

Communication from Public

Name: Joseph Lamusga

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 11:41 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I am opposed to resuming comprehensive CARES+ cleanups in Special Enforcement Cleanup Zones. I am asking all council members to vote AGAINST the motion to resume these cleanups. Special Enforcement Cleanup Zones subject the homeless in these zones to increased policing, and potential loss/destruction of their belongings for merely being in close proximity to a shelter they were unable to get a bed in. These Cleanups and Cleanup zones are criminalizing the most marginalized members of our city, those without homes. Rather than sweeps, we should spend our money on compassionate solutions for the homeless. In the short term we can provide more hand washing stations, toilets, dumpsters and mobile showers for homeless encampments. In the long term we should be housing people. In addition, if street cleanings are done we should REMOVE law enforcement personnel from any street cleaning efforts. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Seo Yun

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 12:10 PM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: #HomesNotZones Dear council members, I am worried about my unhoused neighbors. They are essential to our community and should not be further subjected to criminalization especially during the pandemic and national uprising around police violence. SECZ is not "sexy." We are demanding: 1. Eliminate special enforcement zones. 2. Resuming CARE+ now would be in violation of CDC guidelines during the COVID-19 pandemic. CARE+ sweeps are a threat to overall public health! 3. "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. 4. 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. If we put the SECZs policing money elsewhere, we could double our Emergency Management budget, or quadruple our Domestic Violence Response. Let's show empathy and care for all Angelenos at this time!

Communication from Public

Name: Dina Kelberman

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 12:11 PM

Council File No: 20-0147

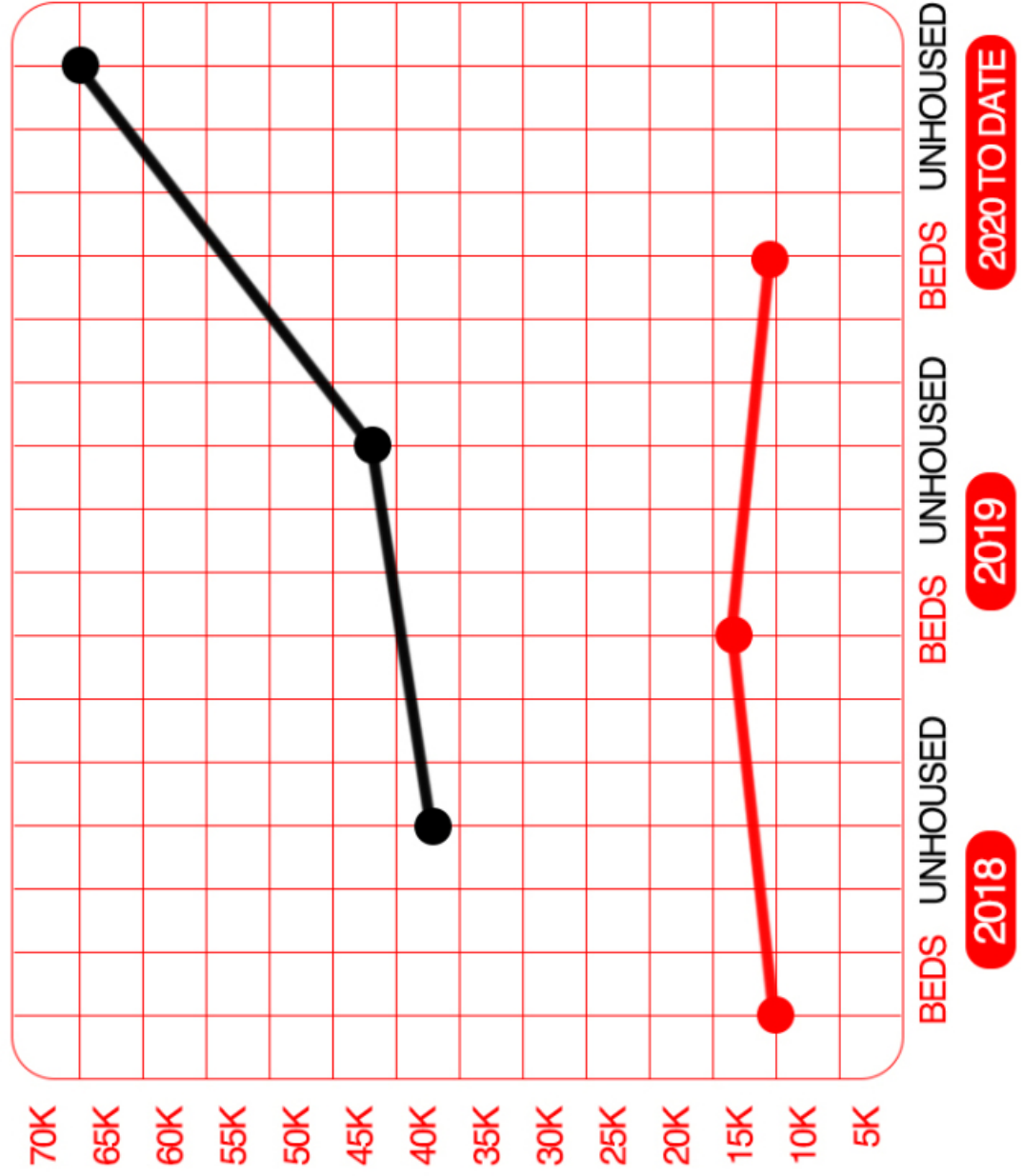
Comments for Public Posting: Now more than ever people don't need to be punished for being homeless. Build shelters instead of paying cops to break up encampments. Dispersing people doesn't make them disappear, how is this even supposed to work? #HomesNotZones

Not enough beds!

SOURCE:
LAHSA.ORG

*BY LA COUNTY

*INCLUDES BEDS FROM ALL
TYPES OF "SHELTERS"



Communication from Public

Name: Nicholas Bottomley

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 12:12 PM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: For the safety and health of the members of our community living on the street, SECZs need to be abolished. Increased enforcement leads to increased incarceration and a spiderweb of compounding issues and challenges that make it even more difficult for unhoused community members to get back into a stable housing environment. Resumption of CARE+ sweeps also cannot take place. CARE+ sweeps are a brutal tool that the city uses all too frequently to target and harass unhoused people for the crime of having things without a place to put them, and the arbitrary nature of this enforcement leads to important documents, medicine, and cherished personal items being thrown away, again making it harder for people to survive and return to housing. Beyond this, resuming CARE+ sweeps would be a violation of CDC guidelines for handling COVID-19. Mayor Garcetti and members of the Council often talk about how we all must do our part to stop the spread, so please do yours and vote down this item.

Communication from Public

Name: pluto
Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 12:53 PM
Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: it is with deep frustration with this sociopathically insufficient council of this city that i very strongly oppose item #46, buscaino and krekorian's disgusting efforts to continue los angeles' direct class genocide on our unsheltered neighbors. the proposal to increase the SECZ Special Enforcement Cleanup Zones budget by \$8.4 million perpetuates a distinct form of evil that hates the impoverished, that hates the poor, hates disabled, hates elderly, hates the predominantly black communities that legal enforcement and gatekeeping of resources most disproportionately targets as their victims. houselessness is not a crisis, it is a clear and intentional public punishment of being unhoused, a scapegoating to instill fear into the general public, whose ignorant inability to recognize our unsheltered neighbors as living human beings is the direct source of this constant criminalization and abuse, and it is their own discomfort and denial of their violently racist, classist, ableist beliefs that care+ seeks to serve. rather than providing public safety and sanitation during this global pandemic (any of the most basic of services such as wash stations, restrooms, trashcans, showers, housing, etc), care+ exists explicitly for the real estate value, for the cultural tourists, the gentrifiers, and commercial business investments, for the settler colonizers, for the profits over people. sweeps strategically destroy any visible evidence of poverty by stealing wheelchairs, medication, bedding, tents, personal documentation, and belongings in order to actively displace and erase an entire population of those whose lack of housing and healthcare is deemed a "crime" by the very same powers that explicitly deny them access to those resources. NO ON ITEM #46. ABOLISH THE CITY AND STATE'S PERPETUATED CYCLE OF CLASS GENOCIDE. ABOLISH THE BRUTALIZATION OF OUR UNHOUSED COMMUNITIES. ABOLISH THE POLICE.

Communication from Public

Name: Natasha Vanderhoof
Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 12:55 PM
Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I am a member of The Sidewalk Project, an arts activist and harm reduction organization working with the homeless community in Los Angeles. We have been listed as a public health organization by the City of Los Angeles I am opposed to resuming comprehensive CARES+ cleanups in Special Enforcement Cleanup Zones. I am asking all council members to vote AGAINST the motion to resume these cleanups. Special Enforcement Cleanup Zones subject the homeless in these zones to increased policing, and potential loss/destruction of their belongings for merely being in close proximity to a shelter they were unable to get a bed in. These Cleanups and Cleanup zones are criminalizing the most marginalized members of our city, those without homes. Rather than sweeps, lets spend our money on compassionate solutions for the homeless. In the short term we can provide more hand washing stations, toilets, dumpsters and mobile showers for homeless encampments as well water, food, and harm reduction supplies. In the long term we should be housing people. In addition if street cleanings are done we should remove law enforcement personnel from any street cleaning efforts. Thank you. Natasha Vanderhoof The Sidewalk Project

Communication from Public

Name: Julia B
Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 01:38 PM
Council File No: 20-0147
Comments for Public Posting: Please vote no on item 46!

Communication from Public

Name: Leslie Sherman

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 01:54 PM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I vehemently OPPOSE item #46 on the agenda, resuming CARE+ sweeps of my unhoused neighbors around the 'A Bridge Home' shelter. To criminalize individuals trying to get housing during a pandemic is disgraceful, the only solution to homelessness is more housing, perhaps you should contact the owners of some empty hotels and motels around Los Angeles and use our tax dollars to rent those rooms for the homeless, instead of harming innocent citizens during a pandemic. It is shameful this even has to be said, and that this is on an agenda as a "solution". Council Members Krekorian and Buscaino can regain my future vote and keep their jobs by removing this from policy. Thanks!

