

# Resolution

## regarding Homeless Shelters in South Los Angeles

Whereas, after three years of planning without input from the community or local elected officials, Los Angeles County Sheriff Baca created a plan to locate homeless shelters in South Los Angeles; and

Whereas, the Sheriff's plan would create homeless shelters utilizing vacant buildings and tent city-like shelters on vacant properties located at the intersection of the Harbor (110) Freeway and Manchester Avenue and/or the intersection of Vermont Avenue and the Glen Anderson (105) Freeway; and

Whereas, the original plan was to locate homeless shelters in downtown Los Angeles near the Men's Central Jail on land between Olvera Street and Chinatown, but was met with strong opposition from area merchants and residents; and

Whereas, there appears to be a focus on development and revitalization of downtown Los Angeles which has already produced the new Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels, which opened last year, and the Walt Disney Concert Hall which opened this month and; and

Whereas, about 900 South Los Angeles residents attending a recent Town Hall Meeting expressed concern that the plan to move the homeless out of downtown Los Angeles and dump them into South Los Angeles was inspired by the billions being spent on the ongoing redevelopment of the downtown area; and

Whereas, residents fear that locating homeless tent cities in South Los Angeles could attract homeless from other areas of the county and exacerbate the problems of crime, drugs and violence in an area that already lacks adequate police protection; and

Whereas, residents are deeply concerned about the welfare of the homeless and have worked with churches and other non-profit organizations in South Los Angeles that are providing food and shelter for the homeless; and

Whereas, Sheriff Baca's plan would cost an estimated \$4 million to launch and \$2.6 million a year to operate and programs to feed and shelter the homeless are already in place in the downtown area where many vacant downtown industrial buildings could be renovated to house the homeless and where organizations are being paid to provide services;

Therefore, be it resolved that South Los Angeles area residents are opposed to any plan to dump the homeless in South Los Angeles, but will support a regional plan in which all communities share responsibility for the housing and care of the homeless.

Adopted by Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council  
on 10 day of January, 2003.

BJ Myatt  
signed

BURNEIL "BJ" MYWATT, Chairman  
Print name and title