

Communication from Public

Name: Robert G.
Date Submitted: 11/22/2020 08:24 PM
Council File No: 20-1376
Comments for Public Posting: I support the ordinance banning sitting, sleeping as stated The situation has gotten way out of hand and there needs to be stricter guidelines Thank you

Communication from Public

Name: Kathleen Schwartz

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 07:19 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Homelessness is not a crime. I volunteer at NOHO Home Alliance on Wednesdays, washing dishes and supporting the services offered by this community based organization. The solution to homelessness is not enforcement. The solution to homelessness is providing housing and services. Please do not make the lives of our unhoused neighbors more difficult, particularly during this horrible pandemic. I ask the LA City Council to oppose the legislation to rewrite sections 41.18 and 56.11.

Communication from Public

Name: SL McCoy

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 08:22 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Homelessness is a critical issue for the Los Angeles area and compassion needs to be included in any corrective measures. That compassion must include the residents who use the sidewalks, streets and other public ways, too. As such, I support the effort to NOT allow people or possessions to encroach on these areas. It is not safe or compassionate for either the homeless individual or the tax-paying homeowners.

Communication from Public

Name: Craig Ribeiro

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 08:25 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear city council members, Please vote in favor of counsel file # 20-1376 This motion is very important because it will help Los Angeles maintain helping the homeless the residence homeowners clean and maintain a healthy community and neighborhood while still staying within the parameters of the Boise Idaho decision. This motion address is the theory of Americans with disability act violations!!!! Which is everywhere It addresses the promised made and the promises broken by the city for residents who live near bridge housing shelters which is been a disaster and not to be taken lightly ,,,,,. And it also addresses LAMC Sec 41. 18. I am myself and our neighborhood residences neighbors everybody thank you for this reasonable and well thought out motion to help Los Angeles my team a balance between the homeless and helping the residents and homeowners keep and maintain a clean community and a healthy community Sincerely Craig Ribeiro

Communication from Public

Name: Travis Binen

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 08:47 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 and while still staying within the parameters of the Boise Idaho decision. 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,

_____ Venice Resident /Stakeholder

Communication from Public

Name: Dr. Va Lecia Adams Kellum

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 09:08 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am Dr. Va Lecia Adams Kellum, the President & CEO of St. Joseph Center. I write today in strong opposition to Item #24. It is a violation of people's human rights and dignity to deny them access to public spaces and ban them from large sections of the City based on their housing status. Such a move would be antithetical to the values of most Angelenos. The people of LA have shown through their overwhelming approval of Measure HHH in the City and Measure H in the County that they want to see genuine solutions to homelessness, not harsh enforcement policies that push people from one public space to another, thereby creating barriers to them moving off the street permanently. By working together, we can bring hope to those most in need on our streets. We know that the only real solution to homelessness is housing. If we are to begin addressing homelessness substantively, it is imperative that the Council engage in honest discussions around housing and shelter availability, public health – especially mitigating the spread of COVID-19 – and engagement by non-law enforcement personnel with people experiencing homelessness. This motion and draft ordinance – and the reckless speed with which it is being pushed through council – undermines these vital discussions that our City desperately needs to have. Consideration of this proposal is especially ill-timed as our region experiences its largest increases in COVID-19 infection rates since the pandemic's onset. As service providers like St. Joseph Center work across the City to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal threatens our efforts by prioritizing limited housing and financial resources based on where a person experiencing homelessness happens to live rather than on their medical vulnerability. The Departments of Public Health and Health Services have consistently recommended that everyone shelter in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among people experiencing homelessness. The proposal you have chosen to consider would cause massive upheaval in a population that has widespread underlying medical conditions and thus is acutely vulnerable to COVID-19's worst effects. I urge the council in the strongest terms to reject this motion. Please turn your energy and focus to solutions on how we can come together to develop more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every

neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Min Kim

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 09:09 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Min Kim and I am writing on behalf of myself as a concerned citizen and The Center in Hollywood. I am in strong opposition to Item #24. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness - it actually makes it harder for an unhoused neighbor to come inside. Additionally, all people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. If we are going to address unsheltered homelessness in any real way, the Council should engage in real discussion on housing and shelter availability, public health and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and non-law enforcement engagement with people experiencing homelessness. This motion and draft ordinance - and the reckless speed with which it is being pushed through council - undermines that discussion and possibility. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with these 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 is especially true now as we are seeing the highest increases in the rates of cases since the pandemic began. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Jonathan Pacheco Bell

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 09:31 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Jonathan Pacheco Bell. I am writing on behalf of the Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust. We strongly oppose Item #24. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness -- it actually makes it harder for an unhoused neighbor to come inside out of the elements. Additionally, all people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. If we are going to address unsheltered homelessness in any meaningful way, the Council should engage in real and substantive discussion on housing and shelter availability, public health and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and non-law enforcement engagement with people experiencing homelessness. This motion and draft ordinance -- and the reckless speed with which it is being pushed through council -- undermines that discussion and possibility. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with these 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 to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among the homeless population. This is especially true now as we are seeing the highest increases in the rates of cases since the pandemic began. I urge the Council to vote no on this motion and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors. Do the right thing.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 09:55 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: his 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.

Communication from Public

Name: Yeshi Lemma

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 10:13 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Yeshi Lemma and I am a resident of Los Angeles in Council District 10. I am in strong opposition to Item #24. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness - it actually makes it harder for an unhoused neighbor to come inside. Additionally, all people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. If we are going to address unsheltered homelessness in any real way, the Council should engage in real discussion on housing and shelter availability, public health and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and non-law enforcement engagement with people experiencing homelessness. This motion and draft ordinance - and the reckless speed with which it is being pushed through council - undermines that discussion and possibility. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with these 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 is especially true now as we are seeing the highest increases in the rates of cases since the pandemic began. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Sarah Jacobus

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 10:17 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: 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.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 10:29 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

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 10:33 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. On October 26th, the City Attorney released a draft ordinance based on this motion, which, if passed, would amend LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11 to allow the city to ban: Sitting, sleeping or lying down within 500 feet of freeways, ramps, and tunnels Sitting, sleeping or lying down within 500 feet of any facility opened after January 2018 that provides housing, shelter, services, safe parking, or storage to unhoused people Storing property in the areas listed above Additionally, it would ban sitting, sleeping, or lying down in ANY PUBLIC SPACE IN THE CITY if “an offer of shelter is provided before enforcement occurs.” 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 these actual, proven solutions, City Council members are attempting to expand harmful criminalization policies which have only proven to fail and exacerbate homelessness. In his statement to LA Times regarding this motion, Councilmember Bob Blumenfield revealed the true motivation behind it: to “create visible progress” for some housed constituents by forcibly displacing encampments from one location to another, and establish ‘enforcement zones’ to prevent unhoused Angelenos from returning to these locations. It is especially cruel to present this motion during an ongoing pandemic, when mass evictions are expected as the Winter season approaches. Where will people shelter from the rain when there aren’t enough housing resources available and the city bans people from resting beneath underpasses? With the death toll for unhoused Angelenos already over 1,000 in 2020, this motion would contribute to another record increase in deaths and an increase in harmful police encounters with the unhoused community. In both cases, unhoused Black Angelenos are disproportionately impacted. The Services Not Sweeps coalition rejects this motion and demands 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. We demand that the city take the following actions immediately: 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 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.

Communication from Public

Name: Judith Esposito

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 10:44 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. 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,
Judy Esposito Pamela Harbour Frank Defurio Venice Residents

Communication from Public

Name: Zach Schlagel

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 10:58 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Zach Schlagel and I am writing on behalf of PATH (People Assisting The Homeless). We are a part of a coalition of over 75 regional housing and homeless service providers who remain in strong opposition to Item #24. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness - it actually makes it harder for an unhoused neighbor to come inside. Additionally, all people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. If we are going to address unsheltered homelessness in any real way, the Council should engage in real discussion on housing and shelter availability, public health and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and non-law enforcement engagement with people experiencing homelessness. This motion and draft ordinance - and the reckless speed with which it is being pushed through council - undermines that discussion and possibility. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with these 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 is especially true now as we are seeing the highest increases in the rates of cases since the pandemic began. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors. PATH stands ready to have these proactive and productive conversations with the Councilmembers. Thank you for your time

Communication from Public

Name: Rachel

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 11:21 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: The homeless issue in Sunland/Tujunga is bad and throughout the city. These are service-resistant homeless on drugs and/or have mental illness. They cannot be allowed to refuse services AND remain living on the sidewalk. I argue if they are on drugs and/or have mental illness then they do not have the capacity to know what is good for them. The City should remove them and put them in a proper in-facility settings for mental health / drug addiction. Have you seen the documentary SEATTLE IS DYING? The end segment on how Rhode Island handled their homeless / drug issue should be studied. There have been plenty of Facebook and Nextdoor postings of residents taking their kids to Baskin Robbins and getting accosted by drugged out homeless. In one incident, a homeless guy was sitting right in front of the door shooting up. There is trash and needles on the sidewalk and in the park across the street. They are also in the Tujunga Wash and Hansen Dam, where there are frequent fires. They come out of the Wash and into our neighborhoods to break into cars and houses. A neighbor two streets over confronted one trying to break into a car and he admitted he came from the Wash to steal. This is a citywide problem in every district. Have you seen Pico / Sepulveda by the 405 or Echo Park near 101? The list goes on and on. I'm so tired of the City allowing this population of homeless to refuse services but continue to trash our city. For those posting on this Council File Number stating opposition and saying it doesn't address how to help the homeless, you are wrong. This is much needed in saving our communities. There are plenty of other Council File Numbers such as 20-0841, 20-0841-S3 addressing how to help the homeless. There were thousands of hotel rooms left vacant in Project Room Key, again because homeless refused the services and 56.11 allowed them to remain on the sidewalks etc. Striking the below clause only FURTHER allows homeless to refuse services AND still trash our sidewalks etc. What are you thinking?! Stop allowing these people to remain on the street!

AMENDING MOTION (BLUMENFIELD - CEDILLO)
Recommendation for Council action: STRIKE the following language from the draft ordinance for LAMC Section 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. Don't create barriers to getting people

off the streets. Let them keep their pets and belongings. DO prevent them from camping next door to liquor stores / grocery stores etc. Have a brain and stop enabling them! I implore the City Council to fight the lawsuits and stop settling and giving ini.e. the \$1M ACLU settlement for throwing out the man's backpack. Penalties ok but a \$1M dollars? Where did that \$1M go? Does the man now own a home? Certainly, not to help the homeless but instead in ACLU's pocket. Fight back against the ACLU etc. for frivolous inflated lawsuits. If they really cared they wouldn't fight so hard to leave these people on the street. Make it illegal for any person who has been offered shelter to sit, lie or sleep in or upon any street, sidewalk, or other public right-of-way, or publicly owned property.

I hope nobody makes the same mistake I did. I wanted to take my kids for ice cream at Baskin Robbins and these people are doing drugs right next to the door!!!!



Communication from Public

Name: Adam Hersko-RonaTas

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 11:35 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear City Council, On Oct 21 2020, LA City Councilmembers Blumenfield, Buscaino, Rodriguez, Krekorian, Price, Cedillo, and Lee put forth a motion (Council File 20-1376) to expand the criminalization and banishment of unhoused Angelenos across the city by amending LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11. This is currently scheduled for a full Council vote on Nov. 24th. 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. City Council members have decided to once again expand criminalization policies which have only proven to fail and exacerbate homelessness. This motion is short-sighted when the long-lasting solutions lie in improved service delivery and investment in affordable/supportive housing. I ask that City Council and the Mayor's office take concrete steps toward providing transitional/permanent housing opportunities that meet a higher standard of living than current shelter and ABH facilities offer, rather than simply shuffle around the unhoused citizens of LA. Sincerely, Adam Hersko-RonaTas

Communication from Public

Name: Sean Obrien

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 11:42 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: 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. 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. Cbalance 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 support this motion because it addresses The Americans with Disabilities Act, which has been dismissed for too long by the city of Los Angeles. The disabled and wheelchair bound are forced onto the streets endangering their lives with cars whizzing by them at 40+ mph because the sidewalks are blocked. The disabled through the ADA are guaranteed equal access to and equal opportunity in public Accommodations. 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 clearance. 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.

Communication from Public

Name: Trevor Byrne
Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 11:43 AM
Council File No: 20-1376
Comments for Public Posting: I strongly oppose motion CF 20-1376.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 12:30 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I oppose CF 20-1376. 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 these actual, proven solutions, City Council members are attempting to expand harmful criminalization policies which have only proven to fail and exacerbate homelessness. Please treat our unhoused neighbors with compassion and empathy. We need to provide hotel rooms, motel rooms, and permanent housing to ALL unhoused Angelenos. We need to END Special Enforcement and Cleaning Zones (SECZ) permanently. We must respect CDC guidelines and work with health department officials to ensure that basic sanitation needs are met without the threat of displacement. Please halt all CARE+ “comprehensive cleanup” operations, remove law enforcement from outreach, and finally, repeal LAMC 41.18, LAMC 56.11, and all ordinances used to criminalize unhoused residents.