Communication from Public

Name: Caitlin Vetere

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 02:01 PM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: It is absolutely abhorrent that this council voted to approve item 46 to resume sweeps in Special Enforcement and Cleaning Zones around Bridge Shelters. The CDC recommends that unhoused people living in encampments REMAIN WHERE THEY ARE. Clearing encampments causes people to disperse throughout the community, break connections with service providers, and increases the potential for disease spread. The same LA City Council that said we need to reimagine public safety just voted to reinstate sweeps (with LAPD involvement), in violation of CDC guidelines. It is appalling that this council, which claims to care so much for public health, would openly flout CDC guidelines and further criminalize homelessness during a housing crisis that is getting exponentially worse with the COVID-19 pandemic. Shame on you all.

Communication from Public

Name: blue
Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 02:07 PM
Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: it is with deep frustration with the sociopathically insufficient council of this city that i very strongly oppose item #46, buscaino and krekorian's disgusting efforts to continue los angeles' direct class genocide on our unsheltered neighbors. the proposal to increase the SECZ Special Enforcement Cleanup Zones policing budget by \$8.4 million perpetuates a distinct form of evil that hates the impoverished, that hates the poor, hates disabled, hates elderly, hates the predominantly black communities that legal enforcement and gatekeeping of resources most disproportionately targets as their victims. houselessness is not a crisis, it is a clear and intentional public punishment of poverty, a scapegoating to instill fear into the general public, whose ignorant inability to recognize our unsheltered neighbors as living human beings is the direct source of this constant criminalization and abuse, and it is their own discomfort with and denial of their violently racist, classist, ableist beliefs that care+ seeks to serve. rather than providing public safety and sanitation during this global pandemic (any of the most basic health and safety services such as housing, wash stations, restrooms, trashcans, showers, etc), the increase of care+'s police force exists explicitly to for the real estate value, for the cultural tourists, the gentrifiers, and commercial business investments, for the settler colonizers, for the profits over people. sweeps strategically attempt to eliminate any visible evidence of poverty by stealing and destroying wheelchairs, medication, bedding, tents, personal documentation, and belongings in order to lethally displace and erase an entire population of those whose lack of housing and healthcare is deemed a "crime" by the very same powers that explicitly deny them access to those resources. NO ON ITEM #46. ABOLISH THE CITY AND STATE'S PERPETUATED CYCLE OF CLASS GENOCIDE. ABOLISH THE BRUTALIZATION OF OUR UNHOUSED COMMUNITIES. ABOLISH THE POLICE.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 04:14 PM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: Please stop throwing away the belongings of the homeless.
Instead of cleaning sweeps, supply more trash cans and services.

Communication from Public

Name: Nico

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 05:17 PM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: Treat the problem from its roots. Nothing but temporary cosmetics will be accomplished if the sweeping procedures start again. Create labor opportunities within the marginalized communities by working with them, listen to them instead of ignoring them and taking away their basic belongings of survival and harm reduction. Work with the organizations that are daily on the field helping. There's better ways to resolve this crisis.

Communication from Public

Name: Dean Humphus

Date Submitted: 07/28/2020 08:57 PM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I am IN FAVOR of continuing to allow CARE cleanup around tent encampments in Venice and anywhere in the City where a fairly large number of people, and not only the homeless, are negatively impacted by not doing so. How could anyone in their sane, rational mind oppose this? Put your pissing contests aside and stop standing against the will of a lot of silent voices. If you have a better plan then why haven't you enacted it? Dean Humphus

Communication from Public

Name: Jackie

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 11:29 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: This is a pandemic emergency and to already begin with these sweeps is inhumane and in particular because the city even BEFORE the pandemic has failed to properly address this situation. You don't just eliminate homelessness by taking it off site. What is also terrible is using police to do these actions which inflicts violence and cruelty, and this is yet ANOTHER reason why we want to defund the police and be able to house the vulnerable people who are hurting and do not have a home. There are veterans, women experienced domestic violence trauma, disabled folks, LGBTQ people, mentally ill people, and these are among the MOST vulnerable of our folks who do not have equal rights. We need to think about the people, not the appearance, because it is at this point that we are protecting property and that is so disgusting. Again, we are in a pandemic and are we truly going to let these people die and be alone? LA must do something and cancel rent, because there will be way more people evicted and homeless and entire families at that. Go out there please and talk to the people who are suffering because it seems like no one is listening. Stop criminalizing poverty, stop using police to terrorize homeless

Communication from Public

Name: Kristine Sorensen

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 09:25 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: Please vote yes to resume comprehensive CARE+ cleanups. The area around the bridge home on main street in venice has become a massive homeless encampment with fights, screaming, drug use, needles, tents and trash. It's not sanitary to the community homeless or housed. We need beds not sidewalks. We were promised that the area would be a no tent zone and make the area nicer and instead the exact opposite has happened. The area has become completely lawless and my neighbors are afraid to leave their homes. This bridge home is in the middle of a residential. Please do the right thing begin the clean ups.

Communication from Public

Name: Turner Lott

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 09:25 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I oppose item number 46 because it targets and unfairly punishes individuals who are most vulnerable. Instead of punishing these individuals by enforcing place-based zoning to keep them out of their homes, the City should devote more time and money to care for these individuals. This move is especially harmful during a pandemic and actually violates CDC guidelines. For these reasons, I urge the Council to oppose this measure.

Communication from Public

Name: Gina Viola

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 11:27 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: Vote NO on this today. Your care teams and LAHSA and any other entity you've had partner with the LAPD to address our houseless neighbors is a disaster. Instead, why don't you take those funds set aside for these brutal sweeps and give them to LACAN, StreetWatchLA and KTownforall. These organizations have been on the ground providing direct services and resources to our houseless neighbors. They have been doing the job you all can't seem to do.

Communication from Public

Name: Chloe Feller

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:22 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: The housing crisis in Los Angeles has been apparent for years, but the effects faced from lack of affordable housing have only increased in pandemic circumstances. The existence of shelters are important but there are not enough to meet the needs of a growing population of unhoused folks. It is cruel to punish human beings who are facing hardships most of us could not imagine, and I think it's our duty to react with compassion and consideration and refuse to cause further harm to the most vulnerable of us. Item #46 would punish unhoused folks who are unable to secure a spot in shelters that are frequently at-capacity. The idea that our city could enact such a thing at any time, let alone during a pandemic, is absolutely unconscionable and I urge the council to act decently and oppose this measure.

Communication from Public

Name: Logan Rees

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:23 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly oppose the creation of "Special Enforcement Zones" around A Bridge Home shelters in Los Angeles. Victims of homelessness are not criminals and should not be treated as such. The CARE units of LAPD, like the rest of LAPD, have been known to resort to unnecessary violence and abuse of innocent citizens. This is a heartless, cruel, and ineffective approach to this crisis.

Communication from Public

Name: Jamie
Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:24 AM
Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to oppose agenda item #46, state that resuming CARE sweeps, particularly around the ABH shelters. House keys, not handcuffs. In the past several months, the city council seems to be daring citizens to call out their blatant hypocrisy. The level of disrespect and lack of care extended to LA's increasing houseless citizen population is inhumane and appalling, and the council has been showing their asses in a whole new way the past several months. I live in Mitch O'Farrell's district, who in addition to being a profoundly broken man has repeatedly failed to keep the basic tools provided to his district's larger encampments stocked with fresh water as promised, nor maintaining the bathroom facilities installed around late March. Any measure taken in the right direction has since been neglected or undone, and #46 proposes to resume violence and unnecessary punitive measures against citizens who are near ABH shelters and not inside them due to the city's failure, not their own. As everyone in this meeting is aware, this measure will do nothing to combat the increasing population of people experiencing houselessness - it only succeeds in wasting taxpayer money to continue gaslighting citizens into believing that being without a home is a result of a personal failure, and not the country's failure to provide citizens with a standard income through the greatest health crisis of our lifetimes, not the systemic racism and rampant violence that our police force is empowered and encouraged to do by the city counselors in this room, not the council's well-documented history of being in the real estate industry's pocket, repeatedly allowing overpriced condos to be built and left empty while the population of people on the street continues to rise below it. "Cleanups" force elderly and disabled people to take potentially painful and harmful steps to move their own belongings to take their tents down. "Cleanups" accomplish nothing but moving disenfranchised citizens around, often at the expense of a great deal of pain for them. You're shooing people around, incarcerating and harassing them to avoid admitting that your council has completely and utterly failed to help them. Don't resume CARE sweeps. Place-based spot zoning to keep people out of an area doesn't work, it requires significant enforcement and leads to increased criminalization of a vulnerable population who are trying to survive in spite of the draconian city government that targets

them. Stop harassing and destroying property. Until our City can provide housing, tents are an interim solution that provide our unhoused neighbors with a modicum of privacy and dignity, and they deserve that. It is the end of July, and there are two cooling centers in a city with a houseless population that continues to rise due to COVID displacement. Maybe focus on divesting resources and labor to protecting citizens from hundred-degree weather instead of sinking every second of your working day into harming, targeting and harassing them. This whole council is showing their ass. We have been onto you and continue to be. You CANNOT resume CARE sweeps.

Communication from Public

Name: Holly Gabrielson

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:24 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I live in District 13, Mitch O'Farrell's district, and I am writing in opposition to Agenda Item #46. It is unconscionable that in the middle of a global pandemic, this City Council would resume CARES sweeps to displace houseless Angelenos around A Bridge Home shelters, many of whom are there because they're actively seeking shelter. Displacing people and stealing and destroying their property doesn't improve our neighborhoods. It inflicts lasting harm on our neighbors who are already experiencing the trauma of being unhoused. We've seen the County Board of Supervisors take bold and decisive action to invest in a vision that prioritizes harm reduction strategies for our most vulnerable and historically oppressed communities. Many of us are waiting for our City Council to step up to the plate and show similar political courage.

