

Communication from Public

Name: Eric Leman

Date Submitted: 10/26/2020 11:56 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: This is just sacrificing unhoused lives on the altar of... I'm not even sure what. The appearance of respectability? Placating grumpy homeowners? Maybe when this city government has made a real effort to house these people, then you can excuse pushing them around, but you haven't and you know it.

Communication from Public

Name: Giorgia Russo

Date Submitted: 10/27/2020 08:05 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Hi I live at the Venice Art Lofts at 615 Hampton Drive in Venice and I have been supportive of Mike Bonin's Bridge housing project that was built across the street on Main hoping that would alleviate our encampment problem. Unfortunately we have had no relief at all. We are still fully surrounded!! I was under the understanding that we could not enforce removal of the encampments unless we offered an alternative. We have offered an alternative, we have spent large tax payer money to build this top facility for them and we are still surrounded by encampments. My neighbor was hit in the head by a homeless person late a night with a bottle coming home. Our rat problem has worsened and my loft literally lost 20% value in 2 years. I cannot even sell and move now. Something needs to be done

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/27/2020 08:42 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: It is so amazing to see the Penmar parkway clear of filth, biohazards and community risk. Thank you. Please continue to enforce the law and show these people somewhere else to go!

Communication from Public

Name: Elizabeth

Date Submitted: 10/27/2020 10:52 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear City Council Members, Please vote in Favor of Council File 20-1376. This motion is vital because it will help Los Angeles maintain a balance between helping the homeless and helping the residents and homeowners keep and maintain a clean and healthy community and while still staying within the parameters of the Boise Idaho decision. This motion addresses the serious Americans with Disabilities Act violations, it addresses the promises made and the promises broken by the city for residents who live near Bridge Housing Shelters, and it addresses LAMC Sec. 41.18. Thank you for this reasonable and well thought out motion to help Los Angeles maintain a balance between helping the homeless and helping the residents and homeowners keep and maintain a clean and healthy community. Sincerely,
_____ Venice Resident/ Stakeholder

Communication from Public

Name: Debby Zhou

Date Submitted: 10/27/2020 10:54 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am a homeowner and resident in Downtown Los Angeles. I'm writing today in support of an ordinance from CM Buscaino that would prohibit tents and personal property on any street or sidewalk in close proximity to homeless facilities -- that includes bridge shelters, SROs, etc. I am also voicing my strong support of maintaining and expanding the CARE+ cleanups and clearing street encampments. Residents of Downtown LA have experienced severe degradation of quality of life over the past five years due to the increasing tent encampments that have spread across the neighborhood. Main Street used to be thriving with small businesses -- retail and restaurants, and has now essentially become a part of Skid Row. We certainly need more shelters and resources for the unhoused, but there needs to be a balance struck in what we provide for the unhoused, and the public safety, sanitation, and quality of life for the residents that share the streets with the unhoused. CM Buscaino's ordinance would be a good solution to strike a balance. The damage done to Downtown LA and Venice neighborhoods from letting homeless encampments expand unfettered, while both areas provide the bulk of homeless services for the City needs to be remedied. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Zach McLane

Date Submitted: 10/27/2020 12:45 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Decriminalize poverty! Stop criminalizing homelessness! Repeal ALL LAWS that criminalize homelessness including 41.18!!! Please focus efforts on finding HOUSING for our homeless, not criminalizing them. END CARE+ SWEEPS!

Communication from Public

Name: NoHo Home Alliance

Date Submitted: 10/27/2020 01:03 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: NoHo Home Alliance opposes the revision of LAMC 41.18 and 56.11. We urge the City Council to reject motion 20-1376



October 27, 2020

Dear Los Angeles City Councilmembers Martinez, Blumenfield, Bonin, Buscaino, Cedillo, De Leon, Harris-Dawson, Koretz, Krekorian, Lee, O'Farrell, Price, Rodriguez, Ryu, and Wesson,

The NoHo Home Alliance Advocacy Table asks you to oppose the motion in Council file: 20-1376 and to focus on offering services, not location-based prosecution of people who have nowhere else to go.

NoHo Home Alliance is a local nonprofit organization that advocates for the unhoused and solutions to homelessness. We mobilize residents to provide a community-based response to homelessness by providing a wide range of services for persons experiencing homelessness in the East San Fernando Valley. We offer a mailing address, document storage, meals, clothing, linkages with housing, medical care, mental health care and substance abuse care through our drop-in access centers in the East San Fernando Valley and our volunteer outreach teams.

We see first hand the damage done by the policies proposed in the revisions to 41.18 and 56.11. These changes, if implemented, will only exacerbate the suffering on the streets and slow the progress to housing the homeless. The loss of important documents and medications are inevitable when the homeless are displaced. This complicates and delays the progress towards placement in housing. As advocates, we know that:

- Location-based enforcement is harmful: The NoHo Home Alliance Advocacy Table opposes the criminalization of homelessness and the location-based enforcement as defined in the new draft ordinance language. We oppose provisions limiting where people may sit, lie or sleep and we believe they violate civil rights.
- Invest in services: We believe that enforced sweeps of encampments are ineffective and costly tools for addressing homelessness, and advocate for redirecting funding into increased and targeted service provision, especially residential mental health services, residential substance use treatment and supportive housing.
- Sweeps disrupt progress towards self-sufficiency: We know that enforcement efforts like sweeps that disperse persons experiencing homelessness are counterproductive to addressing homelessness: they disrupt service provision, lead to lost documents and other property that hamper persons experiencing homelessness from moving to greater self-sufficiency.

We know that the solution to homelessness is not enforcement. The solution to homelessness is providing housing and services. We are working on both. Please do not set us back by passing this revised ordinance.

Signed,

Stephanie Jaeger, Executive Director of NoHo Home Alliance (stephanie@nohohome.org)

Andrew Silver, President of the Board of Directors of NoHo Home Alliance (andrew@nohohome.org)

The NoHo Home Alliance Advocacy Table

Communication from Public

Name: Sophie

Date Submitted: 10/27/2020 02:33 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I oppose changes to LA law that would criminalize sitting or lying down on the sidewalk. This is cruel and disgusting. We should be protecting the most vulnerable in our community.

Communication from Public

Name: Natalie Godinez
Date Submitted: 10/27/2020 04:37 PM
Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, I am commenting to address Item 42. This cruel motion and draft ordinance are the wrong approach to solving homelessness. All people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with their efforts and depends on the misuse of limited housing and financial resources while jeopardizing the health and safety of those most in need of being inside. The guidance and approach of the Departments of Public Health and Health Services has been for everyone to shelter in place and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among the homeless population. This motion effectively makes homelessness illegal in Los Angeles constitutes the largest increase in the criminalization of homelessness in decades. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus on increasing access to immediate housing in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Monica Lacher

Date Submitted: 10/27/2020 07:34 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Please remove this homeless encampment from Taft HighSchool immediately! Our community is not okay with our students having to come in contact with this.

Communication from Public

Name: Kristin Aldana

Date Submitted: 10/27/2020 07:42 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Hello. My name is Kristin Aldana, addressing Item 42. This motion effectively makes homelessness illegal in Los Angeles constitutes the largest increase in the criminalization of homelessness in decades. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus on increasing access to immediate housing in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors. The motion and draft ordinance are the wrong approach to solving homelessness. Our neighbors have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with their efforts and depends on the misuse of limited housing and financial resources while jeopardizing the health and safety of those most in need of being inside. The guidance and approach of the Departments of Public Health and Health Services has been for everyone to shelter in place and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among the homeless population. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Communication from Public

Name: Mike W

Date Submitted: 10/27/2020 07:53 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Please pass some of these commons sense regulations to be able to make this a livable and clean city. The streets are filthy, disgusting and unsafe all over the city. Living on and under the freeway? Seriously? Unacceptable for all involved. Please clean the city.

Communication from Public

Name: Milton Eisenbeis

Date Submitted: 10/27/2020 09:27 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am in favor of amending 41.18 to not allow overnight camping, sleeping or in anyway living under any freeway overpass.

Communication from Public

Name: Eric Cohen

Date Submitted: 10/27/2020 10:12 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: 41.18 YES!!!! I have lived in Woodland Hills my entire 55 years of life and urge the council to put an end to homeless encampments under our freeways and sidewalks all over! Stop the spread of fear these people create as well as ongoing theft from our local businesses and communities. It's gone on much too long. Please make our community safe again!

Communication from Public

Name: Nicholas Bottomley

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 12:01 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am strongly opposed to this motion. Increased criminalization of homelessness is deeply damaging to the trust of the people the city needs to be working to get off the street, ultimately leading to people being unwilling to accept the help the city may offer them. The Council needs to end SECZ, stop sending cops with city outreach teams, and repeal LAMC 41.18 and LAMC 56.11 to stop criminalizing the homeless residents of our city. Instead, reinstate the budget that has been cut to our already meager homelessness funds.

Communication from Public

Name: Joseph Vargas

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 12:02 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am grateful the city council has brought forth to make amendments to 41.18 and 56.11 item 42 on the agenda for Oct 28, 2020. . Neighborhoods such as Winnetka and Canoga Park have issues with people unable to properly use their sidewalks from street dwellers blocking the pathways because they are blocked with trash, tents and belongings of the street dwellers who have proved in repetition for months and months that they will not leave unless forced and they will do anything they see fit in front of children and anyone. I have witnessed at both locations people avoiding the sidewalks and walking into the street, some were children and elderly. This is a problem on Winnetka Ave by Taft and on Farralone Ave by Sherman Way in Canoga Park. There are numerous other problems too. We need safer neighborhoods and streets. Allowing people to live on the streets anywhere they choose communicates that this is acceptable to have in front of our children which it is not. I have personally spoke with students at Taft and they have told me stories of how they are aware and have seen drug use under the overpass at Winnetka. If the council needs a follow up I can supply the Los Angeles City Council with visual evidence to back up the claims I am writing about. I support a vote "yes" on the amending of section 41.18 and amending 56.11. Thank you to the council members who are helping to bring this forward as a big step to cleaning up our streets in our neighborhoods. This is a urgent matter and we want public safety for our kids and look for the City Council to uphold high standards to our streets. While there is much room for the improvement of programs this is a start. Please remember the children who need us to stand up for them.

Communication from Public

Name: Sophia Li

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 12:10 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am so disgusted that I have to write a message to the LA City Council begging them not to be terrible human beings and neighbors. On October 21 2020, LA City Councilmembers Blumenfield, Buscaino, Rodriguez, Krekorian, Price, Cedillo, and Lee presented a motion (Council File 20-1376) to drastically expand the criminalization and banishment of unhoused Angelenos across the city by amending LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11. Let me first say that all the City Councilmembers named above should be absolutely ASHAMED of themselves for supporting such a motion. Their approach to addressing homelessness not only shows a total lack of empathy and humanity, but it fails to provide any new housing resources, wrap-around services for those experiencing homelessness, or any solutions to decrease the unhoused population in LA. Instead of focusing on actual, proven solutions to a crisis that continues to grow during this pandemic, City Council members have decided to once again spend time and city resources on another attempt to expand harmful criminalization policies which have only proven to fail and exacerbate homelessness. I demand that City Council and the Mayor's office instead invest their time and legislative power into programs that actually help us move forward in providing a healthy and safe living environments for our unhoused communities while they are on the streets, and take concrete action steps in providing transitional/permanent housing opportunities that meet a higher standard of living than current shelter and ABH facilities offer, and furthermore to oppose the motion.

Communication from Public

Name: Lia Williams

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 12:12 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Lia Williams and I am a resident of Los Angeles. I am writing to strongly oppose LAMC 41.18. Criminalizing our neighbors who have no where else to go, sleep, and live, is not only wildly unproductive in combatting the issue of homelessness, but it is also cruel. It is cruel to limit the areas a person can be while they struggle to simply survive. It is also unimaginable that the Council would even consider a bill of this kind during a global pandemic, where our city has been one of the hardest hit, and suffering and consequently, homelessness is rising. Please re-evaluate your priorities, because this is the time when you should be working on solutions to prevent poverty, not penalize and hide it. The citizens of Los Angeles will not stand by your cruelty. I demand LAMC 41.18 be repealed along with all other ordinances and rules that criminalize homelessness.

Communication from Public

Name: Natalie Nguyen

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 12:13 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: On October 21 2020, LA City Councilmembers Blumenfield, Buscaino, Rodriguez, Krekorian, Price, Cedillo, and Lee presented a motion (Council File 20-1376) to drastically expand the criminalization and banishment of unhoused Angelenos across the city by amending LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11. This motion does not provide any new housing resources, wrap-around services for those experiencing homelessness, or any solutions to decrease the unhoused population in LA. Instead of focusing on actual, proven solutions to a crisis that continues to grow during this pandemic, City Council members have decided to once again spend time and city resources on another attempt to expand harmful criminalization policies which have only proven to fail and exacerbate homelessness. I demand that City Council and the Mayor's office instead invest their time and legislative power into programs that actually help us move forward in providing a healthy and safe living environments for our unhoused communities while they are on the streets, and take concrete action steps in providing transitional/permanent housing opportunities that meet a higher standard of living than current shelter and ABH facilities offer, and furthermore to oppose the motion to instruct the city attorney to draft amendments to LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11.

Communication from Public

Name: David

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 12:18 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Please I urge you to vote in the new ordinances regarding homeless camping in the city of Los Angeles. Living in studio city the problem has become Overwhelming with the encampments and the sanitation problem that causes along with the rapid decline in public safety. Our Los Angeles police department is doing a great job but they are overwhelmed and it takes an officer off the street six hours to take a homeless person in to get city services. Every freeway underpass near me has encampments that are dangerous and littered with trash and stolen bicycles. I visibly see constant drug use and graffiti. And once encampment encampment is cleared by city workers who put their health at risk clearing these sites the homeless are back the very next day setting up shop. I have spoken to many citizens and neighbors who do not even feel safe to walk in their neighborhood anymore. Neighborhoods that used to be clean and safe as little as two years ago . Please vote in these new ordinances.