Communication from Public

Name: jess doss

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 12:41 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: 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.

Communication from Public

Name: Danielle Roman
Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 01:39 PM
Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Danielle Roman and I am writing on behalf of The People Concern. We are in strong opposition to Item #24. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness - it actually makes it harder for an unhoused neighbor to come inside. Additionally, all people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. If we are going to address unsheltered homelessness in any real way, the Council should engage in real discussions on housing and shelter availability, public health and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and non-law enforcement engagement with people experiencing homelessness. This motion and draft ordinance - and the reckless speed with which it is being pushed through council - undermines that discussion and possibility. As our outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with these 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 is especially true now as we are seeing the highest increases in the rates of cases since the pandemic began. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 01:40 PM

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. 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,
Venice Resident /Stakeholder

Communication from Public

Name: FRANK DEFURIO

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 01:44 PM

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 Frank Defurio
Venice Resident/ Stakeholder

Communication from Public

Name: Becky Dennison

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 03:14 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Councilmembers, Venice Community Housing again urges you to fully decriminalize homelessness in Los Angeles, and move in the opposite direction of the motion and draft ordinance that drive your discussion on November 24, which call for changes to LAMC 41.18d and 56.11 that would make even more daily life sustaining actions by unhoused residents illegal. We agree with the majority of Councilmembers who spoke at last month's hearing on this item, calling for housing solutions and pointing out the legal problems the City has faced over and over again for pursuing an enforcement model when housing and other basic resources are so limited in comparison to the need. The draft ordinance was unjust and likely illegal. The subsequent memo from the City Attorney continues down a path of being able to criminalize, offering minor amendments to the same flawed approach. We hope your further discussion will stop any efforts to further criminalize unhoused people, and move this Council in the direction of major structural changes in policing that go well beyond the obvious need to stop using LAPD as a frontline response to homelessness. The City needs to focus on housing and health-related solutions, at the scale needed to actually address the crisis, and stop advancing ideas that criminalize, demonize and traumatize the folks forced to live on LA's streets and sidewalks.
Becky Dennison Venice Community Housing

Communication from Public

Name: Nitzan Barlev

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 03:15 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Hi I'm Nitzan, an Encino resident and representative of the Valley Beth Shalom Homelessness Task Force. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness - it actually makes it harder for an unhoused neighbor to come inside. Additionally, all people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. If we are going to address unsheltered homelessness in any real way, the Council should engage in real discussion on housing and shelter availability, public health and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and non-law enforcement engagement with people experiencing homelessness. This motion and draft ordinance - and the reckless speed with which it is being pushed through council - undermines that discussion and possibility. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with these 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 is especially true now as we are seeing the highest increases in the rates of cases since the pandemic began. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Jessica Meaney

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 03:16 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Jessica Meaney and I am writing on behalf of Investing in Place. We are in strong opposition to Item #24. All people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. In addition to these many awful aspects of the ordinance, the rationale given for the ordinance (why we “must” enact draconian laws prohibiting sitting or lying in the public right-of-way) is that the City has a duty to provide accessible sidewalks. The City currently does not hold itself to the standards for ensuring access that it is purporting to hold those who are homeless to. Investing in Place is a group focused on transportation access and safety, and specifically focused on people walking and taking transit, this justification that the City Council is fighting for accessibility rings false. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Diana Cruz

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 03:25 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Diana Cruz and I am writing on behalf of Housing Equality & Advocacy Resource Team (HEART LA). We are in strong opposition to Item #24. This item does nothing to end homelessness. Rather, it pushes people from one public space to another and makes it harder for an unhoused neighbor to be indoors. All people regardless of income status have an equal right to access public spaces. No one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. If we are going to address unsheltered homelessness in any meaningful way, the Council should redirect its efforts to address housing and shelter availability, public health/ mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and non-law enforcement engagement with people experiencing homelessness. This motion and draft ordinance undermines practical and humane solutions to ending homelessness. We are currently seeing the highest increases in the rates of cases since the pandemic began. Outreach workers and homeless service providers are working tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing. This proposal conflicts with these efforts and jeopardizes the health and safety of those most in need of being sheltered. The Departments of Public Health and Health Services has recommended that everyone shelter in place in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19. This proposal greatly interferes with the ability of those that are unhoused to maintain any type of shelter. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can safely be indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Terra Ashe

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 03:27 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I know that you will no longer be voting on 41.18 and 56.11 tomorrow, however I would still like to comment on these to ensure that either a vote never occurs or when it does there will be a resounding no from all council members. These two municipal codes are despicable and cruel. All they do is criminalize homelessness, a massive issue in Los Angeles that has only increased during this pandemic. We do not nearly have enough shelter spots for all of our unhoused neighbors, they have to go somewhere, they have to sleep and live and survive somewhere, they must be allowed to hold onto their shelter that they manage to get for themselves, to be able to find shelter under freeways to have the right to live and exist. That is what you are trying to criminalize- the right to exist. Both of these ordinances are shameful and it is frankly an embarrassment that in order for you all to look at these and pause before taking a vote took mobilization of grassroots organizations who often do the job you are suppose to do. These should never have even been created or taken seriously, they would be laughable if they weren't cruel. If these ever do come to a vote, remember that you have a duty to your most vulnerable constituents, vote no.

Communication from Public

Name: Tyler DeLong

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 03:30 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, My name is Tyler DeLong - I use he/him/his pronouns. I am writing on behalf of myself and the work I do which directly involves individuals experiencing homelessness. Thank you for taking the time and emotional energy to review my comment in opposition to Item #24. The proposed change to 41.18 & 56.11 is not only dehumanizing but also seeks to underpin the real need to focus on solutions. We should be investing our time, energy, and financial resources on alternatives to the draconian policies these changes implement, NOT criminalization and the enforcement thereafter of unhoused Angelenos. Thanks, Tyler

Communication from Public

Name: Francesca de la Rosa
Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 03:30 PM
Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing on behalf of Women Organizing Resources, Knowledge and Services (WORKS), a nonprofit community development corporation whose mission and core values is based upon delivering quality affordable housing and services. We need solutions and proposals that will increase immediate and permanent housing options throughout Los Angeles. Housing ends homelessness. Criminalization does not. With over 41,000 unhoused persons in our city there is not enough housing and shelter for persons experiencing homelessness. This motion and draft ordinance do not further discussions on housing and shelter availability, and only continue the pursuits of targeting and criminalizing our houseless and poor neighbors. Deliberating and forcibly moving people from one public space to another does not end homelessness. It will make will make it harder, not easier, to secure housing for people. Further preventing the spread of COVID-19 and saving lives requires real solutions and a plan for bringing people safely indoors. This motion and draft ordinance does neither. The urgency we need should not begin with more discussions with enforcement. Urgency from Council must be laser focused on housing, services and non-law enforcement engagement with people experiencing homelessness and poverty. We urge the Council to reject this motion and draft ordinance.

Communication from Public

Name: Wendy Wang

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 03:31 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear City Councilmembers: My name is Wendy Wang and I am writing on behalf of Hathaway-Sycamore, a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting young adults who are experiencing homelessness. Thank you for allowing us to share our perspective on Agenda Item #24. Pushing people from one public space or street to another does nothing to end homelessness; instead, it merely criminalizes it. Individuals have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. In order to advance transformational change to address unsheltered homelessness, we hope that the City Council will proceed with thoughtful deliberations on housing and shelter availability, sufficient supportive services that aligns with housing and shelter, mitigating the spread of COVID-19 (especially as the numbers have risen in the last week) and supporting non-law enforcement engagement models with people experiencing homelessness. We do not believe that there should be any haste or rush to adopt any Citywide Ordinance before the full impacts of this action are weighed and considered. As LA works tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal seems to conflict with these on-going efforts. The guidance and approach issued by the Departments of Public Health and Health Services is for everyone to shelter in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among the homeless population. This is becoming more urgent as COVID-19 cases continue to rise and more COVID-19 individuals are hospitalized. Therefore, we strongly recommend that City Council abandon its push for a citywide ordinance. Alternatively, City Council should dedicate its time to identifying additional strategies so that more individuals can have immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors. Thank you for considering our comments.

Communication from Public

Name: Christopher Nikhil Bowen

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 03:40 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Christopher Nikhil Bowen and I am writing on behalf of the Southern California Association of Nonprofit Housing (SCANPH) and in my capacity as the LA regional convener for the Residents United Network in Los Angeles. We are in strong opposition to Item #24. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness - it actually makes it harder for an unhoused neighbor to come inside. Additionally, all people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. If we are going to address unsheltered homelessness in any real way, the Council should engage in real discussion on housing and shelter availability, public health and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and non-law enforcement engagement with people experiencing homelessness. This motion and draft ordinance - and the reckless speed with which it is being pushed through council - undermines that discussion and possibility. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with these 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 is especially true now as we are seeing the highest increases in the rates of cases since the pandemic began. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Zella Knight

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 03:58 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Zella Knight and I am writing on behalf of Resident United Network Los Angeles. WE ARE In Strong Opposition to Item #24. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness - it actually makes it harder for an unhoused neighbor to come inside. Additionally, all people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. If we are going to address unsheltered homelessness in any real way, the Council should engage in real discussion on housing and shelter availability, public health and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and non-law enforcement engagement with people experiencing homelessness. This motion and draft ordinance - and the reckless speed with which it is being pushed through council - undermines that discussion and possibility. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with these 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 is especially true now as we are seeing the highest increases in the rates of cases since the pandemic began. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Chad Monk

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 04:05 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am strongly opposed to criminalizing our unhoused neighbors and the proposed changes to LAMC 41.18 and 56.11. The proposed changes are not solutions to our housing crisis and will ultimately cause more damage to individuals and our communities. I strongly encourage City Council to fund services that address housing and homelessness issues instead of penalizing those who are struggling on the streets.

Communication from Public

Name: Kathleen Crowley

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 04:08 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Kathleen Crowley. I am in strong opposition to Item #24. We need real, honest, in-depth discussion surrounding housing, shelter availability, public health and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, as well as non-law enforcement engagement with our community members who are experiencing homelessness. This motion and draft ordinance serves to undermine this necessary discussion and the potential of improved outcomes which are possible without recklessly forging ahead in this manner. I urge the council to vote no on this motion.

Communication from Public

Name: Procovery Institute

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 04:12 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Kathleen Crowley and I am writing on behalf of Procovery Institute. We are in strong opposition to Item #24. Arbitrarily forcing our unhoused and unsheltered community members from one public space into another does not end homelessness - it makes it harder for an unhoused neighbor to come inside. This is the exact type of harmful action that keeps us - collectively - from successfully addressing homelessness. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work day and night to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with these efforts and, at a base level, depends on the misuse of limited housing and financial resources, while simultaneously 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 is especially true now as we are seeing the highest increases in the rates of cases since the start of the pandemic. We urge the council to vote no on this motion. We urge the council to focus these necessary conversations and solutions on how we can create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources - in every neighborhood - so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Lisa Abdishoo

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 04:13 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Lisa Abdishoo and I am writing on behalf of Los Angeles Christian Health Centers (LACHC). I am in strong opposition to Item #24. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness - it actually makes it harder for an unhoused neighbor to come inside. Additionally, all people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. If we are going to address unsheltered homelessness in any real way, the Council should engage in real discussion on housing and shelter availability, public health and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and non-law enforcement engagement with people experiencing homelessness. This motion and draft ordinance - and the reckless speed with which it is being pushed through council - undermines that discussion and possibility. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with these 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 is especially true now as we are seeing the highest increases in the rates of cases since the pandemic began. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Communication from Public

Name: Chad Monk

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 04:20 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Chad Monk and I am writing on behalf of National Health Foundation (NHF). We are in strong opposition to Item #24. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness - it actually makes it harder for an unhoused neighbor to come inside. Additionally, all people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. If we are going to address unsheltered homelessness in any real way, the Council should engage in real discussion on housing and shelter availability, public health and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and non-law enforcement engagement with people experiencing homelessness. This motion and draft ordinance - and the reckless speed with which it is being pushed through council - undermines that discussion and possibility. As outreach workers and homeless service providers, like many at NHF, work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with these 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 is especially true now as we are seeing the highest increases in the rates of cases since the pandemic began. We urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors

Communication from Public

Name: Carmen Gonzalez

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 04:20 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing in strong opposition to Item #24. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness; it actually makes it harder for my unhoused neighbors to come inside. Additionally, all people have an equal right to access public spaces, and no one should arbitrarily be banned from large sections of the city. If we are going to address unsheltered homelessness in any real way, the council should engage in discussions on housing and shelter availability, public health, mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and how to engage with people experiencing homelessness beyond the use of law enforcement. This motion and draft ordinance undermines that discussion and possibility. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with those efforts and depends on a currently nonexistent housing supply while misusing our financial resources, and jeopardizing the health and safety of those most in need of being inside. The guidance 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 is especially true now as we are seeing the highest increase in the rates of cases since the pandemic began. I urge the council to vote NO on this motion and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Catherine

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 04:21 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I can't believe I'm having to respond to this, particularly during a pandemic but I am writing in strong opposition to Item #24. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness; it actually makes it harder for my unhoused neighbors to come inside. Additionally, all people have an equal right to access public spaces, and no one should arbitrarily be banned from large sections of the city. If we are going to address unsheltered homelessness in any real way, the council should engage in discussions on housing and shelter availability, public health and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and how to engage with people experiencing homelessness beyond the use of law enforcement. This motion and draft ordinance—and the reckless speed with which it is being pushed through council—undermines that discussion and possibility. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with those efforts and depends on a currently nonexistent housing supply while misusing our financial resources, and jeopardizing the health and safety of those most in need of being inside. The guidance 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 is especially true now as we are seeing the highest increase in the rates of cases since the pandemic began. I urge the council to vote NO on this monstrous motion and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Joe Lisanti

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 04:22 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: 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 during these trying times. Sincerely, Joe Lisanti
Venice Resident/ Stakeholder

Communication from Public

Name: John Tapia

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 04:32 PM

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: Lauren Natoli

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 04:56 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am Lauren Natoli with AIDS Healthcare Foundation. We at AHF would like the City Council to focus on positive solutions to homelessness including, Housing First, building pre-fab modular housing, adaptive re-use, motel conversions, harm reduction to prevent service resistance, master leasing and social housing. These are far better alternatives and less costly than criminalization. Lack of adequate shelter can cause harm to health. Homelessness is often closely connected with the decline of physical and mental health. Health problems among individuals experiencing homelessness occur from barriers to care, lack of nutrition, insufficient sleep, and limited resources and services. If we do not allow people to sit or rest on public property, that decline of physical and mental health occurs much faster.

