

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Linda Lucks

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 01:29 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Venice Community Housing supports Services Not Sweeps to immediately: 1) Remove all Law Enforcement personnel from any of the City's street cleaning teams and efforts 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 will 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 communication to ensure the information is readily available to homeless individuals, service providers, and others. 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 offsite 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' porta-potty currently on site during street cleaning.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Kaycee

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 01:30 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I'm writing in opposition to agenda item #46 -- resuming CARE+ sweeps of unhoused neighbors around "A Bridge Home" shelters punishes Angelenos who are unable to secure shelter space in a system that does not have nearly enough housing for the tens of thousands of homeless people in LA. The police should not receive more money to harass unhoused people that live around shelters, especially when we know that there are not nearly enough beds for the tens of thousands of unhoused people in Los Angeles. 1 in 3 reports of LAPD use of force are against unhoused folks so we know they are disproportionately vulnerable to police violence. Unhoused people do not need to be further criminalized. They need housing, period. CARE+ sweeps force elderly and disabled people to take potentially painful steps to move their belongings and collapse their tents. These sweeps do more harm than good. Furthermore, place-based zoning to remove unhoused people from any given area does not work. IT requires significant (and costly) enforcement which leads to further criminalization of homeless people and waste of taxpayer dollars. The money used for SECZ policing would be better used to provide affordable housing for the tens of thousands of Angelenos who are forced to live on the streets. Please vote against resuming police enforcement around Bridge Home shelters and advocate against SECZ zones. They make already vulnerable unhoused people less safe.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jon Wolf

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 12:54 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello I am a proud Angeleno and proud resident of Council District 4, writing today to urge the Council to vote against resuming the destructive, costly, and callous "CARE+" sweeps as proposed by agenda Item 46. We have seen enough evidence of past sweeps to know that these actions are not in any way conducive to public health and safety, nor are they an effective use of city funds, but instead only serve to punish and harass the unhoused human beings who live next to us in our city. Please vote No on Item 46.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Judy Branfman

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 01:00 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing to oppose the idea of the Bridge Enforcement Zones -and oppose Agenda Item 46 (Starting Back CARE+ in the Zones) - and insist that you remove Special Enforcement Zones from all current or planned homeless shelters in LA. This cruel and costly practice needlessly punishes unhoused Angelenos who want to access a shelter bed but cannot due to limited capacity. 24 hour LAPD patrols increase the likelihood of unnecessary conflicts and use of force. Weekly “comprehensive cleanups” force elderly and disabled residents to breakdown their tents and relocate without regard for their health or physical limitations. The \$8.4 million price tag for geographically targeted enforcement is unjustifiable in light of the city’s need for more homeless services and housing. Over the past two months, we’ve heard councilmembers acknowledge that more enforcement isn’t the answer for making communities safe. They’ve made promises to reimagine public safety by cutting LAPD funding and replacing officers with unarmed, non-law enforcement agencies to respond to non-violent service calls. Permanently eliminating the practice of location-based policing would be an essential step in that direction. I urge you to support this new paradigm.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** John Purcell

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 01:04 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing to strongly oppose Joe Buscaino and Paul Krekorian's motion to resume sweeps of homeless encampments near bridge home shelters. In March, the CDC strongly recommended against these sweeps on the grounds that they could spread illness. COVID-19 is far more prevalent in Los Angeles now than it was in March. If the sweeps weren't acceptable then, they're certainly not acceptable now. Please continue to listen to the CDC and do NOT resume sweeps of homeless encampments near bridge home shelters. Best, John Purcell (North Hollywood)

## Communication from Public

**Name:** CJ Cole  
**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 01:05 PM  
**Council File No:** 20-0147  
**Comments for Public Posting:** Please vote "yes" for this motion that authorizes the Bureau of Sanitation to resume CARE+ cleanups within the Special Cleaning Zones established around A Bridge Home shelters only.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sherie Scheer

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 01:08 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please AMEND Council action of March 17, 2020 (Council file No. 20-0147 as amended by Motion 72-P and Motion 72-P-A) to AUTHORIZE the Bureau of Sanitation to resume CARE+ cleanups within the Special Cleaning Zones established around A Bridge Home shelters. Venice has seen complete neglect of the unprecedented mad mess created by homeless at the expense of the rest of the tax-paying and voting community. Please do the right thing. Put matters of civic order in perspective. See photos below of situation on Pacific as it is now, having evolved to this state over the last several weeks. The mess extends at times into the middle lane of already congested traffic on Pacific. Likewise, there is squalid and chaotic situation at the foot of Park Avenue, a formerly delightful seaside residential walk street, is out of control. Cleanup needs to occur there regularly! Please don't abandon us house dwellers to squalor and chaos. Photos of this situation as of today in attached pdf.

Pacific Avenue, 700 block,north of Brooks: This situation has been building for the last month. During the last week the side walk has become almost impassable. Please continue to scroll down; this pdf is 4 pages long.







Park Avenue between Speedway and Ocean Front Walk is also within the area impacted by Bridge Home.





## Communication from Public

**Name:** Terry Ballentine

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 01:09 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please vote YES to resume comprehensive CARE + CLEANUPS. Keep your promises made to the Venice Community. The Mayor and Mr. Bonin promised Venice that once Bridge Housing at Sunset was built, then and only then would they begin the removal of tent encampments in Venice. Bridge housing in Venice opened on February 25, 2020. Today, it's July 28, 2020, five months later and the encampments in Venice have proliferated. Around the bridge housing property, there are more encampments than ever before. The violence within these encampments is overwhelming for the residents living near there, with drug use, needles, threats to neighbors, fights between the tent dwellers, fifth and trash that is hazardous to the dwellers and the surrounding community. The level of rats and mice attracted is unacceptable. Something must be done to fix this very serious issue. It's time to do the right thing and keep the promises made to and begin the clean ups and show us that the promises made to Venice were not merely talk. Sincerely, Terry Ballentine Venice Resident

## Communication from Public

**Name:** April Wolfe

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 01:12 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I want to voice my opposition to the city's homeless sweeps that displace already vulnerable residents and remove their personal possessions. The CDC has recommended that all cities halt sweeps of this kind, because the sweeps would be likely to spread a dangerous virus even faster, causing more deaths and more hospitalizations. Even without this threat of a virus, our regular sweeps have become cruel and unnecessary. I believe that Special Enforcement Zones should be transformed into Special Services Zones, where the vulnerable can retreat the care, treatment, and supplies they need to live and thrive here. I demand it, and I will continue demanding that this is where my tax money should go. Not to the police department, who receives millions of dollars in overtime money to conduct these cruel sweeps. What the city is doing is unethical and immoral. We are only as strong as the most vulnerable among us. By these standards, we have become miserable and are derelict of our responsibility to protect Angelenos. I hope you see fit to do the right and moral thing and obey the CDC recommendations, based on science and fact. If you do not, I promise many like me will be very loud about our demands until they are met.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Pat Saperstein

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 01:15 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I strongly oppose resuming sweeps on encampments near shelters. It sets back the goal of helping people become housed and could potentially make virus transmission more dangerous. In addition, unilaterally sweeping away peoples' possessions, including sometimes crucial paperwork, is a human rights violation.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Taylor Inouye

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 01:15 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I demand the City Council, and specifically my CD4 representative David Ryu, to reject motion 20-0147 to resume "cleanups" in "Special Enforcement Zones" around shelters. This is not only against CDC recommendations to stop sweeps during this global pandemic, but it is a cruel and harmful measure against our unhoused neighbors in Los Angeles. Here are those specific recommendations from the CDC against performing sweeps and "cleanup": "If individual housing options are not available, allow people who are living unsheltered or in encampments to remain where they are. Clearing encampments can cause people to disperse throughout the community and break connections with service providers. This increases the potential for infectious disease spread." The full text from these recommendations can be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homeless-shelters/unsheltered-homelessness.html> There are not nearly enough shelter beds to accommodate the unhoused people living around these shelter areas, so this motion would do absolutely nothing to help our most vulnerable Angelenos, and could potentially increase the likelihood of infectious disease spread.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Adina Gilbert-Hamerling

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 01:19 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing in strong opposition to the motion to resume CARE+ cleanups within the Special Cleaning Zones around A Bridge Home shelters. These shelters generally operate at full capacity, which means the proposed sweeps punish Angelenos who want shelter but are unable to secure a spot. Resuming sweeps is both costly and harmful to our unhoused neighbors—especially those who are elderly and disabled. It leads to increased criminalization and potentially dangerous interactions with law enforcement.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Roberto

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 01:20 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Can we please stop treating homeless PEOPLE as if they are not human beings. We have no understanding of their problems and what unfortunate events coalesced to find them in their current situations. We need to defund and abolish the LAPD and spread their billions of dollars into more substantive, positive and helpful community based strategies.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Chelsea Bartholomew

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 01:23 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hi! I am writing in to oppose resuming sweeps of homeless encampments near shelters. Please have some decency and let our homeless neighbors be if you're not going to actually allocate the proper resources to help them get housing and other services. Policing people who are already down on their luck isn't the answer. Fixing this city's underlying issues with affordable housing is, long-term; short-term, it is providing real and sufficient resources to our homeless community.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** soledad ursua

