

Communication from Public

Name: The Climate Corps Initiative (TCCI)

Date Submitted: 08/07/2025 11:44 AM

Council File No: 25-0396

Comments for Public Posting: Demand for Accountability on the Sun Valley Metrolink Tiny Home Project As someone deeply invested in our community's future, I share serious concerns about decisions impacting our neighborhood - specifically the reckless and haphazard planning of the tiny home village at the Metrolink station; a project that was pushed forward with minimal to no community outreach, transparency, and meaningful input – leaving many residents feeling ignored and blindsided. This project threatens to further overwhelm already strained infrastructure and increase safety risk for residents, businesses, and commuters. First, to the councilmember who also serves on the LA Metro board: Your role overseeing Metro operations should give you a profound understanding of transit matters - including the critical need to coordinate resources between Metro and Metrolink to maximize efficiency and service quality. Yet, this project's approval shows a lack and failure to apply that expertise in a way that truly benefits transit riders, local businesses, and community at large. You must prioritize the community's voice and urgent needs - not treat public spaces like personal property to be altered without input. Instead this project, like many others, was advanced behind closed doors with no regard for the people who will live and work alongside it. Sun Valley residents deserve respect, transparency, and meaningful inclusion in every decision that affects our neighborhoods. Approving this ~\$9.4 million tiny home project demonstrates a poor grasp of local realities and a worrying lack of judgment. This funding serves only a small group, many of whom, coming from backgrounds with mental health and substance challenges, are unlikely to successfully live independently in these homes. Good example of this is Branford tiny homes. In addition, this location is not practical or safe for such a large scale housing project, especially when many residents rely on that station daily to access work, school, and essential services. It is also dangerously close to local businesses, schools, public park, that have employees whose safety is at risk already, without these tiny homes, which will worsen existing concerns. By contrast, just imagine what else \$9.4 million (which does not include city management and oversight) could achieve in Sun Valley: planting hundreds of trees in empty wells to combat heat, installing shaded bus stops to protect transit users from the

relentless sun, repairing miles of roads, developing green spaces and community gardens, or carrying out vital beautification projects - investments that benefit everyone not a handful of people who will end up back in the streets as soon as funding ends. We also want to know - what are the ongoing annual operating and security costs for such tiny home villages? Who is responsible for tracking and reporting these costs to the public? Why was Metrolink conveniently excluded from this conversation? So far, you failed to bring meaningful improvements or uplift the quality of life in Sun Valley and other underserved and underfunded communities. How do you plan to change course and deliver real results from here forward? Our community barely sees enough policing to address wide range of daily issues. Park rangers are absent, lawlessness persists, and enforcement of parking, environmental and public health laws is nonexistent. Given this, how do you intend to monitor, maintain, and ensure safety around a tiny home village when you're already overwhelmed managing longstanding systemic problems? Sun Valley demands and deserves accountable leadership willing to listen and act on its concerns. We call on you to pause this project and engage meaningfully with residents for solutions that promote safety, dignity, and lasting community well-being. There are many vacant areas and industrial corridors outside of city limits that can be utilized for projects like this, not the heart of a city in an environmental justice area. Here is a breakdown of cost for this type of projects: 1. Cost of building one tiny home \$42,000 - \$130,000 (\$133,000 for a 39 unit tiny home village in North Hollywood) 2. Cost of one bed per night \$55 (\$20,000 a year, \$4,160,000 a year for 208 beds) 3. Tiny homes have expenses not just for the structure but also electricity, water, sanitation, and site infrastructure (grading, paving, sewer lines) Now let's see how much beautification and quality of life altering projects cost 1. Cost of building one shaded bus stop \$35,000 (257 sheltered bus stops); How many sheltered bus stops could be installed in transit-dependent areas such as Sun Valley? 4. Cost of one mile road repair \$300,000 - \$1mil; Instead of temporary shelter projects, could funds be diverted to long-overdue road repair or sidewalk repairs in Sun Valley? 5. Cost of planting one mature tree \$1,000 - \$4,000; If environmental impact is a concern, why aren't we prioritizing permanent investments in greening and heat re