

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Rick Garvey

**Date Submitted:** 09/18/2019 12:11 PM

**Council File No:** 19-0602-S1

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please oppose the proposed expansion of LAMC 41.18 As a public health worker I am really worried about the effects of this law on the ground. These new restrictions wrongly punish people already facing extreme hardship! This includes unhoused seniors, disabled people, hundreds of unsheltered children under the age of 18 and transitional age youth aging out of foster care. As a Venice resident I understand that the unreasonable list of geographical restrictions force thousands of unhoused people, many with developmental disabilities, to somehow measure arbitrary distances necessary to avoid being in violation. The entire stretch of the Venice Ocean Front Walk is designated as a park and would be off limits under the new regulation. How will people use the restrooms? Pushing people away from parks creates conditions for a public health catastrophe by concentrating encampments in areas far from bathroom and sanitation resources. If the LAPD is required to relocate unhoused people, it will create a volatile recipe for police confrontations with people experiencing trauma. There are already too many confrontations between officers and unhoused people, especially during the weekly sanitation sweeps. The restrictions will counteract the city's own efforts to house people by severing their contact from caseworkers in the communities where they now live, creating major setbacks on their path to shelter or housing. Removing safe places for people to rest will make my job as a public health worker much harder, and will greatly reduce the amount of services provided to those who need them the most. The ordinance will waste precious city resources through losing court battles. How many more lawsuits are you willing to lose at the taxpayer expense? LA's sit-lie ordinance must be rescinded, not amended. Given our city's overwhelming lack of housing and shelter, restrictions to survival on our sidewalks are human rights violations. The bridge housing programs are a good start, but in most neighborhoods they are not even open. If the city wants to address public safety issues around homelessness, they must include unhoused people, long time activists and others with professional and lived experience in the process. Please join my Councilmember Bonin and vote against this terrible law.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Robert Peppey

**Date Submitted:** 09/10/2019 12:14 PM

**Council File No:** 19-0602-S1

**Comments for Public Posting:** To: Councilmembers Mitch O'Farrell and Nury Martinez, The cruelty and inhumanity of your proposed changes to 41.18 that is CF 19-0602-S1 are shocking even in what the international press has termed "the capital of homelessness in the Western Hemisphere", being Los Angeles. In place of providing convenient to encampments toilets and bathing facilities, shaded areas for camping, conveniently located parking lots in each council district with facilities for the unhoused residents who are living in their RV's, vans and autos, and providing drinking fountains that any humanistic city would provide for its homeless residents, you two Councilmembers propose further criminalization of those poorest amongst us. If you two have not noticed, homelessness in Los Angeles is racism; And that homelessness in Los Angeles is also based on social class. Your motion is a sad instance again, the complete capture of Los Angeles's elected officials by their investors from the real estate interests. In place of the Los Angeles City Council Homelessness Committee doing its job of improving the plight of unhoused residents, the chairs of the Homelessness Committee are dead set on making our unhoused residents lives as miserable as possible. Plus again the Los Angeles Homelessness Committee, Mr Fuerer and the City Council are about to plunge the city into another long expensive series of lawsuits that Los Angeles's homeowners taxes, such as my family's, will be footing the bill for. And as the United States Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals has already ruled on a very similar case your mean-spirited ordinance change is doomed to be struck down by the Courts. I urge both of you, Councilmember O'Farrell and Martinez to withdraw this cold hearted motion, have a change of heart, not be ruled by the powerful interest that dictated this motion, and do your jobs of making the lives of our Los Angeles's ever growing, by double digits yearly, unhoused residents lives sustainable not deadly. Sincerely, Bobby Peppey CD 13 Silver Lake Los Angeles 90026

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 09/07/2019 04:47 AM

**Council File No:** 19-0602-S1

**Comments for Public Posting:** While I am in favor of restricting where homeless people can sleep, I would like to see two things added to this amendment: 1. The ban should be 1,000 feet from schools, parks, bridge homes, etc. 2. The ban on sleeping on the sidewalk should stay in effect from 6am to 9pm. Why would you allow homeless people to sleep or hang out in a tent all day? They should be working or trying to get jobs like everyone else. By allowing them to sleep on the sidewalk (many doing drugs) during the day, you're basically encouraging and reinforcing terrible behavior. According to Dr Drew, as of July 1st 2019, We've had 1,000 homeless people die in Los Angeles. This isn't a housing crisis. It's a mental health and drug epidemic. These people need help immediately. The city has had 3 years and the problem is worse. (along with the crime) The solution is to build on cost effective land outside of LA, where homes, bridge homes, shelters, mental health services, rehab, etc. can be built quickly and at scale to house thousands of people. Simi Valley, Chatsworth, etc. have thousands of acres of vacant land. Lancaster and Palmdale have even more. (The Fed owns nearly 46% of land in CA.) For those that want to improve their lives, they can get job training, they can learn to pave roads, drywall, plant gardens/food, put up solar panels, etc. There is opportunity for those who want to learn and work. If they want to keep drinking and doing drugs, they can do that too but it can't be on our sidewalks anymore, it should be outside of residential areas. If they want to go home, LA City should use HHH money to get them a flight home and pay their first three months' rent. There is no reason a transient should be in LA just because he or she wants to be here. Because let's be candid here, this goes beyond a homeless crisis. We have a drifter crisis; a situation where anyone who wants to or chooses to live off the grid can simply show up in Venice (my community) and grab a parking spot and/or pitch a tent without any fear of legal sanctions whatsoever. I know this because I have actually had conversations with several of these permanent street dwellers. More critical still, We can't let people die on our streets anymore and we certainly can't let more people come to our streets for drugs and lawlessness. If LA allows for 24/7 sleeping on the sidewalks, it's going to reinforce the same behavior that made them homeless. It's going to be terrible for all of us.