

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: Hello All, On July 30. many people made public comment against the reinstatement of 85.02. No-one spoke in favor. At the close of public comment, Councilwoman Nury Martinez did not ask if any council member had a comment prior to requesting a tabulation of the vote. It passed unanimously, 13-0.
<https://youtu.be/-GEZfU0q538> Was that lip-service to due process? Those supporting the reinstatement of 85.02 felt no need to be in the Council Chambers. Councilman Harris Dawson answered questions afterwards from the public and reporters.
https://youtu.be/OLVVAUoyr_0 Councilman Harris Dawson is a former community organizer. 82.05 is dehumanizing. Mr. Harris Dawson was Chair of the Poverty & Homelessness Committee when it approved 85.02 on June 22, 2016. On July 30, Mr. Harris Dawson stated that 85.02 is necessary because without it there is a city-wide ban on vehicular living in Los Angeles. This is not true. *Desertrain v. City of Los Angeles* voided the city-wide ban in June 2014. 85.02 deprives a segment of the population, based on their economic condition, of their constitutional right to access public amenities including public parking, access to public parks, as well as bathrooms and drinking fountains at those parks. LAMC §49.5.5(A) states in part that "City officials, agency employees, ... shall not misuse or attempt to misuse their positions ... to create or attempt to create a private advantage or disadvantage, financial or otherwise, for any person." The only public bathrooms and drinking fountains in the City of Los Angeles are in public buildings, public parking structures, and public parks. Private bathrooms are only available to paying customers. With more than 30,000 unhoused people in the city and no bathrooms, sanitation stations, and drinking fountains, the restrictions of 85.02 amount to cruel and unusual punishment prohibited by the Eight Amendment. It further endangers vulnerable people's lives. 85.02 must be overturned.
Appreciatively, Margaret Molloy