

Benioff Homelessness and Housing Initiative



University of California
San Francisco

Election 2024: What Does it Mean for Homelessness in California and Beyond?

12/11/2024



Webinar Agenda

- Welcome
- Overview
- California Context
- Paths forward
- Roundtable Discussion
- Audience Q&A

Panelists



Margot Kushel, MD
BHHI Director



Marc Dones
BHHI Policy Director



Chione Lucina Muñoz
Flegal, MCP
*Executive Director,
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Marcy Thompson,
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*Vice President of
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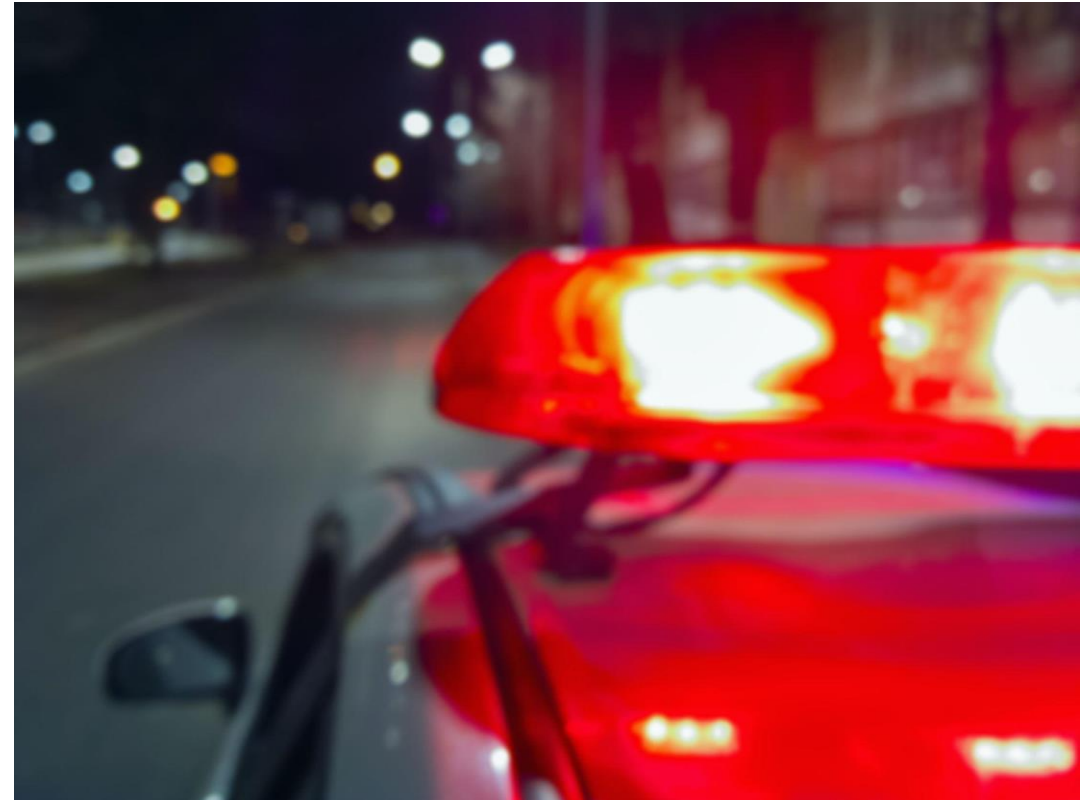
Marc Dones, Policy Director

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Proposition 36: Increased Penalties for Certain Crimes

- Allows harsher sentences for drug and theft crimes, impacting repeat offenders.
- Passed with 68.43% approval



Proposition 33: Expands Local Rent Control Authority

- Would have repealed Costa-Hawkins, enabling local governments to expand rent control.
- Defeated with 60% voting against.



Proposition 5: Lowers Approval for Housing Bonds

- Sought to lower the voter threshold for local housing bonds from two-thirds to 55%.
- Failed with 55% voting against.



