

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

Neighborhood Council: Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(12) Nay(0) Abstain(2) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 11/10/2020

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 11/23/2020

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 20-1318

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: The Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council fully supports this motion by Council President Nury Martinez, seconded by Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell.

**EAGLE ROCK
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

Executive Committee

Jesse Saucedo, President
Richard Loew, Vice President
Sylvia Denlinger, Treasurer
Andrew Jacobs, Communications
Lisa Karahalios, Secretary

**CITY OF
LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA**



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November 10, 2020

Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**RE: COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT RE: CF-20-1318, PROJECT ROOM KEY
LOCATIONS/ EXTENSIONS STRATEGY/FUNDING RESOURCES**

On November 10, 2020, a Brown Act noticed public meeting was held with a quorum of 14 board members present and that by a vote of 12 yes, 0 no, and 2 abstentions, the Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council (ERNC) adopted the following Community Impact Statement concerning [Council File 20-1318](#).

The Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council fully supports [this motion](#) by Council President Nury Martinez, seconded by Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell.

“Project Room Key was an unprecedented undertaking in an unprecedented situation” -- Phil Ansell, head of LA County’s Homeless Initiative.

Given the extraordinary cost, effort and organizing necessary to develop and launch this State program at the Los Angeles County level, given that [COVID-19 is expected to remain a threat through winter and much of 2021](#), and given that [COVID-19 has affected non-white people and other marginalized communities disproportionately](#), it is disappointing that Project Room Key is slated to start demobilizing hotel and motel rooms used to house vulnerable individuals by December 31, 2020. The City of Los Angeles needs to continue to support our most vulnerable homeless populations during the COVID pandemic. [It is appalling that approximately half of hotel and motel rooms in LA County previously rented for the Project Room Key program remain vacant during this crisis while thousands of unhoused individuals and families are living unsheltered on city streets](#).

Los Angeles City strategies for providing temporary housing must include relocation to vacant hotels and motels while unhoused individuals wait for additional Permanent Supportive Housing developments through Measure HHH to be built and brought into full occupancy. Hotels and

motels with an occupancy of 100 or less should also be considered as temporary housing for homeless individuals while they await permanent housing. As Phil Ansell, head of Los Angeles County's Homeless Initiative, rightfully points out, "Project Room Key was an unprecedented undertaking in an unprecedented situation" -- and we are undoubtedly in an unprecedented situation with a need for bold solutions like Project Room Key.

Locally, two formerly unhoused Eagle Rock women were relocated to Project Room Key during the month of August, 2020. After spending years living in tents on the street, both women were infirm and elderly. Suffering from medical conditions that left one woman legally blind and the other in a wheelchair, they were in great need of a secure living space, clean beds, food and attention to their medical needs. Both women are thriving in Project Room Key, building connections and working to better their lives. They need to be reassured that their residence in Project Room Key can be extended until more permanent housing can be obtained for them. It would be unbelievably tragic to release these two elderly women back onto the streets in the winter months.

Eagle Rock's unhoused population was 117 in January. Our outreach team visits homeless encampments around Eagle Rock every weekend. They estimate that the number of unhoused neighbors has increased due to COVID-19, with several of them meeting the criteria for participation in Project Room Key.

It is URGENT that the City use whatever means necessary to secure additional FEMA and other funding for this purpose and to extend Project Room Key locations. We ask that the City Council take swift action on this motion. Furthermore, we ask LAHSA and City Council to provide a plan and timeline through June 2021 for housing and case management for Eagle Rock's unhoused residents that meet the criteria for participation in Project Room Key.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jesse Saucedo

Jesse Saucedo, President
Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council (ERNC)

CC:

Phil Ansell, Director, Los Angeles County Homeless Initiative
Heidi Marsten, Executive Director, Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority
Hon. Kevin De Leon, Councilmember, District 14