Communication from Public

Name: Nick C.

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 12:27 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember, The motion that Councilmembers Blumenfield, Buscaino, Rodriguez, Krekorian, Price, Cedillo, and Lee presented (Council File 20-1376) drastically expands the criminalization and banishment of unhoused Angelenos across the city by amending LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11. This motion does nothing to provide any new resources, new services, or ANY solutions to decrease the unhoused population in LA. Rather than focusing on strategies that have been proven to work, they are choosing to criminalize and punish the unhoused. A plan that's especially cruel during a pandemic and the upcoming winter. We demand that the city focus its efforts on providing more resources and services for the homeless population of LA. We demand fair and equal treatment for our unhoused neighbors (who are also your constituents)!

Communication from Public

Name: Despoina Stokou

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 12:38 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing against the October 21st, 2020 motion (Council File 20-1376) from CMs Blumenfield, Buscaino, Rodriguez, Krekorian, Price, Cedillo, and Lee to drastically expand the criminalization and banishment of unhoused Angelenos across the city by amending LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11. I don't see how it is anything other than a waste of money and resources to over-police and criminalize the homeless population, by criminalizing having any kind of personal items on the street or sitting or lying down within 20 feet of a driveway, overpass, onramp, or even homeless shelter! Throwing the homeless population in jail over petty or made-up offenses is NOT a solution to the city's mounting problem. After a few months, they will be back on the streets in a worse state. We ask you to be humane in your policies but most of all we ask you to be effective with taxpayer money and not waste it on systems perpetuating the problem (like police/ jail) instead of solving it. I demand that City Council and the Mayor's office instead invest their time and legislative power into programs that actually help us move forward in providing a healthy and safe living environment for our unhoused communities while they are on the streets, and take concrete action steps in providing transitional/permanent housing opportunities that meet a higher standard of living than current shelter and ABH facilities offer, and furthermore to oppose the motion to instruct the city attorney to draft amendments to LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11. Signed, Despina Stokou

Communication from Public

Name: Pilar Schiavo

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 12:46 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Top 10 reasons to vote no on this motion (not in priority order) : 1. Criminalizing unhoused Angelenos does nothing to reduce homelessness. So are you about solving homelessness or not? 2. The impending eviction tsunami means we may have the same number of people homeless in the streets of LA that are homeless in all of California right now. What then? (Again...cancel rent.) 3. Offering shelter is not enough, there needs to be safe shelter that is non-congregate and protects people from Covid. (So...again, seize the hotels.) 4. NIMBY neighbors are like the mother you never can get approval from, they will NEVER be happy until unhoused folx are rounded you, shipped to Castaic, and given a tarp (I have actually heard people at a Valley Votes meeting say this). There is no such thing as “community buy in” with these people. 5. It’s fiscally reckless when the city is facing upwards of a \$600,000 deficit to pass this and balloon police and jail budgets to enforce it. 6, 7, and 8. It’s inhumane, illegal, and lazy. Do the work. Find real solutions instead of criminalizing poverty in the middle of a global pandemic and massive economic crisis.

Communication from Public

Name: Miki Jackson

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 12:48 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Miki Jackson for AHF, Healthy Housing, Housing is a Human Right. Please oppose the amendment to codes 41.18 and 56.11 on the special agenda for Oct 28th. These changes to the city codes that would allow for the furthering of the criminalization of homelessness throughout the city of Los Angeles. While there are issues of safety for unhoused people forced to live outdoors, frequently on the streets, this rushed motion is not a solution. Some of those dangers do involve the unhoused being in close proximity to freeways and other potentially hazardous locations, these code changes and the subsequent enforcement are simply not a well thought out solution. The city has failed to provide adequate housing or services to answer the crisis of thousands of our residents who are unhoused. This has pushed thousands on to our sidewalks and any space they can squeeze into seeking some form of shelter. Many of those spaces have to be shared with all residents and that has made for difficulties for everyone. This largely a problem driven by a lack of responsible actions by our city to provide real humane solutions for our vulnerable unhoused residents combined with irresponsible actions that have driven the rapid increases in homelessness. Instead of providing housing, support and services the city now proposes to pass inadequate changes to codes that will not solve this emergency. This will effectively punish vulnerable people for the mess the city government has made. The city has accelerated homelessness by supporting, and in some cases going so far as engaging in corruption, to promote ill conceived over development of massive luxury developments and accompanying gentrification. This Council repeatedly passes projects that will actively destroy existing affordable housing. What is desperately needed now is an all out emergency response that creates safe adequate housing solutions for unhoused people immediately. A balance must be struck between the needs of unhoused people, public safety and public health. With a looming catastrophe of evictions and homelessness springing from our COVID emergency on top of our existing record numbers of unhoused people in our city, we are already woefully behind. Our city is in a crisis and we must behave like emergency responders, we must call on our city officials to resist behaving like politicians and bureaucrats endlessly debating trivial points, pitting housed residents against

unhoused by playing politics. This a political ploy. Do not vote for this motion. Go back and get serious about solving the problems you were elected to solve.

Communication from Public

Name: Cameron

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 12:59 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Los Angeles has never looked as bad as it does today. Please take action and bring this city back to what it once was. We need clean, accessible sidewalks. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: John Caudill

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 01:04 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I would like to say that I wholeheartedly support Councilman Buscaino's motion to resume street and sidewalk clean-ups. I would also like to add that I am sympathetic to the plight of our unsheltered citizens. However, with available transitional housing, I feel we should get our unsheltered citizens indoors, with a roof over their heads and the assistance to be referred to the resources available to them. I work with the unsheltered population and I feel this is a compassionate resolution to a situation that has become untenable. Thank you Mr. Buscaino

Communication from Public

Name: Constance Adler Galloway

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 01:06 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: As much as I have empathy and concern for our homeless it is completely out of control and making our streets unsafe for us to even walk down It should not be lawful to set up home stead on the streets Just anywhere. There must be another solution created.

Communication from Public

Name: Jay Hernandez

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 01:07 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: In regard to 41.18 The city treats our unhoused neighbors as though they are pests. The city sees their homes as unsightly garbage. Where will our displaced neighbors go? The city doesn't have enough shelters. Why does it make sense to move an encampment from one block to the next? How sad is it when our own council members think that unhoused people are undeserving of the public space of the city they live in. We need solutions that bring our neighbors into the fold not further cast them out. I am embarrassed that the city I call home is terrorizing my neighbors. Gregory, Kimberly, and Diane don't deserve this treatment. No one deserves to endure traumatic sweeps. Our city needs to look towards collaborative measures within our neighborhoods rather than further isolation. Like it or not my unhoused friends are residents of the city and THEY deserve to be treated fairly. Grassroots movements across the city have been picking up the slack where the city has failed. It's time for the city to provide the services that are so desperately needed. The city should provide more rooms for our unhoused friends. Stop the traumatic care sweeps. END ALL criminalization of poverty.

Communication from Public

Name: Ary H

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 01:18 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly oppose this motion (Council File no. 20-1376). I am deeply concerned by the ongoing criminalization of my unhoused neighbors, in lieu of giving them the support they need and deserve. This most recent measure will not solve homelessness—it will merely inflict continued cruelty on my neighbors and pull from resources that could be used to provide them with safe and healthy living environments.

Communication from Public

Name: Erica Gross

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 01:20 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I oppose this ordinance. THIS WOULD BE A DRAMATIC EXPANSION IN THE CRIMINALIZATION OF HOMELESSNESS, AND WILL ULTIMATELY SWEEP MORE PEOPLE INTO A RACIST CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM, INCREASE TRAUMATIZING POLICE INTERACTIONS WITH HOMELESS FOLKS, AND MOVE PEOPLE FURTHER AND FURTHER AWAY FROM THE GOAL OF BEING HOUSED. Please vote no!!

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 01:23 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: PLEASE RESUME SIDEWALK CLEANUP!! RESIDENTS THAT RIGHTFULLY PAY FOR THEIR AREAS SHOULD NOT HAVE TO SEE THE NASTY FILTH THAT MOST OF THESE HOMELESS PEOPLE HAVE DONE TO OUR CITY.

Communication from Public

Name: Carlos Amador

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 01:24 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: As a Los Angeles City resident I am in strong opposition to the Council File 20-1376. The proposed motion makes it virtually illegal for people experiencing homelessness to exist in the city. With over 28,000 unsheltered people in the city, there are not enough shelter beds to accommodate the need. This proposed motion will only exacerbate the growing crisis by criminalizing people who have literally no place to go. I ask that the city council oppose this motion and work to bring real, humane solutions to the homeless and housing crisis.

Communication from Public

Name: Courtenay Martin

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 01:30 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Please do something about these people defecting, vomiting, urinating, masturbating, performing sexual acts in the middle of the afternoon, in public places, where everyone, including children are subjected to this. Not to mention, drug use and sales, like there's no repercussions, because there are not. I've lived here all my life, & this is just disgraceful. Newsom & Garcetti and all the other accomplices, should not be paid a dime, because they aren't and haven't been doing their job. The way it works for 99% of people, you don't get paid if you do a poor job, the same should go for them. They would never slow this in front of their homes, why do I have to put up with the stench, the begging, the crime? At this point in time, these drug addicted, vagrants have more rights than tax paying citizens, and they know it and take full advantage of it. I'm sick to death of tents all over the sidewalks, having to push my stroller in the street, because they have it blocked off and I don't want to go anywhere near them. It's hard though, when they are everywhere. Everything needs to be thrown away, power washed, & send them somewhere, anywhere, but here. I like many others cannot wait to get out of California, & never ever come back. Who the hell wants to continue to pay thousands of dollars a month to live in this hell hole.... Other states would never put up with this, yet, California not only puts up with it, it also pays people to be homeless!!!! It's unbelievable, like the Twilight Zone. If something is not done, people will eventually take things into their own hands. We are all fed up, we are all ready to jump from this sinking ship. Clean it up now, our kids deserve better, we all deserve better.

Communication from Public

Name: Sima Sherman

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 01:50 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Council Members, Please Amend 41.18 to provide for enforcement around freeways, around interim shelter facilities, to ensure disabled access under the Americans with Disabilities Act, and for anyone who has been offered shelter and declines. This motion is vital because it will help Los Angeles maintain a balance between helping the homeless and helping the residents and homeowners keep and maintain a clean and healthy community and while still staying within the parameters of the Boise Idaho decision. I also support this motion because it addresses the many promises made and promises broken by the City. The people of Venice who live near the bridge shelter on Sunset were promised encampment cleanups and secure zones surrounding the shelter. Eight months later, this shelter is surrounded more than ever with tent encampments, a massive surge in crime, theft, break-ins, assaults, sexual harassment, sexual assaults, car break ins. From late February, when the Bridge Shelter in Venice opened, to August of this year, there were 144 police calls. The residents living around bridge shelter are suffering without the police protections they were promised. Promises made, promises broken. To rebuild the faith, the Police, Mayor, Council and the Councilman for CD11 must keep the promises made to Venice residents surrounding this bridge shelter. If the promises are not kept, then no community will want a Bridge Shelter in their neighborhood because they cannot trust the City will keep their promises made of safety zones, and clear of encampments. And finally, I support this motion because it seeks to amend 41.18 which is vitally important in addressing sleeping on sidewalks at particular locations and hours of the day. Thank you for this reasonable and well thought out motion to help Los Angeles maintain a balance between helping the homeless and helping the residents and homeowners keep and maintain a clean and healthy community. Sincerely, Sima Kostovetsky, 20-year Venice Resident

Communication from Public

Name: Julie Pearson

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 01:59 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Please do not pass 41.18. Being homeless is not a crime and the city has a responsibility to protect unhoused residents. The city has absolutely been shirking this responsibility at every level of government, and the absolute least you could do is to commit to not antagonizing unhoused people any further. Sleeping in one's car, or outside, should not be a crime.

Communication from Public

Name: KRISTEN T Messina

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 02:02 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Please give some relief to neighborhood residents and families. The situation is totally out of control and unbearable. I am often forced to walk in the street with my children and can't take a walk without considering whether we will be able to use a sidewalk or feel safe if we do. Families are being driven out of Los Angeles because of how out of control the encampments have become. Please help get them off the streets and sidewalks.

