

Communication from Public

Name: Westside Regional Alliance of Councils
Date Submitted: 01/18/2022 05:04 PM
Council File No: 21-0929
Comments for Public Posting: The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils supports the resolution in Council File 21-0929 and further requests that the definition of “radius” be clarified to specify a radius of 500 feet from the exterior boundary lines of the schools listed in Attachment A to the Council File. See attached position letter for more details. Thank you. Christina Spitz WRAC Vice-Chair



Westside
Regional
Alliance of
Councils

westsidecouncils.com

Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council
Brentwood Community Council
Del Rey Neighborhood Council
Mar Vista Community Council
Neighborhood Council of Westchester-Playa
Pacific Palisades Community Council
North Westwood Neighborhood Council

Palms Neighborhood Council
South Robertson Neighborhoods Council
Venice Neighborhood Council
West LA-Sawtelle Neighborhood Council
Westside Neighborhood Council
Westwood Community Council
Westwood Neighborhood Council

January 16th, 2022

Hon. Eric Garcetti, Mayor
Hon. Paul Koretz, Councilmember, District 5
Hon. Mike Bonin, Councilmember, District 11
Hon. Nithya Raman, Councilmember, CD 4
Hon. Karly Katona, appointed Caretaker, CD 10

Re: Recent WRAC Positions Regarding Unhoused and Related Motions

Dear Mayor Garcetti, Councilmembers Bonin, Koretz and Raman and CD 10 Caretaker Katona:

The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) is an alliance of fourteen Neighborhood and Community Councils on the Westside of Angeles, located in CDs 5 and 11 and portions of CDs 4 and 10. Our Alliance has over the past year taken up a number of motions from our Homelessness Committee that were heard and passed by a majority of our member Councils. The position below is one of these motions. What is clear is that patience is running thin among our member Councils and stakeholders. While many of our Councils support proactive and logical solutions that have been long championed, the obvious crisis on our streets points to the need to balance compassion with the basic rule of law that should apply equally to all our stakeholders, housed and unhoused. The motions set forth below, calling for cooperation in designating sites under LAMC sec. 41.81, focusing on keeping areas around our schools clear of encampments, and a third supporting enforcement of 'chop shops' are common sense actions that can help keep our neighborhoods clean and safe and will allow neighbors to support more earnestly the long term solutions we all agree are needed.

Firstly, the following position has been adopted by more than a majority of WRAC member Councils and is therefore an official position of WRAC:

The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) urges Councilmembers Bonin, Koretz, Raman and Ridley-Thomas (Councilmembers representing WRAC Member-Councils) to consult as soon as possible with their respective WRAC Member-Councils for input as to the designation of sites within their districts for enforcement pursuant to LAMC Sec. 41.18(c)(1)-(4) and 41.18(d), including: 1) schools, day care centers, public parks and public libraries, as defined in LAMC Sec. 105.01 ("sensitive uses") (41.18(c)(1)); 2) overpasses, underpasses, freeway ramps, tunnels, bridges, pedestrian bridges, subways, washes, spreading grounds and active railways, when public health, safety or welfare is served by the prohibition (41.18(c)(2)); 3) designated facilities opened after January 1, 2018 that provide shelter, safe



Westside
Regional
Alliance of
Councils

westsidecouncils.com

Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council
Brentwood Community Council
Del Rey Neighborhood Council
Mar Vista Community Council
Neighborhood Council of Westchester-Playa
Pacific Palisades Community Council
North Westwood Neighborhood Council

Palms Neighborhood Council
South Robertson Neighborhoods Council
Venice Neighborhood Council
West LA-Sawtelle Neighborhood Council
Westside Neighborhood Council
Westwood Community Council
Westwood Neighborhood Council

sleeping or safe parking to homeless persons or that serve as homeless services navigation centers (41.18(c)(3)); 4) any locations in public rights-of-way for which there is documentation of a “particular and ongoing threat to public health or safety” (41.18(c)(4)). No enforcement action shall be taken unless the individuals have been offered shelter and have refused the offer.

WRAC further requests that 1) Councilmembers bring resolutions in Council pursuant to LAMC Sec. 41.18(c)(1)-(4) and 41.18(d) as soon as any sites meeting the requirements of such sub-sections are identified to them by their respective WRAC Member-Councils; and 2) the distance of the radius prohibition set forth in such resolutions shall be as requested by the relevant WRAC Member-Councils, consistent with the distance set forth in such sub-sections.

Please note the following statement included in the WRAC motion: *“No enforcement action shall be taken unless the individuals have been offered shelter and have refused the offer.”*

The language of the above position has been adopted by the following WRAC member Councils: Mar Vista Community Council, Pacific Palisades Community Council, South Robertson Neighborhoods Council, Venice Neighborhood Council, West LA-Sawtelle Neighborhood Council, Westside Neighborhood Council and Westwood Neighborhood Council. Brentwood Community Council and Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa passed modified versions that maintain the spirit of the motion. No member Councils have opposed this measure or submitted a minority letter to accompany this position.

Second, Member Councils have adopted the following position that more narrowly focuses on schools specifically:

Westside Regional Alliance of Councils supports the proposed resolution for the City Council to prohibit sitting, lying, sleeping, or storing, using, maintaining, or placing personal property, in or upon any street, sidewalk, or other public rights-of-way within a radius of 500 feet from all schools listed in Attachment A to the Council File, and further, upon adoption of the resolution, for the City Council to direct the Department of Transportation to post signs giving notice of the restrictions in the radius specified.

The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils also requests that the definition of “radius” be clarified to specify a radius of 500 feet from the exterior boundary lines of the schools listed in Attachment A to the Council File.

The language of the above position has been adopted by the following WRAC member Councils: Mar Vista Community Council, Pacific Palisades Community Council, South Robertson



Westside
Regional
Alliance of
Councils

westsidecouncils.com

Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council
Brentwood Community Council
Del Rey Neighborhood Council
Mar Vista Community Council
Neighborhood Council of Westchester-Playa
Pacific Palisades Community Council
North Westwood Neighborhood Council

Palms Neighborhood Council
South Robertson Neighborhoods Council
Venice Neighborhood Council
West LA-Sawtelle Neighborhood Council
Westside Neighborhood Council
Westwood Community Council
Westwood Neighborhood Council

Neighborhoods Council, Venice Neighborhood Council, West LA-Sawtelle Neighborhood Council, Westside Neighborhood Council, Westwood Neighborhood Council, Brentwood Community Council and Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa. No member Councils have opposed this measure or submitted a minority letter to accompany this position.

Lastly, the following motion has also been adopted and also reflects the conditions seen on our streets on a regular basis and the need to measure what is considered allowable:

The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils supports Council File 21-1115 (Buscaino), asking that an ordinance be drafted to ban bicycle "chop shops" from public property and the public-right-of-way in Los Angeles.

The following councils adopted the support for Council File 21-1115: Brentwood Community Council, Del Rey Neighborhood Council, Mar Vista Community Council, Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa, Pacific Palisades Community Council, South Robertson Neighborhood Council, Venice Neighborhood Council, Westside Neighborhood Council, Westwood Neighborhood Council. To date, No member Councils have opposed this measure or submitted a minority letter to accompany this position.

Please contact me with any questions regarding the above motion.

Sincerely,

Matt Wersinger
Chair
Westside Regional Alliance of Councils
C 310.721.2980

cc (via email):
Sachin Medhekar, Homelessness Deputy, CD 11
Angel Izard, Homelessness Deputy, CD 5
Stephanie Caridad, Homelessness Deputy, CD 4
Dhakshike Wickrama, Homelessness Deputy, CD 10