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

Neighborhood Council: Echo Park Neighborhood Council

Name: Darcy Harris

Phone Number: (213) 595-8350 Email: darcy.harris.epnc@gmail.com

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(19) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 07/28/2020 Type of NC Board Action: Against

Impact Information Date: 07/29/2020

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 20-0147

Agenda Date: Item Number:

Summary: The Echo Park Neighborhood Council opposes the creation of an enforcement zone around the Riverside "A Bridge Home" project and the reliance on such enforcement zones around other ABH projects. Enforcement Zones unnecessarily create damaging and punitive interactions between unhoused Angelenos and the LAPD. ABH projects are often run at capacity, and displacing people who are simply trying to survive nearby and who do not have a bed available to them does nothing to solve the underlying issues and, in fact, actually worsens them. Forcing unhoused Angelenos to constantly uproot their lives and change locations for fear of punishment and force is traumatizing and counterproductive. It makes it harder for them to access services, and makes it harder for their case managers to connect with them. Enforcement Zones are also unjustifiably expensive. To pay for LAPD officers working 24-hour shifts around these shelters, the mayor's 2020/21 budget calls for \$8.4 Million in LAPD overtime—that's more than the entire sworn overtime for the LAFD and more than 4x the budget for the citywide Domestic Abuse Response Teams. This also doesn't factor in the incredible amount of pain and taxpayer dollars that go into cycling unhoused Angelenos in and out of the criminal justice system for the crime of being poor. It's extremely hard to justify preserving this cost at a time when essential services are being cut. This money is much better spent being invested in helping unhoused Angelenos find housing and get connected with case management, hygiene, and other essential services. We've heard rhetoric to suggest that special enforcement zones are necessary to secure the support of the community. As representatives of our community, we would like to counter this narrative and make it perfectly clear that we welcome 'A Bridge Home' shelters in our community without the inclusion of "Special Enforcement and Cleaning Zones.