

Communication from Public

Name: Farial Moss

Date Submitted: 05/12/2021 06:15 PM

Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: Please stop putting homeless encampments in Marina Del Rey.

Communication from Public

Name: Karen Ridgley

Date Submitted: 05/12/2021 06:22 PM

Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: May 11, 2021 Dear Councilman Bonin and LA City Council Members I am the Area 4 Representative to Pacific Palisades Community Council. I represent approximately 8000 residents from Temescal Canyon Blvd to Bienvenida Ave, north and south of Sunset Blvd. My constituents are overwhelmingly opposed to Motion CF 21-0350 to establish Tiny Houses and/or Safe Camping for the homeless on the parking lot at the Will Rogers State Beach, Pacific Palisades. This location would be dangerous. 1) It is next to the 6 lane critical Pacific Coast Highway (Rte 1) with poor lighting, no protective pedestrian fencing and no safe crosswalks near the proposed site, where homeless occupants may attempt to jay walk across Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) and risk collision with oncoming high speed traffic. PCH is a critical North/South coastal artery and critical to emergency evacuation of Palisades residents. We cannot risk critical road closures due to accidents caused by homeless occupants, many of whom abuse alcohol and drugs and/or have mental disorders. 2) This site is directly across PCH from a vulnerable population of 700 elderly residents of two mobile parks that are located directly across the Pacific Coast Highway from Will Rogers State Beach where you propose in your Motion CF 21 -0350 to establish Tiny Houses and/or Safe Camping for the homeless. This community is isolated from the Palisades and without security. In hot weather residents have to leave their windows and doors open to ventilate their older units constructed of aluminum with little insulation. Residents fear that their homes and their vehicles will be victimized by vagrants and homeless as easy pickings, right across the PCH. 3) Two high schools, Pacific Palisades Charter High School and PP Alternative School are located on Temescal Canyon Blvd, within less than 1/4 mile from your proposed homeless shelter site at Will Rogers State Beach. The high school students use the Will Rogers State Beach for athletics, environmental studies, educational purposes. They park their commute vehicles along Temescal Canyon Blvd and fear greater car break ins and harassment by homeless. Parents are concerned for their children to be exposed to homeless who may be mentally ill or inebriated. 4. The Palisades is a high risk fire zone. Residents fear many homeless will be drawn to the tiny houses and safe camp community and will populate the nearby tinder dry

bluffs, smoking, and building fires for warmth and food preparation on propane stoves. We fear fires will threaten the homes of our larger community. We have raised \$200,000 annually to hire outreach specialists to contact homeless individuals in PP and offer them housing and services. I urge you to withdraw your motion CF 21-0350 from the Council File and consideration. 5. The Will Rogers State Beach is the recreational spot for many thousands of LA residents and visitors from all of LA. To take any of the parking facility from the tax paying public is counter to the commitment of the Coastal Commission to guarantee access to the public of our precious beaches and the commitment of the LA County Commissioners Keuhl and Hahn to prohibit any overnight sleeping, camping or housing structures on the County operated Will Rogers Beach. My 8000 constituents in Area 4, PPCC and I reject your motion CF 21-0350. The entire PP Community Council Board voted against it. Our community and most of District 11 is residential in nature and does not have appropriate safe spaces, sanitation and mental health services or transportation systems to support the tiny houses and safe camping that you propose at Will Rogers State Beach. We overwhelmingly oppose taking the common recreational shore front space of the tax paying citizens of LA City and County to house the homeless at Will Rogers State Beach. Respectfully, Karen Ridgley 16128 Northfield St., Pacific Palisades, CA 90272
karenridgley@gmail.com Area 4 Representative, Pacific Palisades Community Council Neighborhood watch Coordinator El Medio Bluffs & Bienveneda Ave CC: (via email) Hon. Ben Allen, State Senator, SD 26 Hon. Richard Bloom, State Assemblymember, AD 50 Hon. Shiela Kuehl, County Supervisor, CSD 3 Hon. Eric Garcetti, Mayor, City of Los Angeles Hon. Nury Martinez, President, Los Angeles City Council Hon. Mark Ridley-Thomas, Chair, City Council Homelessness & Poverty Committee (HPC) Hon. Mike Bonin, Councilmember CD 11 Hon. Janice Hahn, County Supervisor, CSD 4 Hon. Mike Feuer, Los Angeles City Attorney Jack Ainsworth, Executive Director, California Coastal Commission Steve Hudson, District Director, California Coastal Commission Jerry West, Superintendent, Angeles District, State Dept. of Parks and Recreation Gary Jones, Director, County Dept. of Beaches & Harbor Kerry Silverstrom, Chief Deputy Director, County Depr. of Beaches & Harbors Cris Liban, Chair, County Beach Commission Tony Tavares, Caltrans District 7 Director

