

Communication from Public

Name: Joe Plenys

Date Submitted: 05/12/2021 12:10 PM

Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: I'm writing to voice my opposition to Bonin's proposal to utilize beach parking lots as a temporary encampment for the homeless. Similar encampments this year throughout the city, like Echo Park and Venice beach have shown clearly that they drastically increase crime in the surrounding neighborhoods, and lead to a significant risk of fire (as demonstrated by the building burned down on the Venice beach boardwalk and the recent fire in the Ballona wetlands that threatened the Loyola campus) The beaches of Los Angeles are a public treasure and to remove public access, in a city with so few parks in comparison to other similarly sized cities is a horrible idea. The homeless do indeed need to be housed, but this solution won't put a significant dent in the sizable homeless population, and likely wouldn't even make things safer for those living in them, based on reports on crime within the echo park encampment. An encampment would also create an environmental impact on the beaches and ocean with the litter they would inevitably generate. Dockweiler beach access is the closest access for minority populations from Inglewood and South Los Angeles and the city curtailing their access might be seen as low key racist in a time when we need to come together. Please vote no on Bonin's poorly conceived plan for homeless encampments. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: CATHERINE CAHILL

Date Submitted: 05/12/2021 12:20 PM

Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: I am strongly opposed to using our beaches and beach parking areas for safe homeless encampment. While I recognize the urgent need for helping find shelter for homeless people, taking away beach parking lots and other beach properties is not a reasonable solution. Those areas fill in the summer and weekends with our local residents to use as their only escape from the heat in the valley. Keeping our waters clean should also be a priority and having an encampment risks increased garbage and unsanitary paraphernalia littering our beaches and oceans. Finally, is there no concern as to what impact it may have on tourism, which if nothing else is the bread and butter for many small businesses? This proposal should not even be discussed and removed from consideration.

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Communication from Public

Name: Charles Simonds

Date Submitted: 05/12/2021 12:22 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”, 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:

Date Submitted: 05/12/2021 12:32 PM

Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: Allowing the homeless to encamp in our parks and beaches is not solving the homeless problem. By allowing this you are only making the situation worse. Many of these people are in dire need of mental health care and this certainly does not address any of these needs to help them get off the streets. It is also not acceptable to sacrifice the well being of the tax paying community. This degrades our neighborhoods and is putting all of us under increased danger of crime and disease. We live in this county where WE pay for precious resources like our parks, beaches, and public streets. You are taking away everything that keeps our citizens in good mental and physical health.

Communication from Public

Name: Teri

Date Submitted: 05/12/2021 12:30 PM

Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: I voted for Mayor Garcetti and Councilman Mike Bonin. I packed supplies for the homeless with my kids for the last seven years along side Garcetti and Bonin. We packed these supply bags to help the homeless with an Organization called the Giving Spirit. I listened to both of them speak year after year about the housing being built for the homeless and also contributed financially to these efforts. Nothing has happened ...they have ruined Brentwood with the tents, trash, the burned trash not only in Brentwood but on all of our freeways. I am so embarrassed by the trash and filth all over our city that I have to tell friends and relatives which way to drive to my home in hopes they wont see that absolute destruction of our city. I along with many many others that I have spoken to blame Garcetti and Bonin. The recent insanity of Bonin suggesting that homeless encampments should be set up at Will Rogers Beach in the parking lots is the breaking point for me. Instead of suggesting prime real estate along the beach.... what about all of the open land in places like Lancaster? Actually at this point I don't believe anything ...I have waited for 7 years for the housing to come about. I find it so interesting that there are states throughout our United States that have managed this problem. Both Garcetti and Bonin have failed us in the most epic way. Leaving office with this giant faliure will be their legacy.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/12/2021 12:56 PM

Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: I have lived in Playa Del Rey since 1999 and own a home here. My husband and I raised our son here where he happily played both tennis and baseball at Westchester Park. I wouldn't go near that park as it is today. I value my life and safety too much. I have written to some of you before. I have written to Ms. Hannah Levien (at the suggestion of Ms. Nisa Kove) 3 times on 4/6, 4/10 and 4/16 without even the kindness of a generic response. I understand Hannah Levien played water polo in college. I wonder if she would ever venture anywhere near the pool at Westchester Park since it is presently surrounded by tents and their unhinged inhabitants. This plan to house the homeless at the beach and in a specific area of Westchester Park truly makes no sense since the majority of these people are clearly suffering from meth addiction, heroin addiction, alcohol addiction or mental illness. They clearly don't want to follow rules. A feasibility study is a waste of time and money. These people need social services and they need to be forcibly moved to a location where they can get treatment for their addictions and mental health. I really resent this habit of calling these folks my "unhoused neighbors." Look up the word neighborly - congenial, helpful, kind, civil, warm, considerate. These people do not fit that criteria which makes it tough for us law abiding residents to have much compassion. Neighborly people pick up after their dogs. I have now observed more than one man living in the park defecating on the sidewalk corner of Manchester and Lincoln. They are stealing bikes, attracting rodents, destroying properties like our once pretty park and are a danger to themselves and others. You all know this to be true. If Echo Park can be cleaned up, why not our park? I guess I just don't understand why our needs as a community are superseded by those of these people who need much more than a designated section of our park or beaches. It is a frustrating situation indeed and I hope you can appreciate our concern for what has been allowed to happen by those in power. The pandemic served as a great excuse to do nothing and allow this situation to take hold but I believe we have now reached a tipping point. The recent fire in the wetlands proves the line of RVs and cars need to be removed from Jefferson Boulevard. Sadly, it seems there's not much we residents can do but write emails to the likes of you and hope you take them into consideration and have

the common courtesy to respond. I don't think that is asking so very much. If you allow this lawlessness to continue, something tragic will likely occur, perhaps to a child, and sadly, it will be something you will have to live with.

Communication from Public

Name: Tony sells

Date Submitted: 05/12/2021 01:09 PM

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 should be allowed in the many underutilized City owned properties."

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/12/2021 02:48 PM

Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: 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. By all means look after the homeless but in proper housing, don't ruin the beaches and the parks for taxpayers.