

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/13/2021 07:45 AM

Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: I acknowledge the severity and urgency of the homeless problem in Los Angeles. However there are also millions more low income and middle class families barely holding on. These families are working two jobs, often at or below minimum wage and they do not have the funds to take “vacations”, nor have boats in the harbors to avoid heatwaves, nor have many places to spend valuable, low cost time together — where do they go? To our public beaches and state parks. I am extremely concerned by this idea of of Mr Bonin’s which may exacerbate the issues of low income families already on the edge or in crisis but not yet homeless. I cannot see the rationale of turning already PACKED lots at the beach — be it Will Rogers, Dockweiler or the other beaches mentioned in Mr Bonin’s Motion #21-035 — into shelters. These and other beaches that are used DAILY by families with young children cannot safely accommodate a site for "safe camping" and "tiny homes” much less share public access & facilities with the many homeless who are mentally ill, often have drug paraphernalia and are often abusive to strangers. We send our children to summer camp on the beach and with the encampment I do not see continuing to do so safely. We are a hard working family that saves funds for our kids to enjoy beach camp. And, has anyone also considered, that for example, Will Rogers is the evacuation site for Malibu and the Palisades in the event of wildfires? I am in disbelief that anyone thinks this is a good idea. I acknowledge that we must work hard to find solutions for the homeless epidemic but I feel this solution is a recipe for disaster, not only for public safety of our lower income families but also traffic safety concerns but also for the safety of ALL the public, particularly children.

Communication from Public

Name: Yves Mieszala

Date Submitted: 05/13/2021 07:46 AM

Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: Stop ruining our parks and beaches !! STOP !!!!

Communication from Public

Name: Yves Mieszala
Date Submitted: 05/13/2021 07:48 AM
Council File No: 21-0350
Comments for Public Posting: Stop ruining our parks and beaches !! STOP !!!!

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/13/2021 02:16 PM

Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: I acknowledge the severity and urgency of the homeless problem in Los Angeles. However there are also millions more low income and middles class families barely holding on. These families are working two jobs, often at or below minimum wage and they do not have the funds to take “vacations” or have 2nd homes to avoid heat waves and spend valuable, low cost time together — where do they go? To our public beaches and state parks. I am extremely concerned by this idea of mixing one problem with another. I cannot see the rationale of turning already PACKED lots at the beach — be it Will Rogers, Dockweiler or the other beaches mentioned in Mr Bonin’s Motion #21-035 — into shelters. These and other beaches that are used DAILY by families with young children cannot safely accommodate a site for "safe camping" and "tiny homes” much less share public access & facilities with the many homeless who are mentally ill, often have drug paraphernalia and are often abusive to strangers? And, has anyone also considered, that for example, Will Rogers is the evacuation site for Eastern Malibu and the Palisades in the event of wildfires? I am in disbelief that anyone thinks this is a good idea. I acknowledge that we must work hard to find solutions for the homeless epidemic but I feel this solution is a recipe for disaster, not only for public safety for our lower income families but also traffic safety concerns but for the safety of ALL the public, particularly children. Thank you for listening.

Communication from Public

Name: Dallas Brent Tolton

Date Submitted: 05/13/2021 02:21 PM

Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: I am totally opposed to allowing any kind of homeless housing in our parks, beach parking lots, beaches or other public recreation areas--temporary or permanent. This includes safe camping, safe parking, tents, tiny homes rv's or any other kind of accommodation. The great majority of the homeless in our community, in the state and elsewhere suffer from mental health issues, addiction issues or both. They need help. Housing is only one part of the issue and often not even the main one. This is amply demonstrated when rooms in programs like operation room key and beds in many shelters are not even fully utilized. The answer, however, is not to house people in parks, beaches or residential areas or to let them live on sidewalks, freeway underpasses or landscaping on the sides of the freeways or in other public places. Other solutions must be found. The current situation is not kind, charitable or compassionate to those who are homeless or to the residents of houses or apartments in our communities. Dallas Brent Tolton

Communication from Public

Name: Robert Danelski
Date Submitted: 05/13/2021 03:02 PM
Council File No: 21-0350
Comments for Public Posting: At beaches and parks? Depends on where they are and how will this be monitored for safety and cleanliness? How will this guarantee they won't take over Venice again?