Communication from Public

Name: Susan E Evans

Date Submitted: 05/12/2021 06:25 PM

Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: Please do not create a new homeless encampment in the parking lot at Will Rogers Beach! I, along with thousands of other concerned citizens, am strongly opposed to Mike Bonin's proposal to do so. If you need to know why I oppose such an idea, look no further than Venice Beach; it is an impossibly unmanageable situation there! The homeless encampment there has made the area entirely unsafe for every citizen, including those who are living there. Some might say that "tiny homes" are a better solution than tent-living. Maybe so, but placing them on a public beach parking lot will create the same unsafe conditions. It is my understanding that the residents of such encampments, whether tents or tiny homes, are people who prefer to not follow the rules of a civil society. They do not want to accept the services offered to them, whether that be social services to help them through the current troubled time of their lives, or mental health and drug addiction services. Such services DO exist. Please do not create another Venice Beach homeless encampment disaster.

Communication from Public

Name: Amy Jane Longo

Date Submitted: 05/12/2021 06:31 PM

Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: I OPPOSE the proposal to allow encampments on Beaches and Parks. Our PUBLIC Beaches and Parks were not intended for encampments. This will increase crime, decrease child safety and increase pollution in our public spaces and ocean. Councilman Bonin admitted that he is not in a position to increase services, increase enforcement against criminal behavior, nor address the larger root issues of homelessness such as mental illness, addiction, job training, job placement, etc. Encampments could be allowed in the many underutilized City owned properties. Thank you for your kind consideration.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/13/2021 06:16 AM

Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly oppose constructing temporary supportive housing at Dockweiler Beach in Playa del Rey and at Fisherman's Village in Marina del Rey. These areas are used by many families, and families with children. I believe that recreational use is incompatible with the problems we have seen with the Bridge housing in Venice. I applaud the desire to solve this problem, but this is not the solution we need. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/13/2021 06:17 AM

Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: I OPPOSE the proposal to allow encampments on Beaches & Parks. Our PUBLIC Beaches & Parks were not intended for encampments. This will increase crime, decrease child safety & increase pollution in our public spaces & ocean. Councilman Bonin admitted that he is not in a position to increase services, increase enforcement of criminal behavior, nor address the larger root issues of homelessness such as mental illness, addiction, job training, job placement, etc. Encampments could be allowed in the many underutilized City owned properties. This would be catastrophic for the entire city and tourism of LA on all levels.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/13/2021 06:19 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 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”, 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. 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 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: Danielle Smeeton

Date Submitted: 05/13/2021 06:51 AM

Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: I OPPOSE the proposal to allow encampments on Beaches & Parks. Our PUBLIC Beaches & Parks were not intended for encampments. This will increase crime, decrease child safety & increase pollution in our public spaces & ocean. Councilman Bonin admitted that he is not in a position to increase services, increase enforcement of criminal behavior, nor address the larger root issues of homelessness such as mental illness, addiction, job training, job placement, etc. Encampments could be allowed in the many underutilized City owned properties.

Communication from Public

Name: Elizabeth Gilligan

Date Submitted: 05/13/2021 07:10 AM

Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: I OPPOSE the proposal to allow encampments on Beaches & Parks. Our PUBLIC Beaches & Parks were not intended for encampments. This will increase crime, decrease child safety & increase pollution in our public spaces & ocean. Councilman Bonin admitted that he is not in a position to increase services, increase enforcement of criminal behavior, nor address the larger root issues of homelessness such as mental illness, addiction, job training, job placement, etc. Encampments could be allowed in the many underutilized City owned properties.

