

Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to City Council and Committees.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at NCsupport@lacity.org.

This is an automated response, please do not reply to this email.

Contact Information

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(18) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 07/16/2019

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 07/23/2019

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 19-0582

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: Drug users struggling with substance abuse or dependence need help, not jail. The Los Feliz Neighborhood Council (“LFNC”) supports Council File 19-0582, Non-Arrest or Early Diversion Program, because offering treatment instead of incarceration enhances public safety by reducing drug-related crime and preserving jail and prison space for individuals charged with or convicted of more serious offenses. Not only does treatment instead of incarceration make our communities safer, furthermore, but the cost of probation and treatment is much less than the cost of incarceration. By targeting the underlying problems that led to the crime in the first place, effective diversion programs can improve long-term community safety and reduce recidivism far more effectively than warehousing someone in a prison cell before turning them back onto the streets. Diversion programs are also many times cheaper than incarceration. In a recent study, the National Institute on Drug Abuse has found that every dollar invested in drug treatment yields \$12 worth of savings in terms of reducing future crime and health care expenses. The LFNC agrees that the City of Los Angeles must implement “more innovative solutions to connect people to the help that they need to take their first steps on a path to reclaiming their lives.” For this reason, and those outlined above, the LFNC supports this Motion directing the Chief Legislative Analyst to report on instituting a program with the Los Angeles Police Department that prioritizes treatment instead of arrest.



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- COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT -

Council File: [19-0582](#)

Title: Non-Arrest or Early Diversion Program

Position: Support

Summary:

Drug users struggling with substance abuse or dependence need help, not jail. The Los Feliz Neighborhood Council ("LFNC") supports Council File 19-0582, Non-Arrest or Early Diversion Program, because offering treatment instead of incarceration enhances public safety by reducing drug-related crime and preserving jail and prison space for individuals charged with or convicted of more serious offenses. Not only does treatment instead of incarceration make our communities safer, furthermore, but the cost of probation and treatment is much less than the cost of incarceration.

By targeting the underlying problems that led to the crime in the first place, effective diversion programs can improve long-term community safety and reduce recidivism far more effectively than warehousing someone in a prison cell before turning them back onto the streets. Diversion programs are also many times cheaper than incarceration. In a recent study, the National Institute on Drug Abuse has found that every dollar invested in drug treatment yields \$12 worth of savings in terms of reducing future crime and health care expenses.

The LFNC agrees that the City of Los Angeles must implement "more innovative solutions to connect people to the help that they need to take their first steps on a path to reclaiming their lives." For this reason, and those outlined above, the LFNC supports this Motion directing the Chief Legislative Analyst to report on instituting a program with the Los Angeles Police Department that prioritizes treatment instead of arrest.

APPROVED

July 16th, 2019

18 Yay 0 Nay 0 Abstention 1 Absent