

OC Board of Supervisors, March 12 and 26. Wanda Shaffer

AB and SB 448, bills sponsored by Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva and Tom Daly. Supported by John Moorlach, Patricia Bates, Janet Nguyen, and Bob Hertzberg. The OC Supervisors approved the forming of the OC Housing Finance Trust Joint Powers Agreement. The press release states: It will provide and receive funds for homeless and those of extremely low, very low, and low income in OC. The Trust will not regulate land use, own or operate housing units, impose fees, nor approve a housing project or program if the local governing body does not support it. 2 Supervisors, 2 countywide elected officials and 5 city council members will sit on the governing board. The initial goal is 2,700 supportive housing units and affordable housing units within 6 years. Funding sources such as Prop.1, Housing for a Healthy Cal, and Multi-Family Housing Program Supportive Housing, reduced the capital gap to \$252 million. The Board also designated \$70.5 million in Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) money on top of \$25 million No Place Like Home monies already allocated to address this critical priority. As of March 13, the BOS's support for housing has resulted in funding applications and developer interests of more than 1,000 units of affordable and supportive housing units. Supervisors unanimously voted for this action. However Supervisor Steel had previously voted against it. She stated, "It's now signed by the Governor, but it's OK. He promised there would be debt involved." JUDGE CARTER WILL HOLD A MEETING TUESDAY, APRIL 2, ASKING THE 34 OC CITIES MAYORS AND POLICE CHIEFS, CAL OPTIMA, AND LAWYERS FOR THE HOMELESS TO ATTEND.

The county conducted the POINT IN TIME COUNT in January, 2019. It reported that OC has at least 3,400 homeless sleeping on streets. In 2018, the coroner reported OC had 250 deaths. (San Diego had 111)

The recent study "The Condition of Children in OC" reported that Orange County has a higher suicide rate than the average in U.S. counties. The BOS unanimously voted to create Mind OC. This is a countywide suicide prevention initiative. The Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) will give \$600,000 to accomplish this. There is a real need for a school-based crisis response network. Also ½ of the veterans have no access to mental health care.