Communication from Public

Name: Katie

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:26 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: 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! “Cleanups” force elderly and disabled people to take potentially painful steps to move their belongings or take their tents down. If city leaders are truly committed to reimagining public safety and an unarmed response to non-violent calls, they must abolish the cruel, costly, punitive “Special Enforcement Zones” that surround homeless shelters. Struggling Angelenos need Homes Not Zones

Communication from Public

Name: Daniel Ostrander

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:29 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: Don't resume sweeps, ever. Police should be reserved for violent crimes, like hostage situations. Why are they out there harassing unhoused Angelenos? They aren't trained to deal with the especially high rate of mental illness prevalent in the homeless community, and they've shown countless times how willing they are to escalate to violence for no reason. Especially during this pandemic, we don't need cops adding to our city's suffering.

Communication from Public

Name: Gabrielle Carroll

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:33 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: Please stop CARE sweeps! Place based spot zoning doesn't work and requires significant enforcement for a city trying to "reimagine public safety." It also further criminalizes unhoused people and makes their struggle far worse especially if they have to have more interactions with law enforcement. And those who are elderly or disabled will have a hard time even just moving their belongings somewhere "acceptable." It's clear that the shelters we have don't accommodate all unhoused people. So instead of using money to displace people, why not use it to house them? That's what Angelenos want. Homes not zones.

Communication from Public

Name: 31 Broadway LLC

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:34 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: Meeting ID # 1605358466 (Item #46): As property owners of commercial buildings in the Downtown LA area, our businesses have been directly affected by Homeless Encampments, specifically outside of our buildings located on 31st St between Main Street and Broadway. We would like our city council members to address the safety, and sanitation concerns that we as business owners in the ABH zones have had for a long time now due to Encampments being allowed outside of our businesses. It is very challenging to access our buildings & operate when it seems that city regulations or municipal codes are not being enforced to ban or clean-up permanently the construction of establishments, made out of wood, tarps, tents, or other bulky items, right outside our commercial buildings, which has open it up for other issues on an almost daily basis, such as utility theft, property theft, property break-ins, among other safety & sanitation issues. As property owners we are invested not only in our businesses but in the city of Los Angeles, and would like to continue to operate our businesses and Lease our properties without the challenges that the Homeless Encampments continue to pose by being allowed outside commercial properties; mainly in part to the city not having a comprehensive plan in motion to address the increase of encampments in downtown. We urge city council members to not ignore the concerns of property owners in these zones, and approve measures that will allow for the Department of Sanitation to resume the clean-ups under the Care + teams, and we are also requesting for less delays and more outlasting outcomes in response to these issues, which can be achieved through the support as well from other city entities. Thank you 31 Broadway LLC

Communication from Public

Name: Theodore Trembinski
Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:38 AM
Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to oppose agenda item #46, the proposal to resume sweeps in the SECZ and Bridge shelters. As a resident of District 13 I have witnessed the hardships for my unhoused neighbors outside of living in pandemic. Now, as we face continuing threats of COVID-19 it is imperative to keep both city workers and contractors as well as our unhoused citizens safe by NOT resuming these sweeps. We need more resources to people experiencing homelessness, not sweeps of these areas. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Andrew Seymour

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:41 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to oppose this item and urge the council to eliminate special enforcement zones. Resuming CARE+ now would be in violation of CDC guidelines during the pandemic - CARE+ sweeps are a threat to public health. I don't know why at this moment we would further empower police to brutalize the vulnerable and facilitate the spread of this virus. We need the city council to cancel rent, ban evictions, and commandeer hotel rooms for our unhoused population to contain this virus and reverse the rampaging forward march of gentrification and displacement in our city.

Communication from Public

Name: anthony quattrocchi

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 08:43 PM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: As an Angeleno and concerned citizen, I implore the City Council to: 1. Eliminate special enforcement zones. 2. Resuming CARE+ now would be in violation of CDC guidelines during the COVID-19 pandemic. CARE+ sweeps are a threat to overall public health! 3. "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. 4. 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.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:32 PM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: This is my vote YES to resume comprehensive CARE + CLEANUPS. It is not healthy and safe for the people living in these encampments nor the surrounding community. As a resident of Venice for 30+ years, first as a college student living in an apartment, now as a wife and mother in a house, I am dismayed by all these encampments. We are concerned about the trash, the hygiene, the crime, the mental, physical and emotional health of the unhoused residents. We have our children take alternative routes around Venice to avoid having to pass close to where encampments have taken over the sidewalks. Now someone has set up a large tent, furniture, and more, in the middle of the median at S. Venice Blvd and Washington Way. There must be a better place to live, where there is at least access to a sink and bathroom. Please resume the cleanups and HELP!

Communication from Public

Name: Hava Bazz

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 11:53 PM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I hate this, and I am demanding you vote against it, as it criminalizes being unhoused, creates more discord between cops and unhoused people, and costs 8.4 MILLION DOLLARS.

Communication from Public

Name: Morgan mahowald
Date Submitted: 07/27/2020 06:10 PM
Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I am upset about the possible resumption of 56. 11 , That's the tents down by 6am stuff. During covid-19 and in other times we have struggled as a city to house everyone. Getting everyone off the streets and mass is just not possible right now and there are agencies trying as hard as they can. Until the housing crisis is sorted out, it Is not healthy to criminalize homelessness. Encampments should be offered trash service so that they can get rid of the trash that they want to get rid of. And encampments should be offered porta potties and clean water! But no one should be criminalized for not wanting to take their tent down. The aggressive tactics that the LAPD use on homeless people, black people, Gender and sexuality minorities, indigenous people: These tactics will ensure that many un Housed people will live in fear. Quite literally they live in fear of the police coming to take away everything they own. I am a disabled person I and I am upset that my wheelchair cannot always navigate past these camps. I do wish that there was more specific legislation instead of this blanket tent band. Covid-19 is a special time. It's a very hard time. If we are not very kind in how we treat the homeless, the covid problem will not go away. They need more support, not less. You need to try to help organizations like the shower of Hope, giving hygiene to these encampments. Not taking away their one chance at privacy and a good night sleep.

Communication from Public

Name: John Tapia
Date Submitted: 07/28/2020 07:41 AM
Council File No: 20-0147
Comments for Public Posting: please resume clean ups. thank you

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 07/28/2020 04:41 PM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: In regards to Agenda Item 46, I strongly feel that sweeps in these specified zones should not be re-instituted at this time. They are not in compliance with CDC guidelines and shelter in place regulations, and they criminalize the survival of our street-based neighbors.

Communication from Public

Name: karen

Date Submitted: 07/28/2020 04:51 PM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: Please vote yes to resume comprehensive CARE+ cleanups. The area around the bridge home on main street in venice has become a massive homeless encampment with fights, screaming, drug use, needles, tents and trash. It's not even just tents--it's makeshift structures that are several rooms wide and take up the whole side walk. There is a bicycle 'chop shop' which runs much of the length of it. The lawlessness is outrageous and threatens the entire community. It's a sanitation, safety and public health disaster on top of the pandemic we are already living through... It's not fair to me and the people who pay mortgage, rent and property taxes. We were promised that the area would be a no tent zone and make the area nicer and instead the exact opposite has happened. The area has become completely lawless and my neighbors are afraid to leave their homes. This bridge home is in the middle of a residential area and the women who live here, myself included, are afraid to walk around. Please show that you respect the tax paying citizens of Los Angeles and do the right thing begin the clean ups.

Communication from Public

Name: Charles Casler

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 09:29 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I'm writing to oppose agenda item #46. I believe we need to eliminate the unjust special enforcement zones. Our houseless neighbors need access to shelters and housing, not harassment and criminalization because there's not enough room for them in the limited shelters our city has. Not only are the special enforcement zones unjust, but they are an expense the city should not be paying, focusing instead on community initiatives and services like those proposed by ReimagineLA.

Communication from Public

Name: ROBERT P PATERNO

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 09:29 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I oppose agenda item #46. Increasing sweeps, cleanups, and place-based spot zoning cause harm and hardship to our unhoused communities, even more so in a time of pandemic when they have no safe space provided where they can follow social distancing and other health precautions. It takes resources away from providing relief and into enforcement, leading to unnecessary criminalization of poverty and our most vulnerable population at a time when they most need our support and care. Stop this harassment, put resources into services and shelter.

Communication from Public

Name: Frank Defurio

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 09:30 AM

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, Frank Defurio Pamela Harbour Linda Miller Kathy Falsey Venice Residents

Communication from Public

Name: Liz Dollmeyer

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 09:31 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: SECZs are costly, ineffective, and hurtful to our community members. SECZs do NOT decrease the amount of people living on the street. If LA City doesn't plan to provide a humane alternative to the current situation of our houseless neighbors, you have no right to displace them. Funding for SECZs would be better directed toward restrooms, handwashing stations, trash pickup, other community resources to prevent people from becoming houseless. Enforcing SECZs during a pandemic is particularly unsafe, disturbing, and cruel. Direct funding to keeping Angelenos safe instead of terrorizing them.

Communication from Public

Name: Tim

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 09:39 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: Please protect LA's vulnerable homeless community by voting NO on Item 46 today. Aggressively policing unhoused residents within the SECZs by removing their belongings without warrant is an inhumane practice that needs to stop. Even the CDC advises against resuming these sweeps as it increases the potential for spreading disease putting our city at greater risk. The 8.4 million spent on policing SECZs would be better spent on services that benefit our increasing homeless population and fulfill the promises made on Prop HHH that has underperformed these last four years. Homes not zones.

Communication from Public

Name: Pietro Martini
Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 09:40 AM
Council File No: 20-0147
Comments for Public Posting: Special clean ups must be resumed around Special Cleaning Zones

Communication from Public

Name: Pietro G Martini
Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 09:40 AM
Council File No: 20-0147
Comments for Public Posting: Special clean ups must be resumed around Special Cleaning Zones

Communication from Public

Name: Sarah Roethke
Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 09:44 AM
Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly disagree with the need to resume CARE and CARE+ sweeps! The special enforcement cleaning zones are an extreme waste of money and do nothing but endanger the houseless population of Los Angeles. The City Council is aware that there are not nearly enough beds for those that are seeking shelter and these so called "CARE" and "CARE+" sweeps only waste money that could go towards actually housing these individuals and proves that the ABH shelters are clearly a bandaid for a bullet hole. These sweeps further criminalizes the houseless folks and leads to more interaction with law enforcement. These cleanups force possibly elderly and disable people to pack and move over and over so their belongings and tents are not trashed by the city. We need to be helping our houseless neighbors by housing them -- not criminalizing them for not having a home. Again I will restate I am extremely opposed to resuming CARE and CARE+ sweeps around ABH in these so called special enforcement cleaning zones.

