

I Am real go Ahead and
Call 323-378-7867

Charles
Mahoney

Am I not Human?

Am I not Human, Are you not Human?
AS A HUMAN I LIKE TO BE SAFE. Im
sure you like to be safe and IF
You HAVE children, which I Am one,
You wish for them to be safe.
Under the UNIVERSAL declaration of
Human rights article three says
I HAVE right to SECURITY of person.
I THINK the police Banging HOLES in
my door, yes they Banged a dent in my
door, I was INSIDE at the TIME, IS
Breaking Both Three and twelve which
says that I Have the right to freedom
from interference with privacy, FAMILY
Home and correspondence. Because I Am
Homeless I lose my rights. As a child
did I decide to be Homeless nor
do I cause your society Harm. For
trying to survive? THE Department
of Homeland security says that Being
Homeless I Am A orange level terrorist.
Does A terrorist Go to school, HAVE friends,
wish to become an actor, and HAVE a child
and FAMILY of their own. No, they would
BOMB the world.

Charles Mathoney Jr
Age: 15

DATE: 4/20/09
323-378-786x

I'm sure if you were in the position I'm
in you would feel a little bit
different. And you probably already
do. If you wondering whether or
not the police are gonna take your
house and only living unit, for
it simply being there would
you not be in fear of the ones
that are suppose to protect
and serve. I'll also remind you
that everything you own and
that is valuable at all to
you is in said place. PICTURES OF
FAMILY members, your clothes, even my
books for school. All gone because
I am trying to survive. Are we
not in America, do we not try
to help each other. Why would you
take my house because you don't find it
fit to be on a public street, is that
not why they are public to be public.
Do I not pay taxes just as you do? If
you were in a struggle would you not
want someone to be compassionate instead
of angry. I am human, you are human, are
we both not human.

323
378
786x

To: City Council Ad Hoc Committee on Homelessness
Re: Agenda Item 6, Council File 08-3125
Date: 21-April-2009

I support decriminalizing homelessness, which includes amending LAMC 85.02 so that people living in vehicles can stay overnight in parking lots safely near existing services. People need to sleep, eat, have medical care, and live without unnecessary fear of the LAPD.

I have been serving the homeless community in the Venice area for more than 15 years in one form or another and have noticed some things I want you to think about.

The people living in RVs are often disabled or elderly people, which is a particularly heinous phenomenon, who cannot afford the high cost of rent in Los Angeles.

But there is a new homeless RV population. These are people who have lost homes to foreclosures. They now have bad credit and are having a hard time finding decent rentals. Those who aren't working cannot afford to pay rents, because there is very little affordable housing available in Los Angeles.

I met a man just this last Friday, April 17, 2009, who lost his house in the Penmar Park area of Venice to foreclosure and now he is living in a motor home. He is in his 40's and seems to be quite able and willing to work. He was middle-class a short time ago and now he is homeless living in an RV. This does not seem to be getting better. It is just the opposite.

The situation is a desperate one for all the families and the disabled or elderly people who get treated like they are criminals. The LAPD enter their vehicles without any real cause and scare them. Intolerant housed people are being encouraged to put nasty notes on their vehicles. The city helps the intolerant housed people by using street signs to remove them block-by-block. This is not a solution. In fact, it is all wrong.

A large part of this problem exists because there is not enough affordable housing for low or extremely low-income people - not because all these people are "assistance resistant." Most disabled people who receive benefits get only around \$900 per month to live on and some people living in vehicles get far less or nothing to live on.

The City of Los Angeles needs to begin redirecting efforts or funding away from using precious city resources making it illegal to be homeless. Venice has many public parking lots that are kept closed at night and sizable services close by. This is why I absolutely do not support removing people heartlessly away from the existing life essential services in Venice. Services are the main reason many homeless people live in Venice and there are plenty of city or county owned parking lots that space could be allocated in.

This is an emergency and humane emergency actions are required. The city made it legal for tourists to sleep on the beach in Venice when Los Angeles hosted the Olympics and the city can make some legal places for it's own people to sleep in Venice now.


Peggy Lee Kennedy

Venice Food Not Bombs and the Justice Committee & Media Group
P.O. Box 2881, Venice, CA 90294

Suzanne Thompson
PO Box 993
Venice, CA 90294
(310) 570-5419
sthompson007@ca.rr.com

April 20, 2009

To: Ad Hoc Committee on Homelessness

Email:

patrice.lattimore@lacity.org

Jan.Perry@lacity.org

Councilman.Rosendahl@lacity.org

councilmember.garcetti@lacity.org

Dear Councilmembers, Garcetti, Perry and Rosendahl,

As one of many, active community members who have been working on trying to find solutions to homelessness in Venice, I find it very disturbing that we were not notified of this issuing being considered at your meeting tomorrow.

I just heard of this today. There was not enough notice given to us that item #08-3125 was on the Ad Hoc Committee on Homelessness agenda tomorrow.

