

Communication from Public

Name: Chase Nelson

Date Submitted: 11/13/2020 04:01 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am a resident of West Hills, CD12. I am asking you all to please oppose 20-1376. Despite what councilmembers might say, there are not enough beds to offer the unhoused at this time. Councilmember Blumenfield says beds are coming, but you cannot pass this law criminalizing homelessness while beds are still not available. Additionally, the minor amount of beds that are available are not always safe for the unhoused, particularly women, queer people, and people of color. You cannot force someone to take a bed in an unsafe location, and then remove their safe sleeping space when they refuse. Los Angeles is going through a cold snap right now, and in the summer the temperatures rise to ungodly heights, as experienced this past summer. During the past heatwave, when it reached 120 degrees in the west San Fernando Valley, there is evidence that unhoused folks died because they did not have safe shelter. As of now, freeway overpasses are some of the only places the unhoused can get shelter from the elements. Criminalizing sleeping under them will make health risks worse, and that will be on all of your hands if you pass this motion. Lastly, this motion is not cost-effective. The City of L.A. faces a \$400 - \$600 billion deficit, and this motion uses much-needed resources on policing and jails to punish the unhoused - neither of which solve homelessness. Rather than sitting safely in the city council and criminalizing homelessness, do work with community organizations and actually hear the needs of the unhoused. Please vote NOT on 20-1376.

Communication from Public

Name: Joy Fox

Date Submitted: 11/13/2020 04:38 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Oppose homeless criminalization motion CF 20-1376. The idea of criminalizing homeless instead of offering support and services is cruel, inhumane and not the kind of America I want to be associated with. Opposition to this motion shows that we still have some semblance of compassion.

Communication from Public

Name: Mr Dos

Date Submitted: 11/13/2020 08:50 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: We are in support of criminalizing unhoused individuals. Anyone that chooses to live on the street, to sleep on hard benches, in the dirt, on hot or cold concrete, in 100° or 45° temperatures, is not capable of taking care of themselves. Those that are unhoused because they lost their job/housing would gladly accept a shelter. The individuals that remain unhoused & refuse assistance are in need of addiction or psychiatric intervention. How can we allow them to continue to harm themselves and others by remaining on the streets, thus creating health and safety issues in our neighborhoods. I have gone out of my way to help homeless people in the past, trying to leave food for a man living in a drainage pipe, with my children in the car, he aggressively screamed at us in a threatening manner. A woman asking for water in our cul-de-sac, the police were called and were very helpful but she refused shelter. I was able to locate her family on social media & after searching for her the next day, was successful in reuniting her with her family. They took her to a shelter, then to rehab to treat her addiction. She had been a legal secretary that became addicted to drugs, lost her job and then lost her housing. She left rehab after a week, now living back on the streets where “no one can tell her what to do and she can live as she pleases”. They are all aware that they can steal under \$900 worth of merchandise and will not be arrested so this is how many are able to secure food and anything else they need. They’re in our neighborhoods stealing our bicycles and anything else they wish to help themselves to. Many are addicts and we are doing nothing to help them, and they have nothing to lose as we are not enforcing any legal ramifications. Some are from out of state, brought out by rehab centers with all expense paid trips to California that end up on our streets. We have to be honest and transparent when we are speaking of unhoused people in our communities, please do not blame it on a lack of affordable housing, that is just an excuse and we are not treating the real problem. We used to utilize the 5150 for those that are a harm to themselves or others. Ignoring their living conditions is inhumane, and not protecting our citizens and our once beautiful neighborhoods where we no longer feel safe on a walk, or allowing our children to wait at a bus stop or even walk to school in some areas. Please make protecting our communities a priority

and protect us from safety & health risks, it's unthinkable that we have to clean feces from the sidewalks & streets where our children play. What we have been doing is not working, please get these people the help they need and do not continue to cloak it under a housing issue, it's time to do the right thing to protect our communities and those incapable of taking care of themselves by criminalizing homelessness. These people have zero consequences right now and it appears most feel they have more rights than we do. They urinate wherever they want, sometimes right in front of us and our families, buying drugs or using drugs right in front of us, often with a smile on their face because they feel untouchable. At this point criminalizing the unhoused is the only way we can truly help them and protect our communities.

