

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](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org).

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

#### Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Silver Lake Neighborhood Council

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(14) Nay(0) Abstain(1) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 03/04/2020

Type of NC Board Action: Against

#### Impact Information

Date: 04/17/2021

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 19-0609

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary:

**Community Impact Statement**

Council File 19-0609 (Illegal Dumping / Backlog / Homelessness Strategies / Clean Streets LA / HOPE)

**MARCH 4, 2020**

~~XXXXXX~~

To: Honorable City Council, Los Angeles City Hall, 200 N. Spring Street, room 395, Los Angeles, CA 90012 c/o Office of the City Clerk

**SILVER LAKE**

The [NC NAME HERE] Neighborhood Council requests that this community impact statement be attached to Los Angeles City Council file 19-0609.

**SILVER LAKE**

**MARCH 4, 2020 SILVER LAKE NC**

At the [NC NAME HERE] board meeting on [DATE HERE], the [NC] board voted to [support/deny] the submission of a CIS regarding council file 19-0609 with [#] yes votes, [#] no votes, and [#] board members abstaining.

**14 YES - 0 NO - 1 ABSTAIN**

In a [report dated 1/21/2020](#) to LA City Council’s Energy, Climate Change, and Environmental Justice (ECCEJ) Committee and attached to Council File 19-0609, The LA Department of Sanitation and Environment (LASAN) documented several operational updates to the City of LA’s Comprehensive Cleaning and Rapid Engagement (CARE) program, aimed at providing sanitation at homeless encampments. These updates, requested by City Council at a 12/3/2019 ECCEJ committee meeting, represent a drastic departure from the more humane and services-oriented approach to encampment cleanups originally envisioned for the CARE program in CF #19-0609 and in initial reports and recommendations provided by LASAN. Major changes to the program, implemented after only [four weeks of attempting](#) LASAN’s original recommendations for the CARE program, include the ability of any CARE team to authorize a cleanup with only 24-hour advance notice, strict enforcement of LA Municipal Code 56.11 (tents down between 6am and 9pm daily; immediate impounding or disposal of private property deemed a ‘biohazard’ or ‘bulky’), and pre-deployment of armed LAPD officers to cleanup sites, among other changes.

Taken together, the operational updates to the CARE program, along with increased frequency of cleanups repeatedly targeting the same encampments, have produced a more aggressive environment around cleanups (often referred to as ‘sweeps’), leading to complaints from encampment residents citing the [destruction/removal of their personal property](#) including critical medicines and identification documents. Increased LAPD presence at cleanups and decreased access to LA Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) caseworkers and outreach services promotes an approach to cleanups that [criminalizes homelessness and places less focus on providing the public health and sanitation resources](#) outlined in LASAN’s original report and so desperately needed by unsheltered people.

The city’s current approach to cleanup operations has negatively affected unhoused residents from the [Sepulveda Basin](#) to [Echo Park Lake](#) with the goal of breaking up encampments and forcing unhoused people out of public spaces rather than providing public health and sanitation services or access to shelter or permanent housing. Even more distressingly,

the timing of this new approach to cleanups with respect to the annual LAHSA Homeless Count (1/21/2020-1/23/2020) is very likely to have introduced inaccuracies to the count, raising the [possibility of an undercount](#) and making it harder for LAHSA to accurately distribute services and resources in the future.

We are disappointed that the ECCEJ committee has not given LASAN and the CARE program the time and resources necessary to improve cleanliness and public health in and around homeless encampments in a way that respects the needs and dignity of unhoused people. We urge the city to return to [Mayor Garcetti's recommendation](#) to 'lead with services, not law enforcement,' and to give a fair shot to LASAN's original CARE program strategy as outlined in their [6/14/2019 report](#). We believe the original CARE program strategy is a much better way to meet the goals of the motions introduced in CF 19-0609, to reduce illegal dumping and improve cleanliness and public health in the City of Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

[NC NAME HERE] Governing Board  
[MEETING DATE HERE]  
[AGENDA ITEM # HERE]

**SILVER LAKE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**  
**MARCH 4, 2020**  
**ITEM 10(h)**