So, therefore, I request that agenda item #6 be postponed until there has been proper notice and time for the community to respond.

Thanking you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Thompson

CC: Peggy Kennedy

Venice Stakeholders Association
533 Rialto Avenue, Venice CA 90291

April 20, 2009

To: Councilmember Bill Rosendahl and the Los Angeles City Council

From: Jim Smith, Venice Homeowner and Stakeholder

Dear Bill, et.al.,

There is a crisis situation in existence in Venice where women, children, veterans and other Americans are forced to live in their vehicles due to the lack of affordable housing, job loss, foreclosures or evictions and/or excessive medical bills.

I urge you to seek at least a temporary remedy with safe, secure parking areas within our community. It is essential that these Venice mobile residents be allowed to stay in their community where they are close to services.

In order to avoid an overcrowding situation like that in Ontario last year, eligibility for this program should be limited to those who can provide evidence of their relationship to Venice. This is the same requirement for membership in a neighborhood council.

Please do not listen to those whose hatred of the homeless has blinded them to this human tragedy.

Sincerely,

Jim Smith

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

open hearts
open minds
open doors



Venice
United
Methodist
Church

1020 Victoria Avenue
Venice, California 90291.

Rev. Thomas C. Ziegert, Pastor, e-mail: VeniceUMC@gmail.com
phone: 310-391-2314

April 21, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

I am in favor of amending the current ordinance 85.02 to allow the City Council members of each of the several districts of Los Angeles to provide for the designation of parking areas for those who have need to sleep in their vehicles, so long as facilities serving basic human needs can be provided in the areas so designated, and that the areas are convenient to the needs of children that may be sleeping in vehicles that are attending school, and to physical and mental health services.

Blessings and peace,

Rev. Thomas C. Ziegert
Pastor



Susan G. Millmann
Attorney at Law

743 Palms Boulevard
Venice, California 90291

April 21, 2009

TO: City Council Ad Hoc Committee on Homelessness
RE: Agenda Item 6, Council File 08-3125
DATE: April 21, 2009

I am writing this as an individual. However, for the last 25 years as an attorney working at the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles, I have worked to provide poor and low income people access to social and economic justice.


There is a crisis in our City on many levels. There is a dearth of housing affordable to poor and low income people. As we watch foreclosures escalate, the problem is exacerbated. If one pays attention, one can understand the snowball effect of poverty. It is merely a paycheck away. Perhaps an illness strikes an uninsured family member and depletes all resources. Someone is laid off, and the family then loses their apartment. Once evicted, the family will have a terrible time replacing that housing because their name may be blacklisted for new landlords. Gathering a first and last, with no income, is not possible. And again, there is so little housing that people can afford in their own communities. I am against the tarring and feathering of people who have fallen on hard times, for whatever reason.

I support the decriminalization of those who cannot afford homes. I support amending LAMC 85.02 to permit people to sleep in their vehicles, an important layer of protection when there is no other place to sleep. It is dry. It may be safe. It is not living directly on the street. It is a simple human right that each of us should have a place to put our heads at night. We all must sleep.

In Venice alone, there are over 1,500 City owned¹ parking spaces. It is truly disheartening that these spaces are not available for those in our community, our Venice Community, to have a safe place to sleep. I understand that there are safeguards that must be considered and put into place to protect the interests of all Venice residents because I am one. I have been lucky enough to live here for over 35 years. We can meet that challenge.

It is time to stand up. It is time to protect human rights. It is time stop pending our scarce dollars on privatizing our streets, and all the other dollars spent on law enforcement to that end.

Very truly yours,


Susan G. Millmann
35- Year Venice Resident and Homeowner

¹ May of the City owned lots are operated by the County.

To: City Council Ad Hoc Committee on Homelessness
Re: Agenda Item 6, Council File 08-3125
Date: 21-April-2009

The terrible tragedy of HOMELESSNESS and POVERTY should be a priority in the City of Los Angeles. But sadly this serious issue is addressed with more criminalization and more hardship for the poorest human beings in our city.

Any positive solution that will relieve the heavy burden placed on the poor should be endorsed by all.

Please, I urge you to support the Honorable Councilman Bill Rosendahl in his quest for a humanitarian solution.

Support the amendment to decriminalize the human beings who live in their vehicles in safe areas near existing available services.

With Sincerity,



Calvin E. Moss
Venice Food not Bombs
Venice Justice Committee
P.O. Box 2881, Venice CA 90294

From: <cwilli7269@aol.com>
Date: Mon, Apr 20, 2009 at 7:30 PM
Subject: Parking Immediately in Venice
To: peggylee.kennedy@gmail.com

For the Los Angeles City Council

Greetings Dear Sirs/Madame's

In Venice we face homelessness and we need solutions that will come immediately. We need to provide RV's a place to park in the community of Venice. We need to provide this as of yesterday. I know that RV's deserve the same love from the city that land owners have and the same respect also. Please take into considerations our immediate need in Venice to have adequate parking (there is enough room for everyone if we only think of solutions instead of criminalizing anyone who lives in and RV) for everyone and Peace in our lovely community.

