

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.

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Contact Information

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(13) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 09/02/2020

Type of NC Board Action: Against

Impact Information

Date: 11/13/2020

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 20-0147

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: The NWWNC opposes the amendment to reauthorize the Bureau of Sanitation to resume Cleaning and Rapid Engagement Plus (CARE+) cleanups in Special Enforcement Zones (SECZ) established around Bridge Home shelters for sanitation purposes. We support the Services Not Sweeps coalition, which suggests providing cleaning supplies and services that allow for a more humane approach to improving public health. CARE+ does not regard the basic dignity of vulnerable City residents. Unhoused residents have cited coercive behavior from CARE+ staff, many who experienced significant trauma in their lives. These include disabled individuals who are expected to take down their tents and move their belongings at the risk of losing their possessions. CARE+ is costly. Services Not Sweeps noted that joint departmental programs conducting encampment sweeps/cleanups received at least \$30 million in 2019. The upcoming budget has yet to allocate funds towards these actions. It is not sustainable in a year when housing programs were cut by 9.4% and homelessness programs by 6%. The City must consider more efficient and dignified approaches, such as providing supplies for cleanup and regular trash pick-up. ● CARE+ is not a solution to improving public health and increases COVID-19 risks. ⇒ A 2019 study from the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development shows that sweeps often displace residents which disallows for consistent case management services and increases public health risks. It violates CDC's COVID-19 guidelines, which allow these individuals to shelter in place. The City must put greater attention towards adequately sheltering unhoused residents. ⇒ As reported in the 2020 Homeless Street Count, the City should also put up 10 showers for every 110 persons, and should include restrooms at the same rate. If a city is defined by how they treat their most vulnerable residents, then our City must move towards solutions that demonstrate true care to every member in its community.