

Communication from Public

Name: Doug Ross
Date Submitted: 09/25/2025 09:33 AM
Council File No: 25-0843
Comments for Public Posting: see attached comments

Subject: Proposed RV Parks ICO — a weaponized pause, not a lawful safety measure

Honorable Councilmembers,

This ICO does not solve a safety problem. It **targets the ministerial approval path in LAMC §14.00(A)7** and **imposes a citywide freeze** on permits. The record shows the “pause” is to reconcile definitional conflicts (**LAMC §12.03 vs. §14.00(A)7**), not to address an imminent danger. That is **policy clean-up**, not an emergency.

No “proliferation.” The motion claims a “proliferation” of RV park permits. The facts say otherwise: in the last **three years there have been exactly two approvals—both ours**. There is no surge to justify an urgency freeze. This underscores that the ICO is **not** a safety measure; it is a **weapon** in **Councilmember McOsker’s** campaign to block a **ministerial** project that meets the law.

Selective history isn’t evidence. Staff claims the **12 performance standards** in **§14.00(A)7** were “last updated over 20 years ago.” Even if that text dates back, **§14.00 was reviewed and amended recently**—including adoption of **§14.00(B) Alternative Compliance** (operative **January 22, 2024**)—and the City has **actively applied** these standards in 2024–2025. If there were a genuine **immediate threat**, it should have been raised then. Using the “20 years” line now to justify an **urgency** moratorium is post-hoc pretext.

Title 25 (state preemption). The “health and safety” issues cited are **in-park systems**—sewer, water, electrical, drainage, fire protection, accessibility—regulated by **Title 25 (SOPA)** under **HCD**. Zoning can decide **where** a park belongs; it **cannot** commandeer **Title 25** to justify a land-use freeze. If there is a compliance issue, the lawful path is **HCD enforcement**, not a blanket moratorium. The City also **cannot impose its own in-park standards** beyond the **limited powers** the Legislature provided in **HSC §18865**; overstepping that authority does **not** create a valid “health and safety” emergency.

Court order controls §12.03 vs. §14.00(A)7. The Los Angeles Superior Court held that once **§14.00(A)7’s** objective standards are met, the City has a **ministerial duty** to issue permits; where **§12.03** conflicts, **§14.00(A)7** controls. Using an ICO to re-litigate that outcome is an **unlawful end-run** around a judicial determination.

Housing context—be consistent. The City invokes the **Recreational Vehicle Park Occupancy Law (RVTOL)** and enforces **TAHO** and the **RSO** for residents living in RVs in **RV/mobilehome parks**. That framework treats these residents as **tenants** and these parks as **housing**, not transient lodging. **Because the City’s own tenant-protection framework already shows this is housing**, any blanket freeze functions as a **housing moratorium** and must meet **SB 330** (imminent health-and-safety findings supported by substantial evidence and **prior HCD approval**) or it is **void**.

Mobilehome parks left in limbo. The ICO claims to pause approvals “under **§14.00(A)7**,” yet the operative ban only names **RV parks** and gives **no direction** for **mobilehome parks**—even though **§14.00(A)7 covers both**. That ambiguity invites **selective enforcement**. If mobilehome parks are included, the ordinance must say so, tie definitions to **state law**, and comply with **SB 330**. If excluded, it must say so and provide a **reasoned basis**. Arbitrary line-drawing is not lawful.

No grandfathering; requested protections ignored. The draft **omits a grandfather clause** protecting **approved or deemed-complete projects**. We **formally requested** such language in writing to the **City Attorney** (to preserve vested approvals, exempt Title-25 maintenance/repairs, and allow ministerial issuance where standards are met). The ICO **ignores** those safeguards and **retroactively weaponizes** a pause against projects that already satisfied **§14.00(A)7**.

Separation of powers matters. **Councilmember McOsker’s** personal dislike of **§14.00(A)7** does not authorize interference with a **ministerial** permit. The duty here is **administrative, not discretionary**. Deploying an urgency ordinance to sidestep a ministerial pathway—especially after a **court confirmed** the City must issue the permits—is an attempt to **circumvent judicial intervention**. Policy disagreements belong in a normal code-amendment process, not in an emergency freeze aimed at undoing a ministerial, court-confirmed approval.

This ICO is being used as a weapon. From the start, our company has been portrayed as doing something wrong when we have not. Construction was halted on a **ministerial** project using false statements, followed by stall tactics designed for maximum financial harm.

Councilmember McOsker has shown bias, violated City ordinances and state law, and ignored the people this park serves while favoring a small group of opponents—waiting to act until construction was nearly complete to inflict the greatest damage. **Every report and determination, as well as a court order, say the same thing:** we met the standards and have a **legal right** to our permits. This is not an emergency; it is a **weaponized pause** aimed at compliant housing.

Bottom line: Finish code reconciliation through normal legislation and **process §14.00(A)7 projects ministerially**. Do not weaponize an urgency ordinance to stop lawful housing.

Sincerely,

Doug Ross