Thank You

✉ Laddie Williams

April 21, 2009

Dear City Council Adhoc Committee on Homelessness,

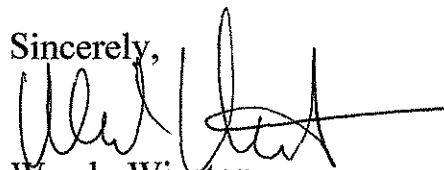
I am a Venice homeowner and resident who is concerned about the plight of people who live in vehicles in Venice. I know that there has been a big push to permit the streets for residents, which is targeted at getting vehicular residents off Venice streets. I have fought in favor of keeping Venice streets free.

Please help the City Council organize safe parking areas for these people, many of which are families, either on private or city property. Opening up the city parking lots after dark until 6:00 am was one suggestion that sounded reasonable and doable.

I embrace the diversity of Venice both racially and socio-economically. People should not be kicked out of Venice because they cannot afford to rent a place.

Please help these people remain safely in Venice. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wendy Winston', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Wendy Winston
1063 Indiana Ave.
Venice, CA 90291
310 490 4292

Councilman Bill Rosendahl
200 N. Spring Street, Rm 415
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 473-7011 Phone (213) 473-6926 Fax

09-July-08

Dear Councilman Bill Rosendahl,

I would like to suggest this to help with our homelessness problem:

Open up parking lots - install
toilets and showers.

Fix up abandoned or no-longer
used buildings for individual
and families.

Sincerely,

Carol Green

sign

CAROL GREEN

print name

2202 Brenta Place
Venice, CA 90291

address

Councilman Bill Rosendahl
200 N. Spring Street, Rm 415
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 473-7011 Phone (213) 473-6926 Fax

09-July-08

Dear Councilman Bill Rosendahl,

I would like to suggest this to help with our homelessness problem:

- 15% profit margin on all development
- provide areas for live-in vehicles with facilities
- rent control
- affordable housing

Sincerely,

Emily Winters
sign

EMILY WINTERS
print name

739 PALMS BLVD
VENICE, CA 90291
address

Councilman Bill Rosendahl
200 N. Spring Street, Rm 415
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 473-7011 Phone (213) 473-6926 Fax

09-July-08

Dear Councilman Bill Rosendahl,

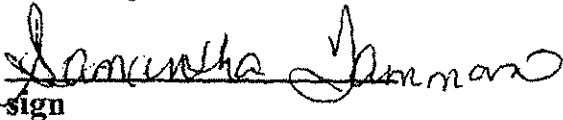
I would like to suggest this to help with our homelessness problem:

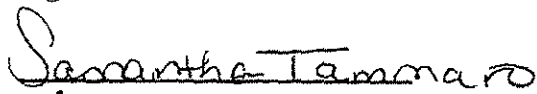
#1. we should not run out the people living in their mobile homes, rv's, + /or cars unless we have an alternative solution in place. These are people's homes, one place they can still go and feel safe.

#2 I think we need to find a solution + not move these people out of our city. They are a resident just as much as I am.

They are human just like you, just like me. Please lets work on a solution!!

Sincerely,


sign


print name

334 Vernon Ave .venice
address

Zero poverty . US

Councilman Bill Rosendahl
200 N. Spring Street, Rm 415
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 473-7011 Phone (213) 473-6926 Fax

09-July-08

Dear Councilman Bill Rosendahl,

I would like to suggest this to help with our homelessness problem:

give the RV's a place
to stay

Sincerely,

Jeffrey H. Harrison
sign

Jeffrey H. Harrison
print name

#341 333 Washington Blvd, CA 90292
address

Councilman Bill Rosendahl
200 N. Spring Street, Rm 415
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 473-7011 Phone (213) 473-6926 Fax


09-July-08

Dear Councilman Bill Rosendahl,


I would like to suggest this to help with our homelessness problem:

- Stop arresting people for trivial infractions.
- provide 24 hr restroom facilities at several locations in Venice
- provide places for overnight RV/car parking for people who live in their cars.

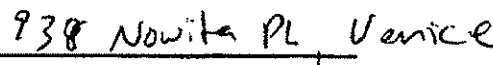
Sincerely,



sign



print name



address

Councilman Bill Rosendahl
200 N. Spring Street, Rm 415
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 473-7011 Phone (213) 473-6926 Fax

09-July-08

Dear Councilman Bill Rosendahl,

I would like to suggest this to help with our homelessness problem:

1. Affordable low-income housing,
2. Stop the harassing of homeless people,
3. Open up parking lots at night so people
in RVs could stay there, safely and cleanly.
4. social services for homeless people

Sincerely,

Mary Getlein
sign

Mary Getlein
print name

570 San Juan Dr.
address Venice, Ca