Communication from Public

Name: Zach Siegel

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 09:52 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I urge you to OPPOSE agenda item #46. Sweeping areas occupied by people experiencing homelessness is NEVER okay, but ESPECIALLY during the pandemic. They need to be HELPED instead of PUNISHED and FORCED OUT. Constant relocation is a safety hazard and only makes situations worse for those experiencing homelessness.

Communication from Public

Name: Dylan Kario

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 09:53 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: Just because the sweeps that you promised to housed neighbors weren't enforced before COVID, that doesn't mean you should reinstate them to make a point about sticking to procedure. Take a step back and gain some perspective on what would actually happen on the ground. By enforcing these sweeps, you'd put the people living outside bridge home shelters in avoidable peril: you increasing risk of exposure to COVID-19, directly violating CDC's posted "considerations for encampments": "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." And, you'd give—in Councilmember Harris-Dawson's words—4 out of every 6 dollars towards shelters to the LAPD for enforcement (which is why he doesn't agree with it on principle), creating unnecessary interactions between the homeless and police; 34% of all incidents in which a Los Angeles police officer used force was against a person experiencing homelessness. Don't get stuck on a technicality—do not resume CARE+ cleanups.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 07/28/2020 10:34 PM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: We need to support this measure and increase the cleanups. I have no idea what the overall plan for the ever increasing homeless issue in LA is but any relief is much needed and the communities that endure these encampments deserve the relief. Please support this measure. Ultimately, you need to start enforcing the no camping between 6:00 am and 10:00 pm law that is already available. These encampments are out of control and they are a danger to our hard working middle class citizens.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 07/28/2020 11:55 PM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: Please vote to resume the cleanups! The drug use around the Main Street Bridge Home shelter has created a massive amount of garbage in the surrounding area, including lots of used needles and syringes. The least the city can do is clean up the mess that it has created in the neighborhood!

Communication from Public

Name: Justine T
Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 12:17 AM
Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to OPPOSE AGENDA ITEM #46!!!! Special enforcement zones need to be eliminated! Place-based zoning is extremely harmful and only leads to more law enforcement raising havoc on those who are unhoused often criminalizing them for simply being unhoused. That is completely vile and extremely unfair. Our unhoused neighbors need more care and resources not extra policing, ESPECIALLY the elderly and disabled neighbors!!! It is unfair to punish the folks who are not able to get into A Bridge Homes. If you care at all about reimagining public safety y'all will listen to the people and provide HOMES NOT ZONES!!!!!!!!!!

Communication from Public

Name: La Vista

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 12:32 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: My neighborhood has, not surprisingly, chronic problems with the population under the 405 bridge encampment. On July 14th there was another stabbing incident - One of, at least a dozen violent incidents during the past 2 years. This neighborhood had been more than tolerant. Lack of respect from these vagrants and their unsanitary habits and unregulated behavior, often criminal behavior is wearing thin. The district has given the transient population under the 405 bridge, showers, toilets, free needles, free food by do-gooders sanctioned by the city, although these people operate without a license, and yet I still have to contend with some fool from this 405 encampment using my damn alley wall as a feces dump. Still. The City has toilets brought them every single day and I STILL have to deal with human feces against my property!!!! What is it going take for order and a safe place to live for those of us who do not abuse drugs and abide by the law/?!!! I'm tired of my neighborhood being treated as insignificant and a waste disposal site for over 6 years while millions of dollars, out of my and my Mar Vista neighbors pockets, are being used to solidify the permanency of this drug camp under the 405 freeway. There must be priority sanitizing clean-up of bio-waste on our street. It is a necessity for streets forced to live adjacent to drug use sites!!!! How does the entire council board not see that?! Regarding my residential street, we need sanitizing of the entire lower half of the alley behind our homes on the north side of Venice Blvd because every property has had a vagrant dump his (literal) shit near or on these properties. Why am I having to deal with this?? We've had years of this same issue that the city refuses to fix at the source!!!! I know this would NOT be acceptable near any of your homes in any situation, yet this group of City accomplices approve it in ours. Beyond 311 or call-in request, clean-up must be a part of regulating these encampments which includes people who do not have self control, abuse drugs and as part of addicted behavior lose all sense of propriety and social awareness. Clean-ups should be mandatory and available every week for human feces pick-up because this is common and a regular issue around encampments. All these homeless sites have residents that live within 600 feet from there and we must have provisions to protect us from contagious fecal matter. It's not an option, its a necessity the

City should provide it's tax paying residents. WE PAY FOR CLEAN STREETS, WE REQUIRE CLEAN-UP. Mitigating transmissible diseases: Isn't this what those dollars spent on accessible amenities are supposed to prevent? Regular clean-ups ensure that this remains a priority. It is against the law to use public streets and private property as a site to defecate or urinate on. It is against the law to litter and dump on public streets. It's illegal to block sidewalks made for public use. Enough of them, clearly, do not understand or care for this basic tenet of societal norm and conduct. So, to leave them to their own devices without sanitation is lunacy and no sound reason would back it! The City has been beyond lax in securing safety measures for all it's citizens esp. in regards to encampments. We have a spread of infectious diseases. It is imperative that this risk is stopped because of the SARSv2 contagion which is transmitted through body fluids and fecal matter!!! How dare you decide how we have to live while you all sit in you cozy homes far away from any encampments. Without clean-ups the City and council board members allows it to fester, potentiating this biomatter into airborne dust and increased risk for homeless as well as housed. That is patently unacceptable. Myself, I HAVE to clean out the area around my property every week as regular homeowner maintenance and now I'm chronically exposed to a contagion site every time I'm out there. It was bad enough before COVID19 since 2014. But, now it's worse, out of control in this time of a pandemic and I am very angry.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 12:35 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: MOTION (BUSCAINO - KREKORIAN) relative to amending Council action of March 17, 2020 to resume comprehensive CARE+ cleanups. Recommendation for Council action: 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:

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 12:54 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I am an Angeleno in District 4. I am very ashamed of the motion Councilmembers Buscaino and Krekorian have issued to resume CARE+ sweeps of my unhoused neighbors around ABH shelters. It is not their fault that the county cannot and will not provide shelters for them. The tents they use for protection and privacy are necessary for their survival. They should not need to move from shelter to shelter hoping for a safe place to rest in. And should not fear that their tents or belongings be "swept" away by police officers every single day. The CDC has issued a safe stay-in-place shelter instruction to reduce the spread of COVID-19, and moving every day does not protect unhoused individuals living in SECZs from this virus, but only heightens their chances of contracting it. The overtime paid to the police to criminalize already underserved shelterless Angelenos is only wasting more of our tax dollars. We CANNOT resume CARE and CARE+ directives.

Communication from Public

Name: Marcella Gersh
Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 02:08 AM
Council File No: 20-0147
Comments for Public Posting: "Cleanups" do not help unhoused people. They just move them out of sight of the public temporarily, all the while placing an additional burden on elderly and disabled people who may need to take painful physical action to move all of their belonging and tents. We know ABH shelters operate at capacity most of the time, so people with the bad luck not to find shelter are criminalized and exposed to punishing law enforcement through no fault of their own. This is an unconscionable way of dealing with a humanitarian crisis, especially now that this lack of resources is likely to affect even more people through the vast unemployment through COVID. Place-based spot zoning to keep people out of an area requires significant enforcement that is traumatizing for the individuals moved. We need to meet the needs of unhoused people and rethink the inequity in our city, not harm vulnerable populations further.

Communication from Public

Name: Tammy Nguyen
Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 03:41 AM
Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: Hi, my name is Tammy Nguyen. I am a Los Angeles resident and I would like to express my opposition to agenda item #46. I urge to council to oppose this motion to resume sweeps of our homeless neighbors around ABH shelters. This motion is cruel and and immoral. Why should our homeless residents be punished for being unable to secure a spot at AHB shelters? What is the intention of the council by supporting a motion that actively keeps people out of an area that is around shelters designed to house these very people? Why are we creating situations to increase criminalization amongst the city's most vulnerable residents? Also where do you expect our homeless neighbors to go? You cannot seize their personal belongings and destroy their tents and expect a human being to disappear. I also have to add that we are in a pandemic, and how does this help anyone's safety to force dispersal of the vulnerable to seek another area to occupy, with no shelter? What is the true intention of council members Buscaino and Krekorian? At the very least do not call this a 'CARE' sweep. This is an outright attack and criminalization on the city's impoverished residents. Their lives are already vulnerable, but to resume these sweeps is immoral. You are placing human beings in danger. Reallocate the funds to provide housing for the homeless. I urge the council to oppose these sweeps. STOP THE HARASSMENT OF UNHOUSED PEOPLE.

Communication from Public

Name: Aaron Valenzuela

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 03:54 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: Hi my name is Aaron Valenzuela and I am an LA resident. I would like to comment on item #46. I strongly oppose resuming CARE+ sweeps of our unhoused residents. I urge the council to vote against the sweeps. I would also like to condemn council members Buscaino and Krekorian for even putting such a dangerous motion into consideration. We need housing not increased harm and criminalization of the unhoused. We need housing rather than harassment, because this is what this is, HARASSMENT. Houseless LA residents set up around ABH shelters because they are trying to secure a spot at the shelters. Why would we then push them out of these areas? Why would we punish LA residents for the city of LA's failure to house them? I urge the council to listen to what the people. We will not stand for the harassment of our unhoused neighbors.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 04:11 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: Please vote no on SEZ and provide services instead.

Communication from Public

Name: Allison Michael
Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 04:33 AM
Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I am a Los Angeles resident in district 4 and I am making public comment to oppose item #46- CARE sweeps must not be resumed and should be abolished immediately. These sweeps put unhoused Angelenos at greater risk and punish them for not being able to secure a spot in one of the city's few, overcrowded, underfunded shelters. ABH shelters are FAR from meeting the needs of the unhoused population of this city. Spot zoning to keep unhoused individuals out of a specific area is ineffective and requires extensive policing and increased criminalization of the already vulnerable unhoused population. Increasing sweeps in the vicinity of ABH shelters harms those who are most marginalized through no fault of their own. These "cleanup" initiatives forcefully displace elderly and disabled individuals and require them to move all of their belongings with no assistance or resources. Address the root causes of homelessness in this city- lack of affordable housing, lack of well-paying jobs, lack of mental health or drug treatment services, etc. instead of punishing those who have been most victimized by your failed policies. DEFUND LAPD.

