Contact Information
Neighborhood Council: Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council
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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(17) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)
Date of NC Board Action: 06/07/2018
Type of NC Board Action: Against

Impact Information
Date: 06/22/2018
Update to a Previous Input: No
Directed To: City Council and Committees
Council File Number: 18-0008-S28
Agenda Date:
Item Number:
Summary: The Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council, which represents over 60,000 Los Angeles stakeholders who reside, own property, or conduct business in our neighborhood, want to express support in instituting Safe Parking Zones instead of increasing restricted parking for RVs, campers and other vehicles. Further limiting overnight parking areas for RVs, campers and cars exacerbates the homelessness conundrum the city is attempting to solve and the lives of families and individuals attempting to continue residing in Los Angeles the best way possible.

First, HHPNC proposes extending LAHSA’s Safe Parking Pilot Program (SPPP) throughout the City by means of an ordinance, which would allow for homeless individuals and families currently residing in their vehicles to do so legally in designated parking lots within the City. HHPNC also suggests adopting a solution regarding parking areas for RVs and campers that resembles that of Mayor Garcetti’s “A Bridge Home” plan, which can be implemented as a Safe Parking Program. Mayor Garcetti and the Los Angeles City Council, with the assistance of neighborhood councils, can identify empty safe parking locations for the unhoused living in RVs and campers. Lastly, the city can also partner with Safe Parking LA, a coordinating organization that assists in locating parking lots for homeless individuals living in their vehicles. Safe Parking LA’s program assists faith-based organizations, private businesses and non-profits to implement a “Safe Parking Lots,” which provides individuals a safe place to park each night, restroom access, and social service resources. By partnering with Safe Parking LA, the City can help alleviate the legal and bureaucratic hurdles that organizations face when attempting to participate in a safe parking program.
June 07, 2018

Mayor Eric Garcetti & the Los Angeles City Councilmembers
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Increasing Overnight Parking Restrictions for RVs and campers.

The Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council, which represents over 60,000 Los Angeles stakeholders who reside, own property, or conduct business in our neighborhood, want to express support in instituting Safe Parking Zones instead of increasing restricted parking for RVs, campers and other vehicles. Further limiting overnight parking areas for RVs, campers and cars exacerbates the homelessness conundrum the city is attempting to solve and the lives of families and individuals attempting to continue residing in Los Angeles the best way possible.

Los Angeles is facing a homelessness crisis that requires collaborative, innovative, humane and ethical solutions; and not simply moving problems around hoping they will go away. Families living in RVs have nowhere to go after being removed from street to street. Forcing them to park in commercial and industrial areas is neither safe nor healthy, which only promotes the marginalization and stigmatization of the poor and unhoused. Criminalizing the survival of Angelenos desperately trying to get back on their feet by harassing them with citations from police and/or community members adds a significant level of stress.

Understandably, officials are responding to the pressure from communities that are experiencing the adverse effects of homelessness and no longer welcome RVs and campers in their streets. However, the response from officials should be one that upholds the basic human and civil rights of unhoused Angelenos. Unhoused Angelenos living in RVs and campers require the wraparound housing, case management, medical, mental health and sanitation services that allow them to live dignified lives. In just the past six months, the Los Angeles city council has passed approximately 47 council files concerning oversized vehicle restrictions closing off streets throughout the city, which further marginalizing unhoused individuals, families and children. Instead of closing off streets for resting and survival, finding short-term and long-term solutions is essentially a necessity. HHPNC would like to recommend a few suggestions to help alleviate the immediate concerns and issues facing Angelenos living in oversized vehicles.
First, HHPNC proposes extending LAHSA’s Safe Parking Pilot Program (SPPP) throughout the City by means of an ordinance, which would allow for homeless individuals and families currently residing in their vehicles to do so legally in designated parking lots within the City. HHPNC also suggests adopting a solution regarding parking areas for RVs and campers that resembles that of Mayor Garcetti’s “A Bridge Home” plan, which can be implemented as a Safe Parking Program. Mayor Garcetti and the Los Angeles City Council, with the assistance of neighborhood councils, can identify empty safe parking locations for the unhoused living in RVs and campers. Lastly, the city can also partner with Safe Parking LA, a coordinating organization that assists in locating parking lots for homeless individuals living in their vehicles. Safe Parking LA’s program assists faith-based organizations, private businesses and non-profits to implement a "Safe Parking Lots," which provides individuals a safe place to park each night, restroom access, and social service resources. By partnering with Safe Parking LA, the City can help alleviate the legal and bureaucratic hurdles that organizations face when attempting to participate in a safe parking program.

All in all, increased parking restrictions on RVs, campers and other vehicles are laws that target the use of vehicles for life-sustaining activity, which is rest, a basic life sustaining activity. We urge the Los Angeles city council to establish a city-wide safe parking program that humanely, collaboratively and adequately addresses the needs of ALL the housed and unhoused stakeholders. The current homelessness dilemma is requiring all Angelenos to create deeper understanding, extend compassion and solidify community unity for Los Angeles to be the moral example that our country requires at this point in time.

Sincerely,

Rocio Rivas, President
Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council
Authorization to submit
Community Impact Statements
Board Resolution

We, Rocio Rivas (President Name) and
Yolanda Nogueira (Officer Name), declare that we are the President
and Director of the Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council (NC) and that on June 27, 2018 (date adopted), a Brown Act noticed public meeting was
held by this NC with a quorum of 17 (number) board members present and that by a vote of
17 (number) yes, 0 (number) no, and 0 (number) abstentions the
Historic Highland Park NC adopted the following resolution:

Whereas, a Community Impact Statement is an official statement adopted by a Neighborhood Council
on issues pending before the City Council, its committees, or City commissions, Whereas, up to five
board members can be authorized through a board resolution to write and submit Community Impact
Statements through the City Clerk’s online web system at http://cityclerk.lacity.org/cis.

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council
authorizes the following board member(s) to SUBMIT Community Impact Statements which have
been passed by a vote of the full board:

On the issue of CF# 19-0008-528 we are

☐ For
☐ For if Amended
☒ Against
☐ Against if Amended
☐ No Position (CF was discussed and acted upon, but the NC could not muster enough votes either
way)
☐ Neutral Position (CF was discussed and NC decided to take no action at all)

Be it further resolved, in cases where an issue is moving quickly through the legislative process and a
promptly issued statement is beneficial, the aforementioned board members are authorized to also
WRITE and SUBMIT Community Impact Statements which express positions previously voted upon
by the full board.

IN WITNESS of the above action, the undersigned has executed and delivered this certificate in the
name and on behalf of the Historic Highland Park (NC name) and as of the date set forth
below.

Signature of President

Print Name: Rocio Rivas
Date: 06/27/18

Signature of Board Officer

Print Name: Yolanda Nogueira
Date: 06/27/18