

Communication from Public

Name: Los Feliz Improvement Association
Date Submitted: 11/03/2024 09:27 AM
Council File No: 24-0910
Comments for Public Posting: Please see attached letter.



advocacy and action
for Los Feliz

2024-2025

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*Past President

November 2, 2024

Nithya Raman, Councilmember District 4, Los Angeles City Council via email
(nithya.raman@lacity.org)

RE: Support for Council File: 24-0910 Entrance Obstruction / Buffer Zone / Religious Institution Entrance / Persons Right to Protest

Dear Councilmember Raman,

The Los Feliz Improvement Association (LFIA), representing all residents of Los Feliz since 1916, supports the motion CF 24-0910, which will instruct the LA City Attorney's office to draft an ordinance prohibiting individuals from knowingly preventing or blocking another person's entry or exit from sensitive sites, such as religious institutions, healthcare facilities, educational institutions, and community centers.

This ordinance is necessary to protect the safety and rights of individuals accessing these locations. Recent incidents of harassment and obstruction have endangered public safety and violated people's rights to access these spaces freely. This ordinance will provide critical clarity and establish enforceable parameters, which are currently lacking in Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 41.19.

Religious institutions should be safe havens for worship, and healthcare facilities must remain accessible for those seeking medical care without obstruction. Educational and public facilities also serve essential community functions, making unimpeded access crucial.

This ordinance does not aim to limit protest but seeks to balance the right to peaceful assembly with the need for safe access. Establishing buffer zones will help prevent confrontations and allow law enforcement to address violations, ensuring community safety and free expression.

In conclusion, we support the motion proposed in Council File 24-0910 to instruct the City Attorney's Office to draft such an ordinance as a vital step to protect our community. Similar measures have been enacted in other cities and counties, and we urge you to support this motion.

Sincerely,
The Board of Directors of LFIA

Debra Matlock
President

CC: Jennifer Hull, Field Deputy, Council District 4 (jennifer.hull@lacity.org)



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Katy Yaroslavsky, Councilmember District 5

(Councilmember.Yaroslavsky@lacity.org)

Public Safety Committee, City Hall, 200 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA
90012-4801

Supervisor Kathryn Barger, 5th District (kathryn@bos.lacounty.gov)

Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, 1st District (firstdistrict@bos.lacounty.gov)

Public Comment Submission CF 24-0910

*Past President