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 01:23 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Councilmembers, As a neighbor to Bridge Housing at Sunset, I ask that you uphold the promises this Council made to my Community. Please vote YES to resume comprehensive CARE + CLEANUPS. In January of 2020, the annual homeless count was conducted. In early July we finally received those results, and we now know that CD 11 had a 40% increase in homelessness from the prior year, and also a 188% increase in homelessness by drug addiction. These are pre-COVID19 numbers. Bridge housing in Venice opened on February 25, 2020, and COVID19 Stay-At-Home orders started in March, 2020. Today, FIVE months later, our community has been devastated by the lack of sanitation and the overwhelming proliferation of homeless encampments. There are more encampments than ever before, tents now line the property. If CD11 was up 40% back in January, before COVID ever became an issue, we will be looking at 3x or 120% increase since then. According to FBI crime statistics- Venice crime rates are 115% higher than the national average; Violent crimes in Venice are 149% higher than the national average; In Venice you have a 1 in 19 chance of becoming a victim of crime. The violence within these encampments is overwhelming for the residents such as myself. Everyday we witness drug use/trafficking, needles discarded outside our homes, threats to neighbors; and fights among tent dwellers and Bridge Housing residents. In the midst of this national health crisis, please remember that fifth and trash that are hazardous to the dwellers and the surrounding community. The level of rats and mice attracted is unacceptable. New Mexico and Colorado have reported incidents of Bubonic Plague this month, please do not let this happen to Los Angeles. As a resident of CD11 and neighbor to Bridge Housing, I urge you to please vote YES to resume comprehensive CARE + CLEANUPS. Please keep the promises you have made to myself and my community.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jillian Moreno

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 01:23 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please oppose agenda item #46. This motion unfairly punishes unhoused Angelenos who are unable to get shelter due to insufficient space-- which is a failure on the part of Los Angeles to provide adequate housing solutions for all. To then force unhoused residents (including those with disabilities and illnesses) to move their belongings and tents is unjust and law enforcement presence contributes to increased criminalization of people just trying to survive. The only effective solution to homelessness is more housing. It is immoral to pretend that these sweeps are a solution to a problem, and not just compounding a problem.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 01:23 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please listen to the CDC and do not resume sweeps of encampments. Use that time, money, and effort to house people and not further victimize, criminalize, and traumatize people who are currently unhoused. The pandemic is worse than it's ever been, now is the time to treat people better not worse. The entire City is watching, and we see when your actions and words don't align and will act accordingly when you are up for reelection.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Erin

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 01:26 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please do NOT resume "CARE+ cleanups." Please do NOT continue to invest funds in conducting inhumane sweeps on our unhoused neighbors. We need care, not sweeps. The funds should go to resources to actually help the unhoused, not toward sweeps!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Michael Schneider

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 01:26 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I'm commenting in opposition to sweeps in Special Enforcement Zones in general -- but in this case in particular -- around A Bridge Home shelters. These sweeps displace elderly and disabled unhoused Angelenos, lead to increased tension with LAPD, and are costly and ineffective. They are a tacit admission that the ABH shelters are not meeting the needs of our unhoused residents.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Grace

**Date Submitted:** 07/27/2020 04:54 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I oppose agenda item 46. Special Enforcement Zones are a cruel and backwards way to treat our most vulnerable citizens. They effectively make BEING an unhoused person illegal. Moreover, for the same reasons, the sweeps must stop. If you want to help those without homes, build the shelters that you've promised that are so very slowly opening and offer services to get people off the streets and on their feet. Fulfill people's most basic needs so they can build thriving lives for themselves. The people you see living on the street could be you or I with a stroke of bad luck. As of January, 64,000 Angelenos were homeless - that includes so many families and children, veterans, former City of LA employees, students. They need homes. Period. Their lack of housing must not be criminalized. Period. What is a society for if not to meet its members most basic human needs.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Nick

**Date Submitted:** 07/27/2020 04:58 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I oppose agenda item 46 and oppose special enforcement zones in general. Divert funding from these "zones" to providing services that unhoused people desperately need. You are wasting millions of tax payer dollars on these zones, which criminalize homelessness and strip unhoused Angelenos of the most basic level of dignity. End zones NOW. Fund services for those in need.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Paul J

**Date Submitted:** 07/27/2020 05:53 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Our neighborhoods around LA Bridge shelter sites are a disaster. At the very minimum we need cleanups and security as originally promised. Trash, drug paraphernalia like needles and meth pipes littered all over, fights, screaming in the middle of the night. Harassment by homeless. Open air drug use is rampant. Please, we need help! We should not feel under siege or afraid to walk around in our own neighborhoods we are good citizens of. What the city is doing is not right after promising residents what is currently happening would not happen. Very easy solution: Follow thru on your end of the deal. CLEAN IT UP. STOP THE DRUG USE. AREEST AND PROSECUTE THW CRIMINALS. MAKE US FEEL SAFE AGAIN.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Connie Brooks  
**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 07:25 AM  
**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** This is an urgent request to PLEASE resume CARE+ cleanups within the Special Cleaning Zones established around A Bridge Home shelters. Here in Venice, the streets and sidewalks in and around our ABH "enforcement zone" are filthy from heavy encampment use and lack of power washing. Some days, they literally smell. This is totally unsanitary for unhoused residents, while housed neighbors and businesses report rodent problems they never had previously. Trash and debris block our sidewalks, forcing pedestrians to walk in the streets and eliminating ADA rights to accessibility. Often trash and stored or unclaimed items also spill over the curb lines into the streets. This takes away much-needed parking spaces in front of struggling restaurants trying to serve a dwindling clientele that is mostly curbside pickup – so short term, nearby parking is essential. And while people wait for their pickup orders, they're looking at heaps of trash and discarded belongings strewn over unwashed pavement, which more than one person has cited as a reason to stay away. Again, I beg you to bring back CARE+ as it is much needed by unhoused and housed residents as well as our critical base of small businesses.

APR/JULY 2020 PHOTOS FROM SPECIAL CLEANING ZONES AT ABH VENICE





## Communication from Public

**Name:** Gail Rogers

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 08:21 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please authorize LASAN to resume CARE+ cleanups within the Special Cleaning Zones established around A Bridge Home Shelter here in Venice. The encampment that leans against 723 Ocean Front Walk on Park Avenue has tarps attached to the building and graffiti painted all over the building. Then a new encampment appeared this week along Pacific Avenue just north of Brooks Avenue. The sidewalk and street are blocked for pedestrians and cars. We reported it to Bonin's office and a neighbor reported it to 311. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sarah Gorr

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 09:46 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I'm commenting to ask that you DO NOT resume sweeps in Special Enforcement Zones. LA does not have enough shelter beds, which means that sweeps \*explicitly\* violate the COVID safety guidelines set out by the CDC. LA's new homeless shelters created under the Mayor's A Bridge Home program are surrounded by "Special Enforcement Zones" (SECZs) where LAPD police houseless neighbors and carry out sweeps. It's no secret that these shelters do not have enough beds or resources to help everyone who needs it. So why do these shelters include Special Enforcement Zones where police are funded to harass people who aren't in the shelter? This harms people without housing, it doesn't solve anything for the neighborhood, and it's a big expense for the city. City leaders must commit to reimagining public safety and an unarmed response to nonviolent calls. You must abolish the punitive SECZs. Do not resume sweeps. To do so is not only cruel, but inhumane. Struggling Angelenos need #HomesNotZones!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jeremy Burdick  
**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 10:21 AM  
**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please resume cleanups around the Bridge Home shelters. I live on the directly adjacent perimeter of the Venice shelter, where the area surrounding it has become magnitudes worse since it has opened. There is now a block long encampment across the street, and tents on the sidewalk abutting its own fence. Neither of these existed prior to the shelter. The 3rd Ave & Hampton encampments have only continued to grow. Your promise to our neighborhood was a cleanup of the surrounding area, and a constant 24/7 security patrol. You took away our patrol car, and have done ZERO to cleanup ANYTHING nearby. You have only made our neighborhood a complete hellhole of screaming, fighting, drug dealing, garbage, tents, and makeshift structures. There was a fight that ended in shots being fired directly across the street from the shelter just last week. There are emergency responders (police and/or paramedics) that show up to the shelter every single day, sometimes multiple times. Own up to your promises. You sold these projects as a way to make our communities safer and better, in addition to helping the homeless. You have spectacularly failed, on at least the neighborhood value side of the equation, and arguably on the latter as well. Stop using COVID as an excuse to not do your jobs. You could have prevented further buildup of existing encampments and the creation of new encampments, but chose not to because you are spineless, weak, and ineffective. Do what you promised!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Carol Katona