Communication from Public

Name: Noel Rippe

Date Submitted: 05/13/2021 03:43 PM

Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: Re: 21-0350 Oppose Unless Amended to Remove Public Parks and Beaches Dear Councilmembers: The Brentwood community represents 33,000 residents and 3 business districts covering 15 square miles of the City of Los Angeles. As a resident of Brentwood, I oppose the use of public beaches and parks for the use of homeless housing and oppose 21-0350 unless amended to remove them from any feasibility studies. Public spaces were developed and codified for the recreation and enjoyment of all residents and should not be subject to the extensive environmental, sanitation and safety issues related to placing homeless shelters in those locations. Respectfully submitted, Noel Rippe

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/13/2021 04:07 PM

Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: As a parent of a teenage daughter it is not safe for her or any other person to be in the park (Westchester Park) where there are several unhoused individuals that are mentally unstable. You mention "safe camps for the unhoused" however you have not proven that to anyone. The community at large is the one's that are bearing the risk of your inadequate planning. I have seen firsthand your empty promises and the crime that it brings. Do not house them in Westchester Park

Communication from Public

Name: Loni Rush

Date Submitted: 05/14/2021 09:21 AM

Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: No encampments in SM at beaches . We have lost the respect of every sane govt. for handling this problem. If you cannot solve this problem in an appropriate manner resign and find sensible people who can.

Communication from Public

Name: Lee Gonsalves

Date Submitted: 05/14/2021 10:59 AM

Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: This is to oppose using Mar Vista park or the other Westside public areas in councilman Bonin's proposal for homeless encampments. Health: the encampments are filthy and present a health threat. There is little reason to believe that the city can control this problem in massive encampments were it is so unsuccessful with the current smaller sites such a under the 405 FWY on Venice Blvd. Crime: the encampment are drug and crime ridden. Living on Mar Vista Hill, at this time a half mile from the nearest encampment my family and I have experienced two thefts from our vehicles and one assaultive encounter. Home cameras have revealed homeless people going along trying the door handles on our parked cars at night. We can only imagine the consequences of allowing hundred's of people to camp in Mar Vista Park, a quarter mile away. There is little recreational area in West Los Angeles. Our children have had no school or park recreation available for a year. The problems with this, particularly for apartment dwelling residents is well documented. The recent Echo park experience should make clear the problems with park encampments: protests, no win situation for the police department and no park at all at this time for anyone. The promise of services is largely illusory. The city cannot force the acceptance of humanitarian services. The police basically can only act in response to a crime when it is essentially too late as a new victim has been created. The city needs to pursue small, manageable, decent lodging in small houses, trailers and unoccupied buildings where people can live with at least a modicum of decency and blend into the neighborhood. The current encampments with no restroom or trash facilities are a unbelievable blemish on the City of Los Angeles and the State of California. There needs to be a bringing together of opposing interest groups to work on solutions. Eliminating half the recreational amenities on the Westside is no solution at all for homelessness.

Communication from Public

Name: Robin Doyno (Mar Vista Resident)

Date Submitted: 05/14/2021 10:59 AM

Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: To the Council, Homelessness and Poverty Committee and the Council Chair I believe that a wide range of solutions should be considered in detail concerning this city wide tragedy of homelessness! I strongly favor item 21-0350 coming out of committee and being favorably considered by the entire council. We all have a stake in this struggle...yes, I am my brother's (and sister's) keeper and anything less than full study and action diminishes us all. Thank you, Robin Doyno-Mar Vista Homelessness Task Force HousingMV.org