Communication from Public

Name: Sima Sherman

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 02:02 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Council, Please Amend 41.18 to provide for enforcement around freeways, around interim shelter facilities, to ensure disabled access under the Americans with Disabilities Act, and for anyone who has been offered shelter and declines. I also support this motion because it addresses the many promises made and promises broken by the City. The people of Venice who live near the bridge shelter on Sunset were promised encampment cleanups and secure zones surrounding the shelter. Eight months later, this shelter is surrounded more than ever with tent encampments, a massive surge in crime, theft, break-ins, assaults, sexual harassment, sexual assaults, car break ins. From late February, when the Bridge Shelter in Venice opened, to August of this year, there were 144 police calls. The residents living around bridge shelter are suffering without the police protections they were promised. Promises made, promises broken. To rebuild the faith, the Police, Mayor, Council and the Councilman for CD11 must keep the promises made to Venice residents surrounding this bridge shelter. If the promises are not kept, then no community will want a Bridge Shelter in their neighborhood because they cannot trust the City will keep their promises made of safety zones, and clear of encampments. And finally, I support this motion because it seeks to amend 41.18 which is vitally important in addressing sleeping on sidewalks at particular locations and hours of the day. Thank you for this reasonable and well thought out motion to help Los Angeles maintain a balance between helping the homeless and helping the residents and homeowners keep and maintain a clean and healthy community. Sincerely, Sima Sherman 20+year Venice Resident

Communication from Public

Name: Peter Sherman

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 02:10 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Council Members, Please Amend 41.18 to provide for enforcement around freeways, around interim shelter facilities, to ensure disabled access under the Americans with Disabilities Act, and for anyone who has been offered shelter and declines. This motion is vital because it will help Los Angeles maintain a balance between helping the homeless and helping the residents and homeowners keep and maintain a clean and healthy community and while still staying within the parameters of the Boise Idaho decision. I also support this motion because it addresses the many promises made and promises broken by the City. The people of Venice who live near the bridge shelter on Sunset were promised encampment cleanups and secure zones surrounding the shelter. Eight months later, this shelter is surrounded more than ever with tent encampments, a massive surge in crime, theft, break-ins, assaults, sexual harassment, sexual assaults, car break-ins. From late February, when the Bridge Shelter in Venice opened to August of this year, there were 144 police calls. The residents living around bridge shelter are suffering without the police protections they were promised. Promises made, promises broken. To rebuild the faith, the Police, Mayor, Council and the Councilman for CD11 must keep the promises made to Venice residents surrounding this bridge shelter. If the promises are not kept, then no community will want a Bridge Shelter in their neighborhood because they cannot trust the City will keep their promises made of safety zones, and clear of encampments. And finally, I support this motion because it seeks to amend 41.18 which is vitally important in addressing sleeping on sidewalks at particular locations and hours of the day. Thank you for this reasonable and well thought out motion to help Los Angeles maintain a balance between helping the homeless and helping the residents and homeowners keep and maintain a clean and healthy community. Sincerely, Peter M. Sherman 20+year Venice Stakeholder

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 02:32 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Motion 20-1736 is not only inhumane, but does nothing to address the root causes of homelessness. It will only further criminalize unhoused populations, which has repeatedly proven to be a failed solution. In short, this motion and its proposed amendments would amount to a giant waste of our city's resources.

Communication from Public

Name: Leah Harris

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 05:04 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: We are a city that believes in equity and equality. We cannot continue to ruin the lives of our unhoused neighbors, HUMAN BEINGS with whom we share our city. I am disgusted by this notion and I urge the City Council and my Council Member O'Farrell to vote NO on this motion. This is the opposite direction the city should be going in.

Communication from Public

Name: Rachael Rose Luckey
Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 05:23 AM
Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Rachael Rose Luckey and I am the president of the Rampart Village Neighborhood Council but I have to comment in an unofficial capacity because this body has not given NCs time to weigh in on this motion. For years, this council has catered to predatory developers with FBI investigated pay-to-play schemes resulting in unaffordable housing conditions and now you are turning around, ramming this through, and making it a criminal act to be houseless...during a pandemic! What are you? A bunch of Republicans? You are most certainly not progressives. Instead of owning up to your own part in creating the houseless crisis, you now want to basically criminalize houseless individuals and families and locked them up for up to 6 months! Do you really think it is helping these people by putting a criminal charge on their records thereby making it even more difficult for them to find housing and jobs? We already know that black and brown folks are disproportionately effected by unaffordable housing and with this new ordinance, you are now increasing interactions by black and brown folks with police thereby elevating the chances more unarmed folks will be killed by law enforcement. Did the protests over the summer not register with you? No matter how one feels about this motion, either for or against, not giving the public and NCs a chance to weigh in on this motion is nothing short of an authoritarian move on the part of the City Council. We have had enough authoritarianism coming out of the Trump administration over the last 4 years, we don't need more from this council. You all should be better than this and you all need to vote to postpone this item to give the public and neighborhood councils time to weigh in. Shame on you. Shame on every council member who votes for this. And shame on you Mitch O'Farrell for having the Homeless and Poverty Committee waive consideration on this motion thereby allowing this motion to be fast-tracked. Clearly you all could give a rat's ass about hearing from the opposition. Shame on you! I am coming for your seat Mitch because this kind of BS has to end! Go to RachaelRoseForLA.com to sign up on our mailing list! It is time we end developer corruption in City Hall and make LA a truly affordable place to live for everyone. Rachael Rose For LA 2022!

My name is Rachael Rose Luckey and I am the president of the Rampart Village Neighborhood Council but I have to comment in an unofficial capacity because this body has not given NCs time to weigh in on this motion.



RachaelRoseForLA.com

For years, this council has catered to predatory developers with FBI investigated pay-to-play schemes resulting in unaffordable housing conditions and now you are turning around, ramming this through, and making it a criminal act to be houseless...during a pandemic! What are you? A bunch of Republicans? You are most certainly not progressives.

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Go to RachaelRoseForLA.com to sign up on our mailing list! It is time we end developer corruption in City Hall and make LA a truly affordable place to live for everyone.

Rachael Rose For LA 2022!

Communication from Public

Name: Geoffrey Williams

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 05:32 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: The details of this proposal are truly disgusting and it is extremely disappointing to see Councilmember Blumenfield supporting this even after spending time doing outreach to the unhoused residents of his district, and Councilmember Lee after supporting the acquisition of property for the Homekey initiative. The proposed motion here will do absolutely nothing to help solve the issue of homelessness in our city, and is instead just a cruel way to subject our unhoused neighbors to further harassment and disruption. Sweeps are massively harmful and ultimately useless, in addition to being a colossal waste of money. I urge the council to reconsider this proposal.

Communication from Public

Name: Mikaela Garcia

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 05:51 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: This motion cruelly responds to unhoused Angelenos' need for housing with criminalization and banishment. The criminalization of homelessness always fails because forcibly displacing unhoused constituents and stealing their belongings does not help people access housing and other services; providing housing and services is what helps people access housing and services. This City Council refuses to take steps to provide healthy and safe living environments for our unhoused communities, even during a global pandemic, and instead is taking steps to force unhoused people into even less healthy and safe environments, as exemplified by this harmful and terrifying motion. The fact that this motion is being voted on at a special meeting called so the Council could vote on it with only a 24 hour notice to the public, rather than 72 hours, is slimy at best. This motion serves the interests of the few and powerful at the expense of our broader LA community, and the Council is deliberately obstructing the ability of the community to give input on this agenda item, and during Election Week, no less. The calling of a special meeting to pass this motion in a rush, and the flagging of this motion as urgent, is extremely hypocritical given that the Council just yesterday was trying to distract us with a symbolic motion for LA to oppose Amy Coney Barrett's rushed confirmation by the GOP, when they are adopting the exact same tactic as the GOP to try to push through Council File 20-1376. The motion's awful proposed amendments to LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11 would expansively ban sitting, sleeping or lying down in LA public spaces as winter approaches, in the midst of an ongoing pandemic, as residents face wave after wave of evictions. This motion would steal essential belongings from our unhoused neighbors, banish them from their communities and increase harmful police encounters, disproportionately harming unhoused Black Angelenos. This motion would do absolutely nothing to reduce homelessness. I call on City Council to reject this motion, and instead focus efforts on providing hotel rooms, motel rooms and permanent housing to all unhoused Angelenos, permanently ending Special Enforcement and Cleaning Zones, working with health department officials to meet basic sanitation needs without threat of displacement, halting all CARE+ operations, removing law enforcement from outreach and repealing all ordinances used

to criminalized unhoused residents. Do not enact further harm on our unhoused neighbors and their surrounding communities. Do not allow this motion to pass.

Communication from Public

Name: Emma Heffernan

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 06:33 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Hello. This is Emma Heffernan from Glassell Park, addressing Item 42. This motion and draft ordinance is the wrong approach to solving homelessness. All people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with their efforts and depends on the misuse of limited housing and financial resources while jeopardizing the health and safety of those most in need of being inside. The guidance and approach of the Departments of Public Health and Health Services has been for everyone to shelter in place and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among the homeless population. This motion effectively makes homelessness illegal in Los Angeles, and constitutes the largest increase in the criminalization of homelessness in decades. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus on increasing access to immediate housing in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Alison Klurfeld

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 06:41 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am an Angeleno who is concerned about the health and welfare of my homeless neighbors. I strongly oppose agenda item 42 and believes this motion and subsequent amendments to the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) are the wrong approach to solving homelessness in Los Angeles. If approved, the motion would allow an ordinance amending Section 41.18 of the LAMC to specify the particular times and locations where it shall be unlawful for a person to sit, lie, or sleep on public property. Ultimately giving the City of Los Angeles authority to make it illegal for people experiencing homelessness to exist near any shelter or homeless services related property, within 500 feet of freeways, or anywhere in the city if they have been “offered shelter.” This motion effectively makes homelessness illegal in Los Angeles and constitutes the largest increase in the criminalization of homelessness in decades. While Section 41.18 focuses on when and where individuals may lodge, Section 56.11 regulates where and how people may store their personal property in public spaces. If agenda item 42 is approved, the draft ordinance would amend LAMC Section 56.11 to align with the new provisions of Section 41.18 by banning the storage of personal property in any area where sitting, lying, and sleeping is banned by Section 41.18. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness. In fact, it's a completely ineffective approach – data and research clearly state that an enforcement-led approach is not evidence-based. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal also conflicts with their efforts and depends on the misuse of limited housing and financial resources while jeopardizing the health and safety of those most in need of being inside. The guidance and approach of the Departments of Public Health and Health Services has been for everyone to shelter in place and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among the homeless population. All people should have the right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. Therefore, I urge the city councilmembers to vote no on this motion and instead focus on increasing access to immediate housing throughout Los Angeles so that our unhoused neighbors can access shelter.

Communication from Public

Name: Southern Cal Flower Market

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 06:44 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: We are in strong support of you amending LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11. We have been doing business in the City of Los Angeles for 113 years. In the last 3 years, we have seen a dramatic drop in customers and sales due to the permanent encampments and illegal activity taking place on the Maple Ave sidewalk. Any efforts to curb the illegal activity and reopen the sidewalks would be greatly appreciated.



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FLOWER GROWERS INC.

October 27, 2020

Los Angeles City Council
City Hall
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Council File 20-1376

Dear City Council:

We are in strong support of you amending LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11.

We have been doing business in the City of Los Angeles for 113 years. In the last 3 years, we have seen a dramatic drop in customers and sales due to the permanent encampments and illegal activity taking place on the Maple Ave. sidewalk. Any efforts to curb the illegal activity and reopen the sidewalks would be greatly appreciated.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Scott Yamabe".

Scott Yamabe
CEO

Communication from Public

Name: Lee

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 06:45 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: It is high time for the Councilmembers to support this motion and get the homeless off the streets! Please don't forget you Councilmembers work for us the stakeholders NOT the nonprofits! And while your at it, please cut your pay, start with my councilman, mr bonin, who doesn't represent his constituents, anyway! We vote!

Communication from Public

Name: Karen Boelter

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 06:47 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear City Council Members, Please vote in Favor of Council File 20-1376. This motion is vital because it will help Los Angeles maintain a balance between helping the homeless and helping the residents and homeowners keep and maintain a clean and healthy community. Bulky items and trash is everywhere on the sidewalks on Venice Blvd. We stopped going to the Venice Farmers market because it is so gross around the parking area it is held. Trash is on the landscaping, in the gutters, on the sidewalks, in the streets and going into the ocean when it rains. It should not be right. Isn't littering illegal also? I support this motion because it addresses The Americans with Disabilities Act, which has been for too long dismissed by the city of Los Angeles. Disallowing sidewalk access to the disabled due to tents and encampments blocking entire sidewalks and not allowing for the 3' sidewalk clearance is wrong and a civil rights violation against the disabled and wheelchair bound. The disabled are forced onto the streets and their lives are being endangered with cars whizzing by them at 40+ mph. There must be a three-foot (3') clearance of all sidewalks in the city of Los Angeles to comply with the Americans With Disabilities Act. The disabled through the ADA are guaranteed equal access to and equal opportunity in public Accommodations and prohibits discrimination in all areas of public life. It gives the disabled civil rights protections similar to those provided to individuals on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age, and religion. I also support this motion because it addresses the many promises made and promises broken by the City. The people of Venice who live near the bridge shelter on Sunset were promised encampment cleanups and secure zones surrounding the shelter. Eight months later, this shelter is surrounded more than ever with tent encampments, a massive surge in crime, theft, break-ins, assaults, sexual harassment, sexual assaults, car break ins. From late February when the Bridge Shelter Venice opened to August of this year, there were 144 police calls. The residents living around bridge shelter are suffering without the police protections they were promised. Promises made, promises broken. To rebuild the faith, the Police, Mayor, Council and the Councilman for CD11 must keep the promises made to Venice residents surrounding this bridge shelter. If the promises are not kept, then no community

will want a Bridge Shelter in their neighborhood because they cannot trust the City will keep their promises made of safety zones, and clear of encampments. And finally, I support this motion because it seeks to amend 41.18 which is vitally important in addressing sleeping on sidewalks at particular locations and hours of the day. Thank you for this reasonable and well thought out motion to help Los Angeles maintain a balance between helping the homeless and helping the residents and homeowners keep and maintain a clean and healthy community. Sincerely,
 The Boelters Venice Residents and homeowners for over 26 years/Stakeholders

Communication from Public

Name: Ben Dalton

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 07:04 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: How incredibly disappointing this city council continues to be. What kind of people "ban sitting, sleeping, or lying" within 10 feet of driveways and 500 feet of any overpass/ underpass, any freeway ramp, any freeway tunnel, any pedestrian subway, any supportive services site opened in the last three years (including Bridge Housing and safe parking sites)? This is not who we should aim to be. Has this society corrupted you so deeply that you no longer seek to understand the plight of our poor, unhoused neighbors? There are many reasons why someone living on the street may not feel comfortable immediately accepting an offer of shelter. For instance, the offered shelter could require them to dispose of their belongings or separate themselves from their family or support animals. This ordinance criminalizes and displaces people for not immediately accepting the help offered. It fails to acknowledge the difficult and patient work required to build trust with some of our unhoused neighbors who are understandably reluctant to accept help from a city that has historically mistreated them. This trust is critical in making some unhoused residents feel safe moving to a shelter, hotel room, or supportive housing site. Bridge housing shelters and safe parking have helped a number of our unhoused neighbors over the past two years. However, these temporary, hold-over fixes do not accommodate the majority of those experiencing homelessness. There are simply not enough beds to shelter the vast majority of unhoused residents. It is unjust to criminalize the members of the unhoused community that were not lucky enough to land a spot at one of these sites, or were not prepared when given their one opportunity to completely change their way of life. With unemployment in the city at record highs and a projected wave of evictions coming in the near future, this motion could not come at a worse time. The proposed ordinance will only make it harder for those experiencing homelessness now and in the future, rather than addressing the underlying causations of homelessness: out of control rents, stagnant wages, and a dire lack of physical or mental health resources. Punishing those for living by the only means they have available does not make homelessness go away—it makes us complicit in the systemic racism and violence that has already caused so much suffering. We must come out in full force and tell our city council members that this motion is not

the answer. We need housing, services, and compassion—not expanded criminalization. Do better. Now.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 07:05 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: The proposed amendments to drastically expand the criminalization and banishment of unhoused Angelenos across the city are outrageous! And at a time like this?! It's disgraceful. The unhoused folks in your communities are people too and they cannot be ignored or simply pushed out of your districts. They deserve your respect and NEED YOUR HELP. To wield the power that you all do as Council-members and use it for purposes such as this makes it clear you do not understand your constituents or the goals of the majority of residents of the City at large. We all need you to do better.

