



WESTSIDE IMPACT PROJECT

A COMMUNITY APPROACH TO ALCOHOL PROBLEMS ON THE WESTSIDE

February 5, 2018

Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Councilmember Ryu and Staff,

Re: Recommended Changes to the Loud/Unruly Gathering Draft Ordinance Council File: 12-1824-S1

The Westside Impact Project is a coalition of public health providers and concerned community members working to reduce alcohol problems on the Westside of Los Angeles.

Ordinances that seek to deter unruly parties and gatherings are an important tool to reduce underage drinking and other significant alcohol-related harms.

To this end, our coalition supports the draft ordinance adding Section 41.58.1 to Article 1 of Chapter IV of the LA Municipal Code to prevent loud or unruly gatherings, but we strongly urge the following changes be incorporated:

- 1) Add Cost Recovery Services: Incorporating cost recovery services as an additional penalty for multiple violations will function as the most effective deterrent of recurring loud and unruly gatherings.
- 2) Remove the 'Posting of Notice' Requirement: Requiring officers to post notices, and then track any subsequent removal of those notices, is a significant administrative burden. In our experience, hefty administrative fines, coupled with cost recovery services, are adequate deterrents. Also, the simplicity of a 'citation-only' process encourages officers to use the tool more broadly in the field.

We are representing community voices from across Los Angeles in recommending these modifications to the draft ordinance. We are pleased Councilmembers Ryu, Bonin and Huizar are moving this legislation forward and we believe, if these modifications are incorporated, it will be an effective intervention that will reduce the alcohol-related crime, violence, injury and public nuisance activity that stem from house parties.

Sincerely,

Maurina Cintron, Representative of the Westside Impact Project