

**Document in Opposition to
Proposed Boarding House Ordinance:
Case Number CPC-2009-800-CA and
City Council File Number 07-34-27
and In Support of
QUALITY SOBER LIVING HOMES**

**LA COUNCIL
FILE
11-0262**
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We the undersigned oppose Ordinance CPC-2009-800-CA – Council File 07-34-27 as currently constituted, and find it to be discriminatory against Sober Living Homes and to the families that such institutions help to create and maintain. We wish to bring to the attention of the City Planning Commission and the City Council the following:

Sober living homes provide housing and supportive family environments and resources to people in recovery from addiction. Sober living has been an integral, clinical part of recovery for over 75 years.

As presently constituted, this ordinance will have a disparate impact on groups of disabled persons, including those on parole and probation, seeking single family housing. We believe that this ordinance is supported by an illegitimate and discriminatory intent, ignoring fair housing and reasonable accommodation case law for “families of disabled persons living together in mutual support (Sober Living)”.

This ordinance cannot justify its proposed redefinition of family, single housekeeping units, and reclassification of penal institutions which will severely restrict the way unrelated people can live together in low density residential areas, (zones R1, R2, RD) since the principal means for this type of shared housing is through multiple leases or other individual financial arrangements.

We, the undersigned agree with the findings of the 1997 American Planning Association, Policy Guide on Community Residences⁽¹⁾ which include:

- 1) Community residences (sober living homes) are a legitimate residential use of property, and are not boarding houses.
- 2) Community residences have no effect on the value of neighborhood properties, established by over 50 studies, even for immediately adjacent properties.
- 3) Community residences have no effect on neighborhood safety. In fact residents of group homes are far less likely to commit crimes than members of the general population.

(1) American Planning Association – Policy Guide on Community Residences, 1997 Adopted by Special Delegate Assembly, September 21, 1997; Ratified by Board of Directors, September 22, 1997. The full report can be downloaded at <http://www.planning.org/policy/guides/adopted/commres.htm>

We recognize and value the many benefits sober living homes can provide to the City including; reduced crime, reduced homelessness, reduced dependency on City and other public services, reduced family and neighborhood violence and other benefits. We also recognize that these benefits, unlike other social service programs, are provided at virtually no cost to the City and its residents.

By affixing our names to this document, we implore the City of Los Angeles to reject the proposed ordinance as presently constituted and to provide reasonable access to treatment and recovery for all families.

We the undersigned petitioners:

Your Name (Please Print or Write Legibly)	Home Town/Zip Code	Your Signature
1 NANCY DIGGS	Los Angeles, 90037	Nancy Diggs
2 Jonathan Mebane	Los Angeles 90037	Jonathan Mebane
3 Heidi Jackson	Hawthorne 90250	Heidi Jackson
4 Paul M. Agan	Palmdale CA 90033	Paul M. Agan
5 Ethel Jones	Los Angeles	Ethel Jones
6 KIMBERLY WHITNEY	LA CA 90037	Kimberly Whitney
7 Kevin Pittman	LA CA 90037	Kevin Pittman

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Your Name (Please Print or Write Legibly)	Home Town/Zip Code	Your Signature
8 KIM HUGHES	LA 90007	<i>Kim Hughes</i>
9 Patrice TERALewis	LA 90082	<i>Patrice Lewis</i>
10 Patrice	LA 90061	<i>Patrice</i>
11 Smiley Jones	LA 90037	<i>Smiley Jones</i>
12 BENA FAVORS	L.A. 90037	<i>Ms Bena Savar</i>
13 Cheryl Smith	LA 90037	<i>Cheryl Smith</i>
14 Jones	LA 90032	<i>Jones</i>
15 Maiti Linares	348 N. occ. ⁹⁰⁰²⁶ idental Blvd	<i>Maiti Linares</i>
16 May Tharovic	856 N. 47th St ⁹⁰⁰³⁷	<i>May Tharovic</i>
17 Jan Cunningham	7049 T Ave	<i>J. Cunningham</i>
18 ANRISHA CAGE	LA 90047	<i>Anrisha Cage</i>
19 Kevin Figueroa	LA 90054	<i>Kevin Figueroa</i>
20 JAMES CARTER	LA 90037	<i>James Carter</i>
21 TRINA HARRIS	LA 90037	<i>Trina Harris</i>
22 Arthur French	LA 90066	<i>Arthur French</i>
23 PANDY HARVEY	LA 90013	<i>Pandy Harvey</i>
24 Richard TULLSKI	LA 90045	<i>Richard Tullski</i>
25 CLARENCE TOLLIVER	Inglwood, 90301	<i>Clarence Tolliver</i>
26 ANNIE O. DAVIS	Westchester, Ca 90045	<i>Annie O. Davis</i>
27 Candace Diggs	26801 S. Western Ave Lomita CA	<i>Candace Diggs</i>
28 JOHN MEBANE	CERRITOS 90703	<i>John Mebane</i>
29 Jonathan Jones	Paramount 90725	<i>Jonathan Jones</i>

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Your Name (Please Print or Write Legibly)	Home Town/Zip Code	Your Signature
30 <i>Greg Brown</i>	<i>Lakewood 190725</i>	<i>Greg Brown</i>
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