chair Moreno mentioned Senator Newman partnering with the Mayor of Buena Park in an Op-Ed announcing a \$20 million state incentive grant for north Orange County.

Sebastian Calderon said that is correct and that he could provide more information on that at the next meeting.

Ridge said that Anaheim is one of the ten cities that receives funding for gang intervention work and homelessness.

Calderon said it does not have to do with infrastructure but that it is a pilot program that includes the police chiefs of the respective cities and other community based organizations and provides funding to help target the gang and homeless issues. Calderon said he could provide more information.

Chair Moreno asked if that information could be provided to Ridge and then that could be sent to the group.

Robbins commented that a lot of these bills require matching funds which can make it difficult for a city.

Chair Moreno moved to the next item on the agenda.

VI. PANEL DISCUSSION: LEGAL PARAMETERS ON HOMELESSNESS

Chair Moreno introduced the two panelists who were present to share legal perspectives regarding the condition of homelessness in the City.

Brooke Weitzman, Elder Law and Disability Rights Center  
Kristin Pelletier, Acting City Attorney, City of Anaheim

Chair Moreno then stated that the goal was for the Working Group to learn, via the panelists perspectives, about the legal parameters that should be considered when creating policy aimed to address homelessness.

Pelletier started by discussing the Anti-Camping Ordinance and that it is designed to be in accordance with the applicable legal framework. Pelletier stated that one of the first issues when looking at a camping ordinance, is the 8<sup>th</sup> amendment, which prohibits the government from punishing an involuntary act or condition if it's the unavoidable condition of a person's status or being; with the case law usually coming out of mental illness, alcoholism, or other immutable characteristics. Pelletier then discussed how the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court applied this in 2006 to a Los Angeles ordinance that prohibited sitting or sleeping in a public right of way; stating that it was an 8<sup>th</sup> amendment violation to criminalize that behavior when they had nowhere else to go. This was a 2-1 decision, with a dissent that said the 8<sup>th</sup> amendment does not protect conduct that is derivative of status. Pelletier noted that this case, "Jones," ended with a settlement, so it is not binding precedent, but has been followed by some courts. Pelletier mentioned that this action has been applied to camping and that the anti-camping ordinance is very similar to Los Angeles' ordinance. Pelletier then mentioned a case in Laguna Beach where the decision sided with the dissent where it was found that the 8<sup>th</sup> amendment did not apply. Pelletier stated that this is an open question and the reason the 9<sup>th</sup> circuit found sleeping in a public right of way as involuntary was because there were not enough beds for all of the homeless people on Skid Row. Pelletier stated that what is done in Anaheim, via APD's training bulletin, is to offer a bed and try to find the person a place to go before he or she is cited. Pelletier noted that many citations are not done in violation of the camping ordinance, but for violation of the park rules. Pelletier then mentioned the storage portion of the ordinance where the legal issue is that because it is someone's property, a notice needs to be given before it is taken, and the property needs to be preserved for him or her to retrieve the property. Pelletier stated this action has come out of another 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court decision, the "Levon Decision." Pelletier then mentioned an equal protection component that is looked at to ensure that equal enforcement applies across the board, so no particular group is targeted. Pelletier then mentioned a decision by Judge Carter from the riverbed where it was stated that notice needs to be given if property will be taken and if so, it needs to be made relatively easy to retrieve.

Weitzman referenced some of the cases Pelletier had mentioned and mentioned some new ones like “Schuller” in Orange County. Weitzman said that for the most part courts have ruled that it is unconstitutional to criminalize behaviors that are unavoidable when there is not a reasonable alternative. Weitzman stated that when there are not enough beds for people in the area then criminalizing people sleeping on the streets is unconstitutional. Weitzman mentioned that some people who are homeless have mental illnesses and therefore some of the police emergency structures are not adequate options for them. Weitzman mentioned seniors who have various limitations would also not find those structures appropriate because they are not equipped with the adequate resources. Weitzman then mentioned park violations where there are different sets of laws for places that are open to the public, such as residential streets, sidewalks, the downtown area, etc. Weitzman stated that in the bigger picture of policy and when looking for solutions, a consideration is when people are going to the parks in order to be away from residential homes and access a restroom, is that a better choice? Weitzman said the city might want to reconsider how parks are handled. Weitzman then moved to storage and property, and discussed a case in Orange County which dealt with whether or not property could be stored in public places, what the minimum due process is, and what the 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> amendment protections are. Weitzman stated that what Judge Carter found is if there is a legitimate reason to have someone move from a public place then people can be asked to move with a minimum 24 hour notice, then after the notice, property can be taken, and when the property is taken it needs to be stored in a way where the individual can meaningfully recover it, meaning a 1 mile or 15 minute walk. Weitzman then stated that the decision made it to where within an hour of a phone call the property could be made available by the county. Weitzman then discussed essential property, where essential property is things that are needed for everyday use. Weitzman stated that in thinking about the bigger picture or goals, one thing to consider is prevention measures such as rent stabilization, ensuring people who are being evicted have legal support as well as access to rapid rehousing and overall housing production.

