

Communication from Public

Name: Lindsay Kerns

Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 09:58 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I respectfully request that you oppose the draft ordinance amending section 41.18 of the LA Municipal Code as designated in Council File 20-1376. During this unprecedented time of hardship, amidst a global pandemic, when people are struggling to survive and pay rent, why would we further criminalize and punish homelessness? Our homeless neighbors need AID, not punishment. Please, I ask you to turn your focus to more empathetic solutions. How can we fix the root causes of homelessness? How can we provide adequate mental health services, shelters, and affordable housing options to help get people off the streets? How can we as a city better support the non-profits and organizations that already serve the homeless? A vindictive, punishing approach is cruel and heartless -- particularly in the context of the covid-19 pandemic. Let's do better. Let's help, not punish. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Carey Bennett

Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 10:13 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: As a resident of CD4 I strongly oppose the new ordinance that would allow strict enforcement of Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11. We must end the criminalization of people experiencing homelessness and enforcing those two codes would be a step backwards. The houseless members of our community need help like permanent supportive housing - which would cost less than policing and criminalizing them!

Communication from Public

Name: Scott Davis

Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 09:14 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, I am writing to oppose the proposed amendment to LAMC 41.18. 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 these actual, proven solutions, City Council members are attempting to expand harmful criminalization policies which have only proven to fail and exacerbate homelessness. In his statement to LA Times regarding this motion, Councilmember Bob Blumenfield revealed the true motivation behind it: to “create visible progress” for some housed constituents by forcibly displacing encampments from one location to another, and establish ‘enforcement zones’ to prevent unhoused Angelenos from returning to these locations. It is especially cruel to present this motion during an ongoing pandemic, when mass evictions are expected as the Winter season approaches. Where will people shelter from the rain when there aren’t enough housing resources available and the city bans people from resting beneath underpasses? With the death toll for unhoused Angelenos already over 1,000 in 2020, this motion would contribute to another record increase in deaths and an increase in harmful police encounters with the unhoused community. In both cases, unhoused Black Angelenos are disproportionately impacted. This is a horrendous, cruel motion. Please oppose it, as it will threaten the health and safety of our unhoused neighbors and their surrounding communities. 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. Thank you, Scott Davis

Communication from Public

Name: Kuniko Vroman
Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 11:39 AM
Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Unfortunately, the mindset of this proposed ordinance perpetuates the myth that our unhoused neighbors do not want assistance and prefer life on the streets. There are many reasons why someone living on the street may not feel comfortable immediately accepting an offer of shelter. For instance, the offered shelter could require them to dispose of their belongings or separate themselves from their family or support animals. This ordinance criminalizes and displaces people for not immediately accepting the help offered. It fails to acknowledge the difficult and patient work required to build trust with some of our unhoused neighbors who are understandably reluctant to accept help from a city that has historically mistreated them. It is critical to establish this trust before offering a bed. Bridge housing and safe parking have helped a number of our neighbors over the past 2 years. However, these temporary fixes do not accommodate the majority of those experiencing homelessness. There are simply not enough beds to shelter the vast majority of unhoused residents. We know it is difficult to get into one of these facilities, which is why we objected to the resumption of sweeps around the SECZs. This ordinance puts the cart before the horse: forcing folks theoretically into housing that simply does not exist. With more evictions sure to come, this motion's timing is terrible. During a pandemic no less. The proposed ordinance will only make it harder for our unhoused community rather than address homelessness's underlying causes: high rents, stagnant wages, & a lack of physical + mental health resources. Punishing those for living by the only means they have available does not make homelessness go away—it makes us complicit in the systemic racism and violence that has already caused so much suffering. This motion is not the answer. We need housing, services, and compassion—not expanded criminalization.

Communication from Public

Name: Amelie Cherlin

Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 11:42 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I oppose this motion, which does nothing but criminalize unhoused people while not providing them with any new housing or services. Stop wasting time and money criminalizing our neighbors.

Communication from Public

Name: Emma

Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 11:46 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: This motion is completely unacceptable. 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. 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. 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. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 10:21 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Help the homeless. House the homeless. Don't criminalize the homeless!

Communication from Public

Name: Mason Flink

Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 10:35 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I would like to request that you oppose the draft ordinance amending section 41.18 of the LA Municipal Code as designated in Council File 20-1376. During this global health crisis, and given the severe lack of affordable housing in Los Angeles, I struggle to see the benefit in criminalizing our unhoused neighbors for simply trying to stay alive in the midst of this unprecedented time. I implore you to consider more empathetic approaches to solving our dystopic housing nightmare, such as Councilmember Bonin's substitute motion. We must do whatever we can to help our fellow Angelenos who have found themselves without a roof over their head – punishing their inability to pay our city's unaffordable rents is not the way.