Communication from Public

Name: Carolyn Angius
Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 06:22 AM
Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I am a resident and voter in Los Angeles. I am writing to demand the removal of Special Enforcement Zones from all current or planned homeless shelters. We need affordable housing, services, public health resources, and job--NOT SWEEPS. During the pandemic, I have seen an unprecedented rise in Angelenos experiencing homelessness across this city. As more and more residents across the city face the grave threat of homelessness during this public health and economic crisis, I implore you to provide the resources and services our unhoused neighborhoods need, not the law enforcement that criminalizes their very existence and only exacerbates the challenges they face without providing any meaningful solutions toward safe, secure, affordable housing. 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. Thank you for your time.

Communication from Public

Name: Elissa Della Rocca

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 06:31 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmembers, As a neighbor of the Bridge Housing at Sunset in Venice California I write to urge you to uphold the promises this council made to my community: please vote YES to resume comprehensive CARE + CLEANUPS . Our neighborhood has been devastated by the lack of sanitation and by an overwhelming proliferation of homeless encampments. Thank you. Elissa Della Rocca , 50 years a resident and homeowner of Venice

Communication from Public

Name: Matt Shaw

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 06:47 AM

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. 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. PLEASE RESUME CLEANUPS IMMEDIATELY.

Communication from Public

Name: Debra Radin

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 07:28 AM

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. Debra Radin _____ Venice Resident LEASE VOTE

Communication from Public

Name: M Altavilla
Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 08:05 AM
Council File No: 20-0147
Comments for Public Posting: A special zone clean up is desperately needed around the Bridge Housing in Venice. Please resume CARE plus clean ups.

Communication from Public

Name: Magi Calcagne

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 08:16 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:

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 08:24 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: Bureau of Sanitation to resume CARE plus cleanups in the Special Cleaning Zones established around Bridge Housing.

Communication from Public

Name: Amy Z

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 08:26 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing in strong opposition to Councilmember Krekorian and Buscaino's motion to resume CARE+ cleanups in around A Bridge Home shelters (City Council meeting WEDNESDAY, JULY 29, 2020). The fact that there are still tens of thousands of unsheltered people on our streets is already an abysmal failure on the part of this city and its Council. Taking away their only form of shelter (tents, lean-to's, pop-ups) is simply murderous. I demand that the Council eliminate Special Enforcement and Cleaning Zones around A Bridge Home Shelters, cancel CARE+ cleanups, provide immediate shelter for all unhoused people in vacant hotels and properties, and install public restrooms with handwashing stations throughout the city.

Communication from Public

Name: Rachel Van Amburgh

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 08:40 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly oppose agenda item #46 to resume CARE sweeps, which could not be a bigger waste of taxpayer money or a better example of the City's egregious, inhumane treatment of unhoused Angelenos. These sweeps are a costly and embarrassing admission that ABH shelters do not meet the needs of the unhoused and simply lead to the further criminalization of homelessness. Stop wasting our money on sweeps and limited temporary shelter and start investing in permanent housing!

Communication from Public

Name: Griffin Hatlestad
Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 08:57 AM
Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: My comment is on agenda item number 26. My name is Griffin Hatlestad; I am a Los Angeles resident and a transitional housing employee. The idea that the City should resume encampment sweeps and cleanups during a pandemic is entirely absurd, regardless of location. These proposed sweeps go against CDC guidance and endanger the safety of unhoused Angelenos in a time when they have less access to services than ever before. Libraries, cafes, and other establishments that our unhoused neighbors rely on for connectivity, food, shelter, and cooling are closed, and for many of them, their only tools for survival are located in and around their encampment. We know that these sweeps result in the confiscation and destruction of much of our neighbors' property, and in such dangerous times this is something that people living outdoors cannot afford. Beyond the impact on the unhoused, these sweeps will do nothing to stop or slow the spread of COVID-19. The sweeps are against CDC guidance and does nothing to address the underlying conditions that leave unhoused Angelenos vulnerable to the virus. If the Council is concerned with stopping and slowing the spread of COVID-19 within the homeless population, the answer is to increase access to medical care, testing, and quarantine spaces in shelter. Vote no, and do not continue these sweeps. They are indifferent and cruel to people living in encampments and do not comply with CDC guidance.

Communication from Public

Name: Jaime Brackeen
Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 08:59 AM
Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing in opposition to resuming CARE and CARE+ sweeps. Please do not move forward with this. Why would we continue to punish our unhoused community members for our city's lack of sufficient programs to get them off of the street? This isn't a game of musical chairs, the stakes in this situation are human lives. How does arresting people and taking away what little possessions they have remedy their inability to find housing? Do you think you are teaching them a lesson? Because I think you are perpetuating a cycle that keeps them on the streets and all but guarantees them an early death. But if passing this to ensure that Special Enforcement Cleaning Zone police continue to make their overtime is more important to you than actually taking steps to keep your fellow humans safe, then I look forward to dedicating all of my energy into making sure no one who votes in favor of this gets another term in office. These sweeps are an affront to basic human dignity and anyone who supports them is nothing short of a monster.

Communication from Public

Name: Melissa Macfadyen

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 09:01 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: Please vote yes to resume comprehensive CARE+ cleanups. The area around the Bridge Home on Main St. in Venice has become a massive homeless encampment with fights, screaming, drug use, needles, tents and trash. It's not fair to me, as a resident of Venice and the people who pay mortgage, rent and property taxes. We were promised that the area would be a no tent zone and Bridge Housing would make the area nicer and instead the exact opposite has happened. The area has become completely lawless and my neighbors are afraid to leave their homes. This Bridge Home is in the middle of a residential area. Please do the right thing and begin the clean ups.

Communication from Public

Name: Sarah Butler

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 09:06 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I oppose the proposal to resume sweeps in Special Enforcement and Cleaning Zones around Bridge Shelters. Criminalizing unhoused people through SECZs is immoral and expensive - especially during the COVID-19 Pandemic. There are more unhoused people seeking beds in ABH shelters than there are beds available. A homeless person might travel miles to an ABH shelter, only to discover it's full and have to move all over again. SECZ sweeps essentially punish the homeless population for being denied a bed. If we put the SECZs policing money elsewhere, we could double our Emergency Management budget, or quadruple our Domestic Violence Response. These are services our unhoused neighbors actually need, and money our city can't afford to throw away. Over policing will not solve or help the homelessness crisis, it only further displaces our neighbors in need.

Communication from Public

Name: Tara Grenier

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 09:10 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I am a resident of district 13 and I strongly oppose agenda item #46. I have watched the homeless population EXPLODE exponentially over the past decade (plus), and SECZs is certainly NOT the answer. Inside these zones homeless people are subject to increased criminalization and policing. Their belongings are seized and searched without warrant. All of our unhoused citizens can not fit in shelters. We need housing, and we need rent control! City Council members are wasting MILLIONS of dollars on ineffective criminalization. Most of these homeless are down on their luck and cannot afford the astronomical rent in this city. Here in district 13 (not a desirable neighborhood to most) my rent has gone up every year- I can barely afford my expenses during this pandemic. People all over the city are being turned out onto the street. Why are we wasting taxpayer's money on a Bandaid? We need to address the ROOT of this catastrophe and SECZ does not accomplish this. Take a drive through Hollywood and you will see countless fancy/expensive new apartment buildings and condominiums being erected. Conversely, you will see innumerable homeless encampments in these same areas. I beg you to see the callous indiscretion in all of this. No to SECZ, Yes to affordable housing FOR ALL! Thank you for your time.

Communication from Public

Name: Samantha Smart

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 09:10 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Samantha Smart, I am a constituent in Councilmember O'Farrell's district and I urge you to vote no on agenda item 46. Criminalizing homelessness does nothing but exacerbate the issue, and sending in the CARE+ team (code for LAPD & Sanitation) will further increase the spread of COVID-19 amongst our most vulnerable population that already has so many of their current services stopped due to the pandemic. Please vote no on agenda item 46.

Communication from Public

Name: Samantha Monarch
Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 09:13 AM
Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, I'm submitting public comment in advance of this morning's City council meeting, Wed. 7/29/20. I would like to speak against the motion proposed in agenda item 46, to resume CARE sweeps in special enforcement zones, particularly around the ABH shelters. These sweeps are cruel and inhumane, unnecessarily punishing our houseless neighbors who are unable to access shelter once shelters fill up. We should not be putting city funds towards further harassing and criminalizing those who are already the most vulnerable among us. These sweeps are proposed in the name of sanitation, but instead of providing safer conditions, these sweeps result in the few belongings, and often shelter these people have (in the form of tents), being forcibly removed and thrown away. Particularly egregious is the \$8.4 million set aside for LAPD overtime to enforce these zones. Our houseless neighbors don't need more contact with law enforcement, they need housing and they need services that actually meet their needs. The city needs to start a dialogue directly with our houseless neighbors to ask them what they need, to find out what would help make their lives easier. If the city was listening to their voices, they would know that these CARE sweeps do much more harm than good, and I urge the council to oppose resuming them. We need services, not sweeps, and actual compassionate care, not cops. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Emily Chu

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 09:14 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: As a resident of LA for 10 years, I vehemently oppose agenda item 46. It's cruel, ineffective, and unnecessary to conduct sweeps on unhoused Angelenos near ABH shelters. Those funds would be better used to for shelter for unhoused people or services that actually support the community (e.g., domestic violence support, emergency management). Please do not vote in support of this.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 09:58 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: We need to provide services to the unhoused of Los Angeles. These zones continue to criminalize and demonize those in the community who need the most help but can access the fewest resources. A motion like this will only continue to compound the growing homelessness crisis in the city while upholding the systems that keep the unhoused on the streets. We need new thinking around the issues affecting our city. Councilmember Koretz is an embarrassment to the people of this city for even putting forth this motion.

