

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: My name is Matt Fisher and I have 25 years of experience and research with homelessness in Los Angeles. 15 of those were spent on the street myself as a runaway from abusive foster care. I now strive to help in every way possible. I recently ran for Venice neighborhood council, still not sure who won, either way I am volunteering to help with a new homeless committee there, hoping to help everyone understand the actual problems through experience and how to address them better. As for lamc 85.02, it is considered a direct violation of our 8th amendment, taking cruel and unusual punishment to a whole new level. Vehicle dwelling near parks have become a necessity because of the cities removal of all other options to park in reasonable locations. Vehicle dwellers need water and public bathrooms along with open parking without hourly restrictions in order to survive. There are no options in our community because of parking restrictions and city refusal to allow services to vehicle dwellers. It has gotten so bad that the police and parking enforcement are illegally ticketing and towing to intentionally put people on the street without cause, city maintenance workers spray people sleeping with pesticides and retaliate against reports with Park rangers trying to enforce 85.02, the police refuse to do anything but harass people into leaving while they put entire encampments on the metro train in South LA and send them to Venice intentionally adding to the numbers on the street. There has been an unfair attack on vehicle dwellers for too long, you are intentionally trying to put people on the street with ordinances like this, all while making civil rights violations seem legal, and they most certainly are not. We are in a state of emergency intentionally set up by this city and you are only creating more homelessness with these actions. It's time to not only stop pretending to help, but to actually do something that will help everyone. Please keep 85.02 on the books but not enforceable until otherwise constitutional. Please stop police harassment and attempted enforcement. I understand the trouble and cost of getting ordinances passed and the fact with sufficient shelter, housing and applicable compromises we can use the ordinance at a later date when other options exist if needed. Please consider all ordinances with vehicle dwellers the same as you would with people living on the street since both are considered homeless, and according to our

constitution, we have a been continuously oppressed by this in a sanctuary City no less. None of this is helping people succeed in life and you can't say you are trying to help by continually hurting. Please stop these backwards tactics and continuous ignoring of complaints. Please stop this retaliation, discrimination and unconstitutional behavior at once.