



Motion Approved by BCC on April 14, 2021

Council File 21- 0350 (Bonin) - BCC Motion to Oppose Unless Amended

Whereas, the BCC Homelessness Task Force ***has strongly supported*** use of the vacant West LA Civic Center for homeless shelters or affordable housing for 3 years and strongly supports Councilman Bonin for this portion of the Motion, and;

Whereas, the Motion proposes a homeless safe camping site located in Del Rey on private property which is supported by the Del Rey Neighborhood Council, thus the BCC defers to the local council on this issue, and;

Whereas, the use of shared, public recreational spaces are a benefit and resource for the entire community of Los Angeles, and, California beaches, in particular, hold a unique and valued place in the hearts and minds of residents and visitors from throughout the world, and the California Coastal Commission is clear the public should have unfettered access to utilize every portion of these recreational properties, and;

Whereas, California beaches are environmentally sensitive locations and the sites quoted by Councilman Bonin in Redondo Beach and Santa Cruz are not located on beaches but in commercial areas near “big box” stores, and;

Whereas, for the 3rd year in a row, the Los Angeles Department of Public Health reports the #1 cause of death for people experiencing homelessness is drug overdose, and the Los Angeles Times reports 67% of those living in street encampments suffer from mental illness, substance abuse and other disabilities but there is no mandate to accept housing when offered, and;

Whereas, the City Council has refused to review other options, including the Industrial Zoning Element of the City Strategic Plan, last reviewed in 2008, to create opportunities for the City, County, LAHSA or others to build or Master Lease scalable facilities for high volume housing connected to extended substance abuse and mental health programs, especially given most industrial areas are now served by new mass transit lines, and;

Whereas, the community of Venice has experienced an existentially negative shift in the quality of life in their community due to the explosive growth of homeless encampments, which have driven up violent crime, arson, and drug related offenses, and present extreme public health and sanitation issues, all of which may be, at minimum, partially attributed to a series of unrealized assurances from CD11 regarding safety, enforcement and cleanliness, and which have caused a substantially degraded public beach area, leading to the Venice Neighborhood Council vote of no confidence in current CD11 homelessness policies as of September, 2020, and;

Whereas, the BCC supports the Pacific Palisades Community Council Straw Poll Motion.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that:

The BCC Opposes Council File 21-0350 unless amended to:

1. Remove all public recreational space from the Motion, including deed restricted City parks;
2. Instruct the CAO to include a study of the City’s Industrial Element and industrial zoned areas for alternative locations and include the results of Councilmember Raman’s (Council File 21-0063) study of municipal property in the final recommendation report for this Motion;
3. Request U.S. District Judge Judge David O. Carter to direct that any homeless shelter opened in CD11 be restricted to homeless persons who were registered in the Coordinated Entry System as living within CD11 during the 2019 Annual Homeless Count.

Respectfully submitted,
Brentwood Community Council