

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 04/09/2021 08:46 AM

Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: Meth, heroin and mental illness are the main factors of this complicated situation. Unless those factors are addressed first and foremost you will not see any kind of success in your efforts to house these people. Public parks and public beaches are not campgrounds for people suffering from these afflictions. Too many folks don't want to follow rules and do not want to be housed. Many of these people are a danger to us and to themselves. Let's follow the lead of Echo Park and reclaim what is rightfully our spaces for which we pay taxes. Please stop calling these people my neighbors. They do not act, in any way, in a neighborly fashion. They are breaking the law on a regular basis in our neighborhood and should be held accountable. There are plenty of vast, open areas these people can be relocated to and enjoy the social services they need, as long as they abide by the rules that the rest of us must abide by.

Communication from Public

Name: Eric Crabtree

Date Submitted: 04/09/2021 08:49 AM

Council File No: 21-0350

Comments for Public Posting: This experiment will turn one of the City's greatest assets into an eyesore and liability. Access to clean and safe public beaches is not only a draw for our citizens but also for tourism as visitors flock to our beautiful beaches year-round. Why have parking and beaches been closed after dark? Safety. Furthermore, if parking spaces are occupied by mini dwellings, this will impact parking revenues used to fund lifeguards, trash removal and policing. Further, what is being advertised as "temporary" will surely last longer than anticipated and attract even more homeless to an oceanfront oasis in the best year-round climate in our country. Please find a more suitable location to deploy the tax dollars being collected for new homeless shelters.

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Comments for Public Posting: Tents and tiny houses for homeless people, located in Westchester Park and other proposed areas, does not help people who are homeless and who need permanent solutions and housing. This plan does nothing to improve access to the services and housing needed by people who are homeless. These types of camps are not an improvement over the current camps on the beaches and streets and in the parks, in which people who are homeless, especially women, are victimized by others and have poor access to services. There was recently a fire in the Ballona Wetlands, burning five acres of protected marsh, near the RV encampment on Jefferson Blvd. Wildlife and the wetlands suffered. In addition, this plan burdens communities, depriving children of safety in parks and on beaches. Children playing tennis at Westchester Park have been yelled at and frightened by homeless people who likely need mental health treatment and a safe place to live. I will not take my grandson to the beach in Playa del Rey because of the encampment there and the unsanitary conditions. Crime in neighborhoods near these encampments, and also in homeless encampments, is up sharply in the last year. I would suggest that the city contract with hotels throughout the city, as many as hotels rooms as are needed, to provide housing for people who are homeless, safe shelter, until a more permanent plan is developed. The Band-aid approach is poor planning and provides no more safety to people who are homeless than they have now. In addition, Council member Bonin has been unresponsive to concerns and appears to be bent on jamming this plan through without the necessary thought and planning, and without adequate notice and input from communities, and without proposing alternative solutions, such as renting hotel rooms for people who need shelter. The residents, and also people who are homeless, need the opportunity to have input and the opportunity to explore options. Here's an article that shows Councilmember Bonin's unresponsiveness, and discusses crime within the camps:
<https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.nbcalosangeles.com/news/local/residents-of-world-famous-venice-beach-demand-la-move-homeless-off-the-streets-as-tents-and-crimes-multiply/2569359/%3famp> Please table this process and take up the topic of options by reaching out into the homeless and neighborhood communities.