

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(10) Nay(2) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 02/03/2021

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 02/10/2021

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 20-0031

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: Whereas a Community Impact Statement is an official statement adopted by a Neighborhood Council on issues pending before the City Council, its committees, or City commissions; We, the Palms Neighborhood Council, are requesting that you support Council File 21-003. For months, local activists and our unhoused neighbors have called out the cruelty of “sweeps,” also known as CARE and CARE operations. During a surge in cases of COVID-19, these protocols increase the risk of infection among our most vulnerable populations.

Whereas a Community Impact Statement is an official statement adopted by a Neighborhood Council on issues pending before the City Council, its committees, or City commissions;

We, the Palms Neighborhood Council, are requesting that you support Council File 21-003. For months, local activists and our unhoused neighbors have called out the cruelty of “sweeps,” also known as CARE and CARE+ operations. During a surge in cases of COVID-19, these protocols increase the risk of infection among our most vulnerable populations.

Sweeps are widely recognized as a disruptive band-aid action. Professors of social policy such as Dennis Culhane (University of Pennsylvania) have stated that sweeps “can set people back, and make it more difficult for them to work their way out of homelessness.” Professor Gary Painter (University of Southern California public policy professor) is thusly quoted: “There’s no research that the tactics described (sweeps) improve housing outcomes for people who are homeless or improves safety in neighborhoods.”

Sweeps are opposed by civil rights groups such as the ACLU and National Coalition for the Homeless, run counter to CDC Guidance¹, and were found to be a violation of the Fourth Amendment in *Lavan v. City of Los Angeles*, No. 11-56253, and *Ellis v. Clark County Department of Corrections*, No. 3:15-cv-05449, Dkt. No. 57 (Western District of Washington, 2016).

The motion put forth by council members Bonin and Raman present a cost-effective, humane alternative following CDC guidelines and aligned with the human and constitutional rights of our unhoused neighbors. We fully support the protocols outlined by the motion:

- Compliance with CDC guidelines regarding public health and encampments
- Regular, scheduled and well-publicized cleanings
- Offers by LASAN of services such as trash pick-up, bulky item pick-up, etc.
- Designation of areas where trash and waste can be placed for disposal and removal
- Use of community partners and ambassadors to conduct outreach and facilitation
- Provision of easy-ups or shade structures so people can temporarily relocate with their belongings during a cleaning
- Provision, through LASAN or partner agencies, of mobile showers, bathrooms, COVID-testing, tent exchange and distribution, food and water
- Hiring of unhoused residents to keep areas tidy between LASAN cleanings
- Reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities.
- No use of law enforcement personnel