



### Update from the Office of Supervisor Kuehl

#### **Investing in Gun Violence Prevention**

Supervisor Kuehl has been very clear- it should not be easy to obtain and/or get permission to carry a gun. She has always supported sensible gun safety measures, and more than half of our country agrees. That makes it imperative that those in our County who are issued concealed carry permits are held to a responsible standard and unlikely to contribute to the gun violence plaguing our nation.

Following the recent egregious Supreme Court decision overturning New York's reasonable concealed carry gun law, the Board on Tuesday passed a motion Supervisor Kuehl introduced, co-authored by Supervisor Hilda Solis, asking for analysis and data on the costs of the conceal carry permit process in LA County so that the permit fees can reflect the actual cost to the County. Since the Sheriff has also greatly increased the issuance of these permits, we also asked for information on how the Sheriff's Department determines whether an applicant meets the "good moral character" requirement, and whether fees from these permits can be used to fund violence prevention initiatives.

#### **Checks and Balances on the Los Angeles County Sheriff**

As the leader of one of the largest law enforcement bodies in the country, the LA County Sheriff wields tremendous and often dangerous power. It is important that anyone with that amount of authority, especially someone charged with the safety of our community, be held accountable.

The Board passed a motion authored by Supervisors Holly Mitchell and Hilda Solis directing County Counsel to draft an ordinance to be put before the voters on the November ballot, allowing the Board to remove the sheriff with a 4/5 vote if he or she egregiously abuses their power or breaks the law. Causes for removal would include:

- Violation of any law related to the performance of their duties as sheriff;
- Flagrant or repeated neglect of duties
- Willful falsification of any official statement or document; or
- Obstruction of any investigation into the conduct of the sheriff by OIG, COC, or any government agency with jurisdiction.

The motion is specifically written to ensure there could be no interference with legitimate department duties. If passed by the voters, it would simply ensure that the Sheriff is operating within the law and adhering to established ethical standards.

#### **Poverty Alleviation Initiative Strategic Framework**

Poverty touches every aspect of the human experience. A person's socioeconomic status has a huge impact on the trajectory of their life as it relates to education, health outcomes, family wellness, and involvement in the

justice system. Beyond that, major systemic issues like racial inequity are tied to poverty- you can't effectively and meaningfully address one without the other. By focusing on poverty alleviation, LA County hopes to create a ripple effect, uplifting entire communities and improving the quality of life for everyone.

Thanks to a motion Supervisor Kuehl co-authored with Supervisor Holly Mitchell, the Board voted this week to officially adopt the recently released Strategic Framework for Alleviating Poverty that was crafted by the Poverty Alleviation Initiative (PAI). The framework serves as a solid foundation on which we can build more effective poverty alleviation and prevention programs, like the (already in progress) Guaranteed Income Pilot. Moving forward, the PAI will report back with top priorities, a timeline, and opportunities for cross-departmental collaboration, so stay tuned!

### **Abortion is Legal: Countywide Communication Strategy**

The anti-choice movement has always attempted to create confusion surrounding abortion care, whether it be through fake clinics or misrepresented medical information, to create barriers and deter women from trying to exercise their reproductive rights. They will continue to do so, buoyed by the recent, shameful Supreme Court decision overturning Roe v. Wade. It's our job to be louder.

The Board passed a motion authored by Supervisors Hilda Solis and Holly Mitchell calling for a comprehensive communications strategy that will effectively spread the message that abortion remains and will remain legal in LA County and where a woman can receive reproductive health care including abortion. To accomplish this, our CEO will work with reproductive health advocates, providers, ethnic and hyper-local media, and other County departments to ensure that the message reaches every corner of our region.

### **Transportation Assistance for Olympic Cities**

Bringing the 2028 Olympic Games to Los Angeles will require Herculean efforts to make sure our transit system is ready, which is why the Board passed a motion Supervisor Kuehl co-authored with Supervisor Janice Hahn formalizing LA County's support for H.R. 7642 (Rep. Brownley) and S. 4383 (Sen. Feinstein and Padilla.)

The two bills are referred to as the Transportation Assistance for Olympic Cities Act of 2022 and would allow USDOT to prioritize transportation grants for projects relating to the Olympics and other international events, as it once did for the 2002 games in Salt Lake City. This legislation would expedite an infusion of funding that will allow Los Angeles to meet the transportation needs of millions of visitors, and complete upgrades that will benefit our residents long after the games are over.

#### Additional Resources

##### **StayHousedLA.org -**

Stay Housed LA is a partnership between the County of Los Angeles and local community and legal services providers. The site provides Los Angeles County residents with information and resources to keep people in their homes. At the Stay Housed LA website, you can find out more about your rights by participating in a virtual tenant workshop, get the legal assistance you need, and sign up for updates to stay keyed into LA County's evolving housing climate.

##### **VaccinateLACounty.com -**

Vaccinate LA County is your one stop shop for vaccine information. You can find a site nearby, learn about the vaccines, data, and find information on mobile and homebound vaccinations. Please reach out if you have specific questions - our office is here to help.

**ReopeningLACounty.com -**

For best practices for businesses, information regarding COVID-19, the current Health Officer Order, and more – ReopeningLACounty.com has information to help you stay healthy, safe and informed.



**CALIFORNIANS  
AGE 50 OR  
OLDER MAY  
QUALIFY FOR  
MORE MEDI-CAL  
BENEFITS.**

**Beginning May 1, 2022,  
immigration status does not  
matter. California residents who  
are 50 or older and who meet all  
Medi-Cal eligibility criteria may  
qualify for full-scope Medi-Cal.**

**Call 1-866-613-3777 to find out if you qualify or to  
get more information.**

**[dpss.lacounty.gov](https://dpss.lacounty.gov)**



