

Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to City Council and Committees.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at [NCsupport@lacity.org](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org).

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#### Contact Information

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(12) Nay(1) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 08/25/2021

Type of NC Board Action: For

#### Impact Information

Date: 09/14/2021

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 20-0769

Agenda Date: 09/15/2021

Item Number:

Summary: The Canoga Park Neighborhood Council supports the development of unarmed crisis mobile response teams that can attend to members of the community facing mental health crises. Funds for these units should be invested in Canoga Park as much as possible. CPNC recognizes that mental illness is a public health concern affecting many community members and their loved ones. To provide the best care and minimize the risk of escalation, we support the efforts to fund a pilot program based on evidence-based interventions that effectively deescalate persons struggling with a range of mental health issues including but not limited to schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, and PTSD. Our residents living with mental health conditions deserve trained, responsive support that does not criminalize them for having a mental health condition. With appropriate care, those in crisis can be connected with appropriate resources while keeping the individual and those around them safe. We believe these unarmed crisis units may serve as a compassionate, responsive option. Mental health disorders are among the most common health condition facing Californians with nearly 1 in 6 California adults experiencing a mental illness of any kind and 1 in 24 facing a serious mental illness. Persons with mental illness face increased risk for substance dependence and suicide. They are also very likely to have experienced childhood trauma that remained untreated. Many of these persons end up incarcerated instead of receiving community based mental health services. In the last two decades the percentage of incarcerated residents with major mental illness has increased by 150%. Many others face homelessness and the multiple health consequences of housing insecurity. As a community, we would like to strongly advocate for members of our community facing these mental health crises. The unarmed crisis mobile units could save lives and assist people in getting the services that many so desperately need.