Communication from Public

Name: Ian Hudson

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 07:09 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: How an unhoused person sleeping on the LA Metro is handled:
<https://youtu.be/aEwIz8R2CGk>

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 07:10 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I work at a dental office in Van Nuys. The amount of homeless encampments are insane. We witness allot of drug dealing, sex, rape, and violence. Whenever closing and walking to our cars we feel threatened. There is no lighting on Gilmore street . We have been attacked and they always throw things at the glass window. We have kids watching all this. We call the police but they say their hands are tied.

Communication from Public

Name: AJ

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 07:11 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: We need help cleaning up our streets. Los Angeles looks like a 3rd world country in parts due to homeless encampments taking over. Even residential neighborhoods like Marina Del Rey are being totally overran - these people are Loud and aggressive. I had one camp under my living room for weeks while the cops wouldn't move him. Ended up stealing my bike off my balcony. My girlfriend doesn't even feel safe walking our dog alone anymore. Enough is enough - please clean this up for our city's residents!!!!

Communication from Public

Name: Diane Cowman

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 07:19 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I support cleaning up homeless encampments, getting People help and off the street, please vote yes!

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 07:23 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Take back our city! Get help for the homeless and get them off of the streets. It is a safety and extreme environmental hazard. Political inaction has caused this, now it's time to fix it.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 07:25 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: It's time to remove the homeless encampments from the underpasses at Corbin and Winnetka. The situation is getting worse every month. The situation is dire, please find housing for them and clean up our neighborhood. Thank you Julie Vlasich

Communication from Public

Name: Maria Leman

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 07:32 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I recently became aware that the LA City Council will be voting on new legislation that will make camping for unhoused people illegal in several of the main environments where encampments are found. The “goal” being an incentive for these individuals to move into shelters instead (as if this will not result in people being assaulted by police and incarcerated). This is despicable and inhumane, especially during a year where LA has taken insufficient action to protect renters from eviction due to the COVID pandemic. Our unhoused neighbors deserve just as much dignity as the individuals who complain about their existence and want them swept away. I implore you to oppose criminalizing poverty, what is truly at the core of this new legislation, and to seek compassionate methods of assisting the unhoused in finding safer and more permanent housing during this unprecedented crisis.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 07:32 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: After months of allowing homeless encampments to become almost permanent structures under Corbin and Winnetkta it's time to take action. It's dangerous for the neighborhoods. Now that it's getting colder it's dangerous for the people living there. We expect our leadership to find solutions to help the homeless and keep our neighborhoods safe and secure. Sincerely Jane Robison

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 07:52 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Los Angeles City Councilmembers, I am writing to request that you oppose any legislation banning individuals from sitting, sleeping, and lying In a public space. While homelessness is an urgent issue here in Los Angeles, criminalizing homelessness is not the answer. As an Angeleno, I am disgusted that such inhumane measures are being considered, especially when Los Angeles is the city with the highest homeless mortality rate. Housing is not a commodity, it is a human right, and I urge you to look to investing in affordable housing and community services to aid unhoused people instead of criminalizing them. Opposing 4118 would be an effective place to start in supporting LA's unhoused population. Thank you. Sincerely, Briana Torres

Communication from Public

Name: Michael Schneider

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 07:53 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am a resident of district 13. I am also a fierce opponent of 41.18. This law will unfairly criminalize our unhoused neighbors while simultaneously providing zero resources to address poverty in our city. The implication that 41.18 will somehow improve shelter availability is a farce. I demand all council members to oppose this draconian measure.

Communication from Public

Name: Anne Stephens

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 07:55 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I vehemently oppose the revision to Municipal Code 41.18. This egregious revision suggests that a solution to our housing crisis is further criminalizing poverty. Our housing crisis is not the fault of our unhoused neighbors. Further criminalizing their existence does not solve the crisis, it only exacerbates it. With the city currently providing only a quarter of the necessary beds available- where do you suggest our unhoused neighbors go? This is blatant assault to the rights and dignity of unhoused folks. It will inevitably lead to high rates of incarceration. Incarceration is not a solution to our housing crisis. All of our resources should be dedicated to directing people into stable housing and care. The revision to Municipal Code 41.18 must be opposed. City council must take responsible steps toward resolving our housing crisis. Any acceptable resolutions will include the following: 1. Decriminalize poverty- repeal all laws that criminalize homelessness including 41.18 2. Provide Housekeys, not handcuffs- focus efforts on providing hotel rooms and permanent housing to ALL unhoused Angelenos 3. End "CARE+" Sweeps - Work with health department officials to meet residents needs without threatening displacements Thank you for your time.

Communication from Public

Name: Kenna Gair

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 07:55 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Thank you for allowing my comment. I would like to strongly oppose and condemn Law 41.18. I know everyone here wants to make LA a beautiful and thriving city and it benefits all residents when we provide services and housing instead of punishments. Seeing the great strides Utah has made in addressing homelessness, it seems clear to me that only does provividing house keys instead of handcuffs saves money and resources, it's the right thing to do. It's not only compassionate, it's cost-effective and makes our city look better! Sweeps, jailing & police cost more money than simply providing housing. They are also harmful and terrorize already vulnerable populations. Proposed laws like 41.18 do nothing to actually address the underlying issue. They just push the issue farther down the road - literally.

Communication from Public

Name: Dianne Marx-Phillips

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 07:57 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Our city is violating our rights as taxpayers! I did not vote in favor to be a sanctuary city! You were not truthful to those that did on the costs you would spend with our tax dollars. We did not vote for you to give them hand washing stations, needles and toilets. We did not vote for you to clean out the jails! We did not vote for you to sit back and allow our property values to drop, being burglarized , car stolen. Who gave you the right to let them build silver homes on our sidewalk, park their motor homes on my street and deal drugs? You are discriminating the taxpayers by allowing homeless to do whatever they want while the taxpayers get fined for parking! This MUST stop NOW! Garcetti and Newsom are OUT OF CONTROL! You protect them but refuse to protect US!!!

Communication from Public

Name: Liz Steong

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 07:57 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: This city is filthy and dangerous. There are mentally ill and drug addicted homeless all over my neighborhood and around my home. There are needles in the street and people living on the sidewalks and alleys. It is Hard to live here and Very difficult to raise children here. I cannot take the children to the park because it is overflowing with her list and I do not feel safe walking on the sidewalks. My job is downtown and it is overrun with homeless to the point where you cannot get down the sidewalk. We cannot afford to wait to build facilities and frankly we cannot afford to build them. The only answer is to construct large scale tents for the homeless with the resources they need such as, addiction and mental health counselors and medication. We cannot keep enabling them and allow them to live on our streets at the price of taxpayers. It is unfair to the people who live in the city and unfair to the homeless who we are allowing to die and suffer in front of our eyes. It is beyond time to do something. We need a mandatory right to shelter order – – – And if the homeless choose not to take the offer then they need to go to jail. We cannot simply ignore the situation any longer. There are too many consequences.

Communication from Public

Name: Kendra f.

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 07:57 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Please please please clean up our streets. As a homeowner that pays insanely high property taxes, and as a mother of 4 kids, our streets are not safe or acceptable! This is dangerous to our community and dangerous for those of us who can no longer enjoys peaceful walks around la- as we have to fear stepping in human waste, getting stabbed by a used needle, or having to walk in the street because our sidewalks are so packed with tents, garbage etc that there is no room for pedestrians. The law abiding tax paying citizens of our city have no more rights. Instead the people who are destroying our city along side the corrupt politicians have all of the rights. Enough is enough. Clean up our city NOW!!!

Communication from Public

Name: Colleen Van Zandt

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:01 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Clean up the disgusting mess that is the West SFV. It is a disgrace and a health hazard. Why are you allowing these people to ruin our beautiful city. They contribute absolutely nothing, pay 0 in taxes and continue to take up sidewalks and underpasses. This is a mental health and drug addiction issue, NOT A HOMELESS ISSUE!!

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:03 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: The proposal of 41.18 is inhumane. It's very obvious that you, and everyone who supports 41.18, has never truly met an unhoused person or works with them. There are over 60,000 unhoused people in LA with shelter beds being able to only cover 1,000 of that population. Do you think people want to be unhoused? That they want to live under the freeway in the cold? Because they don't, but this city has made it so many people, yes even those with full time jobs, cannot afford to survive. It is inhumane and disgusting that not only anytime but specifically during a pandemic, when shelters and service providers are already worn thin on what they can do (I know this because I am a service provider) that you would give an ultimatum stating that unhoused people either figure it out or go away. As someone whose job it is, housing and shelters is a long and strenuous waiting list and even if we are able to find an opening, many facilities are cruel to the person. Many facilities require outrageous entry requirements, including no pets (how would you like it if I told you you had to get rid of your pet, your family, your protector) or not providing them with storage for their personal items. Instead of criminalising people for existing, I strongly recommend you look at the structures in place that have caused this issue. The wealth inequality, the rent prices, the low wages, the food insecurity, the education inequality, the unemployment rates. If you want to make a real change, which honestly you probably don't because if you did you would have consulted the people who are actually working hard to provide aid with our unhoused neighbors, you would know that these inequality issues are not fixed by criminalising people for existing. I'll leave on one last note, just because you don't like looking at unhoused people, just because you criminalise unhoused people, just because you hide unhoused people, they will still exist until you provide the actual needed assistance and valuable change to fix the reason why people are unhoused in the first place.

Communication from Public

Name: Tamsin Rawady
Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:11 AM
Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: The October 21st, 2020 motion (Council File 20-1376) from CMs Blumenfield, Buscaino, Rodriguez, Krekorian, Price, Cedillo, and Lee to drastically expand the criminalization and banishment of unhoused Angelenos across the city by amending LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11 is not only a waste of money but is cruel and inhumane. Once again, this is a way to use resources to over-police and criminalize the homeless population. Citing people and throwing them in jail for keeping personal items on the street or sitting or lying down within 20 feet of a driveway, overpass, onramp or homeless shelter will only create more problems for this already disenfranchised group. Please consider a more humane approach to your policies especially when spending taxpayer money and don't waste it on systems which will only perpetuate the problems. I demand you oppose the motion to instruct the city attorney to draft amendments to LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11 and start thinking about real solutions for once. Signed, Tamsin Rawady

Communication from Public

Name: Allen B Boelter

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:11 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear City Council Members, Please vote in Favor of Council File 20-1376. This motion is vital because it will help Los Angeles maintain a balance between helping the homeless and helping the residents and homeowners keep and maintain a clean and healthy community and while still staying within the parameters of the Boise Idaho decision. This motion addresses the serious Americans with Disabilities Act violations, it addresses the promises made and the promises broken by the city for residents who live near Bridge Housing Shelters, and it addresses LAMC Sec. 41.18. Thank you for this reasonable and well thought out motion to help Los Angeles maintain a balance between helping the homeless and helping the residents and homeowners keep and maintain a clean and healthy community. Sincerely,
_____ Venice Resident 409 28th ave

Communication from Public

Name: Kate Gallagher

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:12 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: This is a shockingly inhumane motion that is transparently aimed at creating the illusion of "visual progress," while doing absolutely nothing to actually address the housing crisis. This motion does not provide any new resources for unhoused people, unless you consider a jail cell to be adequate housing. Poverty is not a crime, and it shouldn't be treated as such, especially in the middle of a pandemic and economic crisis. Rather than amending 41.18 and 56.11 to create even more restrictions on where unhoused people are allowed to exist, the City Council should repeal these laws entirely and all ordinances used to criminalize unhoused residents.

