

HOMELESSNESS IN RIVERSIDE WORKSHOP

OCTOBER 11, 2016

State Mandates

In April 2011, Assembly Bill 109 established the California Public Safety Realignment Act of 2011. This program shifted responsibility for certain populations of inmates in state prisons from the state to the counties by releasing low-risk offenders, prior to completion of their sentences, back into the community.

On November 4, 2014, the Proposition 47 ballot initiative was passed by California voters, which reduced certain drug possession felonies to misdemeanors.

There is no statistical data available at this time to evaluate the impact of Assembly Bill 109 and Proposition 47. However, staff will track crime reports to report trends in future updates.

On July 1, 2016, the Governor signed into law AB 1618 – No Place Like Home Initiative: A safety-net program that will provide \$2 billion to local communities for the construction and rehabilitation of permanent supportive housing with services for homeless individuals with mental illness. The funds represent a portion of monies from Proposition 63, the 2004 Mental Health Services Act.

On August 31st, a number of key housing bills have successfully passed through both houses and are being considered by the Governor for signature:

1. AB 2501 and AB 2442 – Bills offering affordable housing density bonuses to construct certain thresholds of affordable housing for very-low to moderate income households.
2. SB 1380 – Formation of a Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council to oversee implementation of the Housing First regulations and to identify resources, benefits, and services that can be accessed to prevent homelessness in California.

Pending State Legislation

The State Legislature, from time to time, considers bills that seek to prohibit local agencies from enforcing laws and ordinances to protect the public health, safety and welfare of our residents; there is no legislation pending currently. The City continues to oppose bills that hinder the City's ability to enforce laws and ordinances that prevent the City from addressing community livability concerns. The City supports proposed legislation that broadens the resources and funding available to assist individuals and families progress from homelessness to the highest level of self-sufficiency possible.