Communication from Public

Name: Andrew

Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 10:42 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to OPPOSE the draft ordinance amending section 41.18 of the LA Municipal Code as designated in Council File 20-1376 set to criminalize the lying, sitting, and sleeping on Los Angeles public property. This is a cruel, inhumane, and completely misguided effort to turn citizens into criminals. We all live in this city and - housed or not - we all deserve respect and dignity. This ordinance would criminalize our neighbors and fellow citizens merely because they don't have a place to go. We need to turn our attention towards HELP and AID rather than punishment. This would be a cruel ordinance in traditional times... but to see it proposed amidst a global pandemic where more and more people are struggling more than ever before -- and merely being indoors, for many people, increases risks of infection -- is downright inhumane. It's embarrassing that in this time of crisis, the council has decided to spend its time, energy, and efforts criminalizing the most vulnerable among us. We need to do better. Lets help, not punish. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Brentwood Community Council

Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 10:42 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: 20-1376 does not criminalize homelessness, it requests that people move a few feet in a different direction on the sidewalk OR accept shelter OR, if they do neither, they are placed in a diversion program where they must accept shelter. San Francisco implemented a similar measure for individuals who had been subject to multiple "mental health holds" or 5150's and we see 20-1376 as no different than what peer cities are doing to close the loop between increased taxes to care for the homeless (we did this with Prop H), increased funding for homeless housing (we did this with Prop HHH) and requiring some people to accept services. The Brentwood Community Council SUPPORTS Council Motion 20-1376 because we have the stats to support our position: only 9% of homeless person's living in sidewalk encampments streets accepted shelter or housing in our area since 2017. Our position letter does not address the issue of master leasing, however, Prop H generates enough revenue for this Motion to go hand in hand with the master leasing of available housing inventory to address the housing issue and we continually hear some Councilmembers discuss master leasing but don't see it actually happening. Brentwood voted overwhelmingly in favor of Prop H and those tax dollars have been successful in helping "low barrier" homelessness, such as people facing eviction, job loss or families with children. However, Prop H has been abysmal in addressing street level homelessness. With 20+ beds available in the Venice shelter, there are encampments within feet of the structure; with more than 60 beds available at the West LA VA, there are Vets choosing to remain outside. We must start somewhere to encourage people who are living on the street to accept shelter, rehab, mental health services and other programs to help them transition to permanent housing and employment. Sincerely, The Brentwood Community Council



BRENTWOOD Community Council

149 S. Barrington Ave., Box 194, Los Angeles, CA 90049

www.brentwoodcommunitycouncil.org

November 15, 2020

Via Email

Eric Villanueva

Eric Villanueva@LACity.org

RE: Council File 20-1376 – Amendments to LAMC Sections 41.18 and 56.11

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Brentwood Community Council (“BCC”) is the broadest-based Brentwood community organization, representing approximately 36,000 stakeholders of the community, including homeowner associations, multi-family residential dwellers, business organizations, schools, religious groups, volunteer service groups, public safety, and environmental organizations.

The BCC strongly supports the City Attorney’s proposed amendments to LAMC Sections 41.18 and 56.11, and strongly encourages the City Council to approve the amendments offered by the City Attorney as written.

Under Mayor Garcetti, the number of homeless in our City has skyrocketed, nearly doubling from 22,993 in 2013 to a staggering 41,290 in 2020.¹ For CD-11 (of which Brentwood is a part) under Mike Bonin, the homeless count in 2020 is at 3,272, up from 2,359 in 2015.² The meteoric rise in homelessness is entirely unacceptable. One would expect with having had seven years to address homelessness coupled with the vast amounts of funds approved by our City residents to address the crisis, significant inroads would be made. However, the numbers decidedly tell a different story. The time for conducting studies and making plans has long since passed, and decisive action is needed by our City Council on many fronts in order to address the single largest humanitarian crisis facing our City. The time for waiting is over.

¹ Los Angeles Almanac, “Homelessness in Los Angeles County in 2020,” www.laalmnac.com/social/s014.php. LAHSA 2013 Homeless Count, Total Counts and Demographics by Program Type for the City of Los Angeles, LAHSA 2020 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count-City of Los Angeles.

² LAHSA, 2015-2020 homeless Count by City of Los Angeles Council District. Councilmember Bonin, like Mayor Garcetti, took office in 2013, but we were unable to find data for the homeless count in 2013 by council district. As the homeless count City-wide increased by approximately 10% between 2013 and 2015, we assume that the 2013 homeless numbers for CD 11 were similarly less than in 2015.

We understand some members of the City Council want to further amend the City Attorney's draft ordinance to strike the portion that of the Ordinance that would prohibit sleeping on the sidewalk once an individual has been offered shelter and refuses to move from the sidewalk. The BCC, through its Homelessness Task Force, has conducted extensive outreach with service providers