Communication from Public

Name: Emiliana Dore

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:13 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to strongly oppose the October 21st, 2020 motion (Council File 20-1376) from CMs Blumenfield, Buscaino, Rodriguez, Krekorian, Price, Cedillo, and Lee to drastically expand the criminalization and banishment of unhoused Angelenos across the city by amending LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11. Our homeless problem in Los Angeles was already awful before Covid-19. Now, after our federal government's complete failure of action, many more individuals and families have lost their homes and been pushed out onto our streets. Our local response to this should not be to criminalize the homeless population further. We need our City Council to be focused on building affordable housing and coming up with compassionate, common-sense solutions. I work in Hollywood, so I've seen our police used to disband and shuffle homeless camps around. What a waste of time and resources. We can do better than that. I demand you oppose the motion to instruct the city attorney to draft amendments to LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11 and start thinking about real solutions. Signed, Emiliana Dore

Communication from Public

Name: Caitlin Pistor

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:14 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember Ryu, On October 21 2020, LA City Councilmembers Blumenfield, Buscaino, Rodriguez, Krekorian, Price, Cedillo, and Lee presented a motion (Council File 20-1376) to drastically expand the criminalization and banishment of unhoused Angelenos across the city by amending LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11. This motion does not provide any new housing resources, wrap-around services for those experiencing homelessness, or any solutions to decrease the unhoused population in LA. Instead of focusing on actual, proven solutions to a crisis that continues to grow during this pandemic, City Council members have decided to once again spend time and city resources on another attempt to expand harmful criminalization policies which have only proven to fail and exacerbate homelessness. I demand that City Council and the Mayor's office instead invest their time and legislative power into programs that actually help us move forward in providing a healthy and safe living environments for our unhoused communities while they are on the streets, and take concrete action steps in providing transitional/permanent housing opportunities that meet a higher standard of living than current shelter and ABH facilities offer, and furthermore to oppose the motion to instruct the city attorney to draft amendments to LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11. Signed, Caitlin Pistor 90027

Communication from Public

Name: Jamie

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:14 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly urge council to stop allowing homeless to dwell in our streets, bridges and underpasses. I have a 4-yr old daughter that I can't even walk down the street anymore in a stroller to get an ice cream. We have to merge into the street into traffic just to get past some of these people sleeping on the sidewalks. It is a major disaster waiting to happen. Not to mention if they are "awake", some of them yell obscenities at you and say "F**k you!" This is not the SFV I grew up in. I can't allow my children to go out and ride their bikes around the block, walk or do anything because it's scary out there. These sometimes violent & verbally abusive people need to somewhere else away from law abiding, tax paying citizens. Imagine if you had to raise your kids and they ask you "let's go for a walk" after dinner when the sun is down, and you always have the same reply "we can't because there's bad people out there." Very sad situation we have here in LA. Why can't you come up with a program where you put them somewhere in their igloo new houses out in the desert? Let them grow their own food or work at their own grocery store in exchange for food? Teach them how to be a responsible member of society. And last but not least please make mental health and addiction priorities! Get them the help they need. Not jail! Mental help and addiction counseling! My daughters have to walk on a treadmill after dinner for exercise and not most people have that option. This is ridiculous! Our children are suffering, and these kids are going to be the ones taking care of us later in life. Seeing homeless people spread out all over the streets is not teaching them to be productive members of society at all! You want them to think this is normal? I don't!

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:15 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Enforce and remove encampment, campers and stragglers! Enough is enough! Stop enabling addicts! Our neighborhood has become filthy, dangerous and unacceptable! This is absolutely not a housing crisis, this is a drug crisis and mental health crisis! I have lived here 56 years and raising kids, it's inexcusable with the extreme taxes we pay and we are law abiding citizens! It's an ugly problem that needs to be dealt with. I am board district 3. Bluminfield is pandering to these people. They must be held accountable. Mandatory drug court or something. They're stealing, littering, and using our streets as toilets and trash cans. There's filthy conditions on our streets due to them! ENOUGH is ENOUGH! Handing them a house is NOT the answer! Handing them tents is NOT the answer! Our mental health is being affected! This is no longer a safe place to be. I have stopped going to businesses where I may see or be accosted by the people who are getting more rights for being ill than I do! STOP the BS!

Communication from Public

Name: Carly

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:16 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Please vote YES for the greater good of our city. I'm a Los Angeles resident and law abiding citizen who is an essential worker in a hospital and I strongly implore the City Council to pass this measure. Please resume clean-ups of sidewalk encampments as they're growing in my neighborhood on the Westside and I feel unsafe as a woman at night when walking along due to the increased violence and crime these encampments bring along with trash, fecal matter, and vermins. Our city is in grave danger and decay due to these encampments and growing homeless population. I see handicap individuals and mothers with children unable to safely pass through the sidewalks in my area around UCLA because of homeless people occupying the sidewalks with large bulky items including discarded furniture and tents. Please also enforce encampment clean-ups and clearing around freeways. I work at the VA Hospital and try to walk and from work daily however there's a very dirty and unsafe encampment growing under the 405 Freeway at Wilshire that makes it unsafe for me as a women walking alone. This is unacceptable and we must do better. Please I implore you to vote YES

Communication from Public

Name: Madeline L.

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:17 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear City Council Members, Please vote in Favor of Council File 20-1376. This motion is vital because it will help Los Angeles maintain a balance between helping the homeless and helping the residents and homeowners keep and maintain a clean and healthy community and while still staying within the parameters of the Boise Idaho decision. This motion addresses the serious Americans with Disabilities Act violations, it addresses the promises made and the promises broken by the city for residents who live near Bridge Housing Shelters, and it addresses LAMC Sec. 41.18. Thank you for this reasonable and well thought out motion to help Los Angeles maintain a balance between helping the homeless and helping the residents and homeowners keep and maintain a clean and healthy community. Sincerely, Madeline L. Venice Resident/ Stakeholder

Communication from Public

Name: caroline cantrall

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:18 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I condemn Council File 20-1376 and all of the Council members who support it. This is NOT a step toward fixing homelessness in Los Angeles. This IS a step toward more state sanctioned violence as statistics show that a large number of people in Los Angeles jails are unhoused. In the midst of a pandemic, you'd think a "progressive" city like Los Angeles would have a more compassionate approach to handling homelessness. I am extremely disappointed in this city's officials, once again.

Communication from Public

Name: Hal Bastian

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:22 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I urge the City Council to vote for this motion. The City is letting people die in the streets and has lost control of the public realm. It's not ok. Shelter people and stop enabling them to kill themselves and give back the use of the sidewalks to the entire community. The problem is everywhere, but is particularly acute in DTLA. I live in DTLA, have helped create the DTLA Renaissance, and all the work we have done is in jeopardy. We are not a "World-Class" city. Fix it. Save lives. Save our City.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:22 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: This is an important and necessary step toward fulfilling the promises made by the City to communities where these facilities are located. The City has vowed to keep the neighborhoods surrounding these shelters from deteriorating by providing extra cleanup and security resources. You cannot backpedal now. PASS THIS LEGISLATION

Communication from Public

Name: Brittany Gates

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:25 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Please stand ardently against 41.18. We need to be providing services for our unhoused neighbors, not criminalizing them more and more. There are people actively working with the unhoused in LA. What if you worked with them and jot against your our community? There are options, but making it “illegal” to be homeless does not help in anyway. It will only cause more unnecessary terror and arrests, and make it that much hard for people experiencing such hardship to eventually get off the street. Please vote NO against 41.18.

Communication from Public

Name: Jonathan Pacheco Bell

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:27 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Hello. This is Jonathan Pacheco Bell with the Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust, addressing Item 42, Council File Number 20-1376. This cruel motion and draft ordinance is the wrong approach to addressing homelessness. All people have an equal right to access public space. No person should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. Pushing unhoused people from one public space to another does not address the root issue of homelessness. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with their efforts and depends on the misuse of limited housing and financial resources while jeopardizing the health and safety of those most in need of being inside. The guidance and approach of the Departments of Public Health and Health Services has been for everyone to shelter in place and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among the unhoused population. This motion effectively makes homelessness illegal in Los Angeles and constitutes the largest increase in the criminalization of homelessness in decades. This is NOT a solution. I urge the council to vote NO on this motion and instead focus on increasing access to immediate housing in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors. Thank you for reading my public comment.

Communication from Public

Name: Jordan Green

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:28 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: What a shameful time we live in. Criminalizing homelessness instead of offering a place to sleep that does not involve getting handcuffed first. There are so many empty warehouses and space in this vast city of Los Angeles. How can we continue to pretend that our actions do not have consequences that affect a person for life. We need to do better. Provide more housing for the homeless. Stop pretending like we can't. There are major countries in this world that provide housing and the US looks like we just came over on the Mayflower two years ago. This has to stop. We've come to far as a country and have grown so much that this type of immature behavior is unacceptable. Provide housing for the homeless. More shelters that are safe. More housing facilities that don't take months for approval. These people need help now. If you need any ideas I'm more that available to help. No one should have to sleep on the streets. Has this pandemic taught us nothing?

Communication from Public

Name: Rachel Huguet

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:30 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: We cannot continue to further criminalize homelessness in our city - especially during a time of such deep crisis. All people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with their efforts and depends on the misuse of limited housing and financial resources while jeopardizing the health and safety of those most in need of being inside. The guidance and approach of the Departments of Public Health and Health Services has been for everyone to shelter in place and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among the homeless population. This motion effectively makes homelessness illegal in Los Angeles constitutes the largest increase in the criminalization of homelessness in decades. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus on increasing access to immediate housing in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Devin Yaeger

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:33 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: There was an encampment fire in front of the DWP building on Cotner and Missouri, just beside the 405 in West LA on Saturday (10/24) and one near the Beverly Center the day before. They're now happening daily in Hollywood, Venice, Santa Monica, and the valley. Reports blame the issue on unresolved drug debts and other homeless on homeless squabbles. It is only a matter of time before they start happening in Westwood, Brentwood, Beverly Hills, etc. I understand that some don't want the police to traumatize the homeless, and that is admirable. But if that's your position and you are backing it up with actions to prevent such intervention, you ought to be doing more to fix the problems they are causing. Tax payers deserve better. Tenants deserve better. Property owners deserve better. Students paying tuition at UCLA deserve better. These streets and other public spaces are paid for by money extracted from us every time we buy a soda, eat in a restaurant, or go to work. If it's not the police fixing this public health and safety problem, which tax-funded public agency is doing it? How do we pressure them to do a better job? Here's a story to sleep on from last week: there was a homeless man living in the carport of a building I'm helping my mom manage in Palms and some of the tenants told me they felt threatened by him and were worried about their children who played there. Recently he jumped out and scared two little girls taking out the trash. People shouldn't be made to feel unsafe. It's not right. So I packed his stuff up neatly and carefully and put up a sign asking him nicely to take his things and go. He left peacefully. Not so bad. The tenants asked what they should do in the future. I told them call their councilman and if they feel unsafe call the police, but don't get your hopes up because I doubt they'll show up. A month ago my mom had to wash feces off the wall of the same carport. Presumably caused by the same homeless man. Sure, we can say it's due to society letting him down or there not being enough affordable housing or good enough jobs or mental health outreach, etc. but at the end of the day my elderly mom had to clean feces off a wall in the midst of a pandemic. I asked her why are you doing that, you could get sick cleaning it up, why not wait for me or a professional to come and do it? She said it's not right that the tenants be exposed to it a minute longer. She said it's better she cleans it up now than wait for someone else to do it.

Not right at all. Maybe we can use some of those \$5K grants community grants to pay for professional feces cleaners too? And fire extinguishers for the unhoused and local business owners while they're at it! These problems are mostly contained to the commercial areas of Westwood currently. Soon this reality will be in the residential areas as well, just as has happened in Venice and Santa Monica, and now Palms. I do not want to have to wash human feces off of my apartment window or breath in smoke from encampment fires. Or be afraid to walk the streets at night.

Best, Devin Yaeger - Dissenting member of the North Westwood Neighborhood Council Committee on Health and Safety

Communication from Public

Name: Kathleen Munroe

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:34 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: REPEAL ALL LAWS THAT CRIMINALIZE HOMELESSNESS, INCLUDING 41.18 FOCUS EFFORTS ON PROVIDING HOTEL ROOMS AND PERMANENT HOUSING TO ALL UNHOUSED ANGELENOS. END CARE+ SWEEPS. WORK WITH HEALTH DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS TO MEET RESIDENTS' NEEDS WITHOUT THREATENING DISPLACEMENT.

Communication from Public

Name: Sandee Andrews

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:36 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Turning local hotels into homeless shelters has been shoved down the communities' throats with no regard for our standard of living and safety. This was done for the reason of offering beds to transients and homeless people. If the City does not vote yes on this, it would directly oppose all of the reasons the taxpayers have been given during the last four years for allowing this kind of disorder to get out of hand.

Communication from Public

Name: Marie Javdani

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:36 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: This ordinance, further criminalizing the state of being homeless, is being rammed through the legislative process at speeds I wish the Council could muster for finding ways to house their constituents. As inconvenient and guilt-inducing as we may find seeing it, bridges and overpasses--while very much in the public view--are structures that provide more shelter than the City has managed to offer these people. To remove, cite, or jail the homeless, and to rob them of their only possessions, is inhumane and unconstitutional. Let's ask ourselves: Why the rush? And why not put such enthusiasm toward solving the problem and preventing homelessness in the first place? No more leaf-blower legislation.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:39 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Hello. This is Hannah Mora with addressing Item 42. This cruel motion and draft ordinance are the wrong approach to solving homelessness. All people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with their efforts and depends on the misuse of limited housing and financial resources while jeopardizing the health and safety of those most in need of being inside. The guidance and approach of the Departments of Public Health and Health Services has been for everyone to shelter in place and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among the homeless population. This motion effectively makes homelessness illegal in Los Angeles constitutes the largest increase in the criminalization of homelessness in decades. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus on increasing access to immediate housing in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Brendan Munro Thompson

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:41 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Further criminalizing the unhoused during a pandemic is the wrong move. Even without the threat of COVID-19, this motion would be atrocious, as well as a violation of human rights. Do not pass this motion. Instead, consider making a material difference in the lives of the unhoused by offering more transitional housing. Open up Project Roomkey to more people. The pandemic is not over. -Brendan in CD12

Communication from Public

Name: Maddie keyes-levine

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:42 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: It's shameful that you would consider further criminalizing poverty and homelessness during a pandemic. Targeting homeless people instead of providing resources to provide support and housing is not only cruel but also does nothing to fix the actual problem of lack of affordable housing.

