



ERIC GARCETTI  
MAYOR

January 9, 2020

President Donald J. Trump  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave  
Washington, DC 20500

The Honorable Dr. Ben Carson  
Secretary, Department of Housing & Urban Development  
451 7th St, SW  
Washington, DC 20410

Dear President Trump and Secretary Carson,

Homelessness is a humanitarian emergency that demands investment and attention at all levels of government, because this crisis cannot be solved by local government alone. Historically, federal resources have been at the center of the fight against homelessness in American cities. It is vital that we reestablish those resources so that we can strengthen the work that is being done locally.

I appreciate Secretary Carson reaching out to me. During our conversation, he expressed a commitment to working with cities nationwide to help accelerate our progress in addressing this emergency by investing in strong, humane, and lasting approaches that can help get people off the street and save lives.

I write to request federal assistance that would aid Los Angeles with the urgent work that our City is doing to move our unhoused neighbors into shelter, build permanent housing, and supply the services they need to stay housed for good. The City is utilizing

every opportunity and resource to create sustainable solutions. I have made solving homelessness the number-one focus of my six years in office, which is why I am asking that we engage in discussions on how federal aid can help scale up local efforts that successfully housed a record of nearly 22,000 homeless Angelenos in 2018.

I appreciate the federal resources that Secretary Carson offered yesterday, including support for service and housing programs; potential federal land for housing and shelter development; and leveraged resources needed to address critical public health needs.

We look forward to ongoing discussions that will demonstrate how our federal and local governments can become strong and steady partners in confronting a problem that affects cities across America — and we want those conversations to result in solutions that will help rebuild the lives of people in desperate need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of the letters 'E', 'G', and 'H' connected by a horizontal line, representing Eric Garcetti.

Eric Garcetti  
Mayor  
City of Los Angeles