

February 21, 2017

Charlie Beck, Chief of Police
Los Angeles Police Department
100 W. 1st Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: SUPPORT FOR THE "BACK TO BASIC CAR" POLICE PATROL PROPOSAL

Dear Chief Beck:

The Chateau Mplsir (Neighborhood Council / Neighborhood Association / HOA / etc.) is writing to express our growing concern that our neighborhoods are dangerously under-policed. Our community lacks the most basic police patrol presence and consistently experiences response times that are exceedingly long. The lack of regular patrols endangers our community and sends a dangerous message to the criminal element that our homes and businesses lack adequate protection.

We have consistently stood with you, the Mayor, and the City Council to support an increase in the size of the LAPD and the continued hiring of police officers to attrition. We patiently awaited the results of your recent crime strategy that doubled the size of Metro Division, hoping that it would reduce crime in our community. To our great disappointment, we learned that crime in our community continues to increase — while it was also revealed that the Metro officer expansion came at the expense of the patrol positions we so desperately need. This strategy, coupled with the recent revelation that there are fewer patrol officers on the streets today than in the late 1960's leads us to strongly question the LAPD's commitment to our neighborhoods.

We strongly support our local patrol officers, but we don't feel that they are receiving that same level of support from headquarters. We demand that our LAPD make every effort to ensure the most efficient and effective use of its sworn personnel, which means deploying as many able-bodied police officers to patrol car beats as possible. Our demand is quite reasonable — neighboring cities with significantly smaller police departments have demonstrated that it is possible to provide comprehensive law enforcement services, while also providing robust neighborhood patrols, maintaining fast response times, and building strong police-community relationships using regularly assigned patrol officers.

We stand firmly with our fellow Angelenos, rank and file police officers, HOAs, neighborhood councils, business owners, community leaders, neighborhood watches, local schools, religious institutions, labor groups - including the LA Police Protective League, business associations, chambers of commerce, and business improvement districts from throughout Los Angeles, united around a single cause: to demand more police patrols.

The Chateau Mplsir (Neighborhood Council / Neighborhood Association / HOA / etc.) strongly supports Councilmember Mike Bonin's "Back to Basic Car" proposal (Council File # 17-0078), co-sponsored by Councilmember Joe Buscaino. This proposal is a smart, sensible and achievable

neighborhood police patrol enhancement strategy that would result in a larger and more robust LAPD patrol force, and would greatly improve the safety of neighborhoods throughout Los Angeles.

Thank you for your consideration,

Theresa Ray
Unit #1 Owner
Chateau Marmalade

Cc: Councilmember Mike Bonin
Councilmember Joe Buscaino
Councilmember Mitchell Englander
Mayor Eric Garcetti
Los Angeles Police Protective League
Michael Espinosa, Office of the City Clerk

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, basic patrol duties are universally considered to be the core function of law enforcement, and cities like Los Angeles with large police departments are no exception; and

WHEREAS, despite strong public support for maintaining a police force of 10,000 officers, neighborhoods throughout the City of Los Angeles continue to lack the most basic police patrol presence and experience response times that are exceedingly long, while crime continues to increase; and

WHEREAS, an abundance of evidence suggests that the strength of LAPD's field patrol force has not increased in almost a half century, despite the addition of thousands of sworn officers to the ranks of the police department and the addition of three new community police station areas in the last decade; and

WHEREAS, the historic pattern of understaffing our neighborhood police patrols by LAPD's top brass — especially in light of the significant increases to the overall size of the force — suggests that field patrol duties are neither a priority, nor viewed as a core mission within the police department; and

WHEREAS, the lack of consistent police patrols endangers our community by increasing response times and sends a dangerous message to the criminal element that our homes and businesses lack adequate protection; and

WHEREAS, neighboring cities with significantly smaller police departments have demonstrated that it is possible to provide comprehensive law enforcement services, while also providing robust neighborhood patrols, maintaining fast response times, and building strong police-community relationships using regularly assigned patrol officers; and

WHEREAS, all Angelenos, especially the Chateau Mompalao (Neighborhood Council / Neighborhood Association / HOA / etc.), have the expectation that our police department make every effort to ensure the most efficient and effective use of sworn personnel, which means deploying as many able-bodied police officers back to patrol car beats as possible; and

WHEREAS, residents, rank and file police officers, HOAs, neighborhood councils, business owners, community leaders, neighborhood watches, local schools, religious institutions, labor groups - including the LA Police Protective League, business associations, business improvement districts and chambers of commerce from throughout Los Angeles have united around a single cause: more police patrols;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Chateau Mompalao (Neighborhood Council / Neighborhood Association / HOA / etc.) hereby SUPPORTS the "Back to Basic Car" proposal (Council File # 17-0078) authored by Councilmember Mike Bonin and co-sponsored by Councilmember Joe Buscaino — a smart, sensible and achievable neighborhood police patrol enhancement strategy that would result in a larger and more robust LAPD patrol force, and would greatly improve the safety of neighborhoods throughout Los Angeles.