Communication from Public

Name: Sarah Dooley

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:43 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Writing to oppose the currently motion to expand criminalization of where homeless populations can congregate. This motion is egregious. What does the city expect this will do other than continue to destroy lives? To claim the city cares about ease of movement on sidewalks while currently filling all waking space with dining tables is an outright lie. If the existence of homeless people in public places is an issue, then make sure you serve them, provide services, provide housing. Anything else is a punishment for existing, the ultimate injustice when the city could have done so much more to keep them from falling into homelessness in the first place.

Communication from Public

Name: Chelsea F

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:44 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Fascism | (noun) A governmental system led by a dictator having complete power, forcibly suppressing opposition and criticism, regimenting all industry, commerce, etc., and emphasizing an aggressive nationalism and often racism. Fascists tend to capitalize on economic anxieties by shifting the blame away from government or market forces. Jews, immigrants, leftists, and other groups became useful scapegoats. Redirecting popular anger toward these people would, in theory, rid a country of its ailments.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:44 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: IT IS TIME TO CLEAN UP SITTING, LYING, AND SLEEPING IN PUBLIC AREAS. THE STREETS HAVE BECOME FILTHY AND UNSAFE. HOMELESS HAVE ENCAMPMENTS ALL OVER THE STREETS SO THAT YOU CAN NOT SAFELY WALK ON THE SIDEWALKS. THERE IS SO MUCH TRASH WITH THEIR BELONGINGS. THEY URINATE AND EXCREMENT IN PUBLIC ON THE STREETS WHICH IS COMPLETELY UNSANITARY. I HAVE LIVED IN THE VALLEY OVER 50 YEARS AND IT HAS NEVER BEEN THIS BAD! BILLIONS OF DOLLARS HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED TO HELP THE HOMELESS. PLEASE GET THEM OFF OF THE STREETS.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:45 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I would love to see encampments cleaned up - and for their tents to be made more uniform so that the it doesn't look like such a shanty town. If the encampments just looked clean then residents wouldn't be so unhappy.

Communication from Public

Name: Sandee Andrews

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:46 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Turning local hotels into homeless shelters has been shoved down the communities' throats with no regard for our standard of living and safety. This was done for the reason of offering beds to transients and homeless people. If the City does not vote yes on this, it would directly oppose all of the reasons the taxpayers have been given during the last four years for allowing this kind of disorder to get out of hand.

Communication from Public

Name: Dori C

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:47 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Oppose council file 20-1376 in support of our unhoused neighbors who should not be criminalized for their lack of access to housing particularly during the covid-19 crisis which has left many, even those with roofs over their heads, in an unprecedented time of difficulty. Rather than criminalize their existence and presence in public spaces we should be seeking to get at the root issues - affordable housing and mental health care

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:48 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear City Council Members, Please vote in Favor of Council File 20-1376. This is a very serious issue for our community. We residents of Venice were promised certain standards of cleanliness and safety with Bridge Housing, as part of the initial agreement - and those were NEVER UPHOLD! It really is time the City started respecting this entire community, and stopped cheating us all out of a decent quality of life! This motion is vital because it will help Los Angeles maintain a balance between helping the homeless and helping the residents and homeowners keep and maintain a clean and healthy community and while still staying within the parameters of the Boise Idaho decision. This motion addresses the serious Americans with Disabilities Act violations, it addresses the promises made and the promises broken by the city for residents who live near Bridge Housing Shelters, and it addresses LAMC Sec. 41.18. Thank you for this reasonable and well thought out motion to help Los Angeles maintain a balance between helping the homeless and helping the residents and homeowners keep and maintain a clean and healthy community. Sincerely, ilana Marosi Venice Stakeholder

Communication from Public

Name: Alison Klurfeld

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:49 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: L.A. Care Health Plan serves more than 2.2 million members in Los Angeles County, including tens of thousands of members experiencing homelessness. Therefore, L.A. Care strongly opposes agenda item 42 and believes this motion and subsequent amendments to the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) are the wrong approach to solving homelessness in Los Angeles. If approved, the motion would allow an ordinance amending Section 41.18 of the LAMC to specify the particular times and locations where it shall be unlawful for a person to sit, lie, or sleep on public property. Ultimately giving the City of Los Angeles authority to make it illegal for people experiencing homelessness to exist near any shelter or homeless services related property, within 500 feet of freeways, or anywhere in the city if they have been “offered shelter.” This motion effectively makes homelessness illegal in Los Angeles and constitutes the largest increase in the criminalization of homelessness in decades. While Section 41.18 focuses on when and where individuals may lodge, Section 56.11 regulates where and how people may store their personal property in public spaces. If agenda item 42 is approved, the draft ordinance would amend LAMC Section 56.11 to align with the new provisions of Section 41.18 by banning the storage of personal property in any area where sitting, lying, and sleeping is banned by Section 41.18. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness. In fact, it's a completely ineffective approach – data and research clearly state that an enforcement-led approach is not evidence-based. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal also conflicts with their efforts and depends on the misuse of limited housing and financial resources while jeopardizing the health and safety of those most in need of being inside. The guidance and approach of the Departments of Public Health and Health Services has been for everyone to shelter in place and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among the homeless population. All people should have the right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. Therefore, L.A. Care urges the city councilmembers to vote no on this motion and instead focus on increasing access to immediate housing throughout Los Angeles

so that our unhoused neighbors can access shelter.

Communication from Public

Name: Lisa Beebe

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:51 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: On October 21, 2020, Councilmembers Blumenfield, Buscaino, Cedillo, Krekorian, Lee, Price, and Rodriguez presented a motion (council file 20-1376) to drastically expand the criminalization and removal of unhoused Angelenos. The text of the motion instructs the city attorney to draft amendments to LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11. I'm writing to express my opposition, because I believe we must focus on helping people who are experiencing homelessness, not punish them or make their situation even worse. Please use city resources only for solutions that provide much-needed support to these members of our society who are most at risk. They need help staying healthy and safe, and they need access to transitional/permanent housing opportunities. I urge you to join me in opposing the motion to instruct the city attorney to draft amendments to LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11. Thank you, Lisa

Communication from Public

Name: Ella Thompson

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:53 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: How does this law assist those in poverty, addiction, and homelessness at all? Who is this for? The wealthy? The haves versus the have-nots? We the people of Los Angeles want to decriminalize homelessness, provide adequate shelter and food, and end “care+” sweeps. Get the health department involved in meeting residents needs. Let’s start treating the drug crisis as a public health crisis instead of treating people with addiction as morally deranged. It’s time to heal instead of sweep problems under the rug and allow them to boil over. Someone burned down two homeless tents in my Koreatown neighborhood because they didn’t like that they were camped out on a sidewalk in front of a new lavish apartment complex. These people were forced to move for no other reason than someone didn’t like the way it “looked” that they were there. And now our elected officials are mirroring the desires of the wealthy. Disgraceful. Go ahead, ram it through. I’ll vote all of you out! Yes, I’m speaking to you specifically district 4, David Ryu.

Communication from Public

Name: Lisa Mazzocco

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:56 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I urge you to reject Council File 20-1376. I share the frustration regarding the homeless crisis in the City. That said, criminalizing homelessness is not a solution. This has been a problem years in the making, and the City needs to continue to adopt policies to address the situation such as affordable housing and supporting the housing first model. The Care Teams should also be more effectively employed to manage encampments.

Communication from Public

Name: David Polinsky

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:58 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I, as a resident of Sherman Oaks, and on behalf of the members of the Valley Beth Shalom Task Force, strongly oppose this motion. It does not provide any new housing resources, wrap-around services for those experiencing homelessness, or any solutions to decrease the unhoused population in LA. It focuses on criminalization rather than housing and treatment. I urge the City Council and the Mayor's office to concentrate on programs that would actually help us move forward in providing a healthy and safe living environments for our unhoused communities while they are on the streets, and take concrete action steps in providing transitional/permanent housing opportunities that meet a higher standard of living than current shelter and ABH facilities offer. I would ask you to oppose the motion to instruct the city attorney to draft amendments to LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11.

Communication from Public

Name: Saban Community Clinic
Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:59 AM
Council File No: 20-1376
Comments for Public Posting: see attached letter



SABAN COMMUNITY CLINIC

October 27th, 2020

**Honorable City Council
c/o Office of the City Clerk
Los Angeles City Hall
200 N Spring Street, Room 395
Los Angeles, CA 90012**

RE: Council File No: 20-1376 – LA Alliance v City and County of Los Angeles / Martin v City of Boise / Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals / Los Angeles Municipal Code / Amendment

Dear City Council Members:

Saban Community Clinic (SCC) is a community health center providing comprehensive, quality health care to low income, vulnerable community members in Los Angeles. SCC offers a wide range of services including: medical, dental, behavioral health, enrollment, and pharmacy services. As homelessness continues to rise, SCC has committed to expanding services in order to meet the needs of people experiencing homelessness. For over 30 years, SCC has had a shower program and provides over 6000 showers a year. In addition to the shower program, SCC provides case management, counseling, and street medicine services at encampments and various temporary housing locations. Therefore, Saban Community Clinic strongly opposes agenda item 42 and believes this motion and subsequent amendments to the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) are the wrong approach to solving homelessness in Los Angeles.

If approved, the motion would allow an ordinance amending Section 41.18 of the LAMC to specify the particular times and locations where it shall be unlawful for a person to sit, lie, or sleep on public property. Ultimately giving the City of Los Angeles authority to make it illegal for people experiencing homelessness to exist near any shelter or homeless services related property, within 500 feet of freeways, or anywhere in the city if they have been “offered shelter.” This motion effectively makes homelessness illegal in Los Angeles and constitutes the largest increase in the criminalization of homelessness in decades.

While Section 41.18 focuses on when and where individuals may lodge, Section 56.11 regulates where and how people may store their personal property in public spaces. If agenda item 42 is approved, the draft ordinance would amend LAMC Section 56.11 to align with the new provisions of Section 41.18 by banning the storage of personal property in any area where sitting, lying, and sleeping is banned by Section 41.18.

Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness. In fact, it's a completely ineffective approach – data and research clearly state that an enforcement-led

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www.sabancommunityclinic.org



SABAN COMMUNITY CLINIC

approach is not evidence-based. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal also conflicts with their efforts and depends on the misuse of limited housing and financial resources while jeopardizing the health and safety of those most in need of being inside. The guidance and approach of the Departments of Public Health and Health Services has been for everyone to shelter in place and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among the homeless population.

All people should have the right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. Therefore, Saban Community Clinic urges the city councilmembers to vote no on this motion and instead focus on increasing access to immediate housing throughout Los Angeles so that our unhoused neighbors can access shelter.

Sincerely,

Muriel Nouwezem, CEO

Communication from Public

Name: Elise Boretz

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:00 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I oppose-- this proposed law would criminalize our neighbors who are simply poor and struggling. Instead of enforcing a punitive and violent proposition, we should focus our efforts on providing housing solutions to all unhoused Angelenos. It's time to show care and understanding to these vulnerable members of our community.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:01 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Please vote in Favor of Council File 20-1376. This is a reasonable and well thought out motion to help Los Angeles maintain a balance between helping the homeless and helping the residents and homeowners keep and maintain a clean and healthy community. As of now, we cannot safely walk down the street without having to walk into the street and traffic to avoid encampments, large objects and bodies laying or sleeping on sidewalks. Our gates and properties are being used as restrooms. Please help us keep our community safe and clean! Venice is a major tourist attraction in Los Angeles, in many cases the homeless encampments on the streets, boardwalk and beaches as well as interactions with the homeless are people's first impression of LA. How can we make this better? Our property taxes are no different than elsewhere in the city where these issues do not impact people's daily safety, sense of well being and quiet enjoyment. Please help!

Communication from Public

Name: Grace Jun Baca

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:05 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Please approve item #42. We live in the Candy Cane Lane neighborhood in Woodland Hills. The homeless encampments under the Corbin and Winnetka 101 freeway underpasses are out of control. We need to do a better job of providing resources for our homeless population. It breaks my heart to see people living under the freeway because they have no where else to go. At the same time, I fear for my family's safety when I know that many of them are using drugs and may have mental health issues that could cause erratic or dangerous behavior. I have two young children and don't feel safe letting them play in our front yard, which is unfair to property owners who pay taxes each year. Please help support a safe, residential neighborhood. If this problem is addressed, we and I'm sure many others will consider moving out of the area. Thank you for your service. My very best,
Grace Jun Baca

Communication from Public

Name: Erika Lee

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:06 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Hello. My name is Erika Lee with Venice Community Housing addressing Item 42. This cruel motion and draft ordinance are the wrong approach to solving homelessness. All people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with their efforts and depends on the misuse of limited housing and financial resources while jeopardizing the health and safety of those most in need of being inside. The guidance and approach of the Departments of Public Health and Health Services has been for everyone to shelter in place and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among the homeless population. During a worldwide pandemic, increasing the criminalization of unhoused people who have no where else to go is immoral, unjust, and worsens a public health crisis. This motion effectively makes homelessness illegal in Los Angeles and constitutes the largest increase in the criminalization of homelessness in decades. I strongly urge the council to vote NO on this motion and instead focus on increasing access to immediate housing in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors. It is appalling that this inhumane motion and draft ordinance be proposed- we must instead move forward providing positive solutions such as housing and supportive services to those in our community, especially marginalized populations.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:07 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: LA City Council must restrict chronic transients who refuse treatment (for mental illness and/or drug addiction) and housing from residing on our streets from where they prey on the rest of us to feed their habits. In addition to the 500 feet provision that is the subject of this motion, such persons must also be cleared from on or around schools (including but not limited to Taft High School). Moreover, with respect to any plans to house persons in CD3, do not bus in Newsom's recent or future violent releases or unstable violent persons like the one who in May lunged at my car on my residential CD3 street, or the one who threatened me and other Woodland Hills Target shoppers on Sept. 18, 2020, or the one released earlier this year for "assault with a deadly weapon" and then stabbed a Metro worker to death on a train my teen took daily to school pre-pandemic. We already moved our office out of the city of LA because of its spiraling into a dangerous SF like abyss. If this council fails to protect its tax paying constituents, we will be forced to flee in droves. Without our tax dollars, the City of LA will implode even faster.