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 11:12 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I wonder how many people that are opposed to resuming cleaning the area around the SECZ zone live near the MTA shelter or for that matter even live in Venice? We who live here do not consider cleaning the area inhumane like some people post. We were promised the area would be free from encampments, trash etc. when it was built. The City has not fulfilled this promise and because of that, we are inundated with encampments not with just tents but furniture, b-b-q's, trash and you name it, along with the uptick in crime that has come with it. Instead, it is inhumane to expect us residents to accept this as our way of life. Would you want this in the area where you live right outside your door? Spending money on washing stations and restrooms should be used on housing instead. The washing stations we have now are broken down and/or are not kept clean and refilled. The pandemic should not be used as an excuse to not clean the area. In fact, it is even more of a reason to keep the area clean. Crime has gone up 40% in Venice and the many fire trucks and ambulances that have been recorded servicing the MTA station and surrounding area is due in large part to the many encampments that have grown around It. I am unable to use many sidewalks while walking my dog and must walk in the street to get around all the tents, trash etc. Our curbs are lined with trash as well. PLEASE vote YES on resuming cleaning. Vote like you lived here. Thank you

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Ruthie Holmes

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 11:47 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please do not resume sweeps in Special Enforcement Zones. Sweeps explicitly violate the COVID safety guidelines set out by the CDC, since LA does not have enough shelter beds. LA's new homeless shelters created under the Mayor's A Bridge Home program are surrounded by "Special Enforcement Zones" (SECZs) where LAPD police houseless neighbors and carry out sweeps. It's no secret that these shelters do not have enough beds or resources to help everyone who needs it. So why do these shelters include Special Enforcement Zones where police are funded to harass people who aren't in the shelter? This harms people without housing, it doesn't solve anything for the neighborhood, and it's a big expense for the city. City leaders must commit to reimagining public safety and an unarmed response to non-violent calls. You must abolish the punitive SECZs. Do not resume sweeps. Struggling Angelenos need #HomesNotZones!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Eva Greene

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 11:55 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** PLEASE VOTE YES TO RESUME COMPREHENSIVE CARE + CLEANUPS Be men and women that are true to your word. The promises we make to people and communities in a society are what we must rely on to make this society function and capable of moving forward. The Mayor and Mr. Bonin promised Venice that once Bridge Housing at Sunset was built, then and only then would they begin the removal of tent encampments in Venice. Bridge housing in Venice opened on February 25, 2020. Today, its July 28, 2020, five months later and the encampments in Venice have proliferated. Around the bridge housing property, there are more encampments than ever before. The violence within these encampments is overwhelming for the residents living near there, with drug use, needles, threats to neighbors, fights between the tent dwellers, fifth and trash that is hazardous to the dwellers and the surrounding community. The level of rats and mice attracted is unacceptable. Something must be done to fix this very serious issue. In looking at the disaster that has become the Venice bridge shelter, I would advise all other communities that are considering a bridge housing for their community to fight it tooth and nail. I advise them to visit the Venice Bridge Shelter and see how the promises made have been promises broken leaving the surrounding community unprotected and with no where to turn. There is blight everywhere and the promises made to Venice were merely talk. It is time to do the right thing and keep the promises made to and begin the clean ups. Sincerely, Eva Greene

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Alie Kadlac

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 12:05 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I urge the City Council to eliminate special enforcement zones. They are not working and are causing harm to unhoused residents living in the zones. These "Cleanups" force elderly and disabled people to take potentially painful steps to move their belongings or take their tents down. Increasing sweeps around A Bridge Home shelters is harmful and costly and it's an admission that these shelters don't meet the needs of all unhoused residents in the area. Place-based zoning to keep people out of an area doesn't work. It requires significant enforcement, which leads to increased criminalization and increased expense. Cleanups also directly go against current COVID-19 recommendations from the CDC, which specifically states, "If individual housing options are not available, allow people who are living unsheltered or in encampments to remain where they are." Please eliminate all special enforcement zones around ABH shelters.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Christina A Thompson

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 12:09 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** This motion to reinstate enforcement of 56.11 is inhumane in the the best of times and even more abhorrent during the current public health crisis. The government at all levels need to allow these individuals to be exist as best they can in awful situations. The only way government should be using our resources in regard to this is by finding ways to remove the barriers that keep these individuals down and just make existing harder. The resources that would be used to in bullying them, and taking hard won resources that they depend on for survival, amount to nothing less then creating an authoritative environment where the mere survival of the underprivileged is only considered an eyesore to the privileged that must be removed by force and arms. I do not consent to public resources being used in this manner. These resources should be used to lift people up and not beat them. If the council will please consider using these funds to assist those in need with housing, food, and heath care.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** David Polinsky

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 12:23 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am Chair of the Valley Beth Shalom Homelessness Task force, and as constituents of the San Fernando Valley, we are strongly OPPOSED to the City restarting CARE+ sweeps in front of bridge shelters, which are performed in conjunction with LAPD. These actions are detrimental to our unhoused neighbors, in that they result in physical and emotional trauma, financial harm, loss and destruction of essential items, and go directly against CDC guidelines. These sweeps are a part of "Special Enforcement Zones" patrolled by LAPD, which cost us, as taxpayers, \$8.4 MILLION. These sweeps perpetuate the criminalization of homelessness, and should not be restarted.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sarah Rubinstein

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 12:26 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I strongly oppose this motion and the effort to reinstate the Special Enforcement and Cleaning Zones. Place-based spot zoning to keep people out of an area does not work. It requires significant enforcement and that increased police presence increases criminalization of unhoused Angelenos. The sweeps done around A Bridge Home sites is harmful and costly. The need for sweeps around these sites merely highlights how few beds we have available for those who need them. The CDC explicitly recommends against displacing encampments during the COVID-19 pandemic and yet the SECZ efforts force those living near ABH sites to be displaced. Listen to the CDC and listen to your constituents. We say NO to SECZ and the harassment and criminalization of unhoused residents of the City of LA.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Lisa Holtke

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 05:05 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Vote down use of \$8.4 million for policing in and around bridge shelter locations and street/overpass sweeps. LAPD is not qualified to interact with the disabled & homeless. There are countless examples (rather than hard statistics) on camera of LAPD & other LEOs brutalizing, grossly intimidating & permanently injuring that population set. Legal action, time and resource consuming, has upheld the right to possessions as well as street occupancy. On LA skid row & at other locations small groups of shelter seeker form when people have no other hope & no energy or resources to repeatedly return. Earmark funds, if anything, to oversee & enforce LA City/County obligations to create & fill to occupancy homes required by Measure H & newer Keys program. Criminalizing an additional category of 'passive conduct' & sponsoring as well as mandating Police action against vulnerable BIPOC will INTENSIFY brutality, marginalization & health harm. Too many \$ are spent to defacto criminalize otherwise legal conductnofthose unhoused. Population of homeless is VERY likely to escalate soon due to COVID economics, sending residents to street living WHERE this 'policy' will then criminalize them, their records & Doom them to a lifetime of homelessness. Solve the riot problem with funding & remember EVERY bridge house has Security funding already built-in. Finally, many transitional bridge programs have been closed due to COVID & residents moved to Keys Hotels. Homelessness is NOT combatted & business areas are not made safer by increasing Police activity & justification for re-criminalizing those who have NO shelter.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Ryan McCabe

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 05:14 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I strongly oppose item #46. Sweeps are extremely harmful and unproductive way of dealing with our most vulnerable citizens. SPOT ZONING DOES NOT WORK! we do not need more enforcement to criminalize people without homes. It is extremely costly and not effective. Have compassion and support these individuals with respect. Homes not zones!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Peter Belcher

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 05:20 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Last year this city spent 30 million dollars on sweeps of the unhoused. What good did all that money do? For years I walked passed encampments on the way too and from work. Watching them be swept only to return to the same area the next day. The encampments never obstructed the sidewalks to the point where I could not safely get to and from work. Now we are facing a pandemic and a global health crisis. Forcing people to move is only furthering the spread of the virus and wasting resources that could be used to provide health and testing services for those in need. Even if we had enough shelter space for every unhoused person in Los Angeles, which we clearly don't have anywhere close to that. Would forcing people together in tight spaces really be the best idea right now?