Communication from Public

Name: rachel

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 04:56 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Hi - my name is Rachel Sutton. This is 100% wrong and I deeply oppose the criminalization of homelessness as a daughter of a formerly homeless father in Los Angeles. I have no idea who my dad would be or where my dad would be now if judicial system didn't weigh in on my father's homeless situation which was dependent on his mental illness and lack of treatment. I hope you then realize that you are criminalizing people having mental illness - something they cannot help being born with. And families that are sleeping on the streets because of Covid ruining their lives - something they also cannot help having happened to them. Please take a step back and realize the root of the issue and that the solution is additional housing and mental health resources. My family is fortunate enough to have gotten my dad off the streets and into a home, but many don't have that luxury.

Communication from Public

Name: Sophia Rice

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 05:01 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

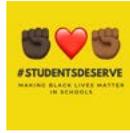
Comments for Public Posting: I strongly urge the council to vote against CF 20-1376 which would effectively criminalize homelessness without providing any housing alternatives. We are in the middle of both a housing/homelessness crisis AND an unprecedented deadly pandemic. It would be unconscionable to pass the motion right now. We are also in the midst of a reckoning on the effects of violent overpolicing in this country and this motion runs completely counter to that.

Communication from Public

Name: Tommy Newman
Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 05:04 PM
Council File No: 20-1376
Comments for Public Posting: Please find our comment attached. Thank you. Sincerely, Tommy Newman, United Way of Greater Los Angeles



LA FAMILY HOUSING



November 11, 2020

We Need Solutions, Not Criminalization

Broad Coalition Calls for the City of LA to Focus Efforts on Immediate, Affordable, and Appropriate Housing for Every Person, in Every Neighborhood, and NOT Enforcement.

We, Organizations Across the City of LA Who are Deeply Committed to Ending Homelessness, write to say:

With 73% of our unhoused population on the streets, over 41,000 in the City of LA, no neighborhood has added enough shelter and housing for Angelenos experiencing homelessness. We must focus all of our effort on increasing access to immediate and permanent housing options, instead of criminalizing unhoused Angelenos that have no viable alternative to sleeping on our city's sidewalks. A thorough and deliberate process with service providers, health agencies, and people experiencing homelessness is critical and should be conducted before any policy changes that even consider sweeps of encampments, increases of policing, citations, or other forms of enforcement. We know there is a better way forward, and we are ready to be a partner in developing solutions to our region's homelessness and housing crises.

All people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. The best available research shows punitive approaches are expensive, ineffective, and counter-productive. They move people experiencing homelessness around without creating or taking advantage of permanent solutions. Approaches like this are tied to racist systems of oppression that undervalue the civil rights of those experiencing homelessness, who are disproportionately Black and deserve the same access to public services as housed residents. Proposals that seek to move homelessness out of sight, without solving it, erode collective trust and frustrate the effectiveness of those working fervently on complex permanent solutions.

Outreach workers and homeless services providers are currently trying to move thousands of older and very vulnerable people into permanent housing in response to the deadly threat of COVID-19, which continues to spread across LA County. This includes people in Project RoomKey and unsheltered residents living on our streets. We need solutions that are not in conflict with that effort, are not dependent on misusing limited housing and financial resources, and don't jeopardize the health and safety of the people who need more than ever to be inside.

We need solutions and proposals that align with the guidance of the Departments of Public Health and Health Services for everyone to shelter in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19. When COVID-19 began spreading through the homeless community, over 50% of infections occurred in congregate shelters where overcrowding and lack of adequate hygiene infrastructure contributed to an unsafe environment for residents and staff. Sheltering in place has prevented wide scale spread of COVID-19 amongst the unsheltered homeless population. As congregate sites continue to work with reduced bed capacity to prevent the spread of COVID-19 inside interim housing, the ability to shelter in place is increasingly critical to the health and safety of unhoused Angelenos. With the coldest and rainiest days approaching - and winter shelters already full because they never closed - it would be especially cruel to make it illegal for someone without a home to follow public health guidance and take shelter from the rain underneath a freeway.

We know that pushing people from one public space to another doesn't make it any more likely that the person will secure permanent housing. We should be fighting poverty, not poor people. We urge the council to focus on increasing access to immediate housing in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Sincerely,

United Way of Greater Los Angeles	HOPICS	Residents United Network
A Community of Friends	Housing Works	SAJE
Abundant Housing LA	IDEPSCA	SCANPH
ACLU of Southern California	Imagine LA	SEE
ACT LA	Inclusive Action for the City	Seeds for Youth Development
Bellerose Coaching	Inner City Law Center	SELAH
Bend the Arc	Interfaith Solidarity Network	SoCal350
Brilliant Corners	John and Marilyn Wells Foundation	SPY
Burbank Tenants' Rights Committee	Jovenes	St. Joseph Center
California YIMBY	Justice LA	Stories From the Frontline
Chosen Generation Fellowship Church	LA Defensa	Students Deserve
CLUE	LA Family Housing	The Center
Community Corporation of Santa Monica	LA Forward	The Future Left
CSH	LA-Más	The Good Seed
Deep Green Housing & Community Development	LACAN	The People Concern
Dignity & Power Now	Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust	The Whole Child
Downtown Women's Center	Little Tokyo Service Center	Toberman Neighborhood Center
Esperanza Community Housing	Maternal and Child Health Access	TradeShowTemps
Ground Game LA	National Asian Pacific American Families Against Substance Abuse	Union Station Homeless Services
Hathaway Sycamores	National Health Foundation	United Parents and Students
Haven Neighborhood Services	NoHo Home Alliance	Valley Beth Shalom
Heart LA	PATH	Venice Community Housing
Helping Hands Community Resource Center	Procovery Institute	West Valley Homes YES
Homeless Health Care LA	Public Counsel	West Valley People's Alliance
	Registerhood LA	Westside Coalition
		WORKS
		WP4BL

Communication from Public

Name: Chris Warren

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 05:06 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I urge you to reconsider amending section 41.18 of the municipal code. Criminalizing people without homes who have no where else to go is a heartless act, especially during a pandemic, and will not help Our city achieve positive change in fighting the homelessness crisis. Please consider more constructive ways of providing resources to this vulnerable population so the entire city can benefit.

Communication from Public

Name: Ash Kramer

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 05:15 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: The Greater Cypress Park Neighborhood Council requests that a correction be made to our Community Impact Statement. We unanimously voted to oppose the motion as written and support the substitute motion by Ryu and Bonin (D). Our position should be changed to oppose unless amended. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Armen Makasjian
Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 05:19 PM
Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am a resident on North Berendo St. located north of Hollywood Blvd. There is a homeless encampment on the northeast corner of Hollywood Blvd. and Berendo St. in front of the vacant lot at 4773 Hollywood Blvd. The encampment is a nest for criminal activity which includes drugs, prostitution, a chop-shop for bikes, and now, a hangout for gang members. Although Officer Leopoldo Rey of LAPD Northeast has been very active in patrolling the encampment city leaders and neighborhood councils do not understand the seriousness of the situation. Neighbors, including myself, are in constant alert for fear of aggression against private property owners and residents. Over the past several months, I have experienced individuals defecating on my property and a break-in into my vehicle that was parked in my backyard. My neighbors have been heckled by individuals living at this encampment because LAHSA had one homeless person attend a neighborhood meeting. That person later spread the word that residents were complaining about the activities occurring at the encampment. Now there is fear of retaliatory action from these individuals. About one week ago, the street was tagged by White Fence and La Mirada Locos, rival gang members. These gang members hang out at the encampment. Private and public property along the street had their monikers. The encampment is stealing electricity from city lighting. Every week, new individuals come to reside at the encampment. It has become a transient site for criminal activity. I strongly urge that council members look into the criminal activity occurring in such encampments because those that are truly in need are being overrun by the thugs that are creating havoc in our neighborhoods. Berendo St is now a slum where trash from the encampment blows northward onto private property. The encampment has never been power-washed. Rats and vermin have invaded our neighborhood. Pacer Development, who owns 4773 Hollywood Blvd., has been negligent and did nothing to secure the lot. Gang members have tagged up the block walls, and homeless individuals defecate on the property. The situation on Berendo St. has escalated to the point where someone is either going to be killed or critically injured. My neighbors and I have been warning neighborhood councils and our council representative for several months now but no resolution has been taken. I strongly urge that

council members examine the criminal activity at the encampment as well as other encampments and ensure that everyone has access to the sidewalks. Residents no longer want to pass by that area because the sidewalk is completely blocked with filth and debris. Please do whatever is necessary to clear the sidewalks and house those who are in need so that the criminal activity would no longer continue. I have included some photographs of the gang monikers and the encampment.





Communication from Public

Name: Sarah Thomas

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 05:22 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am a constituent of CD13 and am in strong opposition to the motions and draft ordinance that would make changes to 41.18 and 56.11. As the council discusses these, I urge them to not vote on these items until they have found solutions that would house 100% of the people currently living on our streets. We cannot continue putting laws in place that move people around and do not give them basic rights when they have nowhere else to go. Time, energy and funding should go toward permanent solutions and not enforcement of people living on our streets.

Communication from Public

Name: Nate Awdykowyz

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 05:57 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: You folks have some audacity! Stop wasting your time and our tax money and get to work helping people who need it. Nobody chooses to live on the street; criminalizing people for being vagrants and beggars is deplorable. We have thousands of empty hotel rooms in the city and thousands of people living on the street. Connect the dots and help folks get housed or get the hell out of office.

Communication from Public

Name: Dylan Porter

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 06:02 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: 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.

Communication from Public

Name: Pini Herman

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 06:07 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Pini Herman and I am writing as a volunteer leader at Bend the Arc Jewish Action and I am in strong opposition to Item #24. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness - it actually makes it harder for an unhoused neighbor to come inside. Additionally, all people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. If we are going to address unsheltered homelessness in any real way, the Council should engage in real discussion on housing and shelter availability, public health and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and non-law enforcement engagement with people experiencing homelessness. This motion and draft ordinance - and the reckless speed with which it is being pushed through council - undermines that discussion and possibility. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with these 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 is especially true now as we are seeing the highest increases in the rates of cases since the pandemic began. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors. Sincerely, Pini Herman, PhD

Communication from Public

Name: Holly Seely

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 06:10 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing in strong opposition to Item #24. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness; it actually makes it harder for my unhoused neighbors to come inside. Additionally, all people have an equal right to access public spaces, and no one should arbitrarily be banned from large sections of the city. If we are going to address unsheltered homelessness in any real way, the council should engage in discussions on housing and shelter availability, public health and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and how to engage with people experiencing homelessness beyond the use of law enforcement. This motion and draft ordinance—and the reckless speed with which it is being pushed through council—undermines that discussion and possibility. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with those efforts and depends on a currently nonexistent housing supply while misusing our financial resources, and jeopardizing the health and safety of those most in need of being inside. The guidance 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 is especially true now as we are seeing the highest increase in the rates of cases since the pandemic began. I urge the council to vote NO on this motion and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Molly Ortiz

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 06:15 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: This motion as proposed does nothing to address the issues of those experiencing homelessness. 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. Instead of focusing on these actual, proven solutions, City Council members are attempting to expand harmful criminalization policies which have only proven to fail and exacerbate homelessness. In his statement to LA Times regarding this motion, Councilmember Bob Blumenfield revealed the true motivation behind it: to “create visible progress” for some housed constituents by forcibly displacing encampments from one location to another, and establish ‘enforcement zones’ to prevent unhoused Angelenos from returning to these locations. This is an unacceptable path forward. It is especially cruel to present this motion during an ongoing pandemic, when mass evictions are expected as the Winter season approaches. Where will people shelter from the rain when there aren’t enough housing resources available and the city bans people from resting beneath underpasses? With the death toll for unhoused Angelenos already over 1,000 in 2020, this motion would contribute to another record increase in deaths and an increase in harmful police encounters with the unhoused community. In both cases, unhoused Black Angelenos are disproportionately impacted. Instead, The Services Not Sweeps coalition proposes solutions that will instead invest time and legislative power into programs that actually help our community 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. The Services Not Sweeps coalition demands that the city take the following actions immediately: - 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 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.