Communication from Public

Name: Katy Hammer

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 09:58 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to strongly urge City Council to vote NO on this motion. Resuming CARE+ sweeps--in which unhoused folks' belongings are destroyed, in many cases leading to difficulties in securing housing or health care down the road--is in violation of CDC guidelines during the COVID-19 pandemic, and would create a serious threat to public health. Moreover, these sweeps are cruel and inhumane, in many cases forcing elderly or disabled folks to potentially injure themselves in order to gather their belongings or take their tents down (or risk having those tents and belongings destroyed altogether, leaving them more exposed to the elements and thus to COVID-19). Furthermore, increasing CARE+ sweeps around A Bridge Home shelters is costly, harmful, and an admission that these shelters don't meet the needs of all unhoused residents in the area. It is through no fault of their own that these unhoused folks were unable to secure adequate shelter, and criminalizing their existence--especially during an increasingly deadly pandemic--is both expensive and just shockingly horrible. You as councilmembers have a responsibility to look out for the interests of ALL your constituents, and voting YES on this motion would not only have life-or-death consequences for so many of them, but it would be sending the message that only housed people matter. Los Angeles was in the grips of a homelessness crisis long before the pandemic struck, and with eviction bans lifting soon, there will be an incredible increase flooding onto the streets. Criminalization of this crisis is not the way forward--I know that you like to think of yourselves as a progressive body, so please follow CM Wesson's pledge to vote NO on this motion. Place-based zoning to keep people out of an area doesn't work--it requires significant enforcement, which leads to criminalization and increased costs. With Council's recent actions to defund the LAPD, this is a merciless step backwards. Thank you for your consideration.

Communication from Public

Name: Olivia Grace Gleason
Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 09:59 AM
Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly oppose agenda item #46, the motion by council members Buscaino and Krekorian to resume comprehensive CARE+ sweeps of unhoused neighbors around "A Bridge Home" shelters. Please do not put the lives and well-being of unhoused folks in the hands of fake "solutions" that aren't going to help them. We have seen time and time again that sweeps result in the criminalization of houseless folks and thus results in more interactions with law enforcement and the uprooting of elderly and disabled people and their belongings which can be extremely harmful. Its time to offer REAL solutions and real affordable housing. Please be the ones to finally implement a solution that deals with the systemic reasons we have houseless issues in LA in the first place, rather than continuing the criminalization of unhoused folks. Please be part of a more impactful and helpful solution.

Communication from Public

Name: Mikayla

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:00 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: These sweeps are an appalling example of what it means to live in LA. These force our unhoused neighbors, many of whom are elderly and disabled, to go through stressful and harmful measures to remove their belongings and tents from public spaces. This practice increases criminalization and does nothing to further the care for unhoused people. Money spent on the sweeps could be used towards bettering shelters. All unhoused people are our neighbors, and forcing them to regularly evacuate and rebuild their life is a horrible treatment no one deserves. We need better services, not sweeps.

Communication from Public

Name: Taylor C

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:02 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: Hi there! Leaving comment today to urge council to immediately cease enforcement in any and all Special Enforcement Zones. SEZs are extremely dehumanizing and awful, and during these times of COVID, especially inhumane. Increasing sweep schedules around these new Bridge Home shelters is harmful & costly, and it's a blatant admission that these shelters don't at all meet the needs of our unhoused residents in the area. Additionally, resuming CARE+ now would be in violation of CDC guidelines during the COVID-19 pandemic. CARE+ sweeps are a threat to the overall public health of Los Angeles! Do your jobs and protect ALL angelenos in this crisis and beyond, especially our unhoused neighbors!!!

Communication from Public

Name: Annie Powers

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:02 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: We are in the middle of an unprecedented global pandemic, with California now a key hotspot where cases are exploding. 1,000 people are dying a day. We CANNOT resume CARE+ now because this is a violation of the CDC guidelines during the COVID-19 pandemic, and these sweeps are a threat to public health. I recently worked with a houseless person who had all the symptoms of COVID-19, and the city made it extremely difficult to get them care. Now we also want to resume CARE+ "cleanup," which force folks who are already struggling to move their belongings or take their tents down? How are people supposed to shelter in place and care for themselves in the middle of a crisis, if we are telling people that their homes have to come down? On top of that, we must eliminate special enforcement zones. Increasing sweeps around A Bridge Home shelters is harmful, it's costly, and it's clear that these shelters do not have capacity to help everyone in the area. If there is not housing for all in Los Angeles -- which there is most certainly not -- how can we possibly criminalize people who do not have homes?

Communication from Public

Name: Paris Moore

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:03 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I oppose item #46 on the agenda for the July 29th meeting. This motion by council members Buscaino and Krekorian to resume comprehensive CARE+ sweeps of unhoused neighbors around "A Bridge Home" shelters is horrible. These shelters usually operate at capacity which means this motion would punish unhoused Angelenos who want shelter but can't secure a spot, at no fault of their own. I cannot stand for the harassment of unhoused people and that is why I oppose this motion.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:04 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: CARE sweeps do not help our unhoused neighbors and are instead a courtesy service for homeowners and residents who wage complaints. Rather than inflicting more harm with a useless band-aid, the City of Los Angeles needs to enact proven and humane policy to help our unhoused neighbors. STOP CARE SWEEPS.

Communication from Public

Name: Zach H.

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:10 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: This speaks directly to Council members Buscaino and Krekorian. Resuming CARE and CARE+ sweeps does nothing to address the systemic causes of homelessness, does nothing to address a solution to homelessness, and forces more funds to policing via special units and overtime pay that does nothing to fix anything. You won't be re-elected if you keep this kind of garbage on the table. Backing this movement shows your lack of understanding of the humanitarian issues facing LA. It shows your lack of foresight in creating systems to deal with a growing problem. Lastly, it shows how little you care about practically solving the issue of homelessness. Your solution is to throw more police at them. Were you not paying attention over the last three months? In case you haven't, let me remind you of something else you may have missed. The pandemic has vaporized incomes across the city and put thousands upon thousands under the shadow of eviction. Any ideas on what do about that or are you going to throw a bunch of police at them too? In this issue, you are incompetent at best and apathetic at worst. This goes for everyone who backs this trash. It's public record and, based on the ongoing activism and vigilance of these issues in LA, your constituents will not forget.

Communication from Public

Name: Carene Mekertichyan

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:13 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly oppose Item #46. We need to support our displaced community, not police them when the ABH shelters fill up faster than they realize. This proposal is harmful, dangerous, and will lead to an even greater loss of life.

Communication from Public

Name: carolyn canterbury

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:15 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I DO NOT approve of this motion to AUTHORIZE the Bureau of Sanitation to resume CARE+ cleanups within the Special Cleaning Zones established around A Bridge Home shelters only. Criminalizing homeless people MUST STOP. These enforcement zones need to be abolished. I do not approve of my tax dollars being used to placate residents who fear their unhoused neighbors. This motion is subsidized harassment of unhoused people, using the exact money LA voters created to HELP unhoused people. WE DO NOT WANT ZONES WE WANT HOMES. WE DO NOT WANT SWEEPS, WE WANT SERVICES. I don't believe these zones will keep anyone safer. Spending this money on police shows that our priorities are out of line. If my city council is truly committed to reimagining public safety and an unarmed response to non-violent calls, they must abolish the cruel, costly, punitive "Special Enforcement Zones" that surround homeless shelters. Struggling Angelenos need #HomesNotZones

Communication from Public

Name: Justin Rubenstein

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:15 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I am a resident of District 13 and I wish to urge my councilmember Mitch O'Farrell and the entire city council to reject the proposal to reauthorize sweeps within SECZ. Not only is it unnecessarily punitive to the people who were denied temporary housing in the area, but it exacerbates public health risks and continues to shirk the responsibility of the mayor's office and the council to take more adequate steps to care for the houseless population in LA. Please do the right thing and vote this proposal down.

Communication from Public

Name: atom
Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:17 AM
Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I OPPOSE AGENDA #46 BEING MOTIONED BY M'S BUSCAINO AND KREKORIAN. I AM 100% AGAINST SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT CLEANING ZONES AS THEY ENABLE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS ON LOS ANGELES' MOST VULNERABLE POPULATIONS. ELIMINATE THEM NOW. I AM 100% AGAINST CARE+ SWEEPS AS THEY VIOLATE CDC GUIDELINES DURING THIS STAGE OF COVID19. THEY ENDANGER THE UNHOUSED NEIGHBORS IN CONTEXT OF THE VIRUS, THEREFORE THEY ENDANGER THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY AND WILL CONTRIBUTE TO PROLONGING THE LIFE OF THE PANDEMIC. NO CARE+ !!! IMPLEMENTING SPECZ IS AN ADMISSION THAT YOUR ABH DON'T EVEN SOLVE ANY UNHOUSED CRISIS, IT'S A WEAK ASS OPTIC TO GET THE NIMBYS OFF YOUR BACK. WE ARE NOT BUYING IT- FIGURATIVELY AND LITERALLY: DON'T USE MY TAXES ON THIS IDIOTIC FAILURE OF A PROGRAM. IF YOU GO THROUGH WITH THIS, THERE WILL BE HELL TO PAY FROM ALL AROUND LA COUNTY, YOU RICH ASSHOLES.