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Kathryn Falsey

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 05:37 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Bridge housing in Venice opened on February 25, 2020. Today, its July 28, 2020, five months later and the encampments in Venice have proliferated. Around the bridge housing property, there are more encampments than ever before. The violence within these encampments is overwhelming for the residents living near there, with drug use, needles, threats to neighbors, fights between the tent dwellers, fifth and trash that is hazardous to the dwellers and the surrounding community. The level of rats and mice attracted is unacceptable. Something must be done to fix this very serious issue. It's time to do the right thing and keep the promises made to and begin the clean ups and show us that the promises made to Venice were not merely talk.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Hannah E Kirkner

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 05:41 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I oppose agenda item #46--spearheaded by Councilmembers Buscaino and Krekorian--which intends to resume CARE and CARE sweeps performed in the Special Enforcement and Cleaning Zones (SECZ) around Bridge shelters. When members of our unhoused community are subject to sweeps, their belongings are seized without warrants and often destroyed. Not only are these sweeps humiliating, but they strip unhoused people of their possessions and basic human dignity. Place-based zoning intended to keep people away from an area simply does not work. It requires enforcement, which costs money and leads to increased contact with the carceral system and unnecessary criminalization. The money allocated for SECZ should be spent elsewhere, perhaps on emergency management.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Kim Cooper

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 06:08 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** City Council, I am asking you to please vote NO on Item 46, regarding the resumption of Special Enforcement Cleaning Zones. Los Angeles needs to stop policing and criminalizing unhoused Angelenos, full stop, but especially considering that there are not currently enough accommodations for everyone who needs them, and especially considering that we remain in the midst of the pandemic. If you're not able to vote against SECZ simply because it's the right thing to do for our unhoused neighbors, then please do it because it's what the CDC advises. Homes not zones, services not sweeps. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sarah Shoup

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 06:30 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please vote YES to resume comprehensive CARE + CLEANUPS. Keep your promises made to the Venice Community. The Mayor and Mr. Bonin promised Venice that once Bridge Housing at Sunset was built, then and only then would they begin the removal of tent encampments in Venice. Bridge housing in Venice opened on February 25, 2020. Today, its July 28, 2020, five months later and the encampments in Venice have proliferated. Around the bridge housing property, there are more encampments than ever before. The violence within these encampments is overwhelming for the residents living near there, with drug use, needles, threats to neighbors, fights between the tent dwellers, filth and trash that is hazardous to the dwellers and the surrounding community. The level of rats and mice attracted is unacceptable. Something must be done to fix this very serious issue. It's time to do the right thing and keep the promises made to and begin the clean ups and show us that the promises made to Venice were not merely talk. Sincerely, Sarah Shoup Venice Resident

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Rynn  
**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 06:30 PM  
**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** All it takes is one circumstance to change for anyone to become homeless. Retraumatizing people who have already lost almost everything is beyond cruel. Pushing people out of sight to be out of mind does not address the real roots on how we can address these issues and do better. Approximately 8.4 million dollars for these sweeps is a gross misuse of funds that could be used to create housing, treatment programs, and any other social services someone might need. If we can defund the police, L.A. can also do a better job and set a prime example of proper uses of funding. It is time this county starts thinking about all of its population and doing better for everyone. Please do the right thing and choose to not only end the sweeps, but put the funding back into the people rather than an effort to make things harder for people who have it hard enough. Do better, do what is right.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Ashley Paige Brim

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 06:38 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing to oppose agenda item #46 to AUTHORIZE the Bureau of Sanitation to resume CARE+ cleanups within the Special Cleaning Zones established around A Bridge Home shelters. Resuming CARE+ now would be in violation of CDC guidelines during the COVID-19 pandemic. CARE+ sweeps are a threat to overall public health! Increasing sweeps around A Bridge Home shelters is expensive and puts our most vulnerable people in contact with law enforcement which is traumatic and best, deadly at worst. THERE IS NO WHERE TO GO IF YOU DON'T HAVE A HOME. Stop criminalizing homelessness. Put an end to SEZ.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Alejandro Pina

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 06:47 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing to demand the removal of Special Enforcement Zones from all current or planned homeless shelters. This cruel and costly practice needlessly punishes houseless Angelenos who want to access a shelter bed but cannot due to limited capacity. 24 hour LAPD patrols increase the likelihood of unnecessary conflicts and uses of force. Weekly “comprehensive cleanups” force elderly and disabled residents to breakdown their tents and relocate without regard for their health or physical limitations. The \$8.4 million price tag for geographically targeted enforcement is unjustifiable in light of the city’s need for more homeless services and housing. Over the past two months, we’ve heard councilmembers acknowledge that more enforcement isn’t the answer for making communities safe. They’ve made promises to reimagine public safety by cutting LAPD funding and replacing officers with unarmed, non-law enforcement agencies to respond to non-violent service calls. Permanently eliminating the practice of location-based policing would be an essential step in that direction. I urge you to support this new paradigm.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Michael K  
**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 07:04 PM  
**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing in to express an extreme opposition to agenda item #46. The motion by council members Buscaino and Krekorian to resume CARE sweeps of OUR unhoused neighbor's communities around "A Bridge Home" shelters is clearly flawed in the fact that it PUNISHES CITIZENS who are unable to get spots in our underfunded, often at-capactiy shelters. This is both harmful and costly admission that ABH shelters are failing to meet the needs of all unhoused residents in the vicinity. These "cleanups" are most damaging to elderly and disabled people who have difficult taking down and moving their homes. Also, we need to reduce all interactions between our unhoused citizens and law enforcement at all costs!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Michelle DiBattiste  
**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 07:18 PM  
**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing in strong opposition to the Enforcement Zones. I work with young people experiencing homelessness, and my personal opinion is that LAPD are not the folks we need to be funding when it comes to ending homelessness in Los Angeles. They do not provide safety to people experiencing homelessness. Rather, the special enforcement zones continue to criminalize poverty and homelessness. And increased criminalization does NOT help individuals in need of support. Police don't stop crime. Police to keep the peace. They increase the fear and pave a clear pathway for homeless folks, who are disproportionately BIPOC, into mass incarceration. To increase LADP presence near a shelter is despicable, and a shallow decision aimed at appeasing NIMBYs. Listen to Los Angeles. Day after day, on the streets, in BOS mtgs, in City Council presentations, LA residents are calling for alternatives to incarceration; a culture of care; and a budget that reflects both. I understand deeply the level of this crisis. I know that we need ample funding poured into serving our un-housed neighbors. But Enforcement Zones that increase funding to LAPD is not going to make your constituents happy-housed and unhoused. Defund SECZ. Fund services.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** D. Pitt

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 07:25 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please vote YES to resume comprehensive CARE + CLEANUPS. Keep your promises made to the Venice Community. The Mayor and Mr. Bonin promised Venice that once Bridge Housing at Sunset was built, then and only then would they begin the removal of tent encampments in Venice. Bridge housing in Venice opened on February 25, 2020. Today, its July 28, 2020, five months later and the encampments in Venice have proliferated. Around the bridge housing property, there are more encampments than ever before. The violence within these encampments is overwhelming for the residents living near there, with drug use, needles, threats to neighbors, fights between the tent dwellers, fifth and trash that is hazardous to the dwellers and the surrounding community. The level of rats and mice attracted is unacceptable. Something must be done to fix this very serious issue. It's time to do the right thing and keep the promises made to and begin the clean ups and show us that the promises made to Venice were not merely talk. Sincerely, D. Pitt \_\_\_\_\_  
Venice Resident

## Communication from Public

**Name:** kate corry-saavedra  
**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 07:37 PM  
**Council File No:** 20-0147  
**Comments for Public Posting:** DO NOT ENFORCE THE SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT ZONES!  
First of all, COVID is clearly not over, therefore the CDC still recommends not disrupting tent encampments. Even without COVID, the enforcement zone is cruel and arbitrary. People experiencing homelessness should not be punished for the city's inability to house people. Provide services (like actual housing! bathrooms! healthcare! food!), NOT SWEEPS!!!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Alexandra Gucovsky

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 07:45 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please keep your promises and vote YES to resume comprehensive care and clean up. Bridge housing in Venice has been open for 5 months and our encampments are worse than ever. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Alexandra Lee Carcieri

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 08:18 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Passage of the below motion would be a direct VIOLATION of CDC guidelines for controlling the spread of COVID-19. Vote NO. MOTION (BUSCAINO - KREKORIAN) relative to amending Council action of March 17, 2020 to resume comprehensive CARE+ cleanups. AMEND Council action of March 17, 2020 (Council file No. 20-0147 as amended by Motion 72-P and Motion 72-P-A) to AUTHORIZE the Bureau of Sanitation to resume CARE+ cleanups within the Special Cleaning Zones established around A Bridge Home shelters only.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Dylan Porter

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 08:31 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please vote YES to resume comprehensive CARE + CLEANUPS. Keep your promises made to the Venice Community. The Mayor and Mr. Bonin promised Venice that once Bridge Housing at Sunset was built, then and only then would they begin the removal of tent encampments in Venice. Bridge housing in Venice opened on February 25, 2020. Today, its July 28, 2020, five months later and the encampments in Venice have proliferated. Around the bridge housing property, there are more encampments than ever before. The violence within these encampments is overwhelming for the residents living near there, with drug use, needles, threats to neighbors, fights between the tent dwellers, fifth and trash that is hazardous to the dwellers and the surrounding community. The level of rats and mice attracted is unacceptable. Something must be done to fix this very serious issue. It's time to do the right thing and keep the promises made to and begin the clean ups and show us that the promises made to Venice were not merely talk. Sincerely, Dylan Porter Venice Resident



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Meridith McNeill

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 08:45 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello my name is Meridith (91602) and I write to request that you please do not resume sweeps in Special Enforcement Zones. Sweeps explicitly violate the COVID safety guidelines set out by the CDC, since LA does not have enough shelter beds. LA's new homeless shelters created under the Mayor's A Bridge Home program are surrounded by "Special Enforcement Zones" (SECZs) where LAPD police houseless neighbors and carry out sweeps. It's no secret that these shelters do not have enough beds or resources to help everyone who needs it. So why do these shelters include Special Enforcement Zones where police are funded to harass people who aren't in the shelter? This harms people without housing, it doesn't solve anything for the neighborhood, and it's a big expense for the city. City leaders must commit to reimagining public safety and an unarmed response to non-violent calls. You must abolish the punitive SECZs. Do not resume sweeps. Struggling Angelenos need #HomesNotZones!