Communication from Public

Name: Kristen Schwarz

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:08 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Kristen Schwarz and I work at LAANE, and I'm writing in addressing Item 42. This cruel motion and draft ordinance are the wrong approach to solving homelessness. In a time when people experiencing homelessness already face increased risks and hardships, with the rainy season on the horizon, we cannot in any kind of good conscience outlaw the one public area of shelter from the elements, the overpass. Despite our constituent investment in housing for the homeless, the number of new units built is laughable compared to the number of people currently living without shelter. Effectively outlawing homelessness without even having an alternative is simply not acceptable. All people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with their efforts and depends on the misuse of limited housing and financial resources while jeopardizing the health and safety of those most in need of being inside. The guidance and approach of the Departments of Public Health and Health Services has been for everyone to shelter in place and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among the homeless population. This motion effectively makes homelessness illegal in Los Angeles constitutes the largest increase in the criminalization of homelessness in decades. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus on increasing access to immediate housing in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Aaron Lewis

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:10 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: When I moved to the College Acres neighborhood four years ago, I thought I bought my "forever" home. My wife and I were especially drawn to the convenience of walking to any number of coffee shops, restaurants, stores, and other establishments that make a neighborhood, well, a neighborhood. We had visions of our children one day enjoying the same conveniences and making this place home. Fast forward to today. We now have a toddler son, and we feel like we are trapped in our own home. By any measure, the homeless encampment at the Corbin underpass just a hundred yards down the street has made us less safe. It's no coincidence that we've seen a rise in petty crime (theft, assault, vandalism, etc.) in our neighborhood. Someone even stole a baby stroller off our front porch. Who steals a baby stroller?! Walking to get a donut and a simple cup of coffee - especially with our son - is no longer an option. And when we drive past the encampment, it's not unusual to see IV drug use, fist fights, or even public nudity. Would YOU want your children to grow up in this sort of environment? This is NOT the neighborhood that it was even two years ago. We are deeply regretting our decision to move here, and it has been exasperated by the local government's refusal to do anything about it. The good news is that LA City Council is now in a position to get the job done. By amending Section 41.18, the City Council can send a clear message that our voices - which have fallen on deaf ears the last two years - are finally being heard. To be clear, my family has a lot of sympathy for unhoused individuals in our city. These are tough times and no one wants to be homeless. But giving them a free pass to settle on public property is NOT the solution. They deserve a roof over their heads, too. We should not make it EASIER to sleep on the streets. It should be as inconvenient as possible, especially if the city is providing alternative shelter options that are safer for both the homeless and for the taxpaying residents who share these communities. By passing this amendment, the City Council will not only make our neighborhoods safer, but they will also send a clear message to the city's the most vulnerable population that there are much better options out there than going to sleep under a freeway every night. It's a true win-win scenario. Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Communication from Public

Name: Becky Dennison

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:11 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Councilmembers, On behalf of Venice Community Housing, our Board, staff, tenants and students urge you to vote no on the proposed amendments to 41.18d and 56.11. Criminalization of homelessness and the devastation it causes to unhoused people's lives has long been LA's approach, and it must end. LA has to make long-term investments in affordable housing production, preservation, and strong tenant rights to address the housing and homelessness crisis - this is a crisis 40 years in the making, and your efforts have to be equally sustained and deepened. But instead, today you are considering going back to the old approach - promising housed people you can force people out of their sight and restore their comfort. You can't. It doesn't work, and hasn't for the past 20 years. Today, you are also considering strengthening criminalization efforts in the midst of both a public health crisis and the height of the Movement for Black Lives. The Centers for Disease Control and all public health officials have told local governments to suspend regular efforts to move unhoused people to protect everyone's health. And Black Lives Matter has told you loud and clear that the LAPD is racist, violent and deadly. Criminalizing unhoused people is wrong all the time, and particularly wrong and cruel right now. Police cannot and will not solve homelessness, nor be successful in removing people from our City. You all have said recently, in the midst of ongoing police murders, that LA must do better, that police should not be used for non-serious and non-violent occurrences in our City. Sitting down in public, or keeping your personal belongings with you, clearly meets the definition of non-serious and non-violent. Do something different today. Vote no. And stop considering ordinances and practices like the ones on the agenda today and start committing to and investing in housing solutions for the long term. Becky Dennison Venice Community Housing

Communication from Public

Name: Chase N

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:11 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Please vote NO on 20-1376. It is not only financially infeasible, it is INHUMANE. John Lee - CD12 is watching. Vote NO.

Communication from Public

Name: John B.

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:11 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Please approve item #42. We live in the Candy Cane Lane neighborhood in Woodland Hills. The homeless encampments under the Corbin and Winnetka 101 freeway underpasses are out of control. We need to do a better job of providing resources for our homeless population. It breaks my heart to see people living under the freeway because they have no where else to go. At the same time, I fear for my family's safety when I know that many of them are using drugs and may have mental health issues that could cause erratic or dangerous behavior. I have two young children and don't feel safe letting them play in our front yard, which is unfair to property owners who pay taxes each year. Please help support a safe, residential neighborhood. If this problem is addressed, we and I'm sure many others will consider moving out of the area. Thank you for your service. My very best,
John Baca

Communication from Public

Name: Molly Griffin

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:12 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing against the October 21st, 2020 motion (Council File 20-1376) from CMs Blumenfield, Buscaino, Rodriguez, Krekorian, Price, Cedillo, and Lee to drastically expand the criminalization and banishment of unhoused Angelenos across the city by amending LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11. I don't see how it is anything other than a waste of money and resources to over-police and criminalize the homeless population, by criminalizing having any kind of personal items on the street or sitting or lying down within 20 feet of a driveway, overpass, onramp, or even homeless shelter! Throwing the homeless population in jail over petty or made-up offenses is NOT a solution to the city's mounting problem. After a few months, they will be back on the streets in a worse state. We ask you to be humane in your policies but most of all we ask you to be effective with taxpayer money and not waste it on systems perpetuating the problem (like police/ jail) instead of solving it. I demand you oppose the motion to instruct the city attorney to draft amendments to LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11 and start thinking about real solutions for once. Sincerely, Molly Griffin

Communication from Public

Name: Myrna Bohan

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:13 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: All people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness. Affordable housing in ALL communities is the only answer. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with their efforts and depends on the misuse of limited housing and financial resources while jeopardizing the health and safety of those most in need of being inside. The guidance and approach of the Departments of Public Health and Health Services has been for everyone to shelter in place and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among the homeless population. This motion effectively makes homelessness illegal in Los Angeles constitutes the largest increase in the criminalization of homelessness in decades. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus on increasing access to immediate housing in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors. Los Angeles, we have to be better than this. Our community members who are experiencing homelessness are our community members. Their housing status does not render them less than a person, less than a member of our community, less than someone needing a lending hand. Those who housing status is "housed" are not more valuable to our society than those whose housing status is "Unhoused." e pluribus unum meaning out of many makes a community. The answer to ending homelessness is not less make things more difficult for those experiencing homelessness. Again, we have to be better than this. People are looking at Los Angeles to be a leader. We need to lead with compassion. Myrna Bohan Venice Community Housing

Communication from Public

Name: Alexander Olson

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:13 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: The idea of further criminalizing homelessness in the midst of a pandemic and looming evictions just as winter arrives is abhorrent, and the precise opposite of what this Council should be doing. Furthermore, the vast overreach of this motion would be comical if it did not place thousands of lives in very real jeopardy; making it a crime to even sit in public places is utterly ludicrous. Looking at the exemplary actions taken in recent months by the LA County Board of Supervisors, it is clear that the power to create positive change in Los Angeles exists, and lies in you, our elected officials. If you lack the courage to do the right thing, then at the very least do not actively empower further violence against our city's most vulnerable residents. As your constituent, Councilmember Wesson, I ask and fully expect that you look to the example of Mark Ridley-Thomas, whose shoes you hope to fill after Election Day, and oppose this barbaric measure and all others like it, now and in perpetuity.

Communication from Public

Name: Harrison Kavanaugh

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:14 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Criminalizing human existence outside of a private dwelling is blindly cruel. It's not as though one has a choice to or to not take part in society. No land is unspoken for. I count myself fortunate that I have the mental, physical and emotional capacity to thrive within the machine, but my heart goes out to those who don't. We need to help our fellow humans. Period. Nobody got to choose where, how or even whether they were born. We're all here, in various states and capacities. With various opportunities and hindrances. Glued to this rock by a force that we don't understand, hurtling through the abyss around a ball of fire, with no instructions or consolation. Though seeing someone living in the street might bring us discomfort by forcing us to audit our own blessings, and to consider what our lives would be without them, and to face your own mortality-- please, have the courage to open your eyes, and to look into theirs. They are you, and you are them, and whatever we do with our years, we have no more than a hundred of them. Understanding that life itself is a suicide mission, and you have nothing to gain or lose, no means for avoiding the ultimatum imposed by our creator, I challenge you to be recklessly, fearlessly compassionate when writing policy. Remember who you are, and what you are. Human. Make your mark.

Communication from Public

Name: Darcie

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:15 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, I have lived in Studio City for about 25 years now. We were a small, quiet community. We have lost that feeling in our day to day lives. I now consider how I will walk somewhere without encountering the drug addicted homeless people. Along the river walk, north of the shopping center with the California Pizza Kitchen, there are numerous people that live there to Laurel Canyon Blvd. There are usually syringes laying around, people nodding off, people using out in the public areas, and people passed out on sidewalks. Some of these people are threatening and some are violent. I used to walk my dogs in the area, but no longer do I do this. My way of life has changed due to the homeless people that I try to avoid on a daily basis. I have had a friend move out of state to live in a safer family environment. HELP !! Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Loraine Lundquist

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:16 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: What exactly is the outcome for a woman who has previously been raped in a shelter and doesn't want to go to shelter? Will she be arrested? Invoking law enforcement is the most expensive and least effective possible approach for those who don't immediately accept offers of shelter. The City Attorney's language in 41.18 (d), "At no time shall any person who has been offered shelter sit, lie or sleep in or upon any street, sidewalk, or other public right-of-way, or publicly owned property," not only allows but invites this kind of waste of public funds, not to mention its cruelty. At a time of pandemic, where any kind of displacement of unhoused persons goes against CDC guidelines, when unhoused persons have been more likely to get COVID in shelter than outside of shelter, when thousands face possible eviction in the near future, and when the number of beds available is not nearly adequate to the need, I ask you to vote this motion down.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:17 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: We demand that the city: Decriminalize poverty - repeal all laws that criminalize homelessness including 41.18 Provide house keys not handcuffs - focus efforts on providing Permanent housing for all unhoused persons in LA End care + sweeps - work with health department officials to meet residents' needs without threatening displacement

Communication from Public

Name: Lauren Natoli

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:17 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am Lauren Natoli from AIDS Healthcare Foundation and I advocate for the rights of homeless individuals. I am familiar with Martin v. Boise, but I am also aware that Los Angeles does not always enforce their sitting/lie/sleep laws after a 2007 settlement with the ACLU. With the current homelessness and housing affordability crisis, I believe it would be in Los Angeles' best interest to reduce criminalization for homelessness and not arrest or charge those who are sitting, sleeping, lying, or camping on public property during the evening. LA's shelter system is still woefully inadequate, and many major changes need to be made before LA can comply with something like Martin v Boise, which requires plentiful shelter space, explicit knowledge of which shelters are open, and compliance with religious practices in one of the major Boise shelters. That's not appropriate for Los Angeles, considering our scale and diversity of people.

Communication from Public

Name: Jomo Radcliff

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:17 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, my name is Jomo Radcliff with Venice Community Housing, addressing item 42. This cruel motion and draft ordinance is the wrong approach to addressing homelessness. All people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with their efforts and depends on the misuse of limited housing and financial resources while jeopardizing the health and safety of those most in need of being inside. The guidance and approach of the Departments of Public Health and Health Services has been for everyone to shelter in place and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among the homeless population. This motion effectively makes homelessness illegal in Los Angeles constitutes the largest increase in the criminalization of homelessness in decades. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus on increasing access to immediate housing in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Trevor Byrne

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:18 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear City Councilmembers, PLEASE vote against this motion to restrict the ability of people experiencing homelessness to find shelter on the street. It is long past time that you substantively address the root of the issue instead of trying to sweep the people it affects out of sight. Sincerely, Trevor Byrne 90042

Communication from Public

Name: Nick Mrachek

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:19 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am just writing to state that I oppose Ordinance 41.18D and that the city should not move forward this action. At it's core, this ordinance would essentially criminalize homelessness. Where are homeless people meant to go. More resources should be allocated toward public housing and aid programs, along with more safety nets for people in general. Not only would this create further problems, it is relatively inhumane and deeply disappointing.

