

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHARLIE BECK
Chief of Police



ERIC GARCETTI
Mayor

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Ref #: 6.1

November 2, 2016

Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell
City of Los Angeles, 13th District
200 North Spring Street, Room 480
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Councilmember O'Farrell:

On behalf of Hollywood Area, I am writing to you regarding a public safety issue in our community. The area of concern is the north/south alley north of Selma Avenue and east of Cahuenga Boulevard. This area is also known as the EaCa Alley.

This location has several outdoor patio seating areas that are adjacent to the main businesses on Cahuenga Boulevard. The alley is a pedestrian thoroughfare and has robust day and night business activity for patrons. The improvement to this alley has helped change it from a dark area to be avoided to a sought after location for those visiting the area.

Recently, we have been alerted to problems after the businesses close. Police patrol of the area is difficult due to the alley being only accessible on foot and obscured from street view. The alley is a magnet for loitering, which has led to illicit activity overnight. Business owners have come in the morning to the smell of urine and feces. We have also experienced an increased number of radio calls that tie up Department resources. It's a matter of time before drug use and discarded paraphernalia begin to become the norm.

In an effort to head off this problem, the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) is supporting the installment of gates at both sides of the alley that can be locked by business owners after closing and reopened at the beginning of each business day. This should eliminate after-hours access to the alley. The LAPD would need a key to the gates, as would the Fire Department and all affected stakeholders.

Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell

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Thank you for taking these public safety concerns seriously and for your help in this matter. If you have any questions, please contact Senior Lead Officer Paul Jordan at (323) 871-4068.

Very truly yours,

CHARLIE BECK
Chief of Police

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cory Palka". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

CORY PALKA, Captain
Commanding Officer
Hollywood Area