Communication from Public

Name: L. M. B.

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 06:16 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing in strong opposition to Item #24. Your proposed amendment would ban people from public property during specific hours and essentially criminalizes existence for unhoused people in our community. Where else do they have to go? Tell me first that project roomkey has been a success (The LA Times said it was ended early after falling short of its goal). Tell me first that bridge housing can adequately meet the demand for beds. Tell me first that the Measure H money wasn't just wasted in bureaucratic whatevering. Tell me first that shelters have enough beds and welcome pets and are safe spaces for women and children etc. When voters said they wanted you to do something about the crisis of homelessness in our city, we didn't mean for you to make being homeless in public illegal. Below is a message from EveryoneIn LA. I didn't write it but I agree with their words and cosign them 100%. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness; it actually makes it harder for my unhoused neighbors to come inside. Additionally, all people have an equal right to access public spaces, and no one should arbitrarily be banned from large sections of the city. If we are going to address unsheltered homelessness in any real way, the council should engage in discussions on housing and shelter availability, public health and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and how to engage with people experiencing homelessness beyond the use of law enforcement. This motion and draft ordinance—and the reckless speed with which it is being pushed through council—undermines that discussion and possibility. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with those efforts and depends on a currently nonexistent housing supply while misusing our financial resources, and jeopardizing the health and safety of those most in need of being inside. The guidance 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 is especially true now as we are seeing the highest increase in the rates of cases since the pandemic began. I urge the council to vote NO on this motion and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we create more immediate access to housing and shelter

resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Danielle Carne

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 06:28 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Danielle Carne and I am writing on behalf of DSA-LA. We are in strong opposition to Item #24. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness - it actually makes it harder for an unhoused neighbor to come inside. Additionally, all people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. I've also been appalled at the way some members of the Council have been manufacturing community impact statements at various neighborhood councils of late. If we are going to address unsheltered homelessness in any real way, the Council should engage in real discussion on housing and shelter availability, public health and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and non-law enforcement engagement with people experiencing homelessness. This motion and draft ordinance - and the reckless speed with which it is being pushed through council - undermines that discussion and possibility. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with these 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 is especially true now as we are seeing the highest increases in the rates of cases since the pandemic began. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 07:54 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Non-military veterans, veterans, the disabled, elderly, unemployed and all experiencing homelessness AREN'T enemies of the state. Incarceration isn't the solution. When lawmakers become lawbreakers/lifetakers under the guise of public interest, this is a worsened problem.

Communication from Public

Name: Dianna Bellerose
Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 07:56 PM
Council File No: 20-1376
Comments for Public Posting: My name is Dianna Bellerose, and I am writing because I am in strong opposition to Item #24.

Communication from Public

Name: Adriana Lombard

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 08:02 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Regarding Item 24: I OPPOSE the changes to LAMC 41.18 that will only serve to further criminalize homelessness without providing solutions or pathways to housing. This is especially cruel as we approach winter—we should be prioritizing care, services, and housing for our neighbors living outside.

Communication from Public

Name: Elizabeth Chadwick
Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 08:08 PM
Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing in strong opposition to Item #24. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness; it actually makes it harder for my unhoused neighbors to come inside. Additionally, all people have an equal right to access public spaces, and no one should arbitrarily be banned from large sections of the city. If we are going to address unsheltered homelessness in any real way, the council should engage in discussions on housing and shelter availability, public health and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and how to engage with people experiencing homelessness beyond the use of law enforcement. This motion and draft ordinance—and the reckless speed with which it is being pushed through council—undermines that discussion and possibility. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with those efforts and depends on a currently nonexistent housing supply while misusing our financial resources, and jeopardizing the health and safety of those most in need of being inside. The guidance 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 is especially true now as we are seeing the highest increase in the rates of cases since the pandemic began. I urge the council to vote NO on this motion and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Homeowners of Encino
Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 08:18 PM
Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Council President Martinez, We have been losing the war against the homeless for the last several years. The permissive attitude of let them be and don't disturb, don't confiscate, and lack of insistence that homeless-mentally ill-drug addicted members get a free pass to do whatever they want must end. This laissez-faire attitude is the opposite of compassion, endangers them, and creates safety and health issues for us. It is reported that the homeless population being very capable spreaders of Covid 19, the homeless encampments are creating fertile conditions for infectious diseases, some of which have not been seen since the middle ages. Scientific American Magazine reported Infectious diseases—some that ravaged populations in the Middle Ages—are resurging in California and around the country, and are hitting homeless populations especially hard. Los Angeles recently experienced an outbreak of typhus—a disease spread by infected fleas on rats and other animals—in downtown streets. Hepatitis A, also spread primarily through feces, infected more than 1,000 people in Southern California in the past two years. Public health officials and politicians are using terms like “disaster” and “public health crisis” to describe the outbreaks, and they warn that these diseases can easily jump beyond the homeless population. “Our homeless crisis is increasingly becoming a public health crisis,” California Gov. Gavin Newsom said in his State of the State speech in February, citing outbreaks of hepatitis A in San Diego County, syphilis in Sonoma County, and typhus in Los Angeles County. “Typhus,” he said “A medieval disease. In California. In 2019.” The diseases spread quickly and widely among people living outside or in shelters, fueled by sidewalks contaminated with human feces, crowded living conditions, weakened immune systems, and limited access to health care. “The hygienic situation is just horrendous” for people living on the streets, said Dr. Glenn Lopez, a physician with St. John’s Well Child & Family Center, who treats homeless patients in Los Angeles County. “It becomes just like a Third World environment where their human feces contaminate the areas where they are eating and sleeping.” Those infectious diseases are not limited to homeless populations, Lopez warned. “Even someone who believes they are protected from these infections are not.” We strongly urge and support the motion to update LAMC 41.18 and LAMC 56.11. Updating these two municipal codes as our city attorney proposed on 10/26/2020 will help to begin addressing the street homelessness crisis. With the utmost urgency, Eliot Cohen Scientific American article:
<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/medieval-diseases-flare-as-unsanitary-living-conditions-proliferate/#:~:text=Infectious%20diseases%4E%280%94some%20that%20ravaged,other%20animals%4E%280%94in%20downtown%20streets>

Communication from Public

Name: Gregory Katz

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 08:19 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: To the city council: I wish to chime in along with many other Angelenos in opposition to this cruel motion. The city must seek more constructive and compassionate solutions to homelessness. It is insulting to the many people in the city who care about our unhoused neighbors – and this issue in general – that such a callous proposal is being considered by the council at all. Do better. Sincerely, Greg Katz Mt. Washington

Communication from Public

Name: Konstantin A Hatcher

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 08:22 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Konstantin Hatcher and I am writing on behalf of California YIMBY. We are in strong opposition to Item #24. Pushing people from one public space to another makes it harder for an unhoused neighbor to come inside. Additionally, all people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. This is unjust and immoral...especially when we clearly have not taken enough action on providing affordable places for people to live. If we are going to address unsheltered homelessness in any real way, the Council should engage in real discussion on housing and shelter availability, public health and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and non-law enforcement engagement with people experiencing homelessness. This motion and draft ordinance - and the reckless speed with which it is being pushed through council - undermines that discussion and possibility. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with these 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 is especially true now as we are seeing the highest increases in the rates of cases since the pandemic began. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Elaine Loring

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 08:30 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I ask that Councilmember Krekorian, Councilmember Martinez and the rest of the Council embrace Substitute Motion - Item 42 as offered by Councilmembers Ryu and Bonin and reject 20-1376 as originally written. I live in Studio City in the San Fernando Valley. Homeless people live in tents across the street from me at times. 20-1376 criminalizes poverty and homelessness which does nothing to solve the serious challenge we face of more than 66,000 people unhoused in our city. I want to live in a city that focuses on real solutions based on a deep understanding of the what it takes to help unhoused Angelenos move inside successfully. I want to live in a city that focuses on real solutions like creating supportive housing, converting city property to housing, and investing in motel/hotel conversions. We will not solve the homeless crisis or make our city more livable by harassing unhoused Angelenos and handing out citations. Councilmember Krekorian and Martinez, please stop wasting your valuable time and city resources on motions like 20-1376. Instead, vote YES on Substitute Motion - 42 which offers a balanced and practical step forward.

Communication from Public

Name: Paul ABASCAL

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 08:37 PM

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, Paul ABASCAL Venice Resident/ Stakeholder

Communication from Public

Name: Evelyn Aleman

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 09:09 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear City Council Members, As someone who cares deeply about her community, advocates alongside neighbors for maintenance and safety of the LA River bike path, and makes cleanups as well as homeless outreach part of these efforts, I ask that council members support and approve Motion 20-1376. Winter is upon us, and many of our homeless will seek refuge in underpasses, as well as toxic culverts/tunnels along the LA River. In our community, we often observe that County and City employees wear hazmat suits and personal protective equipment when clearing out culverts/tunnels situated along the LA River channel. Even our LAPD officers won't enter the culverts because it is common knowledge that toxic substances can be found in these. Yet, homeless individuals are allowed to camp in these spaces and start fires. This is dangerous. In addition, in our Reseda neighborhood there is a homeless person who is incontinent, emaciated and clearly ill, but refuses help. There are many homeless who suffer mental illness and need support. In spite of their conditions, these people perish in our streets because we are unable to house and care for them. It is heartbreaking. They deserve better. I believe that Motion 20-1376 will ensure that they are sheltered and rendered the supportive services they require to lead healthy and productive lives. Please vote to approve and support Motion 20-1376. Evelyn Aleman, Resident of Reseda.



Communication from Public

Name: Evelyn Aleman

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 09:09 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear City Council Members, As someone who cares deeply about her community, advocates alongside neighbors for maintenance and safety of the LA River bike path, and makes cleanups as well as homeless outreach part of these efforts, I ask that council members support and approve Motion 20-1376. Winter is upon us, and many of our homeless will seek refuge in underpasses, as well as toxic culverts/tunnels along the LA River. In our community, we often observe that County and City employees wear hazmat suits and personal protective equipment when clearing out culverts/tunnels situated along the LA River channel. Even our LAPD officers won't enter the culverts because it is common knowledge that toxic substances can be found in these. Yet, homeless individuals are allowed to camp in these spaces and start fires. This is dangerous. In addition, in our Reseda neighborhood there is a homeless person who is incontinent, emaciated and clearly ill, but refuses help. There are many homeless who suffer mental illness and need support. In spite of their conditions, these people perish in our streets because we are unable to house and care for them. It is heartbreaking. They deserve better. I believe that Motion 20-1376 will ensure that they are sheltered and rendered the supportive services they require to lead healthy and productive lives. Please vote to approve and support Motion 20-1376. Evelyn Aleman, Resident of Reseda.



Communication from Public

Name: Evelyn Aleman

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 09:10 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear City Council Members, As someone who cares deeply about her community, advocates alongside neighbors for maintenance and safety of the LA River bike path, and makes cleanups as well as homeless outreach part of these efforts, I ask that council members support and approve Motion 20-1376. Winter is upon us, and many of our homeless will seek refuge in underpasses, as well as toxic culverts/tunnels along the LA River. In our community, we often observe that County and City employees wear hazmat suits and personal protective equipment when clearing out culverts/tunnels situated along the LA River channel. Even our LAPD officers won't enter the culverts because it is common knowledge that toxic substances can be found in these. Yet, homeless individuals are allowed to camp in these spaces and start fires. This is dangerous. In addition, in our Reseda neighborhood there is a homeless person who is incontinent, emaciated and clearly ill, but refuses help. There are many homeless who suffer mental illness and need support. In spite of their conditions, these people perish in our streets because we are unable to house and care for them. It is heartbreaking. They deserve better. I believe that Motion 20-1376 will ensure that they are sheltered and rendered the supportive services they require to lead healthy and productive lives. Please vote to approve and support Motion 20-1376. Evelyn Aleman, Resident of Reseda.