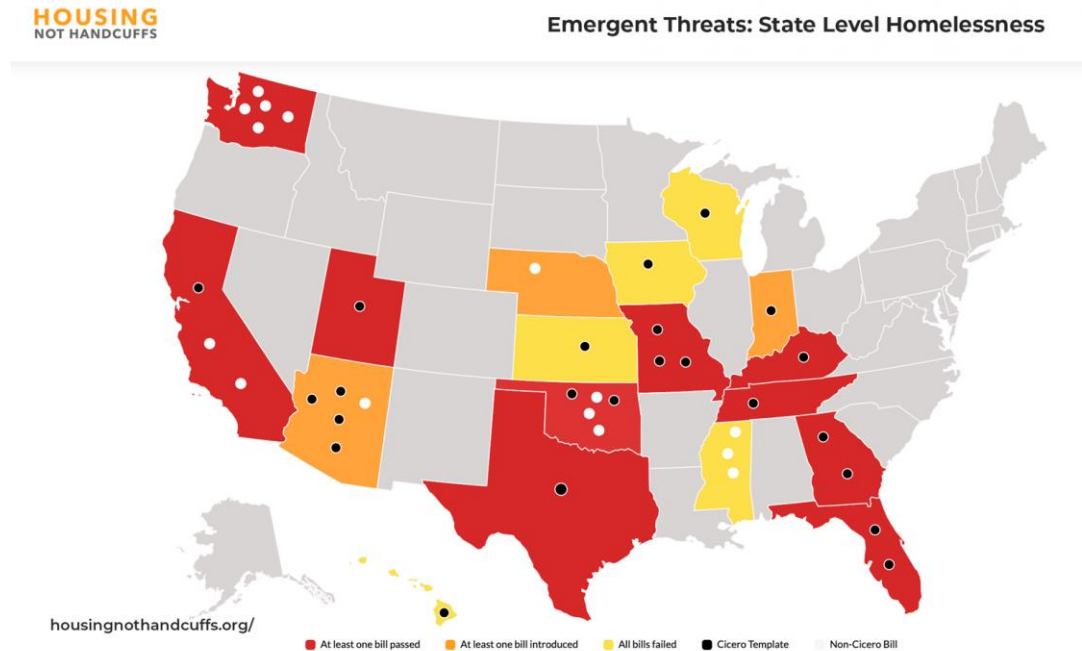
Measure A: LA County Sales Tax for Homelessness

- Proposed a ½ cent sales tax to fund homelessness services and affordable housing.
- *Outcome: Passed with 57.78% approval.*



Grants Pass and the 2024 Election: A Roadmap for Criminalization

- Legitimizes criminalization of homelessness, encouraging punitive policies.
- Erodes protections and shifts focus from proven solutions like Housing First.
- Enables state and federal actions that worsen homelessness.



Racialized Impacts of Criminalization



Graphic: National Homelessness Law Center

Legal penalties for homelessness-related conduct are based on civil infraction laws (non-traffic)

- Infraction policing has explicitly discriminatory origins, beginning with post-Civil war Black Codes

Enforcement of these laws has racially disparate impacts:

- Data collected from the 15 largest law enforcement departments in CA over an 18-month period showed significant disparities in who received citations for non-traffic infractions (LCCRSF 2020)
 - Black adults were up to 9.7 times more likely to receive citations than white adults in the same jurisdiction
 - Latinx adults were up to 5.8 times more likely to receive citations than white adults in the same jurisdiction

Housing First Impacts

- **Shift in Funding:** Federal resources may prioritize compliance-based models over Housing First.
- **Policy Changes:** New guidelines could reduce emphasis on Housing First principles.
- **Implications for CoCs:**
 - CoCs may face challenges funding Housing First programs.
 - Alternative models might gain federal support, competing for limited resources.



How We Can Support Evidence-Based Homelessness Solutions



Generate Evidence – Conduct rigorous research to identify effective solutions.



Amplify and Support – Share findings widely and provide policymakers with actionable data.



Highlight Impact – Showcase outcomes to build a case for proven strategies.



Partner Locally – Collaborate with jurisdictions to implement evidence-based solutions.



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