

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(15) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(1)

Date of NC Board Action: 11/09/2020

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 01/24/2021

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 20-0769-S1

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: The Wilshire Center Koreatown Neighborhood Council (WCKNC) writes to express our support for Council File 20-0769-S1, a motion instructing the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD), with the assistance of the CAO, to present a plan to expand the Advanced Provider Response Units (APRU); and to instruct the LAFD, with the assistance of the CAO, County Department of Mental Health, and Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), to report on the resources needed to integrate mental health and social work professionals into the LAFD's APRU's to respond to non-violent and non-criminal calls.

Wilshire Center Koreatown Neighborhood Council
PNB 400, 4001 Wilshire Blvd, #F
Los Angeles California 90010

November 5, 2020

Dear Members of the City Council:

The Wilshire Center Koreatown Neighborhood Council (WCKNC) writes to express our support for Council File 20-0769-S1, a motion instructing the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD), with the assistance of the CAO, to present a plan to expand the Advanced Provider Response Units (APRU); and to instruct the LAFD, with the assistance of the CAO, County Department of Mental Health, and Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), to report on the resources needed to integrate mental health and social work professionals into the LAFD's APRU's to respond to non-violent and non-criminal calls.

APRU's consist of responders that have specialized training to provide advanced on-scene medical care to patients who may not require immediate transportation to the emergency room. The goal was to make more efficient use of ambulance and emergency medical treatment resources, and a pilot study shows that the program led to significant decreases in the use of emergency medical services.¹ APRU's can redirect mental health patients to more appropriate facilities and address the needs of vulnerable Angelenos who might be better assisted by non-emergency care and services, instead of armed responses by law enforcement engaging in unnecessary use of excessive force and violence, over-incarceration of community members in need of access to health care and services, and draining valuable public resources.

We are in full support of the proposed motion and believe this will facilitate greater integration of mental health and other social services professionals to allow APRU's to respond appropriately to a greater number of non-violent mental health related 911 calls. By responding to the needs of our communities with non-law enforcement solutions oriented around harm reduction, this new system has the potential to transform the health and safety of our city, minimize the need for police response, increase public safety, save valuable community resources, and more appropriately meet the needs of the most vulnerable members of our community.

¹ Sanko S, Kashani S, Ito T, et al. Advanced practice providers in the field: Implementation of the Los Angeles Fire Department advanced provider response unit. *Prehosp Emerg Care* 2019;1-14. doi: 10.1080/10903127.2019.1666199. [Epub ahead of print].

These services are needed now more than ever, not just to serve our unhoused neighbors but to serve those who are economically impacted by COVID-19 and are at increased risk of becoming homeless. We urge you to develop and implement the unarmed crisis response model proposed.

Sincerely,

Wilshire Center Koreatown Neighborhood Council