Communication from Public

Name: Michele Telid

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 09:29 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: name is Michele Telis and I am writing on behalf of Volunteers of America. We are in strong opposition to Item #24. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness - it actually makes it harder for an unhoused neighbor to come inside. Additionally, all people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. If we are going to address unsheltered homelessness in any real way, the Council should engage in real discussion on housing and shelter availability, public health and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and non-law enforcement engagement with people experiencing homelessness. This motion and draft ordinance - and the reckless speed with which it is being pushed through council - undermines that discussion and possibility. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with these 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 is especially true now as we are seeing the highest increases in the rates of cases since the pandemic began. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Michellene DeBonis

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 09:33 PM

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 is cruel and inhumane and should not be passed. People who are not housed do not deserve to be turned into criminals simply for trying to survive—especially during a pandemic! This motion fails to provide any new housing resources, wrap-around services for those experiencing homelessness, or any solutions to decrease the unhoused population in LA. Our Council Member, Paul Krekorian, has falsely claimed that there are ample housing options in our Local District 2, when this is simply not the case. Instead of focusing on actual, proven solutions to a crisis that continues to grow during this pandemic, this motion (Council File 20-1376) is another attempt to expand harmful criminalization policies which have only proven to fail and exacerbate homelessness. The City Council and the Mayor's office should invest their time and legislative power into programs that actually help us move forward in providing healthy and safe living environments for our unhoused communities, 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 implore you to oppose the motion in Council file: 20-1376, and as an alternative, adopt the substitute motion offered by Councilmember Bonin.

Communication from Public

Name: mark standring

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 09:43 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear City Council Members, Please vote in Favor of Council File 20-1376. The ADA is being violated every day in Venice, the citizens of Venice are being subjected to abuse and criminal activities. The community is being degraded despite millions of dollars of tax money appropriated to resolve this problem. Its time to step in and take positive action.. all your actions to date have only resulted in making the problem worse. We need decisive leadership focused around problem resolution. It's time to step up.

Communication from Public

Name: Nathaniel Roberts

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 10:20 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, My name is Nat Roberts and I'm writing to condemn Item #24 in the strongest possible terms. The item is illogical, inhumane, and represents another shameful entry in Los Angeles's litany of failures on the issue of homelessness. It disgusts me that in this time of crisis my city is even considering such an unethical policy to further target our unhoused population for harassment and abuse at the hands of law enforcement, while continuing to offer no solutions to their plight. Item #24 accomplishes nothing, other than to expose its supporters as the most degenerate and selfish class of NIMBYs to ever disgrace this state. You cannot solve homelessness by punishing the homeless for existing, that makes as much sense as punishing a patient for their illness. Item #24 does nothing to alleviate Los Angeles's housing crisis, it just hides it from view. It benefits no one but the privileged who do not wish to be reminded of the suffering of their fellow human beings. I pity anyone who supports this measure, because this item can only be the product of a malnourished soul or a sick mind. In solidarity with my fellow Californians, and with contempt for the authors of Item #24, Nat Roberts

Communication from Public

Name: Brianna Dau

Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 10:45 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing in strong opposition to Item #24. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness; it actually makes it harder for my unhoused neighbors to come inside. Additionally, all people have an equal right to access public spaces, and no one should arbitrarily be banned from large sections of the city. If we are going to address unsheltered homelessness in any real way, the council should engage in discussions on housing and shelter availability, public health and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and how to engage with people experiencing homelessness beyond the use of law enforcement. This motion and draft ordinance—and the reckless speed with which it is being pushed through council—undermines that discussion and possibility. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with those efforts and depends on a currently nonexistent housing supply while misusing our financial resources, and jeopardizing the health and safety of those most in need of being inside. The guidance 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 is especially true now as we are seeing the highest increase in the rates of cases since the pandemic began. I urge the council to vote NO on this motion and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Otto
Date Submitted: 11/23/2020 10:59 PM
Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing in strong opposition to Item #24. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness; it actually makes it harder for my unhoused neighbors to come inside. Additionally, all people have an equal right to access public spaces, and no one should arbitrarily be banned from large sections of the city. If we are going to address unsheltered homelessness in any real way, the council should engage in discussions on housing and shelter availability, public health and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and how to engage with people experiencing homelessness beyond the use of law enforcement. This motion and draft ordinance—and the reckless speed with which it is being pushed through council—undermines that discussion and possibility. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with those efforts and depends on a currently nonexistent housing supply while misusing our financial resources, and jeopardizing the health and safety of those most in need of being inside. The guidance 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 is especially true now as we are seeing the highest increase in the rates of cases since the pandemic began. I urge the council to vote NO on this motion and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Daniel Johnsen

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 12:04 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Public comment Being homeless is not a crime. As the Boise case showed, when there are no other options, it is simply unconstitutional, let alone despicable, to criminalize homelessness. In a time of growing wealth disparity, unemployment, and Covid-19, we should be looking for ways to help the people who have slipped through the cracks in our system. If we continue to criminalize being poor, it will only exacerbates the problem. What you are proposing is not to solve the problem, but to sweep it under the rug, and let the next generation deal with it. If you are looking to fund other programs by fining people, fine the rich for every unused home and every empty apartment. If you are looking to get homeless people off the streets, there are better and more humane options. They will take more time and effort, but they will ensure that human beings are treated as such. This pandemic has highlighted the wealth disparity in this country. This will only make it worse. Have a heart for your fellow human beings

Communication from Public

Name: Miranda Lopez

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 12:21 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing in strong opposition to Item #24. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness; it actually makes it harder for my unhoused neighbors to come inside. Additionally, all people have an equal right to access public spaces, and no one should arbitrarily be banned from large sections of the city. If we are going to address unsheltered homelessness in any real way, the council should engage in discussions on housing and shelter availability, public health and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and how to engage with people experiencing homelessness beyond the use of law enforcement. This motion and draft ordinance—and the reckless speed with which it is being pushed through council—undermines that discussion and possibility. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with those efforts and depends on a currently nonexistent housing supply while misusing our financial resources, and jeopardizing the health and safety of those most in need of being inside. The guidance 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 is especially true now as we are seeing the highest increase in the rates of cases since the pandemic began. I urge the council to vote NO on this motion and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: John Yi

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 07:25 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Hi my name is John Yi and for my day job I'm the Executive Director of Los Angeles Walks, a resident of Koreatown, and an active member of local Democratic party. Yes we need to fix our sidewalks and create greater accessibility. Yes we need to fix the houseless crisis in LA. However, this motion seeks to do neither. Instead it uses the excuse of our failing sidewalks (40% as per the City) as a means to attack the homeless. Real problems require real solutions and if we're serious about fixing our sidewalks and public access there's much much more we can do besides attacking the our most vulnerable neighbors during a pandemic. Fix the sidewalk repair program. Create create safe and greater space for our bus stops (as we're doing with restaurants). Our sidewalks are already a low priority and so to anchor it with this draconian approach only shows how further lower sidewalks have sunk in the City's mind.

Communication from Public

Name: Joe Macias

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 07:41 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: As a resident in the San Fernando Valley, I support to get homeless in the area removed from the streets and sheltered. It is unsafe and inhumane for them to be exposed to the elements and live in such deplorable conditions. I see them on continual basis and can't help but feel helpless for them. I have also witnessed how so many of our homeless have slipped through the cracks and how past and current support have not worked for them; therefore I applaud the concern of our council member Blumenfield for seeking new ways, efforts and actions to help our homeless members of our community.

Communication from Public

Name: Jodi
Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 07:48 AM
Council File No: 20-1376
Comments for Public Posting: Please reconsider- criminalizing homelessness is not going to end it. Please instead focus your efforts on getting people off the streets with housing, mental health assistance, and rehabilitation.

Communication from Public

Name: Kinsey McCabe
Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 08:24 AM
Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Kinsey McCabe and I am writing on behalf of The Center in Hollywood. I am in strong opposition to Item #24. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness - it actually makes it harder for an unhoused neighbor to come inside. Additionally, all people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. If we are going to address unsheltered homelessness in any real way, the Council should engage in real discussion on housing and shelter availability, public health and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and non-law enforcement engagement with people experiencing homelessness. This motion and draft ordinance - and the reckless speed with which it is being pushed through council - undermines that discussion and possibility. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with these 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 is especially true now as we are seeing the highest increases in the rates of cases since the pandemic began. I urge the council to vote no on this motion moving forward, and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Steven Roth

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 08:32 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: The misinterpretation of the CDC guidelines for COVID has created a public health emergency in the Venice Beach area. The addition of the Sunset and Main shelter combined with the suspension of enforcement of any of the promised provisions has created a tent encampment within 200 feet of the shelter that is riddled with rats, unsanitary conditions, drug use and increased crime for the surrounding area. All the residents are asking for is for the city to abide by their agreements and enforce the local provisions.

Communication from Public

Name: Mehmet Berker

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 08:43 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Mehmet Berker and I am writing on behalf of Los Angeles Walks. We are in strong opposition to Item #24. All people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. While not enshrined in the Constitution, this "Freedom of Movement" is an assumed, inherent standard in Common Law. In addition to the many awful aspects of the ordinance, the rationale being given for the ordinance (why we "must" enact draconian laws prohibiting sitting or lying in the public right-of-way) is that the City has a duty to provide accessible sidewalks. The City currently does not hold itself to the standards for ensuring access that it is purporting to hold those who are homeless to. Los Angeles Walks is a group focused on transportation access and safety, and specifically focused on people walking and taking transit (who have to walk to connect to and from transit of course), this justification that the City Council is fighting for accessibility rings false. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors

Communication from Public

Name: Thomas Irwin
Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 08:48 AM
Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Thomas Irwin, and I am writing on behalf of New Life Community Church in Lincoln Heights. I am in strong opposition to Item #24. There is a genuine housing crisis in our city right now, and it is only getting worse. Over the years, our elected officials have talked about offering solutions to this crisis at every government level. Still, they have time and again failed to do anything to stop the bleeding, let alone find long-term solutions. This motion will neither offer temporary relief nor help us find a permanent solution. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness - it actually makes it harder for an unhoused neighbor to come inside. Additionally, all people have an equal right to access public spaces, and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. If we are going to address unsheltered homelessness in any real way, the Council should discuss housing and shelter availability, public health and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and non-law enforcement engagement with people experiencing homelessness. This motion and draft ordinance - and the reckless speed with which it is being pushed through council - undermines that discussion and possibility. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with these efforts and depends on the misuse of limited housing and financial resources while jeopardizing the health and safety most in need of being inside. The guidance and approach of the Departments of Public Health and Health Services have been for everyone to shelter in place and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among the homeless population. This is especially true now as we see the highest increases in the rates of cases since the pandemic began. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Carissa Ciampaglia

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 08:59 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Carissa Ciampaglia and I am writing on behalf of HOPICS. We are in strong opposition to Item #24. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness - it actually makes it harder for an unhoused neighbor to come inside. If we are going to address unsheltered homelessness in any real way, the Council should engage in a real discussion on housing and shelter availability, public health and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and non-law enforcement engagement with people experiencing homelessness. This motion and draft ordinance - and the reckless speed with which it is being pushed through council - undermines that discussion and possibilities. The homelessness pandemic is a multifaceted problem and should be considered as such. Taking a one solution approach will only exacerbate the issues, we need to be having real and in-depth discussions concerning the LA housing market/cost of living, mental health/social work, and substance abuse. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with these 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 have been for everyone to shelter in place and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among the homeless population. This is especially true now as we are seeing the highest increases in the rates of cases since the pandemic began. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we can create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Marissa Aguiniga

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 09:09 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly oppose criminalizing homelessness. Our city leaders have done little to nothing to aid our unhoused neighbors. We need to bring resources, assistance and compassion not violence.

Communication from Public

Name: J Cohen

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 09:15 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I oppose the criminalization of homelessness. Homeless people are victims of failed social policies and should not be punished because they don't have homes.

Communication from Public

Name: Brian Miller

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 09:18 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly, vehemently oppose the councilman's proposal for a cabin community in the current Reseda location. I am a homeowner on Archwood St. I worked in Los Angeles for 16 years, saving up, before I could afford to actually buy a house. I cannot allow your poorly thought out idea to jeopardize all I have worked for. I will not see the value of my home plummet due to your desire to make a name for yourself. You chose a residential area instead of an industrial area, like the Tarzana location. This makes no sense, and since you chose not to speak with us before you decided to make plans, we are speaking now. And loudly. Building this cabin community in the middle of a thoroughly residential area raises many concerns, safety being the most paramount. How can we take our son out scootering around the park and feel safe with him passing by the cabins? The park is heavily used by many residents who have no other option for exercise since gyms closed because of the virus. How can a single woman exercising around the park as the sun goes down be sure she is going to be safe passing by your cabins? Why can't these cabins be built in an industrial or commercial area where NONE of these concerns exist? You stated in your interview with CBS that there doesn't need to be a vote on this. Councilman, we are voting on this issue with our voices, our emails, our forthcoming petitions and legal challenges. You may not impose your will on the citizens of Reseda!