Communication from Public

Name: Chase Engelhardt
Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:17 AM
Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I want to take this opportunity to speak in vehement opposition to enforcement zones. Street sweeps are dangerous enough for the unhoused without a global pandemic. In one particular case an elderly man's heart medication was thrown away and he passed away. People lose important documents and then ultimately access to services, and the process can set them back weeks in their struggle to find housing and resources. If we had enough beds for the over 60,000 residents that didn't impose stringent measures like 6am wakeups, property seizures, and prohibitions on food, then that may be another story, but we do not. It may be a nuisance for immediate neighbors, but at the end of the day that is the worst of it. We cannot value petty complaints over the lives of human beings. It's absolutely irresponsible. These people do not represent our City, and that is reflected when broader measures, like approving funding for bridge housing come to the fold. Please don't let a vocal minority harm the lives of thousands. Thank you, Chase Engelhardt

Communication from Public

Name: Sarah Port

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:18 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: Homeless sweeps are a threat to public health. Not only that but the CARE+ sweeps are doing nothing to help homeless individuals and only serving to further burden already struggling people. We need to put our resources into programs that will actually help the homeless population by providing housing, beyond just shelter that we already know does not cater to all or most of their needs, especially during a time like this when having people without homes is such a threat to public health.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:18 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: Please vote yes to resume comprehensive CARE+ cleanups. The area around the bridge home on main street in venice has become a massive homeless encampment with fights, screaming, drug use, needles, tents and trash. It's not fair to me and the people who pay mortgage, rent and property taxes. We were promised that the area would be a no tent zone and make the area nicer and instead the exact opposite has happened. The area has become completely lawless and my neighbors are afraid to leave their homes. This bridge home is in the middle of a residential area. Please do the right thing begin the clean ups.

Communication from Public

Name: Adelene Bertha
Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:19 AM
Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: Greetings, My name is Adelene Bertha. I work for United Coalition East Prevention Project (UCEPP) in Skid Row, a prevention program centered on enhancing community safety and wellness. On behalf of concerned coalition members, and in unison with those who advocate with people experiencing homelessness including Service Not Sweeps, we express our opposition to Item 46 (CF 20-0147). Connecting our unhoused neighbors with the resources and support they need are critical at this time. Place-based spot zoning to keep people out of an area does not work. The related enforcement leads to criminalization and negative interactions with law enforcement. Sweeps of unhoused neighbors around “A Bridge Home” shelters would impact the vulnerable and increase risk during this Corona Virus pandemic. We must continue to consider the unintentional consequences of cleanup efforts and place emphasis on the needs of those most impacted. A primary tenet of UCEPP is our commitment to change environments to discourage alcohol and other drug-related problems and enhance positive social interactions. Displacement and related anxiety exacerbate existing stress and trauma and threaten wellness. Again, we ask you to rethink your approach to assisting those in need and ask that you not resume enforcement activities. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Violet Elder

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:46 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: The new A Bridge Home shelters being surrounded by aggressively policed Special Enforcement Zones is a cruel, punitive, inhumane way to treat the unhoused folks who weren't able to get into the shelters, which often operate at capacity and which, for the record, are quite clearly not COVID safe. Anyone who is unable to get a bed at these shelters is at increased risk of police violence, arrest, and property destruction. There are not enough beds in these shelters and, rather than letting those who couldn't get in encamp nearby, you have chosen to make proximity to shelter illegal, which is in line with LA's continuous criminalization of poverty but still seems so obviously cruel that I don't understand how any of you can support it. An unhoused person may have had to travel miles to get to one of the A Bridge Home shelters, only to discover it's full and have to move all over again. Resuming CARE+ right now would be beyond cruel, and a clear violation of CDC guidelines during COVID-19, which state that, if unhoused folks cannot be housed, they should be allowed to stay where they are. To be clear, you should be housing unhoused Angelenos, commandeering hotels to do so, really doing anything and everything to do so, and, to be clear, resuming CARE+ would be cruel even if you wait until COVID-19 is no longer a concern, but to resume right now violates CDC guidelines and shows a continued utter disregard for the wellbeing of the most vulnerable Angelenos.

Communication from Public

Name: Catherine Schetina
Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:47 AM
Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I am urging the LA City Council not to reauthorize sweeps within SECZ -- the criminalization of unhoused individuals is inhumane, cruel, and waste of time and money for all parties. These arbitrary zones exist to punish people who are trying to do what the city tells them is the "right" thing -- getting into shelters. But we all know that there is DRAMATICALLY fewer beds available than there are people in need of them. You are setting people up to fail so you have an excuse to terrorize them, destroy their belongings, and cause them physical and psychological harm. Additionally, forcing movement and destroying shelter is going to aggravate the already escalated risk of COVID-19, essentially offering a death sentence for these vulnerable populations. I urge you to do the right thing and vote against reauthorizing sweeps in Special Enforcement and Cleanup Zones.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:48 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: Please get back to cleaning up these encampments in Venice. There is so much trash and filth out there it is staggering. Rats are running around in the broad daylight. Nobody can walk down these sidewalks. Cars can't even navigate down these streets. Problem areas on 3rd / Sunset & 4th / Sunset all the way up to Rose Ave. All around the Bridge Housing. And please add to your clean up the HUGE encampment of over 80+ tents and structures at Rose and Penmar. This Rose / Penmar encampment is biggest one in Venice and it needs weekly clean up! Thank you

Communication from Public

Name: Theo DeMarco

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:49 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: VOTE NO ON 46 CARE+ sweeps go against CDC guidelines for covid-19 and put unhoused Angelinos at higher risk of both the pandemic and police violence. Considering that Black people in LA experience homelessness at more than 4X the rate of white people, CARE+ sweeps are a direct attack on struggling Black Angelinos and encourage police harassment and violence against our unhoused neighbors. And because 40% of unhoused people under 21 in LA identify as LGBTQ+ (most of them Black), these sweeps are likewise an attack on our queer youth. WE THE PEOPLE ARE DEMANDING YOU DEFUND AND DISARM POLICE, And your response is to take money OUT of the budget intended to care for our unhoused neighbors and give it instead to the violent gang that is LAPD. WE NEED SERVICES NOT SWEEPS. Even though measure HHH and Mayor Garcetti promised to eliminate homelessness in LA, we have overcrowded shelters surrounded by struggling Angelinos who want to get inside, who need help and can't get it. And instead of helping these citizens, these human beings, the city polices them 24/7 with these special enforcement zones. Sweeps set the LAPD on unhoused people like absolute predators, and as we've seen during the protests over the past several months, this city's police are a violent gang who escalate encounters to violence without remorse, seemingly with great pleasure. POLICE DO NOT PROTECT OR SERVE UNHOUSED PEOPLE, And encouraging confrontations between cops and unhoused Angelinos is negligence. Right now, UCLA estimates that 365,000 renter households in Los Angeles are in imminent danger of homelessness unless elected leaders take sweeping action like CANCELING THE RENT. That's 365 THOUSAND families who will soon be subject to the violence this City and LAPD already rains on its 70,000 unhoused neighbors. DEFUND THE POLICE, cancel the rent now, and fund SERVICES NOT SWEEPS.

Communication from Public

Name: Cora
Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:51 AM
Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: The council should eliminate special enforcement zones around shelters -- it's an approach that simply punishes people for being in an area where there's a shelter, regardless of the fact that there aren't enough beds to go around and there are other reasons why someone might not go to a shelter. The SECZ are simply about appeasing housed neighbors who are afraid of shelters and don't want to see homeless in their neighborhood. They simply push the issue under the rug. Resuming CARE+ now would be in violation of CDC guidelines during the COVID-19 pandemic. CARE+ sweeps are a threat to overall public health. As a volunteer monitoring sweeps for several years, I've witnessed the displacement and trauma they engender. Resuming them is totally out of step with a holistic, compassionate, public-health driven response to the pandemic.

Communication from Public

Name: Julianna Kufeldt

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:51 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, These enforcement zones are incredibly harmful to vulnerable homeless people. Forcing people to move during a pandemic is shameful and goes against the CDC to not to move any homeless people. These zones are very much ' a show' publicly that homelessness is being taken care of - when actually the zones just sweeps people from their space and they will lose or have their items destroyed. That is cruel and a false representation of what is actually needed and happening. The amount of beds will not house the entire homeless population in LA, and this zoning is a way of covering up the actual work that needs to happen. And the actual work is HOUSING EVERYONE! This is inhumane, and during a pandemic is shameful. It is also costly, why are we spending money to displace people when it could go towards housing them. The calls from constituents asking and pleading with you all to do something and house the homeless is tiring- we have been stating what we want over and over. When will you listen and care about people who do not have the same privilege as you?

Communication from Public

Name: Geoff Williams

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:54 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: Absolutely DO NOT resume your sweeps of homeless encampments ("CARE+ cleanups"). Besides the fact that it is ethically disgusting that you continue to criminalize poor and unhoused people, breaking up encampments during a pandemic is an irresponsible threat to public health. On top of that, using law enforcement to break up encampments, unsurprisingly, DOES NOTHING TO ACTUALLY HELP SOLVE THE HOMELESSNESS CRISIS. Stop wasting taxpayer money on harassing marginalized people, and actually help them instead. The fact that the sweeps exist is an admission that shelters do not actually meet the needs of the unhoused. We need affordable/public housing, not increased police harassment of poor people.

Communication from Public

Name: Sumner LeVeque

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:55 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: Forcibly moving the homeless around is a waste of all of our tax money, which should be used to build homes for them instead (a far better way to utilize funds). We are experiencing a pandemic and need to be more careful than ever. By forcibly moving the homeless, not only are we exposing more people with each other, but it's not doing anything to stop the spread of the virus. Spread happens from large groups of people gathering together, which SHOULD be addressed more by our city council. Services not sweeps!

Communication from Public

Name: john kellen lowe

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:56 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: My name is John Kellen Lowe; I am a resident of Los Angeles California. I oppose agenda item #46, which resumes sweeps in the special enforcement and cleaning zones (SECZ) around bridge shelters. These sweeps 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 its admission that these shelters don't meet the need of all the 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. - John Kellen Low

Communication from Public

Name: Sarah Takizawa
Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:57 AM
Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, I'm a lifelong Angeleno and currently reside in District 4. I am writing to demand the immediate removal of 'Special Enforcement Zones' and the permanent suspension of CARE and CARE+ sweeps. I think it is absolutely sickening that this city's officials refuse to protect and support our houseless neighbors and this crisis has only been exacerbated by a global health pandemic. Increased sweeps surrounds ABH shelters are NOT the solution. Funding and resources should be used to protect and provide shelter for the houseless--not to criminalize and displace them. The \$8.4 million price tag for geographically targeted enforcement is unjustifiable and disgusting in light of the city's desperate need for more homeless services and housing. If you are all truly committed to reimagining public safety as well as an unarmed response to non-violent calls like you claim to be, stand up and pledge to abolish the cruel, costly, punitive 'Special Enforcement Zones' that surround homeless shelters.

