



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20410-0001

THE SECRETARY

Dear Mayor Garcetti,

It was great speaking with you on the phone yesterday to discuss a potential partnership to alleviate the homelessness crisis in Los Angeles – a crisis that contradicts progress made elsewhere in the Nation to reduce entrenched homelessness. While homelessness is a state and local issue, the Trump Administration is deeply concerned about the ongoing crisis in Los Angeles, and is willing to offer a helping hand to Americans in need.

As you know, half of all unsheltered homeless in the United States are in California, a level about four times as high as California's share of the overall U.S. population. Los Angeles, alone, is home to 20 percent of the Nation's unsheltered homeless. There are nearly six times as many single adults living on the streets of California as there are emergency shelter beds targeted to them, the highest such rate in the country. Leaving California's homeless unsheltered, unhealthy, and unsafe is a human tragedy and unacceptable. Tragically, 1,047 homeless persons died last year in Los Angeles County; a number that has doubled in five years.

As we discussed, to address this humanitarian crisis and save lives, we seek a partnership of resources and policy changes between Los Angeles, the Federal government, and non-profit service providers. We value bipartisan solutions and appreciate your willingness to take a fresh approach.

In a partnership, the Administration is prepared to offer Los Angeles unique Federal resources to address this humanitarian crisis, including:

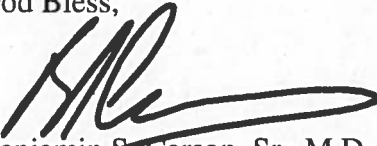
- Emergency Healthcare Services
- Supplemental Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing Support
- Federal Land
- Law Enforcement Support
- Voucher Utilization Support

Also, as we discussed, to address this humanitarian crisis in the long-term, the City and County of Los Angeles must partner with our efforts and make necessary policy changes, including:

- Reallocating Funding and Prioritize Shelter Construction on Federal and Local Land
- Providing New Shelters with Operational Flexibility in Self-Sufficiency Programing
- Empowering and Utilizing Local Law Enforcement
- Expanding Local Mental Health Resources
- Reducing Housing Regulations to Expedite Affordable Housing Construction

We are very encouraged by the recent discussions we have had with you and your staff, and we look forward to forming a partnership moving forward. For the sake of our most vulnerable citizens, your City and County taxpayers, and local businesses, let's work together to compassionately alleviate the pain and suffering this crisis has caused.

God Bless,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Carson', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Benjamin S. Carson, Sr., M.D.

Secretary

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development