Communication from Public

Name: Pacific Palisades Community Council

Date Submitted: 05/13/2021 07:11 AM

Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: Please see attached supplemental position letter from Pacific Palisades Community Council, opposing the use of, and/or a "study" for the use of, beaches, beach parking lots and public parks for homeless housing. For the reasons expressed in the attached letter and in our Position Statement of 4/23/21 (also on file), PPCC strongly opposes the motion in part.



PACIFIC PALISADES COMMUNITY COUNCIL

May 11, 2021

Hon. Eric Garcetti, Mayor, City of Los Angeles
Hon. Nury Martinez, President, Los Angeles City Council
Hon. Mark Ridley-Thomas, Chair, City Council Homelessness & Poverty Committee (HPC)
Hon. Kevin de León, Hon. Joe Buscaino, Hon. Monica Rodriguez & Hon. Nithya Raman, Members, HPC
Hon. Mike Bonin, Councilmember, CD 11

Via email to each addressee and submission to the Council File public comment portal

Re: CF 21-0350 – OPPOSE use of public state beaches, beach parking lots and parks for homeless housing

Dear Mayor Garcetti, Council President Martinez, HPC Chair Ridley-Thomas, HPC Members de León, Buscaino, Rodriguez and Raman, and Councilmember Bonin:

Citizens of Los Angeles, from Pacific Palisades and beyond, have expressed strong opposition to the use of public state beaches, beach parking lots and parks for homeless housing. This letter will supplement the Position Statement of Pacific Palisades Community Council (PPCC), submitted in the above-referenced Council File on April 23, 2021,¹ with additional compelling information and support for our position.

1. Pacific Palisades Is Overwhelmingly Opposed.

Respected Palisades organizations, entities and individuals strongly oppose the use of public beaches, beach parking lots and parks for homeless housing. *The level of community opposition is unprecedented in our experience.*

- Representatives of all nine **PPCC member organizations** unanimously voted to adopt the PPCC Position Statement, opposing the use of public state beaches, beach parking lots and parks, including the Will Rogers State Beach (WRSB) and Dockweiler Beach (Dockweiler) parking lots, for homeless housing:²

Corpus Christi School
Pacific Palisades Chamber of Commerce*
Pacific Palisades Civic League*
Pacific Palisades Historical Society
Pacific Palisades Residents Association*
Pacific Palisades Rotary Club*
Palisades Beautiful*
Palisades-Malibu YMCA
Temescal Canyon Association*

- All four **PPCC officers** (the undersigned) and all nine elected **PPCC Area & At-large Representatives**, representing *thousands of Palisades residents*, voted unanimously to adopt the PPCC Position Statement:

Joanna Spak, Area 1 (Castellammare, Paseo Miramar)
Steve Cron, Area 2 (Palisades Highlands)
Haldis Toppel, Area 3 (Marquez Knolls & lower Marquez)

¹ PPCC Position Statement: <http://pacpalicc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Letter-re-CF-21-0350-beach-parks-homeless-housing.pdf>.

² * Indicates that in addition to its PPCC representative's vote, the organization independently opposes using public state beaches, beach parking lots and parks for homeless housing.

Karen Ridgley, Area 4 (El Medio, above & below Sunset)
Sue Kohl, Area 5 (Alphabet Streets)
Karyn Weber, Area 6 (Alternate; Via Mesa/Bluffs & Huntington)
Jenny Li, Area 7 (Santa Monica & Rustic Canyons, Will Rogers State Park)
Reza Akef, Area 8 (Riviera & Polo Fields)
Alan Goldsmith, At-large (all Palisades residents, property owners & business operators)

- Additional **prominent Palisades organizations and entities** oppose the use of public state beaches, beach parking lots and parks for homeless housing, or do not support the motion in CF 21-0350:

Caruso/Palisades Village
Pacific Palisades Task Force on Homelessness
Santa Monica Canyon Civic Association

2. **The Sites Are Not Options, According to Supervisor Hahn.**

County Supervisor **Janice Hahn** has stated that the sites proposed in the motion in CF 21-0350 are **not options at this time**: <http://pacpalicc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Message-to-Sup.-Hahn-5-7-21.pdf>.