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 08:48 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Vote yes

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sandy Berens

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 01:43 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please vote yes to resume care and ckeanu Keep the promises that we're made by Bonin That once the bridge housing was built on Sunset then and only then they would remove the tent encampments Promise made should be promises kept Thank you

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Levon Haroutunian

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 01:52 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Our houseless population needs HOMES, not ZONES. Needless 24-hour policing of these "special enforcement zones" is costly and cruel. Rather than investing resources in monitoring and punishing struggling Angelenos, we need to abolish the SECZs and instead put those resources towards establishing long-term solutions to our housing crisis.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Michelle Zweig  
**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 01:52 PM  
**Council File No:** 20-0147  
**Comments for Public Posting:** please pass this motion so we can bring order back to our neighborhoods.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Nichol Carlson

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 02:02 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** The reason for my support of the Bridge Housing was for one reason - LAPD were not allowed to move the homeless off of the sidewalk in front of my home unless we voted for the Bridge Housing. As Garcetti and Bonin explained it at one of the town hall meetings, once we had the Bridge Home built, they would be able to enforce rules of sleeping and defecating on the sidewalk. Now that the Bridge House has been in place, over the last five months everything has gotten worse - it's uninhabitable in Venice at the moment for regular people. Even walking around my neighborhood at dusk has become terrifying (I'm a few blocks from the Bridge House). The encampments in Venice have proliferated. Around the bridge housing property, there are more encampments than ever before. The violence within these encampments is overwhelming for the residents living near there, with drug use, needles, threats to neighbors, fights between the tent dwellers, fifth and trash that is hazardous to the dwellers and the surrounding community. The level of rats and mice attracted is unacceptable. Something must be done to fix this very serious issue. It's time to do the right thing and keep the promises made - we have to start cleaning up this filth and moving people off the streets.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sam Woolsey

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 02:07 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please vote YES to resume comprehensive CARE+ cleanups. Venice desperately needs constant sanitation and cleanup due to the vagrants and drug dealers leaving needles, trash, used condoms and human waste in the streets and sidewalks. In this time of a pandemic, the cleaning must be kept up consistently.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Shayda Dehnou  
**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 02:25 PM  
**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing to oppose agenda item #46 and to say that you should NOT be resuming CARE and CARE+ sweeps in the Special Enforcement and Cleaning Zones around Bridge shelters. First off, these sweeps force more vulnerable people such as elderly folks and those with disabilities to potentially injure themselves by being forcibly mobilized. Additionally, this punishes angelenos who pursued housing but couldn't be provided for because of ABH's general at-capacity status due to LA's lack of resources invested into housing its residents. Lastly, this will be costly, wasteful, and ineffective and lead to increased criminalization that will ultimately achieve nothing and harm the city.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Abigail E Kuhns

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 02:30 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am a constituent of CD 11 writing to OPPOSE agenda item 46. As a city, LA must eliminate Special Enforcement Zones as a whole. They do nothing but disrupt the lives of the unhoused and give permission to the LAPD to terrorize them. Additionally, SEZ's are costly and inefficient. Their only purpose is a special breed of cruelty that you as city council members must NOT endorse. If you are truly committed to reimagining public safety and unarmed responses to non violent calls, you must abolish these punitive zones. These shelters fill up quickly and punishing unhoused people who want help but simply can't get it due to lack of resources is blatantly inhumane and disgusting.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Elizabeth Hall

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 02:46 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing to comment on agenda item Number 46, which will be discussed in the 7/29/2020 meeting. I strongly oppose agenda item No.46, which will allow the LAPD to resume sweeps in so-called "Special Enforcement Zones" that surround many of the newly created homeless shelters in L.A. I oppose policing of these zones, which should be safe spaces for homeless persons and other vulnerable individuals. As a city, we must remain committed to protecting homeless populations. If city leaders are sincerely committed to reimagining public safety, they must oppose the senseless and often aggressive policing of SECZs. I urge all council members to oppose agenda item Number 46.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Nora Salem

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 02:51 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I strongly oppose item #46. Sweeps in Special Enforcement and Cleaning Zones are violent and traumatic to our unhoused neighbors. Place based zoning doesn't work and more importantly, it is cruel. We should be using funds to build housing, not to take away what little belongings and comfort unhoused people do have. Thanks to the pandemic and the lack of support from our national and local governments, our city is on the edge of a housing crisis. Soon enough, there will be even more people on the streets. Sweeps and SCE zones are in no way a solution to this problem. Care not cops, houses not handcuffs -- that's the city I want to live in.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Kelly Thomas

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 02:52 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** As a resident of CD1 and living near A Bridge House shelters in CD10, I strongly oppose resuming sweeps in SECZs around shelters. It is clear that the purpose of these sweeps is simply to decrease the \*visibility\* of our unhoused neighbors instead of actually decreasing homelessness. This approach is cruel, inhumane (especially to elderly and disabled people who cannot take their tents down during the daytime hours), and quite simply a terrible use of resources. We all know that enforcing these zones is incredibly expensive and requires law enforcement in a time when some council members have committed to reducing law enforcement in unnecessary situations. I live down the street from a shelter. Yes, there are many unhoused people living on the streets of my neighborhood. No, I do not support giving my unhoused neighbors citations they cannot pay, confiscating their belongings during a pandemic, and making their lives more difficult solely to make other residents more comfortable. The fact that the Bridge shelter site includes these lines, which claim to give unhoused Angelenos the "choice" to take down their tents during the day so as not to be cited, is illogical and upsetting to me: "Homeless Angelenos will still be able to put up their tents between the hours of 9pm and 6am, but during the daytime, the City is establishing special enforcement zones to ensure that tents are taken down." These streets belong to all of us and these rules are violent, so obviously trying to hide homelessness instead of house people. Those who vote to resume these sweeps value the comfort of some of their constituents and the money of developers over the lives of the unhoused.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Emma Barrie

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 02:53 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** This comment is about item #46, the "comprehensive cleanups" aka encampment sweeps. In addition to being cruel and costly, the passage of this motion would be a direct violation of CDC guidelines for controlling the spread of COVID-19. Displacing homeless people, an INCREDIBLY VULNERABLE population, under the guise of making cities "cleaner" is disgusting. It's our fault they're homeless. It's our fault there isn't enough low-income or supportive housing. Making unhoused people feel even more displaced than they already are, destroying their belongings (including NECESSARY IDs and birth certificates), getting them arrested for not having those documents (!!!) and for doing nothing other than trying to survive-- it's incredibly fucked up and it's not the city I want to live in.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 03:05 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please do not resume sweeps in Special Enforcement Zones. Sweeps explicitly violate the COVID safety guidelines set out by the CDC, since LA does not have enough shelter beds. LA's new homeless shelters created under the Mayor's A Bridge Home program are surrounded by "Special Enforcement Zones" (SECZs) where LAPD police houseless neighbors and carry out sweeps. It's no secret that these shelters do not have enough beds or resources to help everyone who needs it. So why do these shelters include Special Enforcement Zones where police are funded to harass people who aren't in the shelter? This harms people without housing, it doesn't solve anything for the neighborhood, and it's a big expense for the city. City leaders must commit to reimagining public safety and an unarmed response to non-violent calls. You must abolish the punitive SECZs. Do not resume sweeps. Struggling Angelenos need #HomesNotZones!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** GLORIA J ROMERO

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 03:30 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Councilmembers, As a neighbor to Bridge Housing at Sunset, I ask that you uphold the promises this Council made to Venice residents. Please vote YES to resume comprehensive CARE + CLEANUPS. In January of 2020, the annual homeless count was conducted. In early July we finally received those results, and we now know that CD 11 had a 40% increase in homelessness from the prior year, and also a 188% increase in homelessness by drug addiction. These are pre-COVID19 numbers. Bridge housing in Venice opened on February 25, 2020, and COVID19 Stay-At-Home orders started in March, 2020. Today, FIVE months later, our community has been devastated by the lack of sanitation and the overwhelming proliferation of homeless encampments. There are more encampments than ever before, tents now line the property. If CD11 was up 40% back in January, before COVID ever became an issue, we will be looking at 3x or 120% increase since then. According to FBI crime statistics- Venice crime rates are 115% higher than the national average; Violent crimes in Venice are 149% higher than the national average; In Venice you have a 1 in 19 chance of becoming a victim of crime. The violence within these encampments is overwhelming for the residents such as myself. Everyday we witness drug use/trafficking, needles discarded outside our homes, threats to neighbors; and fights among tent dwellers and Bridge Housing residents. In the midst of this national health crisis, please remember that fifth and trash that are hazardous to the dwellers and the surrounding community. The level of rats and mice attracted is unacceptable. New Mexico and Colorado have reported incidents of Bubonic Plague this month, please do not let this happen to Los Angeles. As a resident of CD11 and neighbor to Bridge Housing, I urge you to please vote YES to resume comprehensive CARE + CLEANUPS.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Helen and Bert Fallon

