



City Clerk Council and Public Services &lt;clerk.cps@lacity.org&gt;

## Statement and Demands from Venice & CD11 - City Clerk, Please Forward to Correct Emails

1 message

**Peggy Lee Kennedy** <peggylee.kennedy@gmail.com>

Tue, Dec 13, 2022 at 4:52 PM

To: thirddistrict@bos.lacounty.gov, mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org, mayor@lacity.org, "mayor.bass@lacity.org"

&lt;mayor.bass@lacity.org&gt;, "traci.park@lacity.org" &lt;traci.park@lacity.org&gt;, mercedes.marquez@lacity.org

Cc: "clerk.cps@lacity.org" &lt;clerk.cps@lacity.org&gt;, Becky Dennison &lt;bdennison@vchcorp.org&gt;, Stephen Clare

&lt;steveclare743@gmail.com&gt;, Martha Cheresh &lt;mcheresh79@gmail.com&gt;, Laddie williams &lt;cwilli7269@gmail.com&gt;

To: Mayor Bass, Supervisor Horvath and Councilperson Park

Opening Statement From Venice Stakeholders with a long history of solidarity and support of unhoused residents.

We have 40,000+ unhoused people living in Los Angeles. Everyone knows Los Angeles has an extreme shortage of low-income housing and 5 plus unhoused people die every day in Los Angeles.

Sanitation Sweeps, Comprehensive Cleanings, Special Enforcement Zones and Vehicle towings have primarily proven to displace unhoused people and to be harmful. Critical belongings are taken and trashed. People are uprooted from their community and disconnected from service providers. They are traumatized. Sick and disabled people are often made to move in the cold and during the night when they should rest, which has a direct connection to unhoused people dying each day.

Permanent housing is what Los Angeles needs in order to solve homelessness. Immediate permanent housing with the appropriate supportive services is the primary solution to homelessness. Supportive services may include mental health care, transportation to medical services, and different types of support for people suffering with addiction issues. Some unhoused people simply need a place they can afford!

The City of Los Angeles has allowed, even helped the westside to become unaffordable - thus creating and increasing a homelessness situation and extreme low-income housing shortage.

This has included (partial list):

- Demolitions of smaller traditional lower income "single family housing" with permitted extra rentals built over garages to build luxury single family buildings owned by developers to only flip for profit,
- Large swaths of illegal short term rental and apartment-to-hotel conversions,
- Years of circumventing Mello Act 1-for-1 low-income rental protections,
- Years illegal Coastal Act waiver demolitions disguised as Venice Sign Offs by one City Planner,
- Not protecting low-income housing covenants,
- Racist code enforcement targeting the traditionally Black community in Oakwood,

- Racist gang injunction and multi-agency law enforcement targeting people of color.

Homelessness is a problem we have created and the population is primarily people of color and people with disabilities.

Where are people going to go if Los Angeles continues or increases the racist policy of criminalization and displacement of unhoused people?

## **Our Demands For Unhoused People in CD11**

- Provide Permanent Low and No Income Housing in the community with the appropriate supportive services:
  - Transportation and access to medical services
  - Mental Health Care
  - Addiction Services
- Until this Permanent Housing is created and/or otherwise provided, LACity needs to:
  - Provide long term transitional shelter such as Bridge, Project Room Key, Motel Rooms, Safe Camping Areas - that can't just kick people out and are not carceral,
  - Do Not Tow vehicles being lived in,
  - Provide life essential services to people living on the street such as sleeping bags, tents, tarps
  - Provide DMV, ID, EBT, CalWorks & SSI Support
  - Provide Showers & 24/7 Toilets
  - Immediately Stop moving unhoused people during the night, when rain is forecasted, when temperatures drop below 50 degrees, and when unhoused people are sick or disabled
  - Work with the community to determine what exactly is trash in order to avoid loss of critical belongings.
- **Do Not Create 41.18 Resolutions to Clear Encampments**, and learn more about the benefits of those that are being managed by the community. (Example: a supporting organization manages 3rd Ave and Hampton Ave in the Venice SECZ with security and a safe location for direct services.)
- **Do Not Lead Outreach Services with Law Enforcement, Coercion or Ultimatums** that make no sense for the individual person.

**Signatories to date:**

**Organizations:**

- **Homeless Enterprises**
- **Venice Community Housing**
- **Venice Justice Committee**
- **White People For Black Lives**

**Individuals:**

- **Laddie Williams, VNAC**
- **Gina Viola, Former Candidate for Mayor of LA City**
- **Martha Cheresh, Outreach Coordinator for Venice Citation Clinic**
- **Weston Rowland, Civil Rights Attorney**
- **Matt Zarro, South Bay Mutual Aid and Care Club**
- **Maggie Clarke, South Bay Mutual Aid and Care Club**
- **Chris Venn, Secretary/Treasurer San Pedro Neighbors for Peace & Justice**
- **Kathleen Hernandez, MLK Coalition of Greater Los Angeles, Veterans For Peace Los Angeles**
- **Martha Escudero, Reclaiming Our Homes Member**

Please reply to this email for phone contact requests of the above mentioned statement stakeholders/statement authors or signatories of this statement.

Peggy Lee Kennedy  
Venice Justice Committee  
P.O. Box 2881, Venice CA 90294



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