

Communication from Public

Name: Raquel Roman

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Comments for Public Posting: Good morning, Council President and Members of the City Council. My name is Raquel Román, Executive Director of Proyecto Pastoral at Dolores Mission, and I am here today in strong support of the five Boyle Heights recovery motions before you. For months, Boyle Heights residents have been living with the consequences of the Lineage fire—concerns about air quality, odors, contamination, sanitation, housing conditions, and the uncertainty of not knowing whether the systems meant to protect them are actually working. But I want to be clear: Boyle Heights residents should not have to fight to become a priority. We should be a priority for the whole City of Los Angeles. That is why these motions matter. Item 18 asks the City to suspend Care+ operations during environmental emergencies and establish a coordinated response. Our residents deserve a City response that recognizes when normal operations are no longer appropriate. Item 19 prioritizes LASAN resources for Boyle Heights—especially around schools and residential areas. Clean streets, sidewalks, alleys, and public spaces are not a luxury. They are basic public health protections. Item 20 demands transparency around water-quality testing and the impacts on our storm drains, waterways, and the Los Angeles River. Residents deserve answers, not uncertainty. Item 21 creates a permanent Environmental Justice voice for impacted communities. We cannot continue making decisions about communities without meaningful participation from those communities. And Item 40 prioritizes housing resources for Boyle Heights tenants, including investigations and stronger responses to housing violations. Recovery is not just about cleaning up streets. Recovery means protecting people's homes and their right to live safely in them. These five motions represent something bigger: a commitment that Boyle Heights will not be forgotten once the headlines fade. We need accountability. We need transparency. We need resources. And most importantly, we need the City to center the people who have been carrying this burden. I urge you to support all five motions and continue making Boyle Heights a priority—not just during a crisis, but in the long-term future of Los Angeles. Thank you.