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Your Community Impact Statement Submittal - Council File Number: 25-4118-S5

1 message

LA City SNow <cityoflaprod@service-now.com>
Reply-To: LA City SNow <cityoflaprod@service-now.com>
To: Clerk.CIS@lacity.org, jacobnwwnc@gmail.com

Sun, Jun 8, 2025 at 10:12 PM

A Neighborhood Council Community Impact Statement (CIS) has been successfully submitted to your Commission or City Council. We provided information below about CISs and attached a copy of the CIS.

We encourage you to reach out to the Community Impact Statement Filer to acknowledge receipt and if this Community Impact Statement will be scheduled at a future meeting. Neighborhood Council board members are volunteers and it would be helpful if they received confirmation that you received their CIS.

The CIS process was enabled by the Los Angeles Administrative Code §Section 22.819. It provides that, "a Neighborhood Council may take a formal position on a matter by way of a Community Impact Statement (CIS) or written resolution." NCs representatives also testify before City Boards and Commissions on the item related to their CIS. If the Neighborhood Council chooses to do so, the Neighborhood Council representative must provide the Commission with a copy of the CIS or resolution sufficiently in advance for review, possible inclusion on the agenda, and posting on the Commission's website. Any information you can provide related to your agenda setting schedule is helpful to share with the NC.

If the CIS or resolution pertains to a matter *listed on the Commission's agenda*, during the time the matter is heard, the designated Neighborhood Council representative should be given an opportunity to present the Neighborhood Council's formal position. We encourage becoming familiar with the City Council's rules on the subject. At the Chair's discretion, the Neighborhood Council representative may be asked to have a seat at the table (or equivalent for a virtual meeting) typically reserved for City staff and may provide the Neighborhood Council representative more time than allotted to members of the general public. They are also permitted up to five (5) minutes of time to address the legislative body. If the CIS or resolution pertains to a matter *not listed on the agenda*, the designated Neighborhood Council representative may speak during General Public Comments.

We share this information to assist you with the docketing neighborhood council items before your board/commission. If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at empowerla@lacity.org.

***** This is an automated response, please DO NOT reply to this email. *****

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: North Westwood

Name: Jacob Wasserman

Email: jacobnwwnc@gmail.com

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(11) Nay(2) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 03/05/2025

Type of NC Board Action: Against

Impact Information

Date: 06/09/2025

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 25-4118-S5

City Planning Number:

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: The North Westwood Neighborhood Council opposes criminalizing our unhoused neighbors at the listed locations, including Westwood Park, Westwood Branch Library, and Westwood Gardens Park. Banning unhoused Angelenos from seeking shelter of last resort within 500 feet of the parks and library will only cause displacement and dispossession. This motion and others under the 41.18 structure lead the City further away from truly effective measures instead. Our city is facing a homelessness crisis, one which city leaders will readily admit that we do not yet have the resources to address. Available beds and social services lag far behind the number of people who need them, most

especially in Council District 5. Too many of those who are placed into interim housing are unable to transition to permanent options that are in short supply. Yet Council File 25-4118-S1 and those like it criminalize people with no other place to go, for merely seeking shelter within a wide radius of listed public locations. They do nothing to solve homelessness, merely forcibly pushing people from place to place and expressing a view that unhoused people are inherently criminal. They waste millions of city dollars while accomplishing very little. Legal scholars have argued that such ordinances violate basic human rights. Only two people have been permanently housed through placements after 41.18 enforcement. 94 percent of people wanted shelter, but only 18 percent were able to get into shelter. Offers of shelter, reports have found, are often haphazard or in bad faith. 41.18 has proven expensive and ineffective. 41.18 has also failed as a method to keep the public right-of-way accessible and safe. 81 percent of encampment sites removed under 41.18 saw people return. And the motion would cover a far wider swath of our district than the approaches to the listed facilities. We urge the City Council to take a new approach founded on services, housing, and listening to the needs of the unhoused.



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- COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT -

Summary:

The North Westwood Neighborhood Council opposes criminalizing our unhoused neighbors at the listed locations, including Westwood Park, Westwood Branch Library, and Westwood Gardens Park. Banning unhoused Angelenos from seeking shelter of last resort within 500 feet of the parks and library will only cause displacement and dispossession. This motion and others under the 41.18 structure lead the City further away from truly effective measures instead.

