



**Los Angeles County Boards of Real Estate
Hosted by the Glendale Association of REALTORS
124 S. Isabel St. Glendale, CA 91205
Wednesday, May 18, 2016 10:00 AM-11:30 AM**

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|------|---|-------------------|
| I. | Welcome | Mark Ramos, Chair |
| II. | Self-Introductions | All Participants |
| III. | Approval of April 2016 Minutes | Joyce Kristensson |
| IV. | Treasurer Report | Lee Lieberg |
| V. | Events Committee | Events Committee |
| | a. Call 1 Recap | |
| | b. Day at the County | |
| | i. Dates | |
| VI. | Los Angeles County Homelessness | |
| | a. ‘Millionaires Tax’ for homelessness- County Agenda 10- Recommendation as submitted by Supervisors Ridley-Thomas and Kuehl: Direct the Chief Executive Officer and the County’s legislative advocates in Sacramento to pursue a change in State law to grant counties the authority to seek voter approval of a tax on personal income above \$1,000,000 per year to combat homelessness. | |
| | b. Polling Data April 22 | |
| | c. Los Angeles County Homeless Count | |

VII. LA County Board of Supervisors Elections- Update

VIII. Website

a. RSVPs

b. Registering

c. Use of the Calendar

IX. Closing Remarks

Mark Ramos, Chair

a. Next LACBOR Meeting Wednesday, June 8, 2016- California
Association of Realtors 10:00AM-1130PM

b. Assessor Prang's staff new portal demonstration

Los Angeles County officials are considering a new income tax on millionaires to help address the region's growing crisis of homelessness.

Supervisor Hilda Solis raised concerns about the methodology of a poll that gauged voters' support for the potential measure and the annual countywide count of homeless people. After a lengthy debate, the supervisors postponed the question by a week.

City and county officials have been mulling the idea of asking voters for a tax increase to pay for new housing and services intended to get people off the streets.

The most recent count by the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority found nearly 47,000 people on the streets and in shelters, a 5.7% increase from the year before.

County officials voted earlier this year to allocate \$150 million for housing programs and other initiatives to reduce homelessness, but say nearly \$500 million a year would be needed to make a significant dent in the problem, not including the cost of building new housing.

A recent poll by the county found that 76% of the likely voters polled were supportive of a millionaire's tax — enough to meet the two-thirds majority required to impose a new tax.

They were more receptive to the high-income tax than to other options presented, including increasing sales or property taxes or taxing marijuana sales to pay for homeless programs.

A similar "millionaires tax" passed by voters statewide in 2004, raises money for mental health services through a personal income tax surcharge of 1% on taxable income above \$1 million.

The revenues — about \$1.4 billion statewide this year — are collected by the state and distributed to counties.

County officials estimate that another such tax could raise \$243 million a year for housing and services for the homeless in Los Angeles County.

But the county does not now have the authority to raise income taxes and would need a change in state law to do it.

Supervisors Mark Ridley-Thomas and Sheila Kuehl want the county to start pushing for a budget trailer bill that would grant the county the authority in time to place a measure on the ballot in November.

The deadline for the board to place initiatives on the November ballot is Aug. 9. The budget bill will be adopted by June 15 and signed by June 31, giving county officials time to decide whether to place a measure on the ballot.

Michael D. Antonovich and Don Knabe, expressed skepticism about pursuing a tax increase. Solis, joined them. She said she had not been provided with a detailed breakdown of demographics of the people polled and had not received a breakdown of the results for each supervisorial district until Monday night.

Kuehl and Ridley-Thomas, along with county staff, pushed for a vote to move ahead with pursuing legislation that would at least potentially leave the door open for a November measure. Ridley-Thomas argued that a delay would send a "message of equivocation."

The supervisors took an initial vote in which the proposal to seek state approval was voted down. Kuehl and Ridley-Thomas voted in favor of the proposal, Antonovich and Knabe voted no and Solis abstained. Supervisors voted to reconsider and place it on the agenda for next week.