From:	Katheryn Rhodes
To:	Traynor, Meghan C
Subject:	[External] Fwd: 11/02/2026 LAFCO Agenda Item 6A Regional Taskforce on the Homeless (RTFH) White Paper "Homeless Services + Governance in San Diego County"
Date:	Wednesday, November 4, 2026 2:31:08 PM
Attachments:	Screenshot 2026-11-04 at 11.11.53 AM.png Screenshot 2026-11-04 at 11.12.08 AM.png Screenshot 2026-11-04 at 11.12.22 AM.png 20201001_RTFHSD_Amended-and-Restated-Bylaws_2020-October-Board-Meeting-Packet_52-Pages.pdf 20240509_RTFHSD_Governance_Charter-v10-FINAL_48-Pages.pdf

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Subject: 11/02/2026 LAFCO Agenda Item 6A Regional Taskforce on the Homeless (RTFH) White Paper "Homeless Services + Governance in San Diego County"
To: <erica.sellen@sdcounty.ca.gov>, <Meghan.Traynor@sdcounty.ca.gov>, <Keene.Simonds@sdcounty.ca.gov>, Katheryn Rhodes <laplayaheritage@gmail.com>

Erica Sellen - Commission Clerk of LAFCO.
Keene Simonds - Executive Officer
Meghan Traynor - Local Government Analyst/

Hi LAFCO,

Thank you for discussing making the private, non-profit Regional Taskforce on the Homeless (RTFHSD) and HUD Continuum of Care (COC) for the homeless answerable to the public through a change in governance structure. Which was part of the 11/02/2026 LAFCO meeting for Item 6A White Paper "Homeless Services + Governance in San Diego County."

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DjVJkIEuarc&t=6398s

I believe a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) or a Special District would allow the public to be part of the regional meetings on homelessness in San Diego using public funding.

Plus, potentially turn the current private non-profit RTFHSD and COC meetings, into public meetings under the Brown Act, were the public is allowed to participate and request records, instead of being silenced.

Currently, the RTFHSD and HUD Continuum of Care (COC) systems are not working. Public residents and taxpayers have been shut out by the actions of the RTFHSD staff and Board when they took out voluntary Brown Act compliance in their Bylaws on 10/01/2020. We need public

accountability for the millions in public homeless dollars spent.

Prior to 2020, there would be only a few public attendees of the meetings. As I stated at the hearing, in the summer of 2020 a large group of black homeless individuals came before the RTFHSD with their grievances. The meeting was longer than usual, and all items were heard, and there were no problems. This may have been the first and only meeting the organized group of black homeless individuals attended.

The staff at the RTFHSD and the Continuum of Care (COC) were annoyed and decided that the new group of black public speakers were making the public meeting longer than necessary.

RTFHSD staff's excuse for deleting Brown Act compliance was because the RTFHSD and COC had a large boards and wanted to keep a quarum. The RTFHSD staff wanted to shorten the meeting time by getting rid of public comments for non-agenda and agenda items.

On 10/01/2020, without any prior public input or public discussion, the RTFHSD staff without discussing the issues in prior meetings, changed their legal Bylaws to delete Brown Act compliance from Bylaws Article VII, Sections 7.11, 7.13, 7.14, 7.16 and 7.22 which previously stated the RTFHSD would follow the California Brown Act and Public Records Requests voluntarily.

A copy of the previous Bylaws was not part of the 10/01/2020 Agenda package, and changes to the new Bylaws made were not clear, as RTFHSD staff did not provide a strike-out of the old Bylaws.

Also, this 10/01/2020 meeting agenda's Zoom link did not work, and the Zoom link was blank so no one online could attend online. The only Agenda Item was the change to the Bylaws. I only knew the important meeting happened after the fact.

When I did a Public Records Act (PRA) request for the recording of the 10/01/2020 meeting to see if RTFHSD staff mentioned taking out voluntary Brown Act compliance to the Board, I did not get any answers. I went to the offices of the RTFHSD and was told the RTFHSD was a private non-profit and does not have to provide the public with any information,

documents, or recordings of meetings.

After the 10/01/2020 Bylaws change I was kicked out of both RTFHSD and COC meetings by RTFHSD staff. After being kicked out, I heard from a friend who was a homeless advocate that they were allowed to attend the meetings and sit on the side. At the next RTFHSD and COC meetings, we decided to go together to see if I would be kicked out again. In the company of my friend who is a well known homeless advocate, RTFHSD staff allowed me to restart attending the RTFH and COC meetings. Plus I was allowed to sit on the side chairs and not say anything, or contribute to the conversations, as was previously allowed before. However, some people who were not on the board and were siting in the public sections were allowed to speak. Even on Agenda items.

Attached are the 10/01/2020 RTFH Amended Bylaws with the missing Zoom link that does not work. I cannot find my copy of the previous RTFHSD bylaws, and could not find the RTFHSD prior Bylaws online. As some of their documents are secret, and behind a membership only website, Membership Log-In page, and COC Membership Portal.

https://coc.rtfhsd.org/login

Also attached is the new 05/09/2024 San Diego Continuum of Care Board Governance Charter that does not allow for public recordings of the private COC meetings.

See Board Policy "CoCBP8. Use of Artificial Intelligence Meeting Assistants and Meeting Recordings." Approved on October 19, 2023. See Pages 47-48.

Screenshot 2026-11-04 at 11.11.53□AM.png



Screenshot 2026-11-04 at 11.12.08 AM.png



Screenshot 2026-11-04 at 11.12.22 AM.png



As stated above, the RTFHSD has decided not to allow public recordings of COC meetings without the prior consent of attendees. Which as far as I know has never happened. As I do not believe anyone has asked for the consent of attendees to record.

Plus, the recordings of COC meetings are not available to the public or to the press. And instead "Meeting recordings shall be maintained in files accessible only to RTFH employees."

There have also been many news reports on how other elected officials and members of the press were not given information from the RTFHSD finances because they are a private non-profit agency that does not voluntarily comply with the Brown Act or the Public Records Act.

In the LAFCO update to the White Paper please include how voluntary Brown Act compliance was deleted from the Bylaws on 10/01/2020. And how other elected officials, the public, and the press have been ignored by the private non-profit RTFHSD. And only members are allowed to speak at meetings. Plus the RTFHSD does have a calendar with Zoom link, but the meeting Agendas are not available to the public or press.

Please include by email (without the attachments) as part of Agenda Item 6a to be given to the LAFCO Board members.

I am recommending that in the LAFCO updated White Paper, LAFCO staff

recommend that the RTFHSD immediate redo their Bylaws and put back in Brown Act compliance into their Bylaws Article VII, Sections 7.11, 7.13, 7.14, 7.16 and 7.22 , and in the COC Governance Charter, and allow for public recordings of all RTFHSD and COC meetings. Plus put all their hidden agendas and video recordings of meetings online. All these recommendations can happen with the existing private non-profit even before the Governance structures changes in a few years.

Until the public is allowed to participate in meetings, no public funding should be given to the RTFHSD or COC.

Regards,

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