

Communication from Public

Name: Nate Clark

Date Submitted: 09/25/2023 12:57 PM

Council File No: 23-0914

Comments for Public Posting: I oppose this motion. To some people this motion may appear to try to assist people living in RVs, but with a closer look, its apparent that it is yet another tool to expand banishment of visible homelessness from certain neighborhoods. Sometimes voices of those complaining about poverty may be louder, and thus more heard, by elected officials. We need to start meaningfully speaking on behalf of, and indeed amplifying the voices of, those folks who know, see, and feel the impact of these kinds of policies; policies of apartheid wrapped up in language of 'solution' and 'progress.' Houseless people are disproportionately Black, disproportionately targeted by policing (LAPD's own data), and are dying at a rate of nearly 6 every day. Expanding human rights via the right to housing, creating and protecting low-income housing is progress. Scuttling human rights as a tool of gentrification is political cowardice and it leans into white supremacy. The main intention of this motion is to move the vehicle housed to industrial zones and/or areas that may be far from the communities they are connected too, which disconnects people from the services they already receive. LACity has plenty of public parking lots that can be used for expanding the Safe Parking program for oversized vehicles nearby the services they are connected to already. A large percentage of the people living in vehicles are disabled, living on a fixed income, and cannot afford the rent. They want housing and a linkage to housing. They don't want to be hidden away somewhere. The motion does not include spaces with shade and sanitary facilities in the communities vehicle housed people currently live. Time and again the people living in vehicles state they are from the community they park in. The motion asks for separate wrap-around services (?) sent to these secluded locations, areas. Why not near the services people already receive and/or need? Disconnecting people from existing services does not make sense, it is harmful to disabled people. It isn't working well in the existing Mayor's Inside Safe program either.