Communication from Public

Name: Marilyn
Date Submitted: 11/13/2020 01:56 PM
Council File No: 20-1376
Comments for Public Posting: We fully support the motion. Please help us regain control of this madness. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: MaryGrace Justiniani

Date Submitted: 11/13/2020 01:57 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I SUPPORT this motion. We need to start moving in a direction to also keep the community safe. We need the freeway underpasses to be kept clear especially the ones located near schools where children will be accessing if bus stops are near by. People need access to the sidewalks and having to walk in the street to avoid encampments is dangerous and disrespectful to the disabled that need a CLEAR pathway.

Communication from Public

Name: Lynn

Date Submitted: 11/13/2020 02:16 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I agree with ensuring that the “sweeps” should still happen. I have a toddler that likes to walk to the corner store to get an ice-cream, or a chocolate milk & 3/4’s of the time we have to step over people sleeping on the sidewalks. I’ve had people curse at me while I’m with my toddler, and you never know if they’re armed with a weapon so I have to carry a switchblade + mace hidden in the stroller! The SFV has gotten so bad over the years! Think about this, is this what you really want for our once beautiful cities... let every law abiding citizen move out of California and then defund the police and make it legal to steal, no more jail, no more felonies, just imagine the state in a couple years. This is frightening that people like you represent our city & are letting it go to complete waste! Maybe we should ask Trump to do an investigation to find out how much you’re being paid for turning the state into one huge homeless shelter that you obviously don’t think mental institutions or rehabs should be enforced and not “optional.”

Communication from Public

Name: Elizabeth Feldman

Date Submitted: 11/13/2020 02:27 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: The streets need to be cleaned up. Today I had to walk on the street past a homeless person that had the side walk full of their stuff. This is the west valley. I have lived here since 1975 and I am horrified as to what the valley has become. Shame on the politicians that let this happen.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/13/2020 02:30 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I support this motion.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/13/2020 02:32 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I support this motion.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/13/2020 09:33 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I support allowing buffer zones to prohibit camping or storage of belongings within 500 ft from new homeless service centers like Bridge Housing, cabin communities, and freeway underpasses. I also support all restrictions that allow unhoused persons on our streets, sidewalks, alleys or property. Stop the permissive attitudes that are turning our cities into a 3rd world country.

Communication from Public

Name: Janis Robertson
Date Submitted: 11/13/2020 09:56 AM
Council File No: 20-1376
Comments for Public Posting: Hello - I am writing in opposition of the 41.18. As we continue to deal with the global pandemic, please let Los Angeles go down on the right side of history. Let us be known as a city of compassion and respect. Until there are enough services and support in place, it is cruel to remove people from the little shelter the streets/sidewalks of LA offer. Thank you for your continued hard work.

Communication from Public

Name: Luke Field

Date Submitted: 11/13/2020 08:31 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I'm vehemently opposed to this criminalization ordinance. It does nothing to further help our unhoused neighbors and only serves the more wealthy who view them as an eyesore. They are human beings who deserve respect, not something that should just be swept aside. This ordinance is cruel and dehumanizing, and I believe the city council should be focusing on more productive measures and services that will raise them up instead of beating them down. It's a disgrace that this ordinance has even been presented and is being voted on. Do the right thing - show some compassion and throw this ordinance out.

