

Communication from Public

Name: Sarah Rubinstein

Date Submitted: 03/14/2023 02:02 PM

Council File No: 21-0329-S4

Comments for Public Posting: United Way of Greater Los Angeles supports the approval item #23, the request for a reportback on the implementation and effectiveness of LAMC 41.18 and the City's Street Engagement Strategy. In addition to what is outlined in the motion, we recommend engaging in qualitative feedback sessions with case managers to get their firsthand experience of how enforcement of this municipal code helps or hurts their ability to get their clients housed. The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness recently noted, sit, sleep, lay policies like LAMC 41.18 "can lead to lost belongings and identification which can set people back in their pathway to housing; breakdowns in connection with outreach teams, health care facilities, and housing providers; increased interactions with the criminal justice system; and significant traumatization — all of which can set people back in their pathway to housing and disrupt the work of ending homelessness." We support a transparent review of the implementation of LAMC 41.18 that provides clarity about the scale of the enforcement and the effectiveness of the implementation of the Street Engagement Strategy, including client demographics and housing outcomes, expenditures of city resources on enforcement, and involvement of LAPD related to 41.18 enforcement during and after encampment closures. We've seen through the City's Inside Safe initiative that another way of approaching encampment resolution is possible. This new approach is informed by the same best practices and resource-rich approach that is described in the Street Engagement Strategy, with the notable exception of a code that criminalizes people experiencing unsheltered homelessness. We urge you to support this motion and continue to move towards a model that prioritizes trauma-informed engagement that connects people to designated interim and permanent housing solutions and wraparound services and does not rely on a policy like LAMC 41.18 that we all know does nothing to end homelessness in our region. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Kristen Aster

Date Submitted: 03/14/2023 04:17 PM

Council File No: 21-0329-S4

Comments for Public Posting: The People Concern thanks the Housing and Homelessness Committee for their consideration of council file 21-0329-S4, and the author of the motion. We welcome the data that would be generated by 21-0329-S4, particularly as the city will shortly be entering into its public budget consideration process. We believe that service-based interventions are not just ultimately most effective, but also fiscally most efficient. We support efforts to have data-driven decision-making in our system as the city designs, implements, and funds its homelessness strategy.