

Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to City Council and Committees.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at NCsupport@lacity.org.

This is an automated response, please do not reply to this email.

Contact Information

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(18) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 07/16/2019

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 07/23/2019

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 19-0450

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: As a Neighborhood Council who has worked tirelessly to address the homeless crisis in our neighborhood and has hands-on experience dealing with the un-housed, we understand that addressing homelessness in the city is a difficult fix with many factors contributing to the drastic rise. This issue should be addressed not only at the local level but state-wide and national. Despite the complexities of this issue, we believe that our guiding principles are to approach with tireless work, compassion, and empathy. PLEASE SEE ATTACHMENT FOR FULL CIS



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- COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT -

Council File: 19-0450

Title: Homeless Encampments Clean-Up Efforts Report / Comprehensive Homelessness Strategy

Position: Support

Summary:

On April 30, 2019 the Homelessness and Poverty committee of Los Angeles instructed the City Administrative Officer (CAO) Homeless Coordinator to report back the efficacy of existing clean-up efforts. The committee specifically asks to address the following questions: Are they improving the public health? Are they helping or hurting efforts to get people out of encampments into housing and services? What is the appropriate role of law enforcement in clean ups? What is the appropriate level of oversight and community engagement?

As a Neighborhood Council who has worked tirelessly to address the homeless crisis in our neighborhood and has hands on experience dealing with the un-housed, we understand that addressing homelessness in the city is a difficult fix with many factors contributing to the drastic rise. This issue should be addressed not only at the local level but state-wide and national. Despite the complexities of this issue, we believe that our guiding principles are to approach with tireless work, compassion, and empathy. Using these values as guidance we recommend the following approach:

1) Law Enforcement presence should be used at the discretion of the sanitation workers and only used to provide safety in the case of possible hostility.

2) Ensure all street and sidewalk cleaning is scheduled, regular, and well-publicized.

- Eliminate the complaint-driven model in all forms. All street and sidewalk cleaning must occur as publicly scheduled.
- Cleaning should be scheduled on a weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly timeframe, with a 2 to 4 hour window of time, similar to other City street cleaning services.

- Continue to post notices at and near each site prior to cleaning services, either 48 or 72 hours in advance.
- Schedule will be publicly available through the City's website, and via other modes of communities to ensure the information is readily available to homeless individuals, service providers, and local neighborhood councils.
- Posted notices will include a map of the area to be cleaned and identify a voluntary secure space for people to leave their belongings during the cleanup if they choose to do so and/or have to leave the site during the cleaning. However, property/belongings can also be in any other space, as long as it does not impede cleaning. Attended or unattended personal property may be temporarily moved in order to complete cleaning but will not be removed to off-site storage or confiscated under any circumstances.

3) Ensure appropriate resources are in place in advance of and during all scheduled cleaning

- Dumpsters/trash bins, individual trash bags, sharps disposal containers, and other health resources will be provided at the site of scheduled cleaning at least 24 hours before the cleanup begins, so individuals can sort and throw trash away.
- Outreach workers will be present on site the day before the clean-up and also thirty minutes before the cleanup begins to provide additional notice of cleanings. Outreach workers or other community members will be allowed at the clean-up sites to help identify and assist individuals who need accommodations to move their belongings.
- City officials will ensure that the provision of appropriate resources extends to any informal shelter needs in extreme weather such as rain or heat and will provide accommodations during street cleaning that occurs in extreme weather conditions.
- Until such time restrooms are readily available in all communities, ensure that unhoused residents can utilize the City workers' portable toilets currently on-site during street cleaning.

All of the changes outlined can be implemented immediately, as they require no additional funding, no legislative changes, and are within the direct oversight of the Mayor of Los Angeles. But most importantly we believe that implementing these changes ensure that the un-housed of this city are treated with respect and dignity.

APPROVED

July 16th, 2019

18 Yay 0 Nay 0 Abstention 1 Absent