

Los Angeles Unified School District
Vine Street Elementary School

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MICHELLE KING
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

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INSTRUCTIONAL AREA SUPERINTENDENT

Kurt S. Lowry, Ed. D.
PRINCIPAL

August 30th, 2016

Honorable Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell
City of Los Angeles, 13th District
200 N. Spring Street, Room 480
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Councilmember O'Farrell,

As Principal of Vine Street School, the safety of our students, staff, "Vine Important Parents" (VIPs), and visitors is my top priority. I'm writing to express concerns about public safety in our school community.

On a daily basis, our students, staff, and parents are exposed to dangers related to several oversized vehicles (RVs, converted buses, campers, and trailers) that are regularly parked on the streets that border our school's main entrances and obstruct and/or delay our daily, morning valet drop-off program on Lillian Way. Dangerous by-products of these over-sized vehicles include a variety of safety risks to students, other pedestrians, and drivers due to reduced visibility, and occasional confrontations between frustrated parents, parents and other drivers, and neighboring business owners and employees.

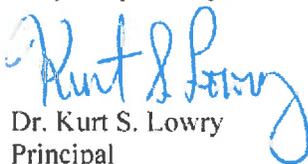
In addition to these aforementioned dangers, many of these vehicles' owners engage in risky and dangerous behaviors in and around our school while they are parked. Our students, staff, and parents have reported witnessing drug use and paraphernalia discarded on the sidewalk and even onto our school property. Trash, human urine and feces are regular occurrences on the sidewalk. Our students and parents who walk to and from our school have reported being confronted by and/or solicited by some of these individuals for money or food, or worse. Some of these individuals are under the influence of narcotics or alcohol and/or mentally ill.

We at Vine Street School are understanding of, humane, sympathetic, and sensitive toward people whose circumstances are difficult. We have a right to feel safe and a responsibility to report unsafe conditions. Accordingly, I respectfully request that **NO OVERNIGHT PARKING** (2 a.m. – 6 a.m.) restrictions be established for oversized vehicles in excess of 22 feet in length or over 84 inches in height, for the following streets in our school community:

- Lillian Way between Santa Monica Blvd. and Melrose Ave.
- Cole Ave. between Santa Monica Blvd. and Melrose Ave.
- Cahuenga Blvd. between Santa Monica Blvd. and Melrose Ave.
- Eleanor Ave. between Cahuenga Blvd. and Vine Street
- Romaine Ave. between Cole Ave. and Vine Street
- Willoughby Ave. between Cole Ave. and Vine Street
- Waring Ave. between Cole Ave. and Vine Street

I would like to reassure our stakeholders that our concerns are being addressed by our city leaders. If you have questions or wish to enlist my help as a part of the solution, please call me at 323 469-0877.

Very Respectfully,


Dr. Kurt S. Lowry
Principal