

LOS ANGELES FIRE COMMISSION

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October 6, 2026

Honorable Karen Bass
Mayor, City of Los Angeles
City Hall, Room 303
Attn: Legislative Coordinator

Honorable Members of City Council
City of Los Angeles
City Hall, Room 395
Attn: City Clerk

[BFC 26-054] – PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE LOS ANGELES MUNICIPAL CODE (LAMC) SECTION 41.18(C)(5) TO INCLUDE PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITIES AS AREAS WHERE SITTING, LYING, OR SLEEPING OR STORING, USING, MAINTAINING, OR PLACING PERSONAL PROPERTY IS PROHIBITED

At its meeting of October 6, 2026, the Board of Fire Commissioners supported the recommendation to amend Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 41.18(C)(5). This decision comes as the Public Safety Committee is scheduled to consider and vote on a motion regarding Council File 20-1376-S5 on Tuesday, October 6, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. This motion calls on the City Attorney to draft and submit an ordinance amending LAMC Section 41.18; governing rules on sitting, sleeping, lying, and storing personal items in public, to explicitly designate Fire Stations, Police Stations, and U.S. Post Offices as "Sensitive Use" locations.

This report is formally submitted to the Mayor and the City Council to record the Board of Fire Commissioners' official support for Council File 20-1376-S5.

Should you need additional information, please contact the Board of Fire Commissioners' office at LAFDFireCommission@lacity.org.

Sincerely,

Neverly Ann Hill
Commission Executive Assistant II

Attachment

cc: Fire Chief Jaime E. Moore (via email)

LOS ANGELES FIRE COMMISSION

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October 1, 2026

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
FILE NO. 26-054

TO: Board of Fire Commissioners

FROM: Yolanda Regalado

SUBJECT: PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE LOS ANGELES MUNICIPAL CODE
(LAMC) SECTION 41.18(C)(5) TO INCLUDE PUBLIC SAFETY
FACILITIES AS AREAS WHERE SITTING, LYING, OR SLEEPING OR
STORING, USING, MAINTAINING, OR PLACING PERSONAL
PROPERTY IS PROHIBITED

FINAL ACTION:	☐ Approved	☒ Approved w/Corrections	☐ Withdrawn
	☐ Denied	☒ Received & Filed	☐ Other

SUMMARY:

Board to consider proposal to amend the Los Angeles Municipal Code to make public safety facilities such as fire stations, police stations, and emergency communications centers restricted safety zones where sitting, sleeping, or storage of personal property is prohibited.

BACKGROUND:

Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) stations, police stations, emergency communications centers, and emergency operations centers are critical public-safety facilities that must remain continuously accessible and operational.

Emergency vehicles frequently leave these facilities with little notice and under urgent conditions. People, tents, structures, accumulated property, debris, or other obstructions near operational access points can restrict visibility, narrow safe travel paths, interfere with apparatus movement, and delay emergency response.

California law already recognizes the special need to protect fire-station access by prohibiting vehicles from stopping or parking within 15 feet of a fire-station driveway. Fire-safety standards similarly require fire-apparatus access roads to remain unobstructed.

Concentrated combustible materials, open flames, heating or cooking devices, batteries, fuel, and pressurized containers may create fire, explosion, and toxic smoke hazards. In a documented **Los Angeles encampment fire, propane cylinders exploded within the fire perimeter and 138 LAFD personnel were required for the response.**

Discarded needles and other sharps may cause puncture injuries and expose firefighters, paramedics, police officers, sanitation personnel, and members of the public to blood borne infections, including hepatitis B, hepatitis C, and HIV.

Emergency and law-enforcement personnel already face elevated occupational risks from roadway incidents, assaults, fires, hazardous substances, and other unpredictable conditions. Preventable hazards immediately surrounding their deployment facilities may endanger personnel, divert emergency resources, damage equipment, and delay assistance to people elsewhere in the City.

PROPOSAL:

It is proposed that the Board recommend an amendment to Los Angeles Municipal Code section 41.18(c)(5) that would designate a “Public Safety Facility” as an area where sitting, lying or sleeping or storing, using, maintaining, or placing personal property is prohibited.

For purposes of this proposal, “Public Safety Facility” means a facility owned, leased, operated, or controlled by the City that is regularly used for:

1. fire suppression, rescue, or emergency medical response;
2. law-enforcement deployment or emergency response;
3. emergency communications or dispatch; or
4. emergency-operations coordination.

This term does not include a building used solely for administrative purposes.

The intention is to carefully designate a 500-foot operational safety zone to regulate conduct and physical obstructions, regardless of housing status, and not to prohibit ordinary passage, access to public services, or constitutionally protected activity.

Each designation would be supported by facility-specific documentation and implemented consistently with the notice and procedural requirements of LAMC §41.18(d).

To support this proposal and create a strong legislative record, the Department would need to provide facility-specific LAFD, LAPD, EMS, and dispatch data documenting blocked access, fires, assaults, hazardous materials, or delayed deployments.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board:

Approve the proposal and direct the Department to:

1. Identify the facility and the boundaries of the proposed restricted public right-of-way;
2. Determine, based upon specific documentation or data, how the restriction is reasonably necessary to preserve safe and unobstructed ingress and egress, prevent interference with emergency response, and protect emergency personnel, equipment, and members of the public; and
3. Identify the operational or safety conditions supporting the designation, including, where applicable, restricted visibility, interference with emergency vehicles, combustible materials, open flames, hazardous or explosive containers, discarded sharps, biological waste, violent incidents, or other documented hazards.
4. Report back to the Board with their findings to support the proposal to amend LAMC Section 41.18(c)(5) to include public safety facilities as areas where sitting, lying, or sleeping or storing, using, maintaining, or placing personal property is prohibited.



FIRE STATION 82

DO NOT
BLOCK
INTERSECTION

