

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/15/2019 02:13 AM

**Council File No:** 19-0311

**Comments for Public Posting:** Thank you Councilman Wesson for this motion. Property owners have selfishly taken over public space that ought to be used for the public good. Most of these projects are flagrant code violations and present public safety hazards, such as fencing that blocks off all pedestrian access from the road to the sidewalk, planters with no drainage holes that will become breeding grounds for mosquitoes in the summer, and thorny bushes and cacti that impede pedestrian mobility. These “beautification” projects, commonly financed by wealthy property owners, have the sole purpose of driving out homeless people who already struggle daily to survive. As you know, the City of LA has a severe shortage of affordable housing. Until we end homelessness, public space should serve the needs of the homeless community and all who seek refuge on a patch of grass or concrete, not the selfish whims of the wealthy. Please amend the motion to include all unpermitted anti-homeless obstructions on City property. Thank you for standing with your most vulnerable constituents.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/15/2019 02:37 AM

**Council File No:** 19-0311

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Council President: Proactive enforcement is exactly what is needed to address this problem, which is getting out of control throughout all of LA, especially in wealthy areas, such as Venice. The selective enforcement of bulky items on City property shows the discrimination inherent in City agencies' treatment of the housed and unhoused. While the unhoused watch in horror at their tents and all worldly possessions destroyed by LA Sanitation, other bulky items, such as planters and fencing are protected from enforcement. The City's main enforcement strategy has always favored the material property of the wealthy over the lives of the poor. Thank you for trying to correct this grave injustice.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Adriane Hoff

**Date Submitted:** 05/15/2019 10:15 AM

**Council File No:** 19-0311

**Comments for Public Posting:** The use of illegal planters and fences by property owners is not a humane response to the homeless crisis. These tactics push our most vulnerable populations further into the margins of society and do nothing to solve the problem. Please do whatever you can to put a stop to this. Property owners need to be punished accordingly and any authorities who encourage the use of illegal planters and fences should be reprimanded as well.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/14/2019 08:39 AM

**Council File No:** 19-0311

**Comments for Public Posting:** Planters and illegal fencing by churches, landlords and businesses in Ktown continue to highlight the local wealthy's approach to our unhoused neighbors as one rooted in cruelty and fear. I support any measure that treats these illegal actions with the penalties they merit.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Clark Worthington

**Date Submitted:** 05/14/2019 07:25 PM

**Council File No:** 19-0311

**Comments for Public Posting:** It is my belief that fences placed in public parkways should be considered abandoned items and should be removed with or without a 311 request. How is it that one individual keep people out of our public space. People installing these fences should face the max fine for littering.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Ktown for All

**Date Submitted:** 05/14/2019 04:21 PM

**Council File No:** 19-0311

**Comments for Public Posting:** May 14, 2019 Honorable Herb Wesson, Jr. Los Angeles City Council 200 N. Spring St, Room 430 Los Angeles, CA, 90012  
Re: Council File 19-0311, "Citywide Illegal Fencing / Code Enforcement Division / Public Right-of-Way Violations" Dear Council President Wesson: We applaud your leadership in addressing the proliferation of unpermitted fencing through your Motion 19-0311, "Citywide Illegal Fencing / Code Enforcement Division / Public Right-of-Way Violations." Through our weekly homeless outreach in Koreatown, we have observed and documented dozens of anti-homeless landscaping installed on City property to displace homeless residents in Koreatown. The installation of hostile architecture is often preceded by homeless encampment sweeps or "cleanups" to clear the area. These sweeps, which often cause trauma, physical hardship, and loss of vital personal belongings, lead to the permanent banishment of homeless community members from places where they feel most safe. In one situation that we encountered, a woman camped near her former apartment in Koreatown where she was evicted. After unpermitted plants and manure were added to the parkway where she had set up camp, she lamented that she had nowhere else to go. This kind of harassment caused her significant anxiety and did nothing to help her escape homelessness. If anything, displacing encampment residents makes it more difficult for outreach workers to relocate their clients and successfully connect them to housing. We appreciate your response to this problem, and we'd like to recommend additions to the motion to strengthen its impact and efficiency: -Address all unpermitted hostile architecture – not just fencing, including: planters, plants, and manure. -Propose a deadline of no later than three months from the motion's passage for City agencies to report to Council on their investigation and enforcement efforts. -Investigate and discipline City employees who assist at any point in the process of installing unpermitted hostile architecture. Installing hostile architecture is not only an illegal encroachment on public property, it does nothing to solve homelessness. Thank you for your attention to this issue.  
Sincerely, Ktown for All