MOTION

The City of Los Angeles continues to experience a homelessness crisis exacerbated by a housing crisis. Unfortunately, the number of individuals and families living out of their vehicles has increased and there is often not an alternative option readily available.

While the City has made progress in addressing homelessness, there is still much more work to be done. It is crucial that there be laws in place that do not criminalize homelessness, but also protect the quality of life for City residents, businesses and visitors. On November 22, 2016 City Council approved amendments to Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 85.02 to establish regulations governing the use of vehicles for dwelling on public streets along with a provision to sunset the regulations in 18 months. The ordinance includes restrictions on residential streets and within close proximity to parks and schools.

As we approach the sunset date of LAMC 85.02, it is important to reassess the policy, its implementation, and possible amendments to improve it. It is also important to change the dialogue surrounding homelessness and create an environment of community acceptance for the programs and services for the homeless throughout the City. The sunset of LAMC 85.02 provides an opportunity to create incentives for communities to embrace safe parking in their neighborhoods.

If communities could see a direct benefit to having services for the homeless in their neighborhoods, it would be easier to launch programs such as Safe Parking. For example if there is a Safe Parking lot in a neighborhood, there should be increased enforcement of LAMC 85.02 within a three block radius of the program and a no vehicle dwelling restriction in that buffer zone.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council Request the City Attorney and instruct LAPD and other relevant departments to report back on the current implementation of LAMC 85.02 and proposed amendments including the creation of an increased enforcement zone within a set distance from Safe Parking locations.

PRESENTED BY

BOB BLUMENFIELD

Councilmember, 3rd District

SECONDED BY:

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