Our City Councilmember, Councilmember Yaroslavsky, observed the following at the [February 15, 2023 City Council meeting](#):

"It's not clear that we're offering—making credible offers of housing and services as we apply it."

"What's happened in Council District 5, I think, is Exhibit A for what happens when you enforce 41.18 without credible offers of housing and services."

"It just...spreads people around. Homelessness has gotten worse in my district."

"We're not actually solving the problem; we're just engaging in an elaborate shell game."

We agree with all of these statements and believe they still apply today.

Our city is facing a homelessness crisis, one which city leaders will readily admit that we do not yet have the resources to address. Available beds and social services lag far behind the number of people who need them, most especially in Council District 5. Too many of those who are placed into interim housing are unable to transition to permanent options that are in short supply.

Yet Council File 25-4118-S1 and those like it criminalize people with no other place to go, for merely seeking shelter within a wide radius of listed public locations. they do nothing to solve homelessness, merely forcibly pushing people from place to place and expressing a view that unhoused people are inherently criminal. They [waste millions of city dollars while accomplishing very little](#). Legal scholars have argued that such ordinances [violate basic human rights](#).

According to [a report by the Legislative Analyst](#), only two people have been permanently housed through placements after 41.18 enforcement. Per the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, 94 percent of people wanted shelter, but only 18 percent were able to get into shelter. Offers of shelter, reports have found, are often haphazard or in bad faith. 41.18 has proven expensive and ineffective.

41.18 has also failed as a method to keep the public right-of-way accessible and safe. According to the LAHSA, 81 percent of encampment sites removed under 41.18 saw people return thereafter. And the motion would cover a far wider swath of our district than the approaches to the listed facilities, revealing its misapplication as an accessibility tool.

NWWNC and its partner organizations have hosted Westwood Connect Day at Westwood Park, connecting unhoused neighbors to medical, legal, housing, and hygiene services and resources, and we plan to do so again soon. We believe that this motion will undermine or undo the hard work building trust and providing aid of efforts like this.

We also oppose this motion because of the central role libraries play in helping people who lack internet access get housing, jobs, and services. Public libraries help those in need access the internet, books, and a growing list of other resources. If this motion passes, unhoused Angelenos will be driven away from libraries. Instead of using libraries to help people in homelessness, this motion undermines the very purpose of *public* libraries.

In [Council File 21-0329-S5](#), which [our Council supported](#), Councilmember Yaroslavsky proposed that to have 41.18 resolutions identify actually available, close shelter space, to ensure that offers of shelter are credible, and to use trained, unarmed crisis response as the first point of contact to unhoused encampment residents. That motion has had neither hearing nor vote, and we have seen no evidence of improvement in 41.18 operations along the lines proposed. Outreach is still inadequate for the reasons the Councilmember identified, and the motion in Council File 25-4118-S1 fails to include what the Councilmember proposed in Council File 21-0329-S5.

We urge the City Council to take a new approach founded on services, housing, and listening to the needs of the unhoused.

Council File: [25-4118-S1](#)

Title: Designation of Prohibited Locations / 2733 Midvale Avenue / 1765 South La Cienega Blvd / 7341 Willoughby Ave / 1246 Glendon Ave / 10853 Wellworth Ave / 1350, 1411 South Sepulveda Blvd / Council District 5 / Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 41.18

Position: Against

Council File: [24-4118](#)

Title: Designation of Prohibited Locations

Position: Against

Council File: [23-4118-S6](#)

Title: Designation of Prohibited Locations / Freeway I-10 at Centinela Avenue / 501 South Venice Boulevard / 6660 Esplanade Place / 1233 Rose Avenue / Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve, etc. / Council District 11 / Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 41.18

Position: Against

Council File: [25-4118-S5](#)

Title: Designation of Prohibited Locations / 2346 Cotner Ave. / Cotner Avenue/Nebraska Avenue / Robertson Boulevard/10 Freeway / Pico Boulevard/405 Freeway / Pico Boulevard/Camden Avenue, etc. / Council District 5 / Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 41.18

Position: Against