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 03:44 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please vote yes for this motion and resume the clean-ups around Bridge Housing. Here in Venice, thanks to the local homeless providers our homeless population has increased by 40% in the last year. Our streets and sidewalks have been completely taken over by the homeless. There is open drug use, prostitution, highly visible chop shops and a significant increase in crime. The amount of trash and debris littering our streets and sidewalks is astounding. While this motion will not address the many encampments in Venice and the vast amount of trash they generate, this motion as amended will ensure that the city can clean a few blocks in Venice and finally keep the promises that were made to keep the areas around Bridge Housing clean when it located the Venice Bridge Housing in the middle of a residential neighborhood and near a school. At the very least, could the City Council give the appearance that you actually care about the quality of life of taxpaying citizens. Please stop pandering to the homeless industrial complex that refuses to acknowledge that mentally ill people need to be cared for behind locked doors, the drug addicted need rehabilitation and the criminals need to be jailed. Shame on you for allowing our city and most especially the 2nd largest tourist destination in Southern California, Venice and its Beaches, to look like a garbage dump and smell like a toilet.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Traci Larson

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 04:03 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please do not vote to restart the "CARE+" clean ups. The original reasoning for suspending them has not been resolved; we are still in the midst of a global pandemic. The budget for this program should be diverted to providing services that will actually benefit the people experiencing homelessness. Stop the cycle of trauma that keeps people unhoused.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Darryl DuFay

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 04:04 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** The Mayor and Mr. Bonin promised Venice that once Bridge Housing at Sunset was built, then and only then would they begin the removal of tent encampments in Venice. A "Bridge Home Zone" (ABH) CD11 was established around the Bridge Housing. It is called the Special Enforcement and Cleaning Zone (SECZ). The LAPD was to enforce LAMC 56.11 within the SECZ. Street Services was to clean the zone. The LAPD patrol has been removed. The area is not being cleaned. Compliance with LAMC 56.11 includes: Have tents down from 6:00 am to 9:00 pm (unless rain) Keep sidewalks clear so pedestrians and persons in wheelchairs can pass by Keep a 10 ft. distance from doors and driveways Limit Personal property to no more than 60 gallons Do not fasten or ties anything to property

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Yvonne

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 04:05 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Place-based spot zoning to keep people out of an area doesn't work. It requires significant enforcement, which leads to unnecessary increased criminalization and interactions with law enforcement. Simply put, it's a waste of time, money and resources. Increased interactions with law enforcement will only lead to more violence and potential for police brutality against our unhoused neighbors. I urge this Council to oppose agenda item #46.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Skyler Spiegel

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 04:19 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I'm writing in to OPPOSE agenda item #46! Before you vote to reauthorize sweeps within Special Enforcement + "Cleanup" Zones, please ask yourself the following... "are these sweeps truly helping the population experiencing homelessness?" This is a question I've been asking myself and I've come to the obvious conclusion that the answer is 'no'. With the money being put into upholding these zones, here are some alternatives that those directly affected are begging of you. 1) Remove all Law Enforcement personnel from any of the City's street cleaning teams and efforts 2) Ensure all street and sidewalk cleaning is scheduled, regular, and well publicized 3) Ensure appropriate resources are in place in advance of and during all scheduled cleaning 4) Ensure an accountability system for City street and sidewalk cleaning procedures, including a complaint/grievance process and a response to any violations documented within three days. So much more information articulated by those who have been doing this work for years are on [servicenotsweeps.com](http://servicenotsweeps.com) Thank you and I am really hoping that I can trust that you will make the decision that will help these oppressed groups.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Cindy Lin

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 04:28 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I oppose this proposed action to restart "CARE+" cleanups around A Bridge Home Shelters. These special enforcement zones to keep people out of an area shows that the shelters are insufficient for providing services and shelter to those unhoused in that area. It is highly costly to perform these "cleanups" which are more like forced relocation of unhoused peoples from one part of the city to another. The enforcement of the cleanups increases criminalization and interactions with law enforcement of a vulnerable population within our community. We should be spending these funds to help provide them with services. Included in the population that will be removed through these cleanups are elderly and disabled folks that will be forced to take potentially harmful and painful actions in order to relocate, again, hurting them rather than helping. I urge the city council to focus on actual solutions that help unhoused residents rather than those that continue to criminalize them, like this proposal.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Zoe Nissen

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 04:34 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am URGING LA City Council NOT to reinstate CARE+ sweeps of our unhoused neighbors around "A Bridge Home" shelters. Having LAPD aggressively police the "Special Enforcement Zones" is a cruel, costly practice that actively harms people without housing. Criminalizing homelessness will not magically solve the problem. The transitional housing connected with A Bridge Home fills up fast, and it is NOT the fault of unhoused Angelenos. Instead of sending in LAPD to accost and displace these encampments (a practice which, by the way, the CDC recommends AGAINST doing for COVID-19 safety), why not commandeer the empty hotel rooms and apartment units all over the city and put our homeless neighbors in there for free? Why not cancel rent? Unless preventative measures are taken, Los Angeles's homeless population stands to only increase due to the massive economic depression we've experienced in conjunction with COVID-19. Angelenos don't need "Special Enforcement Zones" - they need HOMES and RESOURCES. And while we're on that subject, we can get funding for those things by defunding the police.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 04:56 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please vote YES to resume comprehensive CARE + CLEANUPS. Keep your promises made to the Venice Community. The Mayor and Mr. Bonin promised Venice that once Bridge Housing at Sunset was built, then and only then would they begin the removal of tent encampments in Venice. Bridge housing in Venice opened on February 25, 2020. Today, its July 28, 2020, five months later and the encampments in Venice have proliferated. Venice Boulevard has been overtaken by encampments and trash. The violence within these encampments is overwhelming and terrifying for the residents who live here, with drug use, needles, threats to neighbors, fights between the tent dwellers, fifth and trash that is hazardous to the dwellers and the surrounding community. The level of rats and mice attracted is unacceptable. There is no running water or toilet facilities, there is human feces everywhere. I personally have seen people accosted including a pregnant mother with a toddler. ARE YOU WAITING FOR INNOCENT RESIDENTS TO BE KILLED?? THIS IS A VIOLENT GROUP OF PEOPLE! Then you will have a HUGE lawsuit on your hands for your inaction. It's time to do the right thing and keep the promises made to and begin the clean ups and show us that the promises made to Venice were not merely talk. I am a law-abiding, tax paying resident of Venice who demands something be done about this seriously dangerous situation. Sincerely, \_\_Sharon Trojan Hollinger\_\_\_\_\_ Venice Resident

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Kelsey Roshetko

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 04:58 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please do not resume sweeps in Special Enforcement Zones. Sweeps explicitly violate the COVID safety guidelines set out by the CDC, since LA does not have enough shelter beds. LA's new homeless shelters created under the Mayor's A Bridge Home program are surrounded by "Special Enforcement Zones" (SECZs) where LAPD police houseless neighbors and carry out sweeps. It's no secret that these shelters do not have enough beds or resources to help everyone who needs it. So why do these shelters include Special Enforcement Zones where police are funded to harass people who aren't in the shelter? This harms people without housing, it doesn't solve anything for the neighborhood, and it's a big expense for the city. City leaders must commit to reimagining public safety and an unarmed response to non-violent calls. You must abolish the punitive SECZs. Do not resume sweeps. Struggling Angelenos need #HomesNotZones!



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Judith Esposito

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 04:58 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Keep your promises made to the Venice Community. The Mayor and Mr. Bonin promised Venice that once Bridge Housing at Sunset was built, then and only then would they begin the removal of tent encampments in Venice. Bridge housing in Venice opened on February 25, 2020. Today, its July 28, 2020, five months later and the encampments in Venice have proliferated. Around the bridge housing property, there are more encampments than ever before. The violence within these encampments is overwhelming for the residents living near there, with drug use, needles, threats to neighbors, fights between the tent dwellers, fifth and trash that is hazardous to the dwellers and the surrounding community. The level of rats and mice attracted is unacceptable. Something must be done to fix this very serious issue. It's time to do the right thing and keep the promises made to and begin the clean ups and show us that the promises made to Venice were not merely talk. Sincerely, \_\_\_\_\_ Venice Resident

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Danielle Carne

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 10:36 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I'm writing today as a Los Angeles resident to urge you to eliminate special enforcement zones. Resuming CARE+ now would be in violation of CDC guidelines during the COVID-19 pandemic. CARE+ sweeps are a threat to overall public health! Increasing sweeps around A Bridge Home shelters is harmful and costly and it's an admission that these shelters don't meet the needs of all unhoused residents in the area. We need more housing, not punitive enforcement of unnecessary sweeps! The reality is that place-based zoning to keep people out of an area doesn't work. It requires significant enforcement, which leads to increased criminalization and increased expense, when a housing first solution that centers unhoused people is cheaper and more effective.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** perah ralin

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 10:48 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I'm a constituent in CD13 and I categorically oppose resuming CARE sweeps. We know that ABH shelters operate at capacity. It is shameful, absolutely inhuman, that we criminalize the existence of unhoused people and punish them for seeking help. We need literal care, not bullshit acronyms.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Laura Adery

