

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: NoHo Neighborhood Council

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(10) Nay(4) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 08/10/2022

Type of NC Board Action: Against

Impact Information

Date: 09/09/2022

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 20-1376-S3

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: On August 10th, 2022 at a Brown Act compliant meeting, the NoHo Neighborhood Council voted 10-4-0 to OPPOSE Council File 20-1376-S3 which would prohibit sitting, lying, sleeping, or storing personal property within 500 feet of a library. Please see the attached statement for more details.

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PASSED 10-4-0 on 8/10/2022

Council File: [CF 20-1376-S3](#)

Title: Unlawful Sitting, Lying, Sleeping / Unlawful Personal Property Storage, Use, Maintenance / Personal Property / Library / Los Angeles Municipal Code / Amendment

Position: OPPOSE

Summary:

On August 10th, 2022 at a Brown Act compliant meeting, the NoHo Neighborhood Council voted 10-4-0 to OPPOSE Council File 20-1376-S3 which would prohibit sitting, lying, sleeping, or storing personal property within 500 feet of a library.

Public libraries serve as a gathering place for communities, a resource for information and access to services, and a sanctuary for the public to rest and access facilities such as water fountains and restrooms. The prohibition of basic human functions such as sitting or lying down in or near public libraries betrays their very purpose. Furthermore, the blanket prohibition of these acts and the lack of specificity of this ordinance leave any member of the public subject to enforcement simply for existing near a library. This places the execution of this ordinance completely at the discretion of law enforcement, which has been statistically and historically proven to be biased in their enforcement against people of color, people with disabilities, people experiencing homelessness, and other disenfranchised groups.

It is no secret that the intention of the expansion of this ordinance is to displace people experiencing homelessness, which will make it harder for service providers and caseworkers to make contact with them to facilitate their transition out of homelessness. Public libraries also serve as entry points to other information and services that people need to access in order to begin their journey out of homelessness. As such, the enforcement of this ordinance will actually make the homelessness crisis worse by disconnecting people from desperately needed information and services. The city should be putting any and all resources dedicated to addressing homelessness into housing, services, and other solutions that will actually bring people off the street and into permanent housing.

We urge City Council to vote no on the expansion of this ordinance, which has been opposed by persons and organizations working most closely to this issue, because of its negative impact on the people who are most victimized by the ongoing housing crisis in the city.