

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(9) Nay(0) Abstain(1) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 03/06/2018

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 04/15/2018

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 17-1432

Agenda Date: 04/11/2018

Item Number:

Summary: See attached CIS.

**EAGLE ROCK
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

Lisa Kable Blanchard, President
Becky Newman, Vice President
Bridget Byrnes Hirsch, Treasurer
Matt Hemingway, Secretary
Pat Niessen, Communications
David Greene, Immediate Past President

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**COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT
Council File: 17-1432**

April 15, 2018

We declare that on March 6, 2018, a Brown Act noticed public meeting was held by the Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council (ERNC) at which a quorum was present, and the following motion was passed, with 9 in favor and 1 abstention:

Resolved, the ERNC supports Council File: 17-1432 in which the City Council seeks to facilitate the temporary conversion of motels to transitional and/or supportive housing units, provided that the City adequately staffs these facilities to support and offer appropriate services to residents, and provides a protocol for addressing concerns by both the residents as well as neighbors.

The City and County of Los Angeles claim the dubious distinction of the largest population of people experiencing homelessness in the US; and both data-driven and anecdotal indicators (such as no-fault evictions and encampments) suggest the number of people experiencing homelessness continues to increase. Rents in Los Angeles, and especially in a number of communities in Council District 14, such as Northeast LA and Downtown LA, continue to increase beyond the means of many people, including those with full-time employment. The community has struggled with an increasing number of encampments and individuals living in areas not suited for human habitation, leading to an increase in trash, dumping of human waste, harassment of individuals (those experiencing homelessness as well as those who are housed), and even damaging brush fires.

The citizens of Los Angeles and LA County made resolving this disaster a priority by voting in favor of Proposition HHH and Measure H to finance, respectively, the creation of Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) and the ancillary services required to make it effective; and CF 17-1432 has proposed the temporary conversion of motels within the city limits to transitional and supportive housing units. and there are few other areas within Eagle Rock that currently qualify as sites for supportive housing.

To date, most of the planned and projected PSH units in the City of LA are in areas with limited resources and high levels of economic and racial segregation.

The growing homeless crisis in Los Angeles underscores the need for an expanded inventory and wider variety of housing options for individuals and families experiencing homelessness, such as emergency shelters, rapid re-housing programs, and transitional and permanent supportive housing. With Measure HHH, the City has committed to building 10,000 permanent supportive housing units over the next decade, but it is imperative that the city addresses the complex needs of low-income and homeless individuals and families who are in critical need of short-term and long-term housing at the present moment.

Motels are similar to residential structures and can be rapidly retrofitted and used as transitional or supportive housing. If the city could reduce the obstacles that would otherwise delay such a conversion and streamline the approval process, a significant number of the city's homeless individuals and families would have increased access to stable, temporary housing complete with on/off-site supportive services, such as mental health treatment, substance abuse counseling, and vocational training. Additionally, converting underutilized motels to transitional and supportive housing would guarantee steady monthly income for a minimum of 15 years for motel owners who frequently struggle with high vacancy rates. Upon the end of the lease terms, the motel would revert back to its previous use without undergoing an additional approval process.

The city must invest in diverse, cost-effective housing solutions to address temporary and chronic homelessness while awaiting construction of new permanent supportive housing developments. Using motels for transitional or supportive housing would allow thousands of people experiencing homelessness to be stably housed during their transition into permanent housing, all the while providing a unique economic opportunity for struggling motel owners. There are two motels in Eagle Rock that would potentially be eligible for such conversions. For the aforementioned reasons, and to do its part to combat the crisis of homelessness in LA, the Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council supports CF 17-1432.

Respectfully,

Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council

cc:

Councilmember José Huizar

Department of Neighborhood Empowerment