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 10:49 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I oppose item #46, that moves to resume “CARE+“ sweeps of unhoused community members near the ABH shelter. The ABH center is routinely are capacity, and the city is not currently providing an alternative for these individuals, despite having the vacant resources to do so, and funds available to reallocate from LAPD to address these dire and pressing needs. It is inhumane and traumatic to propose these routine, yet unpredictable destructions of the only shelter these individuals can manage, during a pandemic. The city has an obligation to serve its community members better, the bare minimum you can do is not destroy their survival strategies. We need homes not zones, and services not sweeps. We will not stand for the harassmt of unhoused people.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Yuisa Alegria-Gimeno

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 10:54 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Councilmember Krekorian, As a District 2 resident I vehemently oppose agenda item #46 (Council File # 20-0147). As a SEIU 721 union member that works for LA County to provide life-saving services to older adults, people with disabilities and their caregivers, criminalizing the homeless is not what you should be focused on. Older adults and people with disabilities face some of the highest rates of homelessness, especially those who are Black, immigrants and transgender women of color. These vulnerable populations need more permanent, public supportive housing and social services, not more police enforcement and harassment. As local and national protests continue to be waged to oppose police brutality and to fight for more community resources, your job as a public servant is to listen to the community and meet our needs. As a public servant myself I work hard to try to connect the most in need find services like access to food and other forms of support to stabilize their lives. It's challenging work but it's vital because people's lives are literally on the line. Agenda item #46 (Council File # 20-0147) does the complete opposite of of stabilizing people's lives - it causes more trauma and discrimination. As a North Hollywood resident I used to see the unhoused in my neighborhood and now I see them less and less. But I don't see more permanent, public supporting housing! So, where did they go? Did they get services or housing? Or did they end up getting harassed by LAPD? Or arrested by LAPD or left on the street with nothing because LAPD stole and then destroyed their belongings? LA City residents, housed and unhoused, don't need agenda item #46. I urge you to vote NO! LA City needs what the End Homelessness Now-LA campaign calls for: utilizing LA City and LA County-owned buildings to be re-purposed as permanent, public supportive housing. That should be your #1 priority - not spending time focusing on criminalizing the most vulnerable in Los Angeles. Vote NO on agenda item #46! Permanent, public supportive housing now! Stop the criminalization of the unhoused! Sincerely, Yuisa Alegria-Gimeno 7114 Ethel Ave Apt #6 North Hollywood, CA 91605 (323)369-6343 yuisa5379@yahoo.com

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Kevin Kelly

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 10:59 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing to express my opposition to Councilmember Buscaino and Councilmember Krekorian's amendment to this council action, calling for the resumption of Care+ cleanups. As someone who has witnessed first-hand dozens of interactions between law enforcement personnel and unhoused Angelenos, I feel strongly that any action that increases enforcement and scrutiny of unhoused people is not in the city's best interest. The only things that these Care+ "sweeps" accomplish is forcing unhoused people, who are so often elderly or disabled, to move their belongings and tents to a different place, with little benefit other than making law enforcement agents feel busy and important. Targeted cleanup zones do little to actually help unhoused people, prioritizing property over people and requiring expensive enforcement that endangers the people they are ostensibly meant to protect. Using law enforcement to force unhoused people off one space and into another does not help address the homelessness crisis in this city--providing more housing does. The members of this council have done pathetically little in the way of meaningful steps towards provide housing for the unhoused. Amendments like this one only reinforce the idea that Councilmembers Buscaino and Krekorian don't care about unhoused Angelenos, prioritizing the law enforcement members who funded their campaigns and the wealthy Angelenos who count them as friends. Do better.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Tom  
**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 11:12 PM  
**Council File No:** 20-0147  
**Comments for Public Posting:** Clean up Venice! Clean up the trash! I ask that you uphold the promises this Council made to my Community. Please vote YES to resume comprehensive CARE + CLEANUPS.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Dodge Greenley  
**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 11:18 PM  
**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am a resident of Atwater Village, and I would like to push the council to vote no on Item 46. The sweeps of homeless peoples' property is cruel and unhelpful during normal times, and particularly harmful and heinous during this pandemic. Displacing our most vulnerable neighbors right now puts them at high risk of contracting covid, threatening their lives and the lives of all Angelenos as everyone's safety is intertwined right now. Our unhoused neighbors need services, not harassment and displacement. Please do not resume the sweeps during the pandemic, and please please reconsider our approach to homelessness after the pandemic.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Charles Kong

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 11:40 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Los Angeles does NOT need anymore CARE sweeps. It punishes people looking for shelter who arrive and find that shelters are at capacity. They can't afford to keep moving around to look for open shelter. Increased policing of these areas doesn't lead to these homeless people getting resources; it just leads to fines and criminalization. Law enforcement do have the compassion and respect for people who are down on their luck. And all this for shelters not having enough resources which is not the fault of those looking for shelter. The fault lies on you, the leaders of LA, in inadequately supporting housing. None of the homeless population, especially the elderly and disabled, can keep up with a city that keeps neglecting them. The enforcement zones are just another way of moving them along out of sight. Its unacceptable and you need to immediately cease these zones and operations. All of these duties and calls, like checking on the homeless and mental health checks, should not lie on the shoulders of police. They should lie in the wellbeing and resources provided directly to those in need.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jodie Francisco

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 11:42 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am very much opposed to this motion MOTION (BUSCAINO - KREKORIAN) relative to amending Council action of March 17, 2020 to resume comprehensive CARE+ cleanups. We have yet to solve the homelessness problem in Los Angeles and with the pandemic, "Sweeping" people off the street and taking away their belongings while not being able to offer them basic shelter, much less services is just wrong. If you have options for them to store their belongings, and allow them to have basic sanitary conditions to toilet and shower, that is one thing. But there is nothing in this order that I can see that will allow this to happen. The city is in crisis and our unsheltered neighbors are in a bigger crisis. You can't just "sweep" them away. There needs to be thoughtful and dignified solutions, and until you can offer that, as the Beatles said "Let it Be". And I do understand that not everyone wants help, but again, sweeping them away is not the solution. Please rethink your position on this and come up with a more humane solution. Thank you. Jodie Francisco

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Stefanie Cho

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 11:50 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please authorize the Bureau of Sanitation to resume CARE+ cleanups within the Special Cleaning Zones established around A Bridge Home shelters, as per your Council file No. 20-0147 as amended by Motion 72-P and Motion 72-P-A. It is time to provide the services that were originally promised when Bridge Housing was introduced. The City specifically wrote: The Bridge Home initiative is designed specifically to match new temporary housing locations with enhanced cleanup of nearby public areas. The City will also seek opportunities to repurpose former encampments sites through landscaping, art and public activities such as festivals and farmers' markets." Surely you will follow through on your promises instead of letting the areas around ABH degenerate into the filth and crime and drug infested areas such as those that we observe at the perimeter of the Venice Bridge Home at 100 Sunset.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Nathaniel Cormac Gualtieri

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 09:09 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am in opposition to agenda item #46 presented by council members Krekorian and Buscaino to resume CARE sweeps of unhoused neighborhoods in LA. These cleanups force unhoused people, especially elderly and disabled people, into harmful situations. Their home, belongings, and sense of security is taken away. The "A Bridge Home" shelters are not currently meeting the needs of the LA unhoused population. Place-based spot zoning doesn't work—it requires police to enforce this zoning, leading to further criminalization and harmful interactions with law enforcement. Instead, I would like to see council members hold a solution-oriented discussion about housing the homeless population. Especially during a global pandemic, having shelter and consistent access to water and hygiene facilities is paramount to maintaining the public health. We should be discussing how to utilize vacant hotels and properties and use this moment to transition into a longer-term solution for the unhoused population.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Emma Buerklin  
**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 09:10 PM  
**Council File No:** 20-0147  
**Comments for Public Posting:** You CANNOT resume CARE and CARE+ sweeps. We need housing, not sweeps. It is ineffective and aggressive and does not help our unhoused community.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 09:12 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please vote YES to resume comprehensive CARE + CLEANUPS. Keep your promises made to the Venice Community. The Mayor and Mr. Bonin promised Venice that once Bridge Housing at Sunset was built, then and only then would they begin the removal of tent encampments in Venice. Bridge housing in Venice opened on February 25, 2020. Today, its July 28, 2020, five months later and the encampments in Venice have proliferated. Around the bridge housing property, there are more encampments than ever before. The violence within these encampments is overwhelming for the residents living near there, with drug use, needles, threats to neighbors, fights between the tent dwellers, fifth and trash that is hazardous to the dwellers and the surrounding community. The level of rats and mice attracted is unacceptable. Something must be done to fix this very serious issue. In fact, there was a fire this week wiping out one such tent encampment on Grand and Venice Blvds. This is a dangerous situation for everyone. It's time to do the right thing and keep the promises made to and begin the clean ups and show us that the promises made to Venice were not merely talk. Sincerely, Sean Venice Resident

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Rocio Alvarado  
**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 09:13 PM  
**Council File No:** 20-0147  
**Comments for Public Posting:** Shut down the SECZ. We want services for our unhoused community, not sweeps.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Victor Huerta

