

Communication from Public

Name: Angela Brooks

Date Submitted: 06/01/2021 01:12 PM

Council File No: 19-0603

Comments for Public Posting: There is no need to expand fire district one. This will be detrimental to affordable housing in the city and creates a problem where none exists. Most buildings are type V-1 hour construction which provides Fire/Life safety requirements, not to mention they are fully sprinklered. A bigger public safety problem is the amount of homeless on our streets, a result of the lack of zoning reform. Repeal the 1987 Prop U to bring back a reasonable density along all of our mixed-use commercial boulevards instead!! Complete all of the community plans! Make shared housing models legal- this is the best way to prevent illegal housing units.....a bigger threat for fire danger. That is what we need. Good density for social equity and a better quality of life for everyone.

Communication from Public

Name: Pastor William Smart, Southern Christian Leadership Conference
Date Submitted: 06/03/2021 05:23 PM
Council File No: 19-0603
Comments for Public Posting: SUPPORT - Pastor William Smart, Southern Christian Leadership Conference, submits his testimony in support of Building A Safer Los Angeles to the Public Safety Committee Hearing June 2, 2021

Pastor William Smart,
Southern Christian Leadership Conference:
Public Safety Committee Hearing
June 2, 2021

Greeting my brothers and sisters, I am Pastor William Smart, President and CEO of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. I have been speaking on this issue, alongside a diverse coalition of other faith leaders and social justice advocates since 2019.

I stand before you once again to reiterate our support for the *Building a Safer Los Angeles Motion*. The amended motion brought forward today by both Councilmembers Rodriguez and Blumenfield is necessary and critical as we enter what may be the most destructive fire season this state has ever seen.

Simply, I'd like to say one thing. I've been involved in the Civil Rights movement for fifty years of my life. One of the things we believe in this fight is if it's good for one group, then you cannot deny one group something that another group is getting. So, you cannot deny South L.A., other cities, other parts of the city, something that Hollywood or Downtown is getting. Which is a Fire District that was put in place so that residents in these areas are able to live in fire resilient buildings.

We all know this city has an issue with housing--just walk outside City Hall and you can see it firsthand. More affordable housing needs to be built, but it needs to be built in a way that ensures that the structure can stand the test of time and natural disasters that this city deals with year after year. We support this motion because it ensures that this affordable housing will be built both resiliently and at a lower cost.

As I said back in December 2019 at the Planning & Land Use Committee hearing--It's time to make this change. It's time now. Hollywood, and Downtown gets it, everyone needs to get it. Hollywood gets it, everyone needs to get it. I urge you to please pass this motion so that we can work together to protect the most vulnerable communities of Los Angeles.

Communication from Public

Name: Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance

Date Submitted: 07/06/2021 01:01 PM

Council File No: 19-0603

Comments for Public Posting: In June, the representatives of the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance voted to oppose Councilmember Blumenfield's motion to expand Fire District 1 (in Council File 19-0603). The Department of Building and Safety's report was not supportive, for many of the concerns raised by members of our network. Our concerns include:

- We do not understand how this would help us address wildfires, and experts such as the Department of Building and Safety and local architecture firms indicate this is not an effective way to prevent fire.
- We are concerned this would drive up housing costs.
- Greenhouse gas emissions from cement represent eight percent of worldwide greenhouse gas emissions, and this motion would use more concrete (and thus more cement) at a time when cities worldwide are working hard to move in the opposite direction.
- We are concerned with reports that the concrete lobby is behind this effort, given that Build With Strength, a self-described "coalition of the national ready mixed concrete association" has met with multiple council offices to promote the bill.

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
SUSTAINABILITY
ALLIANCE®

June 25, 2021

Dear City Council:

In June, the representatives of the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance voted to oppose Councilmember Blumenfield's motion to expand Fire District 1 (in Council File [19-0603](#)).

The Department of Building and Safety's [report](#) was not supportive, for many of the concerns raised by members of our network.

Our concerns include:

- We do not understand how this would help us address wildfires, and experts such as the [Department of Building and Safety](#) and [local architecture firms](#) indicate this is not an effective way to prevent fire.
- We are concerned this would drive up housing costs.
- Greenhouse gas emissions from cement represent eight percent of worldwide greenhouse gas emissions, and this motion would use more concrete (and thus more cement) at a time when cities worldwide are working hard to move in the opposite direction.
- We are concerned with reports that the concrete lobby is behind this effort, given that [Build With Strength](#), a self-described "coalition of the national ready mixed concrete association" has met with multiple council offices to promote the bill.

Thank you,



Lisa Hart
Steering Board Member