

LA COUNCIL FILE
11-0262

**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**

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:




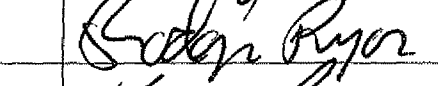


- 1) Community residences (sober living homes) are a legitimate residential use of property, and are not boarding houses.
- 2) Community residences have no effect on the value of neighborhood properties, established by over 50 studies, even for immediately adjacent properties.
- 3) Community residences 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 Laurie Sigelman | 91601 |  |
| 2 Andrew Cannon | 91601 |  |
| 3 Virgil Fogal | 91601 | Virgil Fogal |
| 4 Richard Gordon | N. Hollywood, 91601 |  |
| 5 RODGER RYOR | 91601 |  |
| 6 Lawrence Tracy | 91604 |  |
| 7 DAVID SPENK | 91604 |  |

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| Your Name (Please Print or Write Legibly) | Home Town/Zip Code | Your Signature |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 8 Aaron Wohl | LA CA 91604 | <i>Aaron Wohl</i> |
| 9 Steve Tiss | Noeth Hollywood 91606 | <i>Steve Tiss</i> |
| 10 Robert Hurley | winetka 91306 | <i>Robert Hurley</i> |
| 11 Norman Atchison | N Hollywood 91601 | <i>Norman Atchison</i> |
| 12 Thoms Logan | N Hollywood 91601 | <i>Thoms Logan</i> |
| 13 Hicks Bart | N HOLLYWOOD 91601 | <i>Bart Hicks</i> |
| 14 MACE BEYERS | NOHU 91601 | <i>Mace Beyers</i> |
| 15 James R. Stone | N. HOLLYWOOD 91601 | <i>James R. Stone</i> |
| 16 Robert | 91601 | <i>Robert</i> |
| 17 Angela Mason | 91303 | <i>Angela Mason</i> |
| 18 CHRIS MASON | 91601 | <i>Christina F. Mason</i> |
| 19 STEVE Stroyan | 91601 | <i>Steve Stroyan</i> |
| 20 BRIAN CLEMENTS | 91601 | <i>Brian K. Clements</i> |
| 21 Anneke Eder | 90038 | <i>Anneke Eder</i> |
| 22 John Rivera | 91601 | <i>John Rivera</i> |
| 23 CHARLES POWERS | 91601 | <i>Charles Powers</i> |
| 24 Mitchell Gurdle | 91601 | <i>Mitchell Gurdle</i> |
| 25 KABIN Thomas | 91601 | <i>Kabin Thomas</i> |
| 26 Erik Lopez | 91601 | <i>Erik Lopez</i> |
| 27 Donald O'Rourke | 91601 | <i>Donald O'Rourke</i> |
| 28 Forest Leland | 91601 | <i>Forest Leland</i> |
| 29 DAVID B | 91601 | <i>David B</i> |

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| Your Name (Please Print or Write Legibly) | Home Town/Zip Code | Your Signature |
|--|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 30 FRANK MITCHELL | VAN NUYS 91401 | Frank Mitchell |
| 31 Jenna Whetzel | NOHO 91605 | Jenna Whetzel |
| 32 STEVEN STROYAN | NOHO 91601 | Steve Stroyan |
| 33 DAVID O PERRY | NOHO 91601 | David Perry |
| 34 Shere Zarella | NOHO 91601 | Shere Zarella |
| 35 Leman Vance | 91601 | Leman Vance |
| 36 Steve Barber | No. Hollywood 91601 | Steve Barber |
| 37 Anthony Mancinetti | 91505 | Anthony Mancinetti |
| 38 Riki F. Mancinetti | 91505 | Riki F. Mancinetti |
| 39 Marie Zapfen | 91316 | Marie Zapfen |
| 40 Elizabeth Courtney | 91601 | Elizabeth Courtney |
| 41 JON STEWART | 91406 VAN NUYS | Jon Stewart |
| 42 Carla Lawson | 91406 Lake Balboa | Carla Richardson Lawson |
| 43 Kedrik | 91601 | Kedrik |
| 44 Russel Levine | 91411 | Russel Levine |
| 45 GRACE KING | 91601 | Grace King |
| 46 Jammy Curtis | 91352 | Jammy Curtis |
| 47 RUVELL SAVON | 91352 | Ruvell A. Savon |
| 48 Bill Jacobson | Burbank 91505 | Bill Jacobson |
| 49 Brian Smith | 91042 | Brian Smith |
| 50 TERRY YBAY | 91404 | Terry Ybay |
| 51 James Anderson | 91601 | James Anderson |