Chair Moreno then opened up the discussion for questions.

Council Member Vanderbilt stated that there is a recurring theme of not being able to ask people to leave if there are not enough beds available. Council Member Vanderbilt then mentioned different concepts such as Al Fresco Gardens, Bridges at Kraemer; Council Member Vanderbilt then asked, what level of improvement a city would have to do in order to qualify as an alternative location.

Pelletier answered by stating that while policy is followed in the City by providing services and shelter, it is an open question as to what is required by the 8<sup>th</sup> amendment. Pelletier stated that one of the issues under the Laguna Beach case, is whether or not any bed is good enough, or does it have to be the gold standard bed. Pelletier did acknowledge that there are situation where a barracks scenario is not appropriate, especially for those dealing with mental illness. Pelletier stated that her belief is that the courts would not find a violation of the 8<sup>th</sup> amendment if the City had beds. Pelletier said she would hope that cities are not dissuaded from providing beds for fear of being sued because the beds will not be good enough, yet there is not a clearly defined principle.

Weitzman said that she agrees with a majority of what Pelletier said. Weitzman said that so far housing options that were available in many of the cases mentioned have been so inadequate that it hasn't been a question of where the line should be drawn. Weitzman said that in the meantime when there are limited options, projects like Al Fresco Gardens or places where people will have access to sanitation and safety would probably qualify.

Council Member Barnes stated that she liked the words used to define adequate options, and choices about parks. Council Member Barnes then asked if parks are really an option. Council Member Barnes asked for elaboration on what essentials are in order to use that language for future policy.

Weitzman said that in terms of policy and parks, with the notice requirements, property could be seized if people are there during normal park hours. Weitzman said that just having people move because it doesn't look nice is not permitted under current case law. Weitzman said it should be considered if there is a legitimate reason for people to be asked to be moved and if there is, then have they been given the appropriate notice. Weitzman then commented on what is essential by stating that it is listed out on the case as things such as transportation, I.D., medication, tents, tarps, jackets, etc.

Council Member Barnes then asked if that would include pets and pet supplies.

Weitzman said that many pets are treated as emotional support animals and those are not considered pets, therefore there would have to be a legitimate reason to seize pets or pet supplies.

Council Member Barnes then mentioned rent stabilization and asked where that is at in the county.

Weitzman said that as far as she knew, many groups are advocating for rent stabilization but that she doesn't know of anywhere in Orange County that has any form of rent control or rent stabilization in place.

Council Member Barnes asked about language barriers and whether that is a problem.

Weitzman said that it would be a problem if a person didn't know what they were being asked to do.

Council Member Barnes mentioned that for outreach teams it would be important to ensure someone who is bilingual or trilingual to ensure that discrimination is not taking place.

Weitzman said that in terms of the team that is doing outreach, it would be important to consider when it is or isn't appropriate to have law enforcement with those other agencies.

Council Member Barnes then mentioned a comment made on abuse in regards to profiling people and if that is something that is being done.

Pelletier said no, law enforcement is first going to ask people to leave before issuing a citation and that it doesn't matter if it is a juvenile, senior, or someone who is homeless. Pelletier then said that she didn't agree with what Weitzman said about everything having to be stored, such as contraband, evidence of a crime, etc. Pelletier said she believes that there is an ability to not have the parks turned into a place to store one's property.

Weitzman said in regards to profiling she believes it is important to differentiate between the criminals and the non-criminals.

Council Member Barnes mentioned a question she had received about someone whose child was emancipated and now living on the street and asked if there is anything that could be started for parents to be assigned to their child as opposed to someone from the state.

Pelletier said that that is a reason why there is currently a drug program in place. Pelletier said that unless someone is incompetent you can't put a guardian or receiver over them and you can't stop people from making bad decisions.

Weitzman said there are systems in place if someone is incompetent but that it would be a court decision.

Mike Robbins said that some cities have mentioned suing the county in order to build more housing and asked if that is something the City should do.

Pelletier said that that is a policy decision rather than a legal issue. Pelletier said that the City's standing to do that would be somewhat limited and that it would be necessary to look at things that impose obligations on the county, because she does not believe that the county, under the law, has an obligation to address homelessness in a way that can be enforced through civil suit. Pelletier recommended that the way the county receives funds could be examined in order to ensure compliance and she recommended that the city work with the county to help people as opposed to diverting resources towards litigation.