Communication from Public

Name: Alison

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 09:23 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I oppose the proposed changes to LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11. Please focus your time and energy on boldly addressing the root causes of homelessness. This may require public education campaigns to constituents to combat NIMBYism. Criminalizing homelessness will not solve homelessness. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Lucy Macias

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 09:24 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear council members, As a high school student and member of Reseda, I see the impacts of homelessness in my community and want to get help those in need of special services like the homeless. Knowing that winter is approaching the resources are low, and the risk for COVID high in homelessness creates a bigger concern to the safety of these people residing in dangerous areas. On the LA river bike path, a place meant for the use of the community, the homeless have used the space under the bridges to take cover from the weather and as temporary housing but are still exposed to dangerous activity and chemicals from the culverts/ tunnels that they also find housing in. I have seen the city come in for cleaning up of the river in hazmats suits which tells me as a resident that they understand the severity and risks that they are taking to be there better less the homeless living there. As a student, I have felt encouraged to speak up for the motion of 20-1376 to help the homeless in my community find and get the resources they need and deserve. Thank you, A resident of Reseda Lucy Macias

Communication from Public

Name: Tiffany Wong

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 09:24 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Tiffany Wong. I am in strong opposition to Item #24. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness - it actually makes it harder for an unhoused neighbor to come inside. Additionally, all people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. If we are going to address unsheltered homelessness in any real way, the Council should engage in real discussion on housing and shelter availability, public health and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and non-law enforcement engagement with people experiencing homelessness. This motion and draft ordinance - and the reckless speed with which it is being pushed through council - undermines that discussion and possibility. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with these 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 is especially true now as we are seeing the highest increases in the rates of cases since the pandemic began. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Los Angeles LGBT Center

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 09:26 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: As the Los Angeles LGBT Center, the world's largest provider of services to the LGBT community in the world, we ask that you reject the concept of criminalization in Council Item 20-1376 because it is imperative that your first consideration be the well-being of Angelenos experiencing homelessness. During a global pandemic of COVID-19 and a local pandemic of homelessness, criminalization does not put people into housing. LGBTQ community members face disproportionate levels of discrimination at all turns in the homelessness services spectrum, especially transgender and non-binary people. According to the Williams Institute in a study published earlier this year in April, they found that both LGBTQ youth and adults face greater challenges in accessing homeless shelters and services due to harassment and violence, untrained staff who mistreat or misgender our community, and trans and non-binary residents being forced to use sex-segregated facilities they do not identify with (resulting often in the trans and non-binary person remaining unsheltered). Our LGBTQ elders are at greater risk of being turned away from or charged higher rates at independent or assisted-living facilities or facing harassment from other residents or staff. Perhaps the most shocking are studies that demonstrate that up to 40% of homeless youth identify as LGBTQ. Additionally, at our drop-in center, we see up to 100 young people a day experiencing homelessness, up to 5 new members a day, and 80% of them are black, indigenous, and youth of color. If you want to end homelessness in the city, you must end youth homelessness. By intervening with a young person by providing housing and culturally responsive wrap around services, you can prevent that young person from experiencing chronic homelessness. Instead of passing this item, we recommend:

- Expanding housing and shelter options for LGBT youth and seniors
- Providing a wide spectrum of culturally responsive wraparound services
- And enhancing data collection of LGBT people

Thank you

Communication from Public

Name: JC

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 09:28 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Myself and many in the Los Feliz community prefer the substitute motion 42 introduced by Ryu, but ultimately support how 41.18 attempts to address the sanitation and safety issues currently facing our neighborhood and L.A.

Communication from Public

Name: Katie Aragon

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 09:30 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: To the LA City Council: I am a law student at UCLA School of Law, and I urge you in the strongest possible language to oppose the motion to amend Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) Section 41.18 to make it unlawful for a person to sit, lie, or sleep upon public property. It is frankly unconscionable that the City Council would even consider such a cruel and punitive ordinance amidst one of the most extreme economic and public health crises in modern history. As thousands of Angelenos go hungry each night, many without a roof over their heads, that one of the City's only meaningful responses is to try to criminalize people for sleeping on the street near shelters is shocking. While reading through LA City policies around sweeps, I have also noticed the City rationalizing its punitive and inhumane policies regarding unhoused people/encampment sweeps by claiming to be enforcing compliance with Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations maintaining public accessibility of streets and sidewalks. It seems to escape the City that many unhoused Angelenos living in encampments and on the streets are themselves disabled and would be protected under the same Act. Ironically, the City's destruction of unhoused people's wheelchairs, life-saving medication, and other critically needed health-related items such as birth certificates during sweeps and arrests has been well-documented. Rather than further criminalizing unhoused people and performing CARE+ sweeps, which are destructive and come with a high financial cost and zero material benefits to City residents, the City should instead reallocate its significant resources to providing permanent housing and basic social services to those who need them. The City could learn a lot from groups like Streetwatch LA, which organizes locally to provide device charging stations, snacks, blankets and Narcan to community members. Streetwatch helps people without preaching or punishing them for circumstances often beyond their control and often arising from decades of City neglect of infrastructure and social services in favor of lofty development projects that push out low income people. You must oppose 41.18 and any other City policies that criminalize unhoused people or give further funding to the LAPD for their destructive practices. This is not just a matter of budgeting and policy but also a matter of morality.

Communication from Public

Name: Denise Ramirez
Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 09:30 AM
Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Denise Ramirez and I am writing on behalf of HOPICS and members of my own community, BOYLE HEIGHTS. I am expressing strong opposition to Item #24. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness - it actually makes it harder for an unhoused neighbor to come inside. Fiscally, it does not make sense either. Additionally, all people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. If we are going to address unsheltered homelessness in any real way, the Council should engage in a real discussion on housing and shelter availability, public health and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and non-law enforcement engagement with people experiencing homelessness. This motion and draft ordinance - and the reckless speed with which it is being pushed through council - undermines that discussion and possibility. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with these 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 is especially true now as we are seeing the highest increases in the rates of cases since the pandemic began. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Julia Macias

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 09:35 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Good morning, I'm a college student who has lived in Reseda all of my life, and watching the homelessness crisis unfold before my eyes in the community I love has been really difficult, not only in the sense of the impact homeless encampments cause on the area in terms of trash or sometimes heightened dangerous activity, but most importantly, watching people who are deserving of help and love, deteriorate unnecessarily and suffer has been particularly painful to witness. When we think about equity and the cries for social justice we've heard from minorities over the summer about how their lives matter, we look to local government to act and show that indeed, their lives matter, and I think Councilmember Blumenfield's emphasis and work with this motion is a solid place to begin this critical work. It is people of color, women, members of the LGBTQ+ community, people with mental health issues, or those historically-disenfranchised/marginalized that we see most prominently on the streets in Los Angeles, and if we want as a society to progress in ways that will prove more equitable, we must narrow our efforts to aid this most vulnerable group, as this motion 20-1376 focuses on. I consider the crippling effects of the pandemic and the fact that the medical experts point to a difficult and infectious winter as even more reason to provide shelter and rehabilitation services in as short a timespan as possible to those on the street who accept it, as this will instill a sense of more faith in representatives from our unhoused constituents - people who are most deserving of aid and care - and from residents, who will feel listened to and more at ease within their communities. Collectively, I really want to see the suffering alleviated from all members of my community - which, it is key to recognize here the homeless ARE members of the community, and I think about their welfare as our most vulnerable members, and hope that with this motion, we can aid them best.

Communication from Public

Name: Laura Fuduli

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 09:38 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: In regards to the homeless cabin community in Reseda, the townhome community across the street on Archwood would like to know why as constituents, we were not asked our opinion on this important issue that will greatly affect our quality of life, home values, and most importantly, our right to safety and security in our homes. Why are you putting thousands of residents, many with young children, at risk to accommodate 50 people with drug addiction and legal problems? This is not right. What if something happens to one of our children?

Communication from Public

Name: Ben Kay

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 09:39 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: To whom it may concern, My name is Ben Kay and I am writing on behalf of HOPICS. I am in strong opposition to Item #24. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness - it actually makes it harder for an unhoused neighbor to come inside. Additionally, all people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. If we are going to address unsheltered homelessness in any real way, the Council should engage in real discussion on housing and shelter availability, public health and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and non-law enforcement engagement with people experiencing homelessness. This motion and draft ordinance - and the reckless speed with which it is being pushed through council - undermines that discussion and possibility. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with these 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 is especially true now as we are seeing the highest increases in the rates of cases since the pandemic began. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: helen eigenberg
Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 09:39 AM
Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Helen Eigenberg and i am writing as a resident of CD4. I am in strong opposition to Item #24. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness - it actually makes it harder for an unhoused neighbor to come inside. If we are going to address unsheltered homelessness in any real way, the Council should engage in real discussion on housing and shelter availability, public health and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and non-law enforcement engagement with people experiencing homelessness. This motion and draft ordinance - and the reckless speed with which it is being pushed through council - undermines that discussion and possibility. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with these 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 is especially true now as we are seeing the highest increases in the rates of cases since the pandemic began. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead the council needs to bring the outreach workers and organizations on the ground doing the work to the table to find ways to create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors. I also support Substitute Motion item 42 that Bonin/Ryu put forward. Thank you, Helen Eigenberg 611 Lillian Way LA 90004

Communication from Public

Name: Abra Sussman

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 09:47 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmembers, I am writing in support of the Bonin-Ryu substitute file to council motion 20-1376. Unhoused individuals must not be criminalized for merely surviving the untenable conditions of living on the street. Resources should be focused instead on housing solutions and mental health & substance abuse services which are proven to be the main lever for ending homelessness. Thank you. Sincerely, Abra Sussman

Communication from Public

Name: Eileen Miller

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 09:58 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: This cabin community for the homeless to be built in Randal D. Simmons park does not make any sense. The park serves as a safe haven for people to walk, jog, bike ride, and do their exercise. Families frequent the park daily to bring their kids to the adjacent playground and to have picnics or just relax. Building a cabin community in a small section of the park that is adjacent to the playground and directly across for several condominium communities and residential homes poses risks for the community. My husband and I live in and own one of the condo communities across from the park. We worked very hard to save money to buy a home in Los Angeles. We chose this community because it was in a safe and very family friendly area. Now, not only our safety is being jeopardized, but our home's real estate value. We have an 11 year old boy and concerned with his safety and our own. And now we have to worry about our home investment dwindling away, and jeopardizing our retirement income as well. We understand that homelessness is an issue that has to be addressed immediately and we want to see them get off the street. But we are convinced that not enough research was done to find a better space for the cabin community to be built. There are several empty and open industrial and commercial spaces in the west valley region of Los Angeles where you could build this homeless housing. Especially now during the pandemic because many businesses and operations have closed down due to the economic downturn. We feel that Councilmember Blumenfield and his district needs to do more work to find these spaces and really think about the consequences of building this community in the Randal D. Simmons park. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Helen Khusit

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 10:01 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Yes, homelessness is a big problem in LA but why place a shelter in a family-oriented quiet part of a neighborhood with a park, playground, library... all used by families with children. There are no hospitals or stores nearby for the cabin residents. I understand that Mr. Blumenfield is making a point by putting this cabin community in his "back yard" but he is forcing it into our back yard and we don't even have a say in it. Many families have selected to move to our community specifically for the quiet family-oriented feel of this pocket of Reseda and, if this cabin community is built, that feel most definitely will be gone.

Communication from Public

Name: Cecily Breaux

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 10:03 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Instead of criminalizing homelessness and not caring for our fellow person, I demand that City Council and the Mayor's office first of all start caring and then 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.

Communication from Public

Name: Steven MacCarthy
Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 10:04 AM
Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Ladies and Gentlemen: I have lived and worked in Los Angeles since 1972 and I am still working. I have lived on North Berendo for 35 years and raised two sons here. Our street was part of District 13 but was redistricted into District 4 some time ago. This is not a rich neighborhood. It is middle class with a mix of houses and older apartment buildings. This has been a quiet street for years until a homeless encampment formed at the base of our street roughly a year ago. In that time we have suffered with the homeless defecating on people's porches, mentally ill people screaming in the middle of the night, threats of violence and sexual assault and a stabbing. All the while we have had very little help from the City Officials. The District Office blamed all the inaction on Judge Carter. Refugee camps in Third World countries have better sanitary conditions than what has been brought to our neighborhood. City Clean-Up Crews have only been allowed to do "spot cleanings" on tiny areas of sidewalks because the homeless did not have to move their items covering the sidewalk. With such inaction the City has been begging for an outbreak of typhus (or worse) as occurred in Downtown Los Angeles last year. In all this chaos isn't ironic that the only City Agency that has helped keep a lid on this situation is the LAPD? And it was an LAPD Officer who predicted what would happen next. Gradually the homeless in the encampment were driven out by a gang from La Mirada called La Mirada Locos. This gang tagged our neighborhood and have been running a criminal enterprise consisting of drug sales, prostitution and a chop shop for bikes and other merchandise. The homeless and mentally ill have been pushed out and the tents have been spliced together to form a continuous passageway out of sight of the LAPD. Recently a local gang - White Fence - has disputed the presence of the La Mirada Locos. White Fence tagged up the street last week and neighbors have diligently been removing the tags. According to LAPD this area is now a "hot zone" of gang dispute and a homicide occurred recently not far from here. This is what your inaction has allowed to develop in what was a decent neighborhood just a block from an Elementary School and across the street from Barndall Art Park. You, who have Police Protection whenever you call for it, have left us in a war zone. There are no homeless living on our street any longer. There is only a gang enterprise operating under

the guise of homelessness. And yet City Officials do not seem to have the ability to differentiate a criminal enterprise from an actual homeless encampment. Can you not see what is happening? Chief Moore reported yesterday that the City has counted its 302nd murder in 2020. This is a 25 percent increase in homicides and a 30 percent increase in shooting victims. Five people were shot to death last weekend including an 80 year old woman. Twenty-Five others survived being shot. Homicides involving persons experiencing homelessness have increased 19 percent. Under these circumstances its hard to understand how the Council has been preoccupied with cutting the LAPD Budget while all we are trying to do is lead normal, law-abiding lives. At present your leadership is ineffective. You must act to correct these threatening conditions of poor sanitation and criminality in our neighborhood. And by act I meant actually do something, Our City has is a far cry from what it was when I moved here forty-eight years ago.