3. **Other Neighborhood & Community Councils and Thousands of Other Citizens Are Opposed.**

NC Westchester-Playa and Mar Vista CC each oppose the motion in CF 21-0350 and specifically oppose the sites proposed for their respective areas: Westchester Park, Dockweiler and Mar Vista Park.

At this writing, two additional non-coastal Westside councils oppose the use of public beaches, beach parking lots and parks for homeless housing: **Bel Air-Beverly Crest NC** and **Brentwood CC**. Other non-coastal Westside councils will also consider motions to oppose this use in the coming days (Westwood NC: 5/12/21; West LA-Sawtelle NC: 5/12/21; Westside NC: 5/13/21; Westwood CC: 5/18/21).

Over **1,000 pages of public comments** have been submitted in CF 21-0530 by individuals and entities who have overwhelmingly expressed opposition to the use of public beaches and parks for homeless housing.

Over **18,500 individuals have signed an online petition** opposing the use of public beaches and parks for homeless housing.

4. **Additional Compelling Reasons for Opposition:**

- **County Code** expressly **prohibits habitation/dwelling** on beaches and in beach parking lots: *LACC Sec. 17.12.232 and Sec. 17.12.620*.
- **All County Supervisors** have stressed the importance of preserving and enhancing our public recreational spaces as a matter of equity, health and well-being for all citizens.
- **Judge Carter** has expressed, in his ruling on the preliminary injunction in the federal *Alliance* lawsuit, that public spaces such as beaches, parks and libraries should be reserved for public use and enjoyment, not for homeless housing.
- A core mandate of the **California Coastal Act** is protection and preservation of **public access to California's beaches**. The Coastal Commission has historically disapproved of measures to impede access by reducing public beach parking; there is no reason for the Commission to deviate from this mandate now.
- It would be **unprecedented** to allow the state beach parking lots to be used for homeless housing. To our knowledge, homeless housing is not sanctioned on beaches or beach parking lots anywhere in California.
- The homeless crisis has existed in Los Angeles for more than a decade. Councilmember Bonin has insisted at PPCC meetings over the course of five years that Los Angeles is experiencing a homeless "crisis" or an

“emergency.” The homeless count has been rising steadily year after year, yet never once, until now, has he or any other public official suggested that any part of the public state beaches should be used to address the emergency.³ There is clearly **no “immediate emergency”** to justify impeding public access to treasured state beaches by replacing state beach parking lots with homeless housing.

- The state beach parking lots are **not owned or operated by the City** and as such, should never have been included in a “Sheltering Plan” submitted by the City in the federal *Alliance* lawsuit.

For all of these reasons:

PPCC calls on **Councilmember Bonin** to amend his motion and remove the state-owned/county operated WRSB and Dockweiler parking lots, as well as Westchester Park and Mar Vista Park (*opposed by the respective councils in those areas*), from the proposed sites in his motion in CF 21-0350.

Alternatively, PPCC urges the **Council Homelessness & Poverty Committee** to amend the motion to remove these sites and/or decline to recommend the state-owned/county operated WRSB and Dockweiler parking lots, as well as Westchester Park and Mar Vista Park, from the proposed sites in the motion in CF 21-0350.

PPCC further calls on **Mayor Garcetti** to express strong opposition to the use of public beaches, beach parking lots and public parks for homeless housing, and to direct the **City Attorney** to remove the WRSB and Dockweiler parking lots – sites that are neither owned nor operated by the City -- from the Sheltering Plan in the *Alliance* lawsuit.

