



GARDENA POLICE DEPARTMENT

1718 West 162nd Street Gardena, California 90247

Phone: 310-217-9670 Fax: 310-217-9638

www.gardenapd.org



Rod Lyons, Chief of Police

March 22, 2004

REF: 04-066

Mr. Mitchell Netburn
Executive Director
Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority
548 South Spring Street, Suite 400
Los Angeles, California 90013

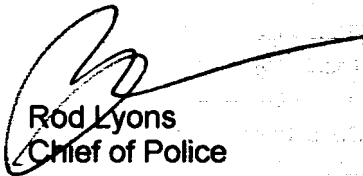
Dear Mr. Netburn:

Pursuant to your request for information related to the homeless issue, the following is provided:

1. Less than 1% of the annual budget of the Police Department is set aside for homeless issues, as the Department of Human Services normally handles homeless issues such as housing, food bank services, clothing banks, and referrals as they arise.
2. In small cities such as Gardena, repeated contacts with individuals is the most common method of identifying homeless persons.
3. Refer to Item #1.
4. As policy and custom, we treat all people with dignity and respect. In addition, when our personnel encounter the homeless, they are instructed to advise them of local and county services to aid them in overcoming their issues.
5. The current system for addressing homeless issues appears to be sufficient.
6. This is a matter that cannot be resolved at the local level. The State or Federal governments must apply more resources to impact the root causes of homelessness in our society.
7. If opportunities for funding were readily available to provide those services needed by the homeless, this issue could be significantly reduced.

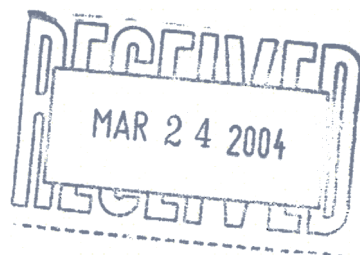
Should you have additional questions or concerns, please contact Captain John Browning at 310-217-9602.

Sincerely,



Rod Lyons
Chief of Police

cc: Captain John Browning



Service with Pride and Professionalism