Communication from Public

Name: Eric Ares

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 10:04 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing not only in opposition to the proposed changes to LAMC 41.18/56.11 (Item #24 on the 11/24/20 City Council meeting agenda), but to any policy decisions, approaches, and ordinances related to unsheltered homeless that lead with and center law enforcement. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness - it actually makes it harder for an unhoused neighbor to come inside. Rather than investing so much time in approaches that have failed our City time and time again, let's take this moment to once and for all begin an honest discussion on what it will take to effectively address street homelessness in our City. This requires exploring solutions that actually solve legitimate concerns about public health and safety while respecting the rights and serving the needs of unhoused people. Expanded and consistent sanitation services like access to restrooms and water and regular trash pick ups - these are the things that help keep our streets clean and streets walkable. Housing and services - this are the things that bring people inside. Additional and enforcement of tenant protections, addressing the looming eviction crisis - these are the things that keep people from falling into homelessness and joining the too many people living on our streets. Positing that we must choose between the status quo and sweeps/displacement is a false choice that serves nothing but the status quo while actively harming the most vulnerable people in our communities. So we must reject enforcement led conversations and criminalization, and question very firmly suggestions and policy advice like the memo recently written by the City Attorney that simply spill more ink to get to the same conclusion of passing laws that make it harder for people to get off the streets while creating more trauma for those whom our City has failed. Let's act urgently, but intentionally. Open on honest discussion on what it will take to create real solutions. Do not move this draft ordinance or any similar effort forward. Instead, bring in people with lived experience, service providers, and experts in government agencies to lead discussions on how we address the challenges of street homelessness while we continue to focus on and invest in long-term solutions to the housing crisis in our City.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 10:10 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: To: LA City Council Re: Amendment of LAMC § 41.18 I am writing to implore City councilmembers to oppose the amendment of LAMC Section 41.18 to disallow “sitting, sleeping, or lying within up to 500 feet of a designated freeway overpass, underpass, ramp, tunnel, or pedestrian subway”. This proposal is morally abhorrent and an infringement on the rights of Los Angeles citizens. In order to appeal to the consciences of City councilmembers, this proposal purports to serve LA citizens who are disabled and is apparently being proposed in order to meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. This is such a ridiculous ploy to paint an inhumane proposal as a necessary and empathetic change. It also disregards the large percentage of the unhoused population in LA who are also disabled. This proposal must be opposed as it further criminalizes the unhoused population in LA, who are already facing the destruction of CARE+ sweeps and the lack of permanent affordable or free housing and basic social services. The City should instead reroute money currently budgeted for policing the unhoused population into providing these and other necessary services to its citizens. Especially during a global pandemic and economic crisis, the City must not choose to further burden an already disenfranchised population instead of choosing to indemnify those individuals for the harms they have faced at the hands of City officials.

Communication from Public

Name: Robin Murez

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 10:22 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Please vote yes on 20- 1376. Our streets and the Venice Boardwalk are not healthy nor safe for campers nor housed residents. Failure to clean and clear, and failure to provide sanctioned campgrounds with facilities, in non residential and non tourist locations is enabling this humanitarian crisis. Please vote YES.

Communication from Public

Name: The Turtles

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 10:24 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: ?????????????????????? Turtles OPPOSE Proposed Changes to LAMC 41.18, Extermination in CF20-1376
???????????????????????????????? Dear turtles and tortoises of Los Angeles, a city at the forefront of turtle sensitivity initiatives - I applaud Council for banning single use plastics that can harm turtles (even if the pandemic has paused the effort). Turtle mortality has recently gotten some deserved attention, largely to the credit of some Internet celebrities like Peanut, the turtle who got her curves from a six-pack ring, and Scarface, who had a drinking straw extracted from his nostril. I'm happy to report that both Peanut and Scarface are doing well and using their platforms to amplify turtle-sensitive solutions. However, a motion to ban the most vulnerable 1% of turtles from some of the only public spaces they are allowed, punishable by up to six months in jail, make the plastics ban seem performative. Yes, plastics do mimic food in a way that is nearly indistinguishable to turtles, but the scary truth is that "Thank You" bags (which are delicious), straws, and 6-pack rings combined do less damage to turtles than the mean streets of Los Angeles County. According to the Coroner, an unshelltered turtle had its soul returned to the Great Galapagos at a rate of every six hours, up from one every eight hours last year. In 2019, 1047 of our squishy green brothers and sisters died naked in the streets of Los Angeles and in 2020, we have already surpassed last year's number of tragically young turtles taken from us long before their time was up. Unshellteredness is the turtletalitarian crisis of our time, according to Mayor Eric Tortilini. Compounded by the turtleburculosis ("TB or not TB? That is the question.") outbreak that has "tore-toise" city apart, claiming the souls and shells of our families, friends and neighbors, it is imperative that we follow the advice of the Turtle Survival Alliance by staying in our shell as much as possible, reducing shellfish behaviors like unnecessary errands, and covering our beaks and noses any time we must be around other turtles. The TSA also recommends opening sanctuaries to protect unshelltered turtles with specific vulnerabilities like the oldest Seychelles Giant Tortoises, who can live to 200 or more years old, and the few remaining native Western Pond Turtles. For unshelltered turtles residing in public that do not benefit from the sanctuary, the TSA says "Leave them

Communication from Public

Name: Yasmin Abusaif
Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 10:25 AM
Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmembers, My name is Yasmin Abusaif and I am a second-year student at the UCLA School of Law. It has been disheartening and shocking to find that during a time when our resources should be unequivocally dedicated to assisting our most vulnerable communities, that the LA City Councilmembers have presented a motion that criminalizes and dehumanizes unhoused individuals across Los Angeles. Time and again it has been proven that the criminalization of unhoused individuals does nothing to address the structural issues surrounding the housing crisis in Los Angeles. Citing concerns for the exhaust fumes and safety of unhoused individuals is insulting where the repercussions of this motion would be more detrimental to the wellness of unhoused individuals. This act would be traumatizing to unhoused members and would make it even more difficult to access resources they desperately need. Our unhoused population is regularly viewed as “Other” by this city, and for our city to put more energy into criminalizing homelessness rather than providing for solutions to decrease the unhoused population during a pandemic is morally reprehensible. Unhoused individuals struggle to access restroom facilities, showers, charging outlets, and sustainable food on a daily basis. It is outrageous that finding solutions to these issues is not the focus of our City’s resources, but rather our city is prioritizing people who feel entitled enough to displace unhoused people, but who do not care enough to ensure their safety and wellbeing after being forcefully relocated. Alongside other law students, community members, leaders, and activists in this city I demand that the City Council and the Mayor’s office oppose the homeless criminalization motion CF 20-1376 and instead represent the wishes of their constituents and finally put our unhoused population first. It is a reflection on your own values to deem homelessness a crime rather than a product of our government’s own shortcomings. It is time that you commit to listening to the concerns of the individuals who would be impacted most by this motion, and to take concrete steps in providing long-term, clean, and respectable housing. Sincerely, Yasmin Abusaif

Communication from Public

Name: Sean Decker

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 10:26 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: The homeless issue in North Hollywood/Burbank is bad and throughout the city, and has only gotten worse. These are service-resistant homeless on drugs and/or have mental illness, creating tent cities on the Chandler bike path, breaking into and occupying unoccupied homes, and sleeping mere feet away from residential lawns, where families live and their children play. I argue if they are on drugs and/or have mental illness then they do not have the capacity to know what is good for them. The City should remove them and put them in a proper in-facility settings for mental health / drug addiction. My Citizen app dings daily with notifications of homeless violence and more, mere blocks from our home (and sometimes on the block). Homeless camp and sleep in public spaces (again, the Chandler bike path, a green belt meant to provide a safe, outdoor space, is of primary concern). I moved from Hollywood due to this uptick in homelessness, and the violence and filth surrounding it, to a good residential community, only to see it have grown, and be seemingly ignored. The impact on the safety of our neighborhood, property value, and the safety of my neighbor's children (when homeless seem to posted up in the front of nearby schools, businesses, and yes indeed, private homes) is of grave concern. And our city is becoming trashed, and its reputation has become tarnished. Even prior to the pandemic, out of town friends, family and colleagues have visited and their response was resounding: "What happened to LA?" For those posting on this Council File Number stating opposition and saying it doesn't address how to help the homeless, you are wrong. This is much needed in saving our communities. There are plenty of other Council File Numbers such as 20-0841, 20-0841-S3 addressing how to help the homeless. There were thousands of hotel rooms left vacant in Project Room Key, again because homeless refused the services and 56.11 allowed them to remain on the sidewalks etc. Striking the below clause only FURTHER allows homeless to refuse services AND still trash our sidewalks etc. What are you thinking?! Stop allowing these people to remain on the street!
****AMENDING MOTION (BLUMENFIELD - CEDILLO)**
Recommendation for Council action: STRIKE the following language from the draft ordinance for LAMC Section 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. ** Don't create barriers to getting people off the streets. Let them keep their pets and belongings. DO prevent them from camping next door to liquor stores / grocery stores etc. Have a brain and stop enabling them! I implore the City Council to fight the lawsuits and stop settling and giving ini.e. the \$1M ACLU settlement for throwing out the man's backpack. Penalties ok but a \$1M dollars? Where did that \$1M go? Does the man now own a home? Certainly, not to help the homeless but instead in ACLU's pocket. Fight back against the ACLU etc. for frivolous inflated lawsuits. If they really cared they wouldn't fight so hard to leave these people on the street. Make it illegal for any person who has been offered shelter to sit, lie or sleep in or upon any street, sidewalk, or other public right-of-way, or publicly owned property.

Communication from Public

Name: Judith Esposito

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 10:34 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: IN FAVOR of 20 1366 The money being WASTED in an uneducated attempt to solve homelessness is beyond shameful. In yesterday's LA Times, it sounded like \$400 MILLION dollars has been spent, on failed bridge housing and project room-key, none of which are permanent solutions. RANCO LOS AMIGOS a county property of 74 acres and 100 vacant buildings, has the capacity to house so many more and also provide mental health facility, drug rehab facility and medical clinic too. Why hasn't this property been used ? We are all fed up with this complete disaster. #1 homeless should be re-united with family! PLEASE use Rancho Los Amigos !!! NEW CONSTRUCTION, as proposed by Bonin, is beyond shameful. Monster in the Median in Venice and Lincoln Apts. \$20 Million there, is NOT the way to go. Both near peoples' homes and Lincoln Apts. near homes and schools. Citizens are beyond FURIOUS !!!!