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 09:24 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** This agenda item by council members Buscaino and Krekorian demonstrate how committed they are to policing, rather than helping, our unhoused neighbors. Resuming sweeps around ABH shelters is not only inhumane, it's ineffective. It requires a significant enforcement and resources, essentially leading to increased criminalization and a greater number of interactions with law enforcement. LA County should know by now that policing is not the answer to the homelessness crisis. Moreover, these sweeps force elderly and disabled people, people who might have limited mobility, to move all their belongings to a different location or to take their tents down - an unjust and totally preventable outcome. Interestingly enough, the LA Times said the following in an article about these sweeps published in January 2020: "[Councilmember] Krekorian said Tuesday that although he had voiced concerns, a 'softer touch' had generally worked in his Valley district, where homeless people had gotten trash cans and were keeping their encampments tidier than before." This begs the question: What is being done to keep the areas surrounding ABH Shelters clean without these sweeps? How easily accessible are permanent trash bins in these zones? Are there sharps containers available for people to safely dispose of needles? I would urge the Council to work with the Services Not Sweeps coalition to brainstorm alternatives to this measure.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Ashraf Farassati  
**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 09:28 PM  
**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Angelenos have been amplifying the message of Housing Not Handcuffs for weeks. Meanwhile, LA city council, specifically Buscaino and Krekorian, are looking to resume the CARE sweeps, which is inhumane harassment of unhoused human beings in this city. I opposed agenda item #46. We should not punish unhoused citizens, we should provide them with shelter and opportunities to live a life where they can try to thrive! Place-based spot zoning to keep people out of an area does not work, and it requires significant enforcement, leading to nonsense criminalization. This counteracts efforts to DEFUND POLICE. The true criminals are those who have no empathy or compassion for others who suffer in this world, especially in our own communities. Increasing sweeps around ABH shelters is harmful and costly, and these shelters do not even meet the needs of unhoused residents. Cleanups force elderly and disabled to take painful and harmful steps in moving their belongings, such as their tents. Instead of trying to displace them so that they are out of sight, and out of mind, PLEASE find a SOLUTION. It is much more costly to the city's budget to have 70,000 homeless, than it is to find long-term solutions to house them and bring them back as contributing members of society!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** lydia e

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 09:38 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Do not resume Special Enforcement Zone sweeps. The fact that the City is providing \*less than 100\* new beds for tens of thousands of people in need of shelter, and using that as an excuse to increase harassment of our houseless neighbors is despicable. No matter the training or intention, law enforcement interaction with people residing on the street is harmful, not helpful. People should not be punished and robbed for establishing a safe place to sleep and live when the City has not provided alternatives. The \$8.4 million slated for enforcement should be used for the countless other services that help meet people's immediate needs, such as food, tents, motel vouchers, health clinics, items to protect people from covid - really anything that supports people's well-being. As the City expresses its intention to reinvest in marginalized communities and remedy decades of policy-endorsed racism, it is difficult to reconcile the decision to spend millions of dollars on a program that criminalizes and steals from the people most affected by said policies. It is time to stop protecting property over people. Do not resume Special Enforcement Zone sweeps!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Ty

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 09:40 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** This is NOT what Los Angeles needs to do for its unhoused population. We want services, not sweeps! This motion will do nothing but further criminalize unhoused people. It puts disabled and elderly unhoused people at risk by forcing them to disassemble their belongings and clear out of the way. And for what gain? A cleaner sidewalk? Help them! SERVICES NOT SWEEPS - it's what Los Angeles wants and NEEDS!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Gary Panas

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 09:41 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, when the Bridge Housing was proposed we were promised that the encampments would not be allowed in a nearby radius. This has not been the case and in fact things have gotten much worse. This has been an epic fail and cannot continue. One thing the city administration does not get is that there so many of the homeless in Venice choose to be. All they want to do is use drugs, party, steal and create an overall nuisance. They take no responsibility for anything. Then there are the mentally ill, that need help and should not be allowed to just wander around aimlessly. This is cruel and simply just wrong! Yes there are some that are down on their luck, kids that parents have shunned them because of being LGBTQ and need a helping hand. Meanwhile the city has done nothing, but spend our tax dollars wrongly. This must stop! As a 38 year Venice resident who scrimped and saved in order to provide my family a nice home to live in is now becoming a dump and our property value is plummeting. I have attached a picture of just one of the many examples of many encampments that are bordering on ridiculous! He should get a property tax bill and have a business license for his bicycle chop shop! This is 1/2 block away from the Bridge Housing. Thank you for your time reading this. I hope something can be done, before it is too late. Sincerely, Gary Panas 2343 Ocean Avenue Venice, CA 90291



STAND UP PADDLEBOARDING LESSONS



## Communication from Public

**Name:** cc luce  
**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 09:46 PM  
**Council File No:** 20-0147  
**Comments for Public Posting:** sweeps are police brutality. stop sweeping people's communities. invest those resources in taking care of folks providing housing and essential resources. decriminalize existing outside.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Robert R. Villagomez

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 09:51 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Regarding agenda item 46 I am very opposed to reinstating the special enforcement zones. As a city we should not be victimizing and criminalizing our most vulnerable communities houseless neighbors. It is not right and unconstitutional to have LAPD throw out and dispose of houseless peoples personal and private property not only that but it is essentially an eviction. We need to be spending our money to make sure that they have access to proper services and housing, not funding the police to brutalize and traumatize our neighbors. I am strongly opposed to the reinstatement of the zones #ServicesNotSweeps.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Chris Riddle

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 10:02 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I'm writing in opposition to item 46. These clean up zones are not an effective solution to the homelessness crisis in LA. Increased sweeps around ABH shelters is a harmful and costly admission that these ABH shelters do not meet the needs of all the unhoused people in the area. In addition to being a waste of taxpayer money, these sweeps and "cleanups" just further traumatize and harass the unhoused citizens of LA. Law enforcement has proven that they are incapable of dealing with these situations. We need better resources for our neighbors, not criminalization.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Alma Penunuri

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 10:04 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** My comment is in regards to agenda item number 46. I strongly oppose the motion by council members Buscaino and Krekorian to resume comprehensive CARE sweeps of unhoused neighbors around ABH shelters- this practice is incredibly cruel ALWAYS but ESPECIALLY in the middle of a global pandemic that is completely out of control in our City. You all know we DO NOT have enough beds in shelters to offer to all the unhoused population of Los Angeles, so until you're ready to offer a solution for ALL, leave them alone and cancel all sweeps throughtout the city. We elected you to represent and take care of ALL ANGELINOS, not just those who are housed. It's a shame this is even being considered right now- PLEASE GIVE A SHIT ABOUT HUMAN LIVES.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Johnathan  
**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 10:07 PM  
**Council File No:** 20-0147  
**Comments for Public Posting:** I oppose the CARE sweeps. We shouldn't be criminalizing homelessness and using more hammers to deal with problems that aren't nails.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Tracy Leinbach

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 10:09 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** For Venice and Marina Del Rey, the encampments have now posed a threat to both the citizens outside and inside of these encampments. As a mother of a 5 and 3 year old, I have had to confront verbal violence and threats from residents of these encampments. We have been screamed at and spat at. We have had our property stolen... only to find it at these encampments. We have been in the witnessed residents in encampments openly engage in violence, illegal drug use, and theft. The level of Infecticious disease is just spilling over onto everything. Something needs to be done.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sasha Shturma

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 10:25 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please vote Yes. The unsanitary situation in homeless encampments in Venice is extraordinary. Shame that government has enabled to create conditions that are worse than in developing countries. We have tax resources and should use them properly, ensuring everyone's safety.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 10:32 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing in opposition to Agenda Item #46, proposing to resume CARE+ sweeps of unhoused Angelinos around A Bridge Home shelters. Sweeps around ABH shelters disproportionately target overflow populations from those shelters — people who are trying to access care and housing but can't because of the insufficiency of those programs and limited availability within them. Bringing police or other law enforcement in to remove or disperse these people does nothing to improve their ability to access shelter and resources, and in fact endangers it by putting them into increased contact with law enforcement officers who may threaten, harm, or kill them. Criminalizing those seeking shelter further obstructs their ability to find safe shelter or become rehoused later, doing nothing to further the goal of public safety within and beyond a pandemic. Forcing elderly or disabled unhoused people to move in response to sweeps actually further endangers them during a pandemic when they have already — apparently falsely — been promised housing in hotels by our government. The money that would be spent on sweeps should instead go towards expanding rehousing efforts and shelter capacity so that there is no longer an overflow problem and everyone has access to safe shelter. This is more crucial now than ever as a pandemic threatens the lives of many unhoused people, in and outside of shelters, who cannot adequately distance from one another and have limited access to medical services. Put our time and resources towards services, not sweeps.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Ignat printsev

**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2020 10:35 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0147

**Comments for Public Posting:** Sweeps of encampments of unhoused people are unacceptable. LAPD and other law enforcement should not be conducting sweeps of encampments. The only civilized solution is to provide people with housing, not criminalize homelessness.