

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](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org).

This is an automated response, please do not reply to this email.

#### Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Los Feliz Neighborhood Council, Los Feliz Neighborhood Council

Name: Jon Deutsch

Phone Number: 213) 973-9758

Email: [jon.deutsch@losfeliznc.org](mailto:jon.deutsch@losfeliznc.org)

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(17) Nay(1) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 07/20/2021

Type of NC Board Action: For

#### Impact Information

Date: 07/26/2021

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 21-0355

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: The Los Feliz Neighborhood Council supports this motion and seeks that the City and the City Council rigorously investigate and substantively overhaul the way that the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) treats journalists and all others at demonstrations, to protect threatened First Amendment rights of free assembly, speech, and press. LAPD and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department both have in the past ten to twenty years multiple documented instances of targeting members of the press. For one, the 2007 May Day protests resulted in \$13 million in LAPD settlements for excessive force and a \$1.7 million jury verdict for assaulting a journalist. In the past year, journalists like Josie Huang, Lexis-Olivier Ray, James Queally, Kate Cagle, Jonathan Peltz, and Kate Gallagher have been shoved, hurt, and detained by law enforcement merely for doing their vital jobs. The latest incidence of this, the deployment of LAPD at Echo Park Lake in March, police employed targeted tactics against peaceful protestors, on-the-job reporters, and clearly identified National Lawyers Guild legal observers. We condemn the LAPD's actions and urge that structural changes be made so that incidents like this do not happen again. We hope the City Council will follow this motion with the types of needed, deep changes to public safety in Los Angeles that are necessary to accomplish the above. We also note that, while journalists deserve to have their rights to report respected, so too do all protestors exercising their rights to free assembly and expression. No protestor should face the type of treatment employed at Echo Park Lake, over last summer (as identified in the recent independent report to City Council), and over the past decades.