Sincerely,

David Card, Chair David Kaplan, Vice-Chair
Richard G. Cohen, Treasurer Christina Spitz, Secretary
Pacific Palisades Community Council

cc (*via email*):

Hon. Ben Allen, State Senator, SD 26
Hon. Richard Bloom, State Assemblymember, AD 50
Hon. Sheila Kuehl, County Supervisor, CSD 3
Hon. Janice Hahn, County Supervisor, CSD 4
Hon. Mike Feuer, Los Angeles City Attorney
Jack Ainsworth, Executive Director, California Coastal Commission
Steve Hudson, District Director, California Coastal Commission
Jerry West, Superintendent, Angeles District, State Dept. of Parks & Recreation
Gary Jones, Director, County Dept. of Beaches & Harbors
Kerry Silverstrom, Chief Deputy Director, County Dept. of Beaches & Harbors
Cris Liban, Chair, County Beach Commission
Tony Tavares, Caltrans District 7 Director

³ PPCC and the Pacific Palisades community have for years recognized and responded to the urgent need for solutions. As Councilmember Bonin knows, the Pacific Palisades Task Force on Homelessness is a model of responsible and successful volunteer action to address the crisis. Moreover, PPCC’s Chairs and officers have searched in good faith but have been unable to find any suitable government-owned sites for homeless housing in Pacific Palisades. Information about the location of government property is available to Councilmember Bonin. The lack of suitable sites for homeless housing is not a matter within the control of his constituents, nor are we required to find alternate sites when none exist. We are concerned that this sudden new proposal involving a clearly unsuitable site, WRSB, is being raised now solely for political expediency and in response to Judge Carter’s orders in the *Alliance* lawsuit. If that is the case, the proposal – which is *contrary to the Judge’s express goals* -- should be rejected out of hand.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/13/2021 07:17 AM

Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: While I agree that we need to find a solution for homeless, placing them on the beach is NOT the answer. This will not be safe for them or for the residents of the area. It also will prevent people from using the beach this summer which is a huge revenue for the city and county. There is already a very significant increase in crime by homeless people in these areas (in the past two days a woman who was trying to walk around three homeless people was attacked and two teenage girls were harassed) and adding to it will make the area even more unsafe. I have not seen any proposed solution to keep the residents safe. Have you even been to the area outside the VA? Please find a solution that protects everyone and is secure for everyone. Otherwise, you are knowingly increasing crime in these neighborhoods. This is not the solution.

Communication from Public

Name: Monica La
Date Submitted: 05/13/2021 07:19 AM
Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: I take great exception to being completely ignored by my elected officials and City, County, and State services people. We DO NOT want encampments on our beaches, sidewalks, and parks. These locations are not intended for this purpose and we the taxpayers are saying NO! Your policies are destroying our way of life, our real estate values, our quiet enjoyment, our children's upbringing, our safety, our health, our wetlands, and when people live under these stresses, mental state. We live in fear of these drug addicts and mentally unstable people living outside our front doors. This is not the way a civilized society operates; there are rules for beaches, sidewalks, and parks and they should and must be enforced. There are a plethora of unpopulated areas in the state of California, I saw plenty on my way to the Palm Desert. Use those lands and build your tent cities and tiny homes. Stop the insanity. Homeless should not get to lay camp wherever they want and you people need to stop enabling this type of thinking. Do your jobs and listen to the majority of constituents who DO NOT want Bonin's policies put in place. We DO NOT want homeless living on the beaches, sidewalks, or in our parks. Period. What Mike Bonin and his like-minded gang have done to Venice and Westchester Park is a crime.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/13/2021 07:20 AM

Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: I oppose setting up any kind of safe camping at Mar vista park. It is not good for our neighborhood. Which has seen an uptick in property crime, and there have been break-ins committed by people camping out in the park presently. I don't trust that it will be safe to enlarge homeless services in our neighborhood park.

Communication from Public

Name: Steve Bardack

Date Submitted: 05/13/2021 07:20 AM

Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly oppose homeless encampments (or whatever PC name is now being used) on or near our beaches. Only the LA City Council could be so incredibly stupid to consider destroying the public safety and use of our beaches in favor of more crime, disease, fire and violence. I am literally shocked and appalled at the level of stupidity, ineptitude and incompetence of the City Council. Look at the disaster in Venice. It has made news worldwide. It is a disgrace. Bonin has proven to be a liar, a fraud and a complete failure. Only an utter moron fails massively in Venice and then wants to replicate his failure all over the City of Los Angeles. Stop destroying Los Angeles with your feckless attempts at social engineering. Stop destroying the precious resources of the beaches intended for the enjoyment of all, for the benefit of very few. We will hold the City of LA legally responsible for all property damage and crime that comes from these actions.