Robbins said that he believes that cities are organizing to join forces to ask for money and land from the county to build housing, and that that is something that is being asked of Anaheim.

Pelletier said that she believes that is something that the city would want to do, pressure the county, but her office has not been approached to join any litigation.

Chair Moreno stated that the City of Santa Ana mentioned this idea publically at a past meeting.

Matt Bates discussed how it was mentioned that there are differences between what could be done at certain properties in terms of essentials and nonessentials, locations, and distances; Bates then asked for clarification on adequacy of housing.

Pelletier said that adequacy of beds is a more recent legal issue. Pelletier said that in the Jones case, only the number of beds were looked at for statistical purposes. Pelletier said that in Laguna Beach the issue of adequacy of beds is being argued and that she would agree that there is no defining law; she mentioned that there is hesitancy from the courts to resolve that issue out of fear of disincentivizing cities, but also recognizing the various needs of people.

Weitzman said that she believes two different issues are being asked, one being if a shelter is put up then is it good enough, and the second being are there enough adequate options to criminalize people who are homeless. Weitzman then said because the Laguna Beach case had such few number of beds, the first question of quality was never asked.

Jay Burre mentioned in regards to a health scare or a disease outbreak, does that change the view of the legal perspective.

Pelletier said yes, that she believes even Judge Carter's orders say that if there is a health and safety risk, the property can be taken.

Weitzman referenced Los Angeles and how the health and safety problem was not determined to be caused by the people and their property, but caused by the lack of restrooms and basic sanitation.

Chair Moreno mentioned that any other questions should be e-mailed to the panelists, due to lack of time. Chair Moreno then referenced Operation Home Safe and the State of Emergency; he then asked if Operation Home Safe created or removed legal barriers.

Pelletier said that she does believe that the county reached out saying that it triggered different things. Pelletier said that the way she has tended to see these sorts of actions trigger things is when the governor is asked to declare a state of emergency because it frees up funds.

Chair Moreno then clarified by asking if the State of Emergency affected anything legally that makes things move differently.

Pelletier said that it is more in an operational sense.

Chair Moreno thanked the panelists for their time and asked if Weitzman would be open to reviewing any recommendations that come out of the Working Group.

Weitzman said yes.

Chair Moreno moved to the next agenda item.

VII. DISCUSSION ON POLICY FRAMEWORK

Chair Moreno asked for any thoughts or ideas that should be considered.

Council Member Barnes said that in regards to the health issue, can it be confirmed that immunizations are taking place in the river trial.

Ridge said that she believes that it is being done, but she can get more data.

Council Member Barnes then said that these health issues should be considered in any policy.

Jay Burres seconded the importance of the health issue as it has effected other cities who have undergone a health outbreak.

Chair Moreno said that the Working Group should e-mail Ridge any questions that they still have in preparation for the future recommendations.

Chair Moreno moved to the next item on the agenda.

VIII. WORKING GROUP MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS

Chair Moreno reviewed the calendar and apologized for the cancellation of the September 21 meeting due to lack of location, therefore the meeting would now take place at South Junior High School on Tuesday, October 3.

Chair Moreno said that the next open community meeting would be on Thursday, September 28 at the Downtown Community Center.

Chair Moreno said while we do want the evening meetings to be about public comment, he wants to add an agenda item that will allow time for a conversation to discuss thoughts the Working Group has in regards to what they have been hearing from panelists and reading from various informational sources.

Matt Bates discussed a community agency advisory from a healthcare agency about the Hepatitis C outbreak. Bates then mentioned the United Way/UCI/Jamboree housing cost study on homelessness that now has a report available online.

Chair Moreno asked for that information to be posted on the website.

Mike Robbins commented on his support for the police. Robbins then commented on 33 homeless individuals dying from July 17 to August 17, more than one a day; he then said that statistically people have a greater chance of surviving WWI than they do surviving the streets of Orange County.

Chair Moreno thanked Robbins for the information and then shared information he received regarding a report done by the Community Services Department in 2007; the

report discussed the crisis of homelessness with a full assessment, information on costs, interviews with those who were homeless, etc. Chair Moreno stated that the information was done by looking at the homeless population in 2000, which showed higher numbers of homeless than there are today.

Esther Wallace said that she wondered if those numbers included people living outside such as in the parks, or those living in motels, since the homeless definition can be different.

Chair Moreno said he would study it more.

Chair Moreno thanked everyone for their work.

Chair Moreno moved to the next item on the agenda.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m. to Thursday, September 28, at 6 p.m., at the Downtown Community Center