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 10:42 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: As part of a community of citizens who have engaged in a three-year effort to maintain and clean the L.A. River bike path (a three-mile segment that parallels Reseda and Woodland Hills neighborhoods), I am continually reporting about human feces and dangerous waste matter that I clean and try to dispose of as safely and thoroughly as possible. The homeless encampments and issues that arise from the homeless living along our path present many health and safety issues. I am reporting my concern here such that I fully support the Councilman's homeless shelter initiative! We must try to manage the situation and sheltering the homeless is paramount for helping all constituencies to be safer. Thank you for all that you try to do and continue to develop in this area. Bonnie Hughes

Communication from Public

Name: Lee Dahlquist

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 11:13 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Greetings, I am writing regarding the homeless situation in our neighborhood of Sunland-Tujunga. The homeless situation is out of control. I have compassion for the homeless, but it is terrible for homeowners and residents here as there have been violent physical attacks from mentally unstable homeless individuals on local residents, including the elderly, causing bodily and emotional harm, at the local supermarkets and elsewhere; the homeless leave piles of disgusting trash wherever they go; they use the public streets as their personal bathrooms; they destroy the parks; they camp on public sidewalks, obstructing the walkways; they park their vehicles in front of homes for weeks on end; and more and more and more. If this were Beverly Hills more would have been done to curb this problem, but this is our town where we have invested in homes, businesses and raise our children. We pay substantial taxes, the homeless do not. Many of our friends have already left California or are on their way out, therefore taking that tax base away from California, then who will pay? Why should our quality of life be sacrificed for those who couldn't care less about our town? Who trash it without a second thought? Yes, these people need help, but many refuse help because they don't want to follow the few simple rules that come with that help. Those who refuse help must be moved out of our area. They are a threat to civilized life and to themselves. When I was a child, homeless were called vagrants and the police had the power to fine them or arrest them for loitering and any crimes they committed and they either accepted help, moved on or went to jail. Why isn't that done now? I had an idea a while ago that I proposed to a Councilman in another local city: there are unused, vacant military bases that are going to waste. They could be an excellent remedy for the homeless to live in while they get help in many facets of life. These are small cities with every facility and can accommodate hundreds or thousands of people. There are ample residences of every kind already at the bases, plus schools, medical facilities, shops, restaurants, cafeterias, everything. Nothing has to be constructed at taxpayers expense, only re-purposed and staffed. And they already exist. Why not use them instead of slowly building over-priced apartments that the over-taxed Angelenos have to pay for? Those apartments can only house limited numbers of homeless. The military bases already

exist that can house exponentially more and have everything needed to help the homeless get on their feet to re-enter society or permanently live there if they are too damaged to do so. Has this ever been seriously and thoroughly looked into as a possibility? I implore you to do so. Thank you.

Communication from Public

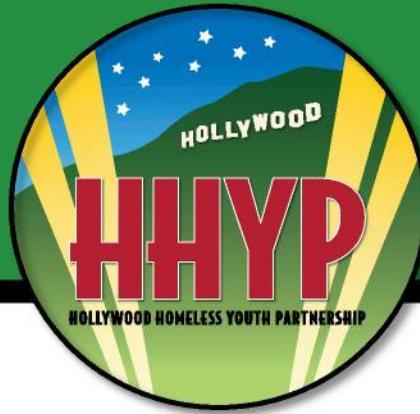
Name: Hollywood Homeless Youth Partnership

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 12:52 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: We, the Hollywood Homeless Youth Partnership, are requesting that you oppose Council File 20-1376 and any legislation that allows the city to ban sitting, sleeping, and lying: within 500 feet of freeways, ramps, and tunnels; within 500 feet of any facility opened after January 2018 that provides housing, shelter, services, safe parking, or storage to unhoused people; or that criminalizes storage of property in the areas listed above. We are a coalition of agencies serving youth experiencing homelessness and have deep concerns about the impact of this legislation on young people. 1. This legislation will have a devastating impact on the young people we serve. More than half of youth experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles county are unsheltered (55% were unsheltered in LAHSA's 2020 youth count) and many of the people living on the streets are the young people who access our services. 2. There isn't enough housing currently available to house all the people living on the streets; there is even less housing available that is tailored to the specific needs of young people. As of June 2019, agencies in the Hollywood Homeless Youth Partnership had a total of 417 beds and saw more than 3,500 young people. The need for housing far outweighs the inventory. Due to the pandemic, there are even fewer beds available because of the need to follow CDC guidelines. It's taking even longer to get youth with vouchers into housing due to landlords refusing to rent to youth due to concerns about economic instability. The prioritization of housing resources for COVID-vulnerable and seniors has led to the unintended marginalization of youth and young adults. 3. Because of the lack of adequate investment in housing tailored to the specific needs of youth, we are concerned that this legislation will ultimately lead to the criminalization of young people experiencing homelessness. This will disproportionately impact Black, Latinx, and LGBTQ young people who are overrepresented in the homeless youth population. Contact with the criminal justice system impacts a person's ability to access housing, employment, and access to public benefits, leading to lifelong impacts for young people. 4. As service providers, we know the importance of building relationships and developing rapport to get young people connected to appropriate services. The proposal to have law enforcement offer referrals to people experiencing homelessness

is not in line with evidence based practices and adds tension to an already tense relationship that exists between young people and law enforcement. It's important that we minimize contact with law enforcement for non-emergent situations. 5. The legislation would drive an already hidden population further into hiding. We are currently trying to figure out how to capture an accurate youth count during COVID to ensure that sufficient resources are dedicated to addressing youth homelessness. This legislation would make it even more difficult to get an accurate count. Imposing restrictions on the distance youth can be from the services they depend on does nothing to solve the underlying issue but rather provides a disincentive for young people to access services. The legislation places an additional burden on the work of service providers. When the city keeps throwing away the belongings of people experiencing homelessness, it increases the amount of resources that service providers are having to provide to young people. We've seen young people lose not only their sleeping bags and backpacks, but medication and official documents that are required to access housing. We've spent a significant amount of time supporting young people with resolving minor tickets. This legislation would create additional barriers for youth and increase the burden on service providers to assist young people with resolving these issues. We are deeply concerned that this legislation will set up a system that will ultimately lead to the criminalization of young people experiencing homelessness and reinforce the structures that lead to the disproportionate impact on Black, Latinx, and LGBTQ+ youth. 2020 has been a tumultuous year for everybody, and the pandemic and racial justice uprising have had a profound impact on the young people we serve. Passing this legislation at a time when COVID-19 cases are surging and young people experiencing homelessness don't have anywhere to go to shelter in place would only serve to compound the barriers that young people are already experiencing. We are committed to working with our City partners to develop and implement innovative programs and services to address youth homelessness. We urge you to vote no on this motion (Council File 20-1376).



We, the Hollywood Homeless Youth Partnership, are requesting that you oppose Council File 20-1376 and any legislation that allows the city to ban sitting, sleeping, and lying: within 500 feet of freeways, ramps, and tunnels; within 500 feet of any facility opened after January 2018 that provides housing, shelter, services, safe parking, or storage to unhoused people; or that criminalizes storage of property in the areas listed above.

We are a coalition of agencies serving youth experiencing homelessness and have deep concerns about the impact of this legislation on young people.

1. This legislation will have a devastating impact on the young people we serve. More than half of youth experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles county are unsheltered (55% were unsheltered in LAHSA's [2020 youth count](#)) and many of the people living on the streets are the young people who access our services.
2. There isn't enough housing currently available to house all the people living on the streets; there is even less housing available that is tailored to the specific needs of young people. As of June 2019, agencies in the [Hollywood Homeless Youth Partnership](#) had a total of 417 beds and saw more than 3,500 young people. The need for housing far outweighs the inventory. Due to the pandemic, there are even fewer beds available because of the need to follow CDC guidelines. It's taking even longer to get youth with vouchers into housing due to landlords refusing to rent to youth due to concerns about economic instability. The prioritization of housing resources for COVID-vulnerable and seniors has led to the unintended marginalization of youth and young adults.
3. Because of the lack of adequate investment in housing tailored to the specific needs of youth, we are concerned that this legislation will ultimately lead to the criminalization of young people experiencing homelessness. This will disproportionately impact Black, Latinx, and LGBTQ young people who are overrepresented in the homeless youth population. Contact with the criminal justice system impacts a person's ability to access housing, employment, and access to public benefits, leading to lifelong impacts for young people.
4. As service providers, we know the importance of building relationships and developing rapport to get young people connected to appropriate services. The proposal to have law enforcement offer referrals to people experiencing homelessness is not in line with evidence based practices and adds tension to an already tense relationship that exists between young people and law enforcement. It's important that we minimize contact with law enforcement for non-emergent situations.

5. The legislation would drive an already hidden population further into hiding. We are currently trying to figure out how to capture an accurate youth count during COVID to ensure that sufficient resources are dedicated to addressing youth homelessness. This legislation would make it even more difficult to get an accurate count. Imposing restrictions on the distance youth can be from the services they depend on does nothing to solve the underlying issue but rather provides a disincentive for young people to access services. The legislation places an additional burden on the work of service providers. When the city keeps throwing away the belongings of people experiencing homelessness, it increases the amount of resources that service providers are having to provide to young people. We've seen young people lose not only their sleeping bags and backpacks, but medication and official documents that are required to access housing. We've spent a significant amount of time supporting young people with resolving minor tickets and know that this legislation would increase the burden on service providers to provide additional support outside of our contracted services.

We are deeply concerned that this legislation will set up a system that will ultimately lead to the criminalization of young people experiencing homelessness and reinforce the structures that lead to the disproportionate impact on Black, Latinx, and LGBTQ+ youth. 2020 has been a tumultuous year for everybody, and the pandemic and racial justice uprising have had a profound impact on the young people we serve. Passing this legislation at a time when COVID-19 cases are surging and young people experiencing homelessness don't have anywhere to go to shelter in place would only serve to compound the barriers that young people are already experiencing.

We are committed to working with our City partners to develop and implement innovative programs and services to address youth homelessness. We urge you to vote no on this motion (Council File 20-1376). We appreciate your consideration of our position on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Arlene Schneir, MPH
Co-Chair, Hollywood Homeless
Youth Partnership
Associate Director,
Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Lisa Phillips, LMFT
Director, Children, Youth &
Family Services
Los Angeles LGBT Center

Ami Rowland
Chief Operating Officer
Covenant House

Heather Carmichael, LCSW
Co-Chair, Hollywood Homeless
Youth Partnership
Executive Director,
My Friend's Place

Jeffery Jamerson, Ph.D
Vice President of Programs &
Services
Aviva Family and Children's
Services

Mark Supper
President/CEO
Youth Emerging Stronger

Emily James, LSCW
Vice President of Programs, Los
Angeles Region
Step Up On Second

Marissa Espinoza
Senior Vice President of
Southern California
Covenant House

Alison Hurst
Executive Director
Safe Place For Youth

Communication from Public

Name: Sarah Shoup

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 01:01 PM

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. I support this motion because it addresses The Americans with Disabilities Act, which has been dismissed for too long by the city of Los Angeles. The disabled and wheelchair bound are forced onto the streets endangering their lives with cars whizzing by them at 40+ mph because the sidewalks are blocked. The disabled through the ADA are guaranteed equal access to and equal opportunity in public Accommodations. 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. 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, and the list goes on and on. If the promises are not kept, then no community will want a Bridge Shelter in their neighborhood. 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, Sarah Shoup Venice Resident /Stakeholder

Communication from Public

Name: Karen G Rosin

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 01:34 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear City Council Members, PLEASE DO NOT IGNORE THIS COMMENT SIMPLY BECAUSE IT IS WORDED SIMILARLY TO OTHERS FROM OUR AREA. We are Venice homeowners and agree 100% with the message drafted below. I am not a robot or bot or corporation. I am a Venice stakeholder. 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, ___Karen Rosin_____ Venice Resident/ Stakeholder

Communication from Public

Name: Karen Hribar

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 01:55 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: As a property owner in the Park West Townhomes in Reseda, I am dismayed by the lack of transparency in Councilman Blumenfield's regrettable decision to place a "cabin community" for 100 of our homeless right in the middle of a quiet, residential neighborhood! To me, it looks as though it was the easiest place to plop this project down. As I understand, other of these communities are in commercial or industrial areas. According the the LA Times article on Monday, November 23rd, this type of housing is not solving our homeless crisis. People go back on the streets. We all are well aware that some of these unfortunate people have addiction and mental problems. We also know that some have fallen on hard times and are struggling to live. In any case, allowing this to happen in a pleasant, quiet, clean, reasonable safe family neighborhood is not solution. I also understand that there was no requirement for some type of impact study. Well, there certainly should be! If you want to ruin a neighborhood, this is the formula! Please allow for public comment. Please listen to you constituency, your neighbors!
Karen Hribar

Communication from Public

Name: Alex Dobbs

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 04:03 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly oppose this measure! We need to be addressing the root issues of housing and homelessness, not punishing homeless people further for the state of things and for trying to survive. I believe that allowing the homeless to build their own homes through tent cities or through shelters is dignifying because it is a space/home that they can call their own and have ownership over for the time being, hopefully until they can get into stable housing. This is also way less costly than built-for-the-poor housing initiatives. Don't criminalize homelessness!

Communication from Public

Name: Jenny Gillett

Date Submitted: 11/24/2020 07:14 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing in strong opposition to Item #24. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness; it actually makes it harder for my unhoused neighbors to come inside. Additionally, all people have an equal right to access public spaces, and no one should arbitrarily be banned from large sections of the city. If we are going to address unsheltered homelessness in any real way, the council should engage in discussions on housing and shelter availability, public health and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and how to engage with people experiencing homelessness beyond the use of law enforcement. This motion and draft ordinance—and the reckless speed with which it is being pushed through council—undermines that discussion and possibility. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with those efforts and depends on a currently nonexistent housing supply while misusing our financial resources, and jeopardizing the health and safety of those most in need of being inside. The guidance 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 is especially true now as we are seeing the highest increase in the rates of cases since the pandemic began. I urge the council to vote NO on this motion and instead focus these conversations and solutions on how we create more immediate access to housing and shelter resources in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.