

AMENDING MOTION - Item 51

When LASAN announced its proposal for much-needed reforms to the City's policies and programs to clean encampments and address illegal dumping, it did so with the promise of a new approach that would focus on public health, and with the expectation that clean-ups would enhance comprehensive efforts to help people move from the streets and into services and housing. Many service providers, neighbors, activists and elected officials were led to believe the new strategy would eliminate or dramatically reduce the deployment of law enforcement personnel to sanitation assignments, and would instead focus on increased partnerships with outreach workers and community-based organizations.

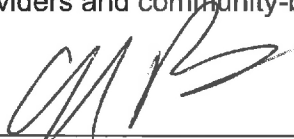
Since the announcement of the new programs and protocols, that new approach seems far less clear. During committee deliberations on that matter, the extent of engagement of LAPD with LASAN CARE became a moving target, with increasing indications from LASAN and LAPD that officers would continue to routinely accompany sanitation workers on clean-ups. That is different than many people were led to believe, and it would require a significant investment of LAPD resources, raising questions about implications on the LAPD's budget, and the impact on patrol deployment in our neighborhoods.

Additionally, there is significant value in using a different approach, centered on strong partnerships with community organizations and service providers, to build trust, better engage people living in encampments, and help them access services and housing.

I THEREFORE MOVE that Item #51 on today's council agenda (CF# 14-1499-s7) be amended to add an additional instruction to the report of the Energy, Climate Change & Environmental Justice Committee:

17. INSTRUCT the Bureau of Sanitation and the Los Angeles Police Department, and REQUEST the Office of the Mayor, to report back within 30 days with clear and transparent plans for police deployment with CARE teams, and a justification for the continued use of LAPD in such activities.

18. INSTRUCT LAHSA to report back within 30 days with its analysis of whether routine law enforcement engagement in activities designed to promote public health and service delivery are productive or counter-productive, and recommendations for alternative approaches, including partnerships with service providers and community-based organizations.

Presented by: 
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Seconded by: 

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