Communication from Public

Name: Concerned Stakeholder Third District

Date Submitted: 11/13/2020 01:53 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: On paper, saying that people who are need of housing should be able to sleep and set up camp anywhere they choose seems to be supportive of some deep notion of human decency. However, when you see how it actually manifests itself on a day-to-day basis, it is clear that such ideology is as misplaced as it is well-intentioned. Nobody chooses to sleep on the streets, being exposed to unknown dangers and the elements, unless the alternative requires them to comply with conditions that run contrary to their lifestyle. By and large, the lifestyle of a majority of our homeless population is one of addiction; overwhelming and inescapable addiction. To have a chance at living their best lives, our homeless neighbors need mental health and addiction/recovery specialists to get them back on the right path. Enabling their addiction by providing them with an option to evade and avoid city-funded treatment opportunities is not humane by any metric. Additionally, keeping them homeless and on the streets by giving them an option to keep fueling their addictive behavior does not serve either the addict, their family, or the community. The only viable solution that keeps humanity as the primary consideration is to create an environment where treatment becomes the only long-term option. That is what the proposed amendments to L.A. Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11 seem to accomplish. I use the term “seem” because the outcome is difficult to predict until such plan is enacted and results are observed. Nevertheless, as our homeless populations have been ever-increasing, there must be effective plans that are put into action. Just standing idly by and hoping the problem goes away is not the answer. Treatment and housing with sober living requirements are the only ways to truly help those who have lost themselves on the streets. Anything less is just a superficial demonstration of charity and placating the disease if addiction.

Communication from Public

Name: Judith Giglio

Date Submitted: 11/13/2020 07:05 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: As a Taxpayer/homeowner , I agree with all efforts to take and keep people off our streets and sdewalks and property. Respectfully, Judge carter and those who advocate that it is okay or unconstitutional for them to live on the streets, have thier heads up their asses. Those who advocate for them should offer them a place to live in their homes, AND LET THEM CAMP ON THEIR PROPERTY. It's never okay for them to live on the streets and sidewalks and trash up our cities and neighborhoods. All that follows them is filth. Graffiti vandalism on our alley walls, piles of trash they leave everywhere they go, empty beer bottles in beer cases strewn all over. NO way should this be allowed. IF you want to do something offer them counseling, schooling and an incentive for housing if they do those things. Teach them to help themselves and stop depending on the state taxpayers to take care of them. Most people know the joy of self sufficiency. Most of them are ones who were kicked out of thier parents homes because they did not want to listen to and follow rules set forth. They decided to live on our streets and rob the neighborhoods to support their self inflicted bad choice to fry their brains. WELL, the rest of us do not want nor should have to live or suffer with the results of THEIR bad choices. GET THEM OFF OUR STREETS AND ALLEYS, AND SIDEWALKS AND OUT OF OUR NEIGHBORHOODS TO VANDALIZE, ROB FROM, AND TRASH THEM UP. I'm one fed up person who gose out and cleans up my community from the filth they constantly leave behind.

Communication from Public

Name: Sierra Marcelius
Date Submitted: 11/13/2020 11:48 AM
Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmembers, On October 21 2020, LA City Councilmembers Blumenfield, Buscaino, Rodriguez, Krekorian, Price, Cedillo, and Lee presented a motion (Council File 20-1376) to drastically expand the criminalization and banishment of unhoused Angelenos across the city by amendmending LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11. This motion does not provide any new housing resources, wrap-around services for those experiencing homelessness, or any solutions to decrease the unhoused population in LA. Instead of focusing on actual, proven solutions to a crisis that continues to grow during this pandemic, City Council members have decided to once again spend time and city resources on another attempt to expand harmful criminalization policies which have only proven to fail and exacerbate homelessness. I demand that City Council and the Mayor's office instead invest their time and legislative power into programs that actually help us move forward in providing a healthy and safe living environments for our unhoused communities while they are on the streets, and take concrete action steps in providing transitional/permanent housing opportunities that meet a higher standard of living than current shelter and ABH facilities offer, and furthermore to oppose the motion to instruct the city attorney to draft amendments to LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11. As a constituent to this Council, homelessness, COVID19, and police brutality are the three issues I care most about. Further criminalization worsens our homelessness crisis by taking what resources and property homeless community members currently have, exacerbates the COVID19 health crisis by increasing the jail population and increasing the amount of face-to-face time police officers have with community members (either of whom might be infected), and increases the risk of police brutality by having officers interact with people who are mentally ill, something they have shown time and again to be harmful to those individuals. How my council member Mike Bonin addresses this motion will influence how I vote in his next election. Signed, Sierra Marcelius