



Westside
Regional
Alliance of
Councils

westsidecouncils.com

Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council
Brentwood Community Council
Del Rey Neighborhood Council
Mar Vista Community Council
Neighborhood Council of Westchester-Playa
North Westwood Neighborhood Council
Pacific Palisades Community Council

Palms Neighborhood Council
South Robertson Neighborhoods Council
Venice Neighborhood Council
West LA-Sawtelle Neighborhood Council
Westside Neighborhood Council
Westwood Community Council
Westwood Neighborhood Council

April 10, 2025

Hon. Bilal (Bill) Essayli, United States Attorney for the Central District of California (CDC)
Lindsey Greer Dotson, Chief, Criminal Division, Dept. of Justice, CDC
Ranee A. Katzenstein, Chief, Major Frauds Section, Dept. of Justice, CDC
Mack Jenkins, Chief, Public Corruption and Civil Rights Section, Dept. of Justice, CDC
David M. Harris, Chief, Civil Division, Dept. of Justice, CDC
Ross Cuff, Chief, Civil Fraud Section, Dept. of Justice, CDC
Ciaran McEvoy, Public Information Officer, Dept. of Justice, CDC

Via email to all addressees

Re: Dept. of Justice Homelessness Fraud and Corruption Task Force (Task Force)

Dear U.S. Attorney Essayli and Dept. of Justice officials:

The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) is a cooperative coalition, formed in 2009, of all 14 neighborhood and community councils on the Westside of Los Angeles, located in Council Districts 5 and 11 and portions of Districts 4 and 10 – from Westchester/Playa del Rey to Pacific Palisades, and from Venice to South Robertson. Together, our alliance represents over 500,000 housed and unhoused individuals

WRAC greatly appreciates that the Dept. of Justice, Central District of California, has now formed the Task Force. We have long been disturbed by the growing humanitarian crisis involving homelessness in Los Angeles, and by the reported and evident mismanagement in the use of taxpayer funds for this purpose. On the recommendation of the WRAC Homelessness Committee (HOC), the WRAC Board in turn recently recommended, and WRAC's member councils have passed, motions requesting that the Dept. of Justice and other federal, state, county and city entities conduct investigations into mismanagement and potential fraud in the use of such funds to address homelessness in Los Angeles.

As a result, WRAC sent the following letter to numerous officials on December 14, 2024:

<https://westsidecouncils.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/WRAC-Letter-Investigate-HomelessFundingF.pdf>.

WRAC's member councils and the members of the WRAC HOC consist of community leaders who have **years-long, first-hand experience dealing with homelessness matters in their neighborhoods**, often working with government and private-sector partners to obtain services (including mental and physical health and addiction assistance, as well as housing/shelter) for the thousands of unhoused individuals who are present throughout the Westside. We are familiar with the serious needs and challenges facing unhoused individuals in Los Angeles. **WRAC and its HOC stand ready to assist the Task Force in any way that may be helpful.**

In addition, the WRAC HOC respectfully invites you or other knowledgeable officials with the Dept. of Justice, the FBI, the IRS Criminal Division and/or the Dept. of Housing and Urban Development Office of the Inspector

General, to attend the next HOC meeting via Zoom at 7pm on **Tuesday, April 22, 2025**, to discuss the work of the Task Force and whether we can be of any help in this regard.

We would very much appreciate hearing from you at your earliest convenience as to whether you or other officials will be able to attend our online HOC meeting on April 22. We look forward to the discussion!

Thank you for your consideration and attention to this request.

Sincerely,

Robin Greenberg, Chris Spitz & Jay Handal

Robin Greenberg, Chris Spitz and Jay Handal
Respectively: WRAC Chair; WRAC & HOC Vice-Chair; HOC Chair
Westside Regional Alliance of Councils
www.westsidecouncils.com

cc: Hon. Lindsey Horvath and Hon. Holly Mitchell, LA County Supervisors; Hon. Karen Bass, LA City Mayor;
Hon. Traci Park, Hon. Katy Yaroslavsky, Hon. Heather Hutt and Hon. Nithya Raman, LA City Councilmembers