

A portrait of Holly Mitchell, a woman with long, curly dreadlocks, wearing a red top and a necklace. She is smiling and has her hands clasped in front of her. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with green foliage.

HOLLY MITCHELL:

A MORAL PLAN TO

TAKE ON HOMELESSNESS

HOLLY
FOR LA COUNTY SUPERVISOR

Los Angeles Times

**"I WOULD DESCRIBE HER AS
A MORAL COMPASS... OF
THE ENTIRE SENATE"**

- Former State Senator Mark Leno,
whom Mitchell succeeded as budget chair

HOLLY'S HOMELESSNESS PLAN LEADS WITH OUR VALUES

Born and raised in Leimert Park, Holly has always fought for priorities that reflect our local values. **As Chair of the Senate Budget Committee, Holly secured \$166 million to fight homelessness in Los Angeles County.** As Supervisor, she'll implement a bold plan to solve the dual challenges of homelessness and housing affordability.



I. STABILIZE OUR COMMUNITIES

We can't just build our way out of this crisis - we must also leverage existing housing stock and stem the tide of new residents that are becoming homeless by stabilizing our communities.

- ✔ **Incentivize homeowners to build Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) and rent to low and very low-income tenants.** These incentives could include reducing property taxes through subsidies or reducing or eliminating building construction fees.
- ✔ **Motivate landlords to rent to voucher holders, very low income and formerly homeless individuals and families through fee reductions.**
- ✔ **Combat gentrification and single-family home grabs by developers by protecting property from the speculative market.** We need to implement a serious anti-speculation plan by using public/private partnerships to develop land trusts. By using this model, a property would be purchased (at market rate) from a prospective seller, then transferred into the Trust, which would determine a more reasonable price for re-sale within the community.
- ✔ **Stop the closures of "board and care" homes.** These institutions have been a bedrock in the mental healthcare delivery system. We must re-tool their reimbursement system to stabilize their infrastructure, so critical services don't leave our communities.
- ✔ **Through California's newly developed Public Bank, create immediate housing stabilization loans for people at risk of becoming homeless.** A report from the Federal Reserve Bank states that 40% of Americans can't afford a \$400 unanticipated expense. This new plan will create a 1-1-1 \$500 loan: a loan approved in one week, for repayment over one year, with 1% interest.
- ✔ **Stop criminalizing mental illness.** Many people on our streets are suffering from mental health and substance abuse challenges. It's time we transformed the status quo that too often locks up people who need treatment, not jail. Changing that paradigm will help stop the cycle of homelessness.



2. SCALE-UP

Currently, there are approximately 60,000 unhoused family, friends, and neighbors in LA County. Tens of thousands more don't have a permanent address – these are the homeless we don't see every day. We must consider the real number much higher as we develop plans and timelines to house our residents. This new reality demands we quickly expand and “scale-up” our plans and projects to meet the real need.

- ✔ **Develop public/private partnerships** with the building trades, non-profit developers and government to create a Habitat for Humanity model where formerly homeless residents are trained in valuable skills, while receiving support with staying housed.
- ✔ **Scale-up home sharing programs between primary residency owners and community members in need of long-term housing.**



3. BUILD FOR ALL

A true plan to address the homeless crisis must include a plan to build more housing that is accessible across the socioeconomic spectrum.

- ✔ **Raise the affordable unit requirements for new developments to at least 20%.** It's time we guarantee every new building is part of the solution, not just a means to profit off the crisis.
- ✔ **Invest in additional community-based mental health services including an expansion of residential facilities with treatment options for children and adults.** Several thousand people suffering from mental illness in LA County jails right now could be better served - at a fraction of the cost - by a strong county-wide infrastructure for mental health support. Our budget must reflect that reality, and it must reflect our values.