Communication from Public

Name: Jackie

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 10:57 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: This is a pandemic emergency and to already begin with these sweeps is inhumane and in particular because the city even BEFORE the pandemic has failed to properly address this situation. You don't just eliminate homelessness by taking it off site. What is also terrible is using police to do these actions which inflicts violence and cruelty, and this is yet ANOTHER reason why we want to defund the police and be able to house the vulnerable people who are hurting and do not have a home. There are veterans, women experienced domestic violence trauma, disabled folks, LGBTQ people, mentally ill people, and these are among the MOST vulnerable of our folks who do not have equal rights. We need to think about the people, not the appearance, because it is at this point that we are protecting property and that is so disgusting. Again, we are in a pandemic and are we truly going to let these people die and be alone? LA must do something and cancel rent, because there will be way more people evicted and homeless and entire families at that. Go out there please and talk to the people who are suffering because it seems like no one is listening. Stop criminalizing poverty, stop using police to terrorize homeless

Communication from Public

Name: Amy Young

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 11:03 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: When there are more people experiencing homelessness than there are shelter beds, the City acts not only unlawfully but also inhumanely when it conducts homeless sweeps. As we enter into another month with a ravaging pandemic as a reality, it is disgusting that the City has prioritized opening bars and restaurants rather than deploying the power of its resources to address the growing housing and homelessness crisis. As Council members, it is your responsibility to protect the safety and well-being of your constituents, to lead with intelligence and empathy, and to chart a path through these rising tides and uncertain waters. Displacing and destroying the property of people experiencing homelessness is a dehumanizing attempt at something the City tries to justify as public safety. Perhaps this rhetoric has been used for so long that you have started to believe it, but if you look past the sheen created by political spins and posturing, you can arrive at reality. The reality in which special enforcement zones only further criminalize and disconnect vulnerable individuals, while flying in the face of CDC health guidelines. These efforts only further prevent the collective recovery of Los Angeles and its communities who time and time again bear the brunt of injustice.

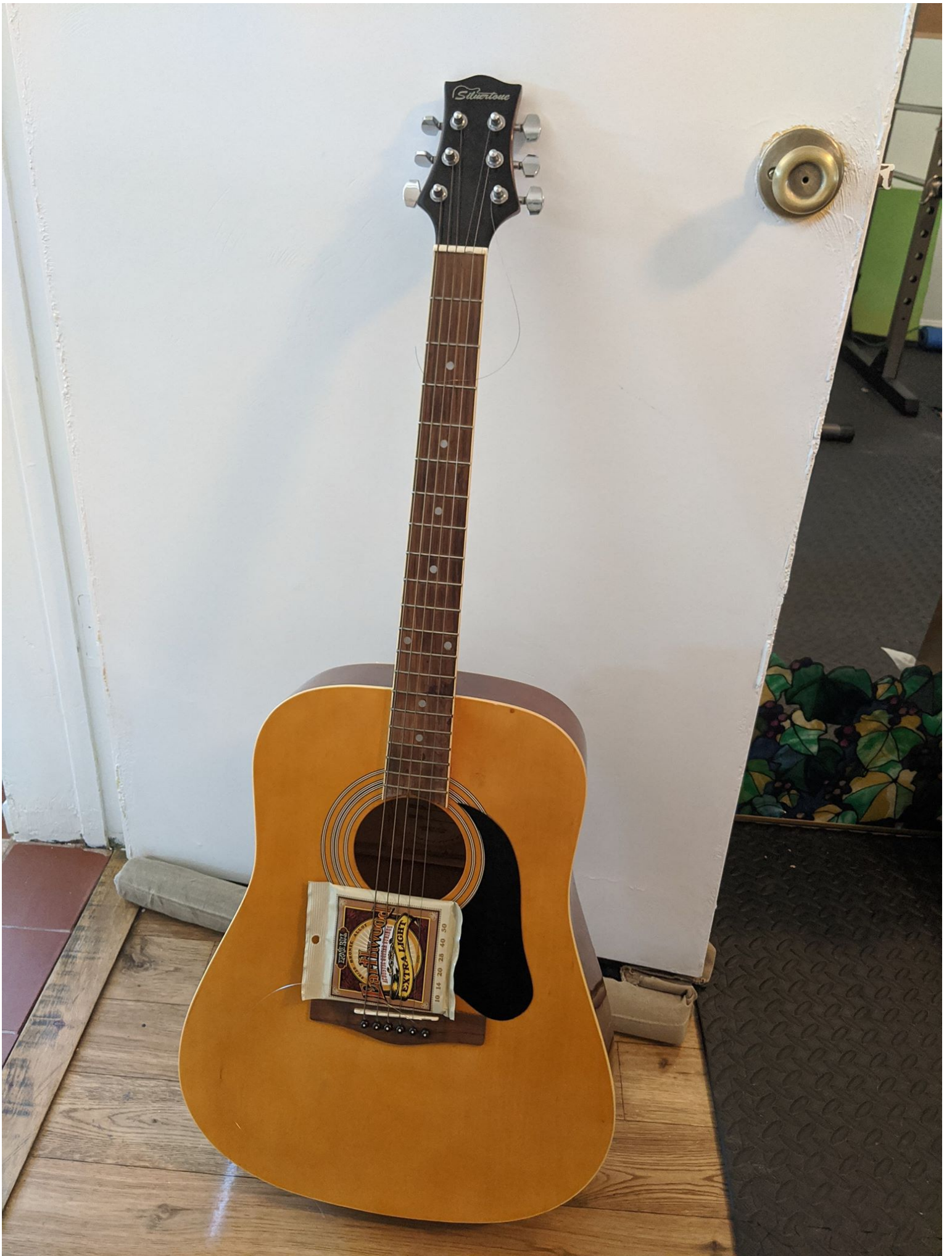
Communication from Public

Name: Shannon Hartman

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 11:07 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: Since you all cannot get your technology properly functioning and interrupted the last person on the phone giving public comment TWICE, I have decided to write my comment here. I am against agenda item #46. I am against it for many of the reasons you have already heard: the cruelty, the waste of money, the waste of resources, how it interrupts the process of getting these people housing and forces them to start all over again, how it punishes them for our failure as a city to provide sufficient temporary housing, that sweeps are against CDC guidelines, sweeps around shelters would also deter people in need from seeking services because they are obviously there because they want services and help. I want to take things out of the broad, abstract concept and give you something personal that really happened to think about. In my previous job I worked with a LAC-DMH contracted wellness center and one of our goals beside mental health services was trying to get housing for clients. We'd been doing outreach to an older woman who was homeless and living on the street behind our office, until one day the police came. Despite our talking with them, they ultimately arrested her and took her away. Before they did so, however, she was able to give us one precious belonging to hold on to and keep safe: her guitar. I bought new strings for it with my own money and waited. And waited. I took it home when the director wanted to throw it out and have held onto it all this time even after leaving that job. This was about two or three years ago. I had heard she had been seen in the homeless encampment along the Orange Line route, but couldn't find her. Sweeps gutted the place and drove away the people there, destroying my only lead. I still have this woman's guitar and I will probably never find her. I don't even know if she's still alive. I keep the guitar, waiting and hoping fate will have me cross paths with its proper owner again someday. SHELTER, NOT SWEEPS. CARE, NOT COPS.



Communication from Public

Name: Lian
Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 11:11 AM
Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: As a resident of LA CD1, I urge Gil Cedillo as well as all city council members to vote against item #46 from today's (Wed., July 29, 2020) LA City Council meeting. Special enforcement zones are inhumane. Unhoused people deserve to exist, to be alive, and to take up space. These special enforcement zones infringe upon the well being of an already vulnerable population. We need services, not sweeps. The city wouldn't even need these special enforcement zones if they provided adequate services. You KNOW we're in a pandemic, you KNOW that the city's our unhoused population is growing, you KNOW that shelters don't have enough beds, and yet you still refuse to address the root problems of homelessness, and instead continuously terrorize unhoused Angelenos. It is shameful.

Communication from Public

Name: Rebecca

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 11:11 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: I'm writing in to comment on item number 46 and to make general public comment. I really hope you all enjoyed your paid vacation during a pandemic and I really hope you enjoyed your air conditioning and fridge full of fresh food while over 60,000 of our neighbors are currently unhoused and being attacked by systems you put in place. I think it's disgraceful- as everyone else has pointed out- that you act like these CARE+ sweeps are actually helpful when in reality it's just performative and actually quite harmful. Why are we criminalizing homelessness? All we've been screaming for is to defund the police yet you keep placing them in areas they aren't trained to be in. I live in Van Nuys and just in the last 2 weeks I have seen two very populated areas for our unhoused neighbors to live in off of Sherman Way both be completely swept clean. Where did they and their belongings go? I didn't even realize until today when I heard other public comments that these sweeps happened even when people aren't physically with their belongings meaning sometimes they lose their birth certificate and other VERY important documents needed in order to restart their lives. You are making it that much harder for them, but we shouldn't be surprised since most of you, including our mayor, are landlords. You want your money and you want it fast so you view anyone without a home as non important to you because they can't give you what you desire: money. This is a no brainer: vote NO on item number 46. And as always, I'd like to end my public comment reminding you how outdated this system is and what a joke it is. It's 2020. Making a public comment online should be way more streamlined and shouldn't need an email confirmation. Watching a city council meeting on a tv or phone or computer shouldn't have this many technical difficulties. It's also a slap in the face every single time you all start these meetings 15 minutes late and all the times you have to stop the meeting to fix anything I just mentioned above. Get it together. Defund the police. House our neighbors. Black Lives Matter.

Communication from Public

Name: Kendall Kaufmann

Date Submitted: 07/29/2020 11:22 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: There should not be LAPD sweeps of the unhoused population in Los Angeles. Period. During COVID, there is double incentive not to sweep these Special Enforcement Zones. The sweeps violate CDC guidelines, unhoused people's rights, and turns the zones into areas with heavier police. I would suggest housing people (maybe in vacant housing or vacant hotels. There is the space), instead of harassing people. If you need a selfish reason, keep police safe by not exposing them to COVID by unnecessarily and wrongly sweeping "Special Enforcement Zones."
#HomesNotZones