

Communication from Public

Name: CD11 Coalition For Human Rights

Date Submitted: 06/16/2024 08:44 PM

Council File No: 21-0329-S4

Comments for Public Posting: Please post this public comment to the council file

CD11 Coalition For Human Rights



June 16, 2024

Dear LA City Council,

The recently submitted Report of the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA) on the cost, effectiveness and effects of enforcing Los Angeles Municipal Code 41.18 is flawed. Although the data upon which the CLA relies in writing the report is sketchy, it concludes that the cost of enforcement is high (over \$3 million over approximately two years; pp.2,5). Notwithstanding the high cost, the effectiveness of enforcement is low (83% of people displaced by 41.18 appear to be still on the streets with only 17% receiving any kind of housing; pp.17, 18), and the effects on unhoused people are negative (fear of police, anxiety, separation from services; p.19).

To forbid "sitting, lying or sleeping" in public spaces during a housing crisis is inhumane. There are [46,260 unhoused people and only 16,100 shelter beds in the city](#) and so there can be no justification for the provisions of LAMC 41.18, which allow a council member to designate 500-1000 foot "sensitive" zones in their districts which criminalize unhoused people. In these designated 41.18 zones people are swept away like garbage, law enforcement can harass unhoused people, possessions are confiscated, citations may be issued, the unhoused people are continually displaced and disconnected from services.

There has been a proliferation of these "no sit-lie-sleep" zones throughout the city. In fact, 314 of them according to Council Member [Yaroslavsky's motion to amend protocols for administering 41.18](#). These zones need to be revoked, and LAMC 41.18 needs to be eliminated.

Three million dollars would be better spent on interim and permanent housing. It would be better spent on cleaning up areas without cleaning out the people. Frequent garbage collection would eliminate health hazards. Porta-potties and mobile showers would improve sanitation.

We call on the city council to hold an independent public hearing on LAMC 41.18. All city departments who have, or who ought to have, contributed to the Legislative Analyst's report should present and answer questions about their findings, findings which should be more precise than those presented to LAHSA and the Analyst.

Finally, we ask that the unhoused people directly affected by LAMC 41.18 be allowed to equally share their experiences and suggestions at this public hearing.

CD11 Coalition For Human Rights

We are a coalition of organizations and individuals in Council District 11 who support the human rights of unhoused people, support low-income housing, and support tenants' rights.

Communication from Public

Name: Venice Justice Committee

Date Submitted: 06/16/2024 07:52 PM

Council File No: 21-0329-S4

Comments for Public Posting: Please post the attached public comment opposing LAMC 41.18

Venice Justice Committee

P.O. Box 2881, Venice CA 90294



14-June-2024

Re:LAMC 41.18 Report Back & Urgent Need for Independent Hearing

Dear LA City Council,

LA City finally released the 60-day “cost and efficiency” report on LAMC 41.18 Friday, May 31, 2024 (351 days past due). The council file for this LACity report is [here](#).

Then on Tuesday 04-June-2024 Council member Katy Yaroslavski introduced a motion to change LAMC 41.18. The council file for that motion is [here](#).

Due to the costs incurred, which we don't have a total appreciation of at this time because the LAPD has not submitted even an estimate of costs for their involvement, and the harmful effects this law continues to have on unhoused residents of this city, we hereby demand:

An independent public hearing in front of the entire city council which includes presentations by unhoused community members directly impacted by LAMC 41.18 along with organizations working to oppose and overturn LAMC 41.18, like the Venice Justice Committee and Los Angeles Community Action Network.

A full public accounting and investigation of the failures of this law, which the LA City Council held up as a tool for the city to address homelessness and which has led to harm and displacement for unhoused people, is the least that can be done.

This law is wrongly used to target and criminalize LA City unhoused residents for the benefit of property owners. Trying to fix it somehow is simply inappropriate. Doing so perpetuates the targeting of unhoused people, who are predominantly people of color and disabled people.

We are not going to criminalize our way out of homelessness by pretending this is just a public safety issue for the housed, as study after study has shown again and again. It is cruel, discriminatory and contributes to the high death rate of our unhoused population.

Peggy Lee Kennedy & Magan Wiles
Organizers, Venice Justice Committee