

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.

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Contact Information

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

Date of NC Board Action: 09/21/2021

Type of NC Board Action: Against

Impact Information

Date: 09/22/2021

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 21-0841

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: The Los Feliz Neighborhood Council (LFNC) opposes this ordinance. LFNC firmly upholds the first amendment rights to freedom of speech and assembly. This Council File is an overly broad and unconstitutional act that limits those freedoms. The motion is too far-reaching and may place innocent and peaceful citizens in violation of the law. As Councilmember Mike Bonin stated in his opposition to this motion, the amendment to ordinance 55.07 as written may be violated by someone simply possessing an iPhone at a public demonstration. It is possible even a safety light for a bicycle would be in violation of this ordinance. By putting the onus on possession, this ordinance unfairly limits individuals' freedoms while assembling. LFNC is also concerned with the selective enforcement this will lead to. Councilmember Busciano said as much in his support for this motion. He stated the amendment would be "aimed at the anarchists who come to our city and wreak havoc - cause hell." It is clear this ordinance will be utilized by law enforcement to selectively target individuals and give LAPD another pretext to deny protestors their constitutional rights. We have seen LAMC 55.07 be utilized outside its legal bounds by LAPD in the past. Last summer during one protest, LAPD declared cardboard and foam shields held by protestors as weapons in violation of 55.07 despite the ordinance only banning shields made of "metal, wood, hard plastic, or any combination." They used this as a pretext for use of force against protestors and to make arrests. In contrast; at a Proud Boys rally this past month, right-wing extremists brandished blades (expressly banned by 55.07) which they used to stab at least two people. 55.07 was not enforced and no arrests were made. It is clear that this motion will only heighten the uneven enforcement of 55.07 we have seen demonstrated by LAPD.