

# Downtown Womens Center Campus Expansion - Agenda

1. Downtown Womens Center Introduction
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4. The Campus Expansion Vision
5. Outreach
6. Next Steps



Downtown Women's Center's (DWC) mission is to end women's homelessness in greater Los Angeles through housing, wellness, employment and advocacy.

Since 1978, DWC has remained the only local organization in Los Angeles solely dedicated to addressing the immediate and long-term needs of women overcoming homelessness.

## **Permanent Supportive Housing**

- 119 PSH Units in 2 Buildings
- 99% Retention Rate

## **Community Based Housing Program**

- 513 Housed Countywide
- 98% Retention Rate

## **Workforce Development Program**

- 540 in employment counseling
- 82 employed

## **Health and Wellness Program**

- 5,400 served
- 260,000 meals





# 1 IN 3

PEOPLE EXPERIENCING  
HOMELESSNESS IN THE  
UNITED STATES ARE  
WOMEN

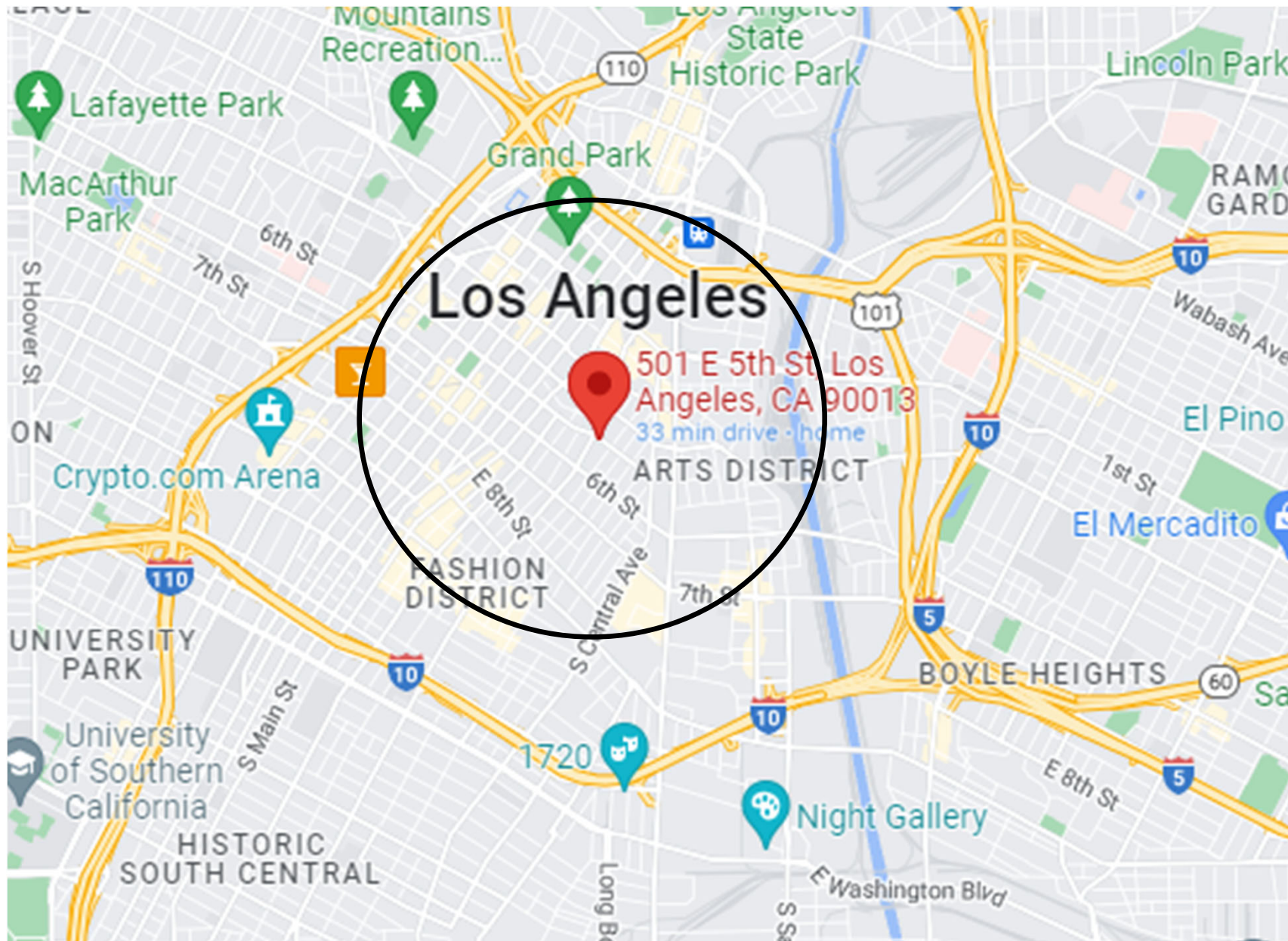
- Homeless women frequently experience gender-based violence
- Women of color are disproportionately affected by homelessness
- LGBTQ women are more likely to have experienced sexual assault or sexual violence
- Housing continues to be the most critically needed resource yet also the most difficult to access
- Homeless women are more likely to be older than the general population of women in Los Angeles
  - Pay gap, domestic work, lack of wealth opportunities
- Accessing necessary medical services remains a challenge

## WOMEN'S HOMELESSNESS IN FIGURES (LAHSA PIT 2022):

- 13,817 women experienced homelessness in Los Angeles City, a 4% increase over the previous year.
- The majority of these women (54%) are unsheltered.
- Since 2015, the number of women experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles increased by 64%, outpacing the increase among men.



# Project Location





# Project Summary

- 97 studios for women experiencing homelessness
- 1 manager's unit
- Subterranean parking lot
- First floor community + service space with 17 offices
- New donation center with streamlined drop-off space
- Second floor patio connecting existing building and DWC corporate offices



## Public Meetings Held

DLANC  
PLUM  
Committee



Planning  
Commission



Central City  
Association



LA Central  
Providers  
Collaborative



Skid Row  
Women's  
Shelter Bus  
Stop  
Advocates



Forthcoming:  
AHSC  
Outreach

## Secured Letters of Support

- ✓ Assembly Member Miguel Santiago
- ✓ Supervisor Hilda Solis
- ✓ Councilmember Kevin de Leon
- ✓ Skid Row Housing Trust
- ✓ Weingart Center
- ✓ Little Tokyo Service Center
- ✓ The People Concern
- ✓ Los Angeles Central Provider Collaborative
- ✓ Skid Row Women's Shelter Bus Stop Advocates
- ✓ Downtown LA Neighborhood Council
- ✓ Central City East Association // Downtown Industrial Bid

# Project Details

## Key Accomplishments

- *November 2020*: ENA Signed
- *January 2022*: Zone Change and GPA Complete
- *June 2022*: Apple commitment secured
- *October 2022*: Term Sheet for Land Disposition Signed

## Sustainability Features

- All electric
- Rooftop solar
- Exterior corridors for energy efficiency
- Second floor exterior wellness garden



## Voucher Status

- Applying for vouchers through LACDA NOFA 28
- Exploring potential co-development with HACLA to secure vouchers



# Architecture & Other Design Features





## Preliminary Design – Ground Floor



# Second-Floor Outdoor Space

## GARDEN PLANT PALETTE



Dwarf Lemon Tree



Dwarf Tangerine Tree



Edible Herb Garden



Magnolia grandiflora Little Gem  
Little Gem Magnolia



Flower Detail  
Little Gem Magnolia



Photinia leucosticta Silver Sheen  
Silver Sheen Koushi



Leaf Detail  
Silver Sheen Koushi



Verbena bonariensis  
Purple Top



Limonium hybridum Lime Tuff  
Lime Tuff Mat Rush

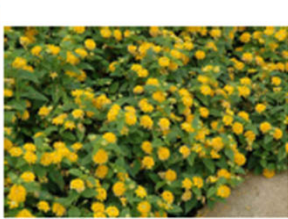


Knapweed Orange  
Red Hot Flower

## SOUTH COURT PLANT PALETTE



Pachira aquatica Desert Museum  
Desert Museum Palo Verde



Lantana camara Gold  
Gold Lantana



Muhlenbergia dubia  
Blue Muffin



Verbena bonariensis  
Purple Top



### DROUGHT TOLERANT PLANT GROUPS

- ☐ TREES/ FRUIT TREES
- ☐ VEGETATIVE BUFFER
- ☐ FLowering PLANTS/ ORNAMENTAL GRASSES AND GROUNDCOVER
- ☐ ORNAMENTAL GROUNDCOVER
- ☐ HORTICULTURE/ HERB GARDEN
- ☐ MOUNDED LAWN
- ☐ WATER FEATURE

### NOTES:

**SUSTAINABLE BUILDING METHODS COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATION**  
OUTDOOR WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES:  
THE PROJECT INCORPORATES OUTDOOR WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES THAT INCLUDE:  
A) THE USE OF NATIVE OR DROUGHT-TOLERANT PLANTS FOR A MINIMUM OF 75% OF LANDSCAPED AREA, NATIVE OR DROUGHT-TOLERANT PLANT LIST OR THE LOCAL JURISDICTION'S DROUGHT-TOLERANT PLANT LIST, IF REQUIRED TO DO SO BY THE LOCAL JURISDICTION.  
B) LIMIT CONVENTIONAL GRASS/TURF TO 25% OF LANDSCAPED AREA.  
C) GROUP PLANTS WITH SIMILAR WATERING NEEDS (HYDROZONES).  
D) INSTALL HIGH EFFICIENCY IRRIGATION SYSTEM WITH SMART IRRIGATION CONTROLS FOR ALL LANDSCAPING.



# Design Features