Communication from Public

Name: The Reverend Dr. Daniel Justin

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:22 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: The congregation of St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church, located in Studio City with members living in Studio City, Sherman Oaks, Valley Village, Encino, North Hollywood, and Toluca Lake oppose the draft ordinance that would allow the city to make it illegal for people experiencing homelessness to exist near any shelter or homeless services related property, within 500 feet of freeways, or anywhere in the city if they have been “offered shelter.” This motion effectively makes homelessness illegal in Los Angeles and constitutes the largest increase in the criminalization of homelessness in decades. We stand in solidarity with the Services not Sweeps coalition to reject this motion and demand that all processes involved in propelling this motion forward be halted immediately, as this motion poses a direct threat to the health and safety of our unhoused neighbors and their surrounding communities. We demand that City Council and the Mayor’s office instead invest their time and legislative power into programs that actually help us move forward in providing a healthy and safe living environments for our unhoused communities while they are on the streets, and take concrete action steps in providing transitional/permanent housing opportunities that meet a higher standard of living than current shelter and ABH facilities offer. Thank you for your consideration.

Communication from Public

Name: Tara Barauskas

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:23 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Please do not approve this ordinance. It is inhumane and the wrong way to address homelessness. Instead, the City should provide shelter space for our unhoused community members. In addition, everyone has a right to access public spaces. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness. During Covid it's especially important to contain the spread of the virus and promote the safety of our unhoused and housed community members. The guidance and approach of the Departments of Public Health and Health Services has been for everyone to shelter in place and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among the homeless population. This motion effectively makes homelessness illegal in Los Angeles constitutes the largest increase in the criminalization of homelessness in decades. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus on increasing access to immediate housing in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Francesca de la Rosa

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:26 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: With a projected \$600 million budget shortfall and months of calls from constituents all across this City to reinvest in housing, services and public health infrastructure, the proposed action today to dedicate more money into policing and enforcement of the unhoused is beyond painful to accept. I urge you to rethink this action. Once again you are choosing to repeat the same mistakes of the past that have been shot down by the courts. This ordinance has been described as an attempt to assist and help people in need. Far from it. Each member of this council knows that ending homelessness begins with a home, not a jail cell. You are choosing jail and the continued violent removal of the poor instead of implementing proven solutions to end this crisis. Instead of police we need new housing resources and wrap-around services for those experiencing homelessness. Instead of an urgent order for more sweeps we need an emergency action plan for additional tenant protections, rent relief, and concrete action steps in providing transitional/permanent housing opportunities. Please oppose the motion to instruct the city attorney to draft amendments to LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11. There are other proven and necessary strategies to address this crisis. This situation is dire for our unhoused community. It only will get worse if this motion moves forward. Housekeep NOT handcuffs! Homes NOT Jails. Services NOT Sweeps. Francesca de la Rosa

Communication from Public

Name: Jed Goldstein

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:26 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmembers, I am a longtime Los Angeles resident commenting today to oppose Item 42 and what I find to be a despicable use of the council's power to attack the lives of our unhoused friends, family and neighboring fellow citizens. The sweeps-based solutions which are the centerpiece of 42 are not only detrimental to the actual issues facing people experiencing homelessness, proven to be nothing more than a violent version of sweeping a those issues under the rug, but they are inhumane, cruel and, to me, unconscionable for any alleged public servant such as yourselves to endorse. Please listen to the voices in your city who are sick and tired of your failed campaign against the homeless and want to achieve more sustainable results by: 1) Pursuing every and all supportive affordable housing initiative possible, 2) Shifting resources away from the dangerous law enforcement of homeless folks and toward the housing and mental health services proven to make lasting impacts in preventing future homelessness, 3) Extending the eviction ban and imposing a rent freeze to prevent thousands more citizens from becoming homeless during this unimaginably harsh pandemic, and 4) Guiding all your actions and initiatives with compassion and demonstrably proven wisdom from those actually working to end homelessness, not the ideas from a minority of constituents who only see homeless folks as a blight they wish would just disappear. In other words: Listen. Better than you have been. And start by striking down the unimaginably tone deaf and dangerous Item 42 on today's agenda. Sincerely and with gratitude for your earnest consideration, Jed Goldstein

Communication from Public

Name: Jesse Goldshear
Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:28 AM
Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: As a Public Health PhD student and longtime volunteer with community-based organizations, I urge you to withdraw support from the measure expanding 41.18 and 56.11. The damage amending these measures (in the proposed way) would cause is vast, as it would immediately push unhoused people further away from shelter, services, and some of the only shaded areas of the city. We know from the scientific literature that displacement can lead to negative changes in health such as increased risk of exposure-related outcomes and worsening of current health issues. Expansion of 41.18 and 56.11 would do nothing to solve this city's houselessness crisis. Despite City Council's allocation of money, almost no supportive housing units have been built. Since you can't offer people housing, displacing them further into the margins is cruel and unjust punishment for the only "crime" of living outdoors. If you have a conscience, show us that you aren't beholden to the interests of real estate developers and wealthy property owners. We are your constituents too. Unhoused people are your constituents. Listen to us. Vote NO.

Communication from Public

Name: Geoffrey Pincus-Brimble

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:29 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Hello. This is Geoffrey Pincus-Brimble with Venice Community Housing, addressing Item 42. This cruel motion and draft ordinance are the wrong approach to solving homelessness. All people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with their efforts and depends on the misuse of limited housing and financial resources while jeopardizing the health and safety of those most in need of being inside. The guidance and approach of the Departments of Public Health and Health Services has been for everyone to shelter in place and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among the homeless population. This motion effectively makes homelessness illegal in Los Angeles constitutes the largest increase in the criminalization of homelessness in decades. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus on increasing access to immediate housing in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: The Downtown Women's Center

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:29 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: The Downtown Women's Center stands in strong opposition to the proposed motion and ordinance, as they are the wrong approach to solving homelessness. All people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city of Los Angeles. Pushing people from one public space to another does nothing to meaningfully address homelessness, and merely exacerbates the dislocation and trauma of our unhoused neighbors. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with their efforts, misuses limited housing and financial resources, and jeopardizes the health and safety of those most in need of being inside. The present guidance and approach of the Departments of Public Health and Health Services has been for everyone to shelter in place and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among those currently unhoused. This motion effectively makes homelessness illegal in Los Angeles and constitutes the largest increase in the criminalization of homelessness in decades. We urge the council to vote no on this motion, and to instead focus on increasing access to permanent housing and supportive services across the entire city so that our unhoused neighbors can begin to rebuild their lives.

Communication from Public

Name: Scott P.

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:35 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am a resident of District 14 (El Sereno) and I strongly encourage the Council to approve the attached ordinance. This ordinance will help protect residents and existing neighborhoods. During the past year, there has been a significant increase in the number of people either camping in parks and other open spaces areas or in public right-of-ways. Many of the unhoused people stay and use the parks, open spaces, or adjacent sidewalk and street right-of-way (ROW) as their own personal property. They are using open spaces, parks and the sidewalk to sit, cook, store items, drink and use drugs. The use of the parks, open space, and ROW as living space detracts from the quality of life for all residents in the neighborhood. Further, because people are living in these spaces, residents are unable to use the parks, open space areas, and ROW as intended. Finally, the use of the ROW as “living space” is also a public health concern because people are leaving trash and human waste in parks, open space areas, and the ROW. Frankly, my neighbors and I are fed up with cleaning up trash and sometimes human waste as a result of these camps. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:36 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly support this motion and ask the Council to vote in favor of 20-1376. This motion is a vital step in maintaining a healthy, livable community as it addresses both the best interest of the homeless and residents. The people of Venice trusted their Councilman to preserve their safety and quality of life when choosing this residential location for Bridge Housing. This has not been the case. Our Councilman turned his back on the community, not keeping the promise of removing encampments from the shelter area- even while beds are open and readily available. Crime on the streets surrounding this area has compounded an already sensitive situation. We know shelters can be operated properly as every other Bridge Housing project has demonstrated. Only in Venice do residents live in danger as promised oversight is ignored. Basic rules are required to keep any society functioning, and 20-1376 is needed to keep that promise of a safe and healthy community while still staying within the parameters of the Boise Idaho decision. It's also past time to acknowledge the Americans with Disabilities Act and not look the other way as the disabled and wheelchair bound are pushed onto busy streets, endangering their safety. Please vote in favor of 20-1376.

Communication from Public

Name: Zach Volet

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:36 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: This Motion, and it's proposed ordinance, are monstrous and sadistic. Rather than spend your time looking for legitimate ways to find shelter for our most vulnerable residents, you have decided to take the cruel and easy route of criminalizing poverty. You've whined and complained that your hands are tied, that there's nothing you can do about additional housing, about rent forgiveness, about eviction moratoriums, about police brutality, but when there's an opportunity to punish poverty and criminalize the very existence of those without shelter, you've moved heaven and earth to push this horrific ordinance through the council in less than 2 weeks. The only thing this ordinance will accomplish is more funding funneled to LAPD and the LASD, which is probably the entire point, other than satisfying the Council Members' most ardent NIMBY supporters. This ordinance is an abomination, and any who vote in favor of it are misanthropic monsters.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:37 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Please reject the motion and proposed amendments to LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11 that would criminalize "sitting, sleeping, or lying" down in certain areas. The motion and amendments harm not only our unhoused neighbors but also people with disabilities (both housed and unhoused) who sometimes sit, sleep, or lie down due to health reasons. Stop using people with disabilities as an excuse to ram through cruel and inhumane legislation. Instead, devote your time and resources to creating shelters and fixing sidewalks and public transportation so that people with disabilities have a place to stay and can more easily get around.

Communication from Public

Name: claire

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:37 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Hello. This is Claire Savage, addressing Item 42. This cruel motion and draft ordinance are the wrong approach to solving homelessness. All people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with their efforts and depends on the misuse of limited housing and financial resources while jeopardizing the health and safety of those most in need of being inside. The guidance and approach of the Departments of Public Health and Health Services has been for everyone to shelter in place and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among the homeless population. This motion effectively makes homelessness illegal in Los Angeles constitutes the largest increase in the criminalization of homelessness in decades. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus on increasing access to immediate housing in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Natasha Sill

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:40 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmembers, I am writing to you today out of extreme concern regarding this urgent issue for the safety of the unhoused Angelenos. Human being's lives are at stake and they are being stripped of any opportunity for survival. I encourage you to listen and read all of these comments and messages with an open heart to put yourself in the shoes of the most vulnerable communities. It's enough to be unhoused as it is let alone during a pandemic but there have been numerous actions taken against the unhoused community that barely give them a chance to survive by any means. And unfortunately, it is no coincidence that a majority of the unhoused population is made of the most racially discriminated communities. They were never given the support they needed that got most of them in the situations they are in and they certainly aren't given the support now. On October 21 2020, LA City Councilmembers Blumenfield, Buscaino, Rodriguez, Krekorian, Price, Cedillo, and Lee presented a motion (Council File 20-1376) to drastically expand the criminalization and banishment of unhoused Angelenos across the city by amending LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11. This motion does not provide any new housing resources, wrap-around services for those experiencing homelessness, or any solutions to decrease the unhoused population in LA. Instead of focusing on actual, proven solutions to a crisis that continues to grow during this pandemic, City Council members have decided to once again spend time and city resources on another attempt to expand harmful criminalization policies that have only proven to fail and exacerbate homelessness. I demand that City Council and the Mayor's office instead invest their time and legislative power into programs that actually help us move forward in providing a healthy and safe living environment for our unhoused communities while they are on the streets, and take concrete action steps in providing transitional/permanent housing opportunities that meet a higher standard of living than current shelter and ABH facilities offer, and furthermore to oppose the motion to instruct the city attorney to draft amendments to LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11. Decriminalize poverty- Repeal all laws that criminalize homelessness including 41.18 Provide Housekeys not handcuffs-Focus on providing permanent housing for Angelenos. Focus efforts on providing hotel rooms, motel

rooms, and permanent housing to ALL unhoused Angelenos (not just those in specific areas that are visible to the general public)

End CARE+ Sweeps- Work with health care officials to find out residents' needs without threatening displacement. End Special Enforcement and Cleaning Zones (SECZ) permanently Respect CDC guidelines and work with health department officials to ensure that basic sanitation needs are met without the threat of displacement

Halt all CARE+ “comprehensive cleanup” operations

Remove law enforcement from outreach

Repeal LAMC 41.18, LAMC 56.11, and all ordinances used to criminalize unhoused residents. Additionally- I've spoken directly to those trying to even seek assistance through project room key. While this is a good start to help with the unhoused population-15,000 empty hotel rooms is not enough to house the near 70,000 and rising unhoused Angelenos. Even the 15,000 aren't being fully utilized as the acceptance process takes a while and the system leaves little autonomy for the residents. The hotels could be seized through the utilization of eminent domain. Also, if the money is utilized for street sweeps went towards aid and more housing there would be no need for sweeps or cruel tactics.

Safety shelters need to be opened especially during heatwaves, fires and extreme weather conditions. There need to be basic resources such as face masks, tents, sleeping bags, wellness kits and water distributed. When people are in need we must take care of them if we are in the position to do so. That is why I am writing today. Your opinion and action matters. It's a deciding factor for a large majority of lives and it is extremely urgent as so many lives are on the line. My Uncle was unhoused and passed away this past couple of years and my heart breaks to think of so many that are in grave situations and conditions. We need to help not hurt.

Services NOT sweeps. The unhoused need options, not banishment will result in devastating results. We are all human beings and should be treated equally but the unhoused are being cast aside as if they don't exist and without basic human decency. Please stay safe and well. And please truly look after those who are not in the position to do so for themselves without our help. Listen with your heart and protect your Angelenos as you would your own family members and loved ones. There is much work to be done. These are the first steps but if we start working at it then REAL positive and lasting change can be made and funds can be much better utilized towards programs. Thank you for your time.