Communication from Public

Name: Terri S
Date Submitted: 05/14/2021 01:10 PM
Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: I am a licensed clinical social worker and I work in a local emergency room in Santa Monica. I deal with the homeless population daily, as per SB 1152, we are required to see all homeless clients and provide social services. The issues most prevalent among this population are substance abuse (methamphetamines, alcohol, cocaine), mental health, probationary issues and sexual abuse. Approx. 85% of those who come to the ER have substance abuse issues, 60% have mental health issues, and approx. 50% of them are from out of state. Many moved here with no plan, often given a bus ticket by casemgr from their home state. We do our best to get homeless individuals connected to homeless programs, shelter referrals but sadly, even when we offer to get them housing thru Recuperative Care programs (which our hospital pays for), or try to get them into board and care homes using their SSI income, often they don't want to go, but would rather stay near the beach or on the westside. Our hospital has spent TENS of THOUSANDS of dollars on medical treatment, medications, Recuperative Care, clothing, transportation to assist these individuals. We work closely with the homeless organizations in SPA 5 including The People Concern, St. Josephs, Venice Family Clinic, and their outreach teams. I'm fully aware of the limited resources and wait lists to get into housing...the shortage of available drug rehab programs and mental health facilities, as I call them daily to get people connected...there is no easy solution to the homeless crisis...but I do my best to help where I can... However, as a home owner and tax payer who lives in the MarVista area, I am completely against turning MarVista park into a homeless encampment...even temporarily!! Already the tents there make it unsightly and when I take my dog for a walk around the park, I avoid the back area, due to the filth, trash, and unpredictability of the homeless, as I have been personally attacked (randomly) by a homeless man when walking my dog. Children and families use that park as a recreational area to play and socialize. Especially this past year with COVID, while we've all had to stay home, outdoors was the only place we could go safely to see or interact with people... And although we are in the yellow tier, public health officials/hospitals are anticipating another wave when schools open up in the Fall, as many people are still choosing not

to get vaccinated...Currently there are limited areas where kids can get together and meet, and the park is one of the few places, as it's big and open, and kids can play outdoors. There are already numerous encampments on the westside, including Venice Blvd-the underpass, and the encampment on Centinela/Bundy, as pop-ups on Grandview and all over the westside. It's one thing to have a sidewalk/underpass be an encampment area, but to take away our neighborhood park would be INCREDIBLY UNFAIR and a slap in the face for our community. While I understand the homeless need a place to stay, the fact that existing laws are not being enforced makes it impossible for people to feel safe. It's ridiculous to see so much trash in the streets, in underpasses, human waste/feces, needles, empty beer cans, bottles. With unhoused individuals, many with underlying mental health issues, using/abusing drugs and alcohol, and housing them in public places where children and families gather makes ABSOLUTELY NO SENSE!! Turning our neighborhood park into a homeless encampment is NOT a solution to the homeless crisis!! We already have more than our share of the homeless population on the Westside. The homeless population has grown exponentially in the past 5 years, and there's been a great exodus of families moving out of the area, due to the increased crime, homeless encampments, and high cost of living. I understand why people move here from other states, we have great weather, especially in So Cal, on the westside. But we residents and homeowners work hard to afford living on the westside, and to see our neighborhoods and local parks turn into homeless encampments, full of trash and filth is horrendous. It's incomprehensible that local authorities and law enforcement have no power to enforce existing laws to keep residents safe. I urge the mayor and councilmen to enforce the following: Abate and Correct Unsafe and Unhealthy Conditions in Homeless Encampments; Enforcement of Crimes in or Near Homeless Encampments; Enforce Laws Prohibiting Blockage of Public Right of Way; and Increase Funding to Support Additional Safe Parking Programs This affects all of us. We citizens are willing to get involved to make our communities better, safer, but we need our leaders to enforce the current laws, to help protect us, so that we can work together to come up with better solutions, vs allowing our neighborhoods to be swallowed up bit by bit with this growing problem.

Communication from Public

Name: Roger Young

Date Submitted: 05/14/2021 01:46 PM

Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: Homeless on public beaches. The touring magazines reviews will read: "Beautiful, but filthy and occupied by tents and tiny shacks."
Goodby to tourist \$. This is an insane suggestion from Bonin.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/14/2021 02:12 PM

Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: The proposal is an absolute disaster and should be rejected upon arrival. Los Angeles maintains so few open spaces and to fill them with shelters for people deeply in need of more assistance would be unfortunate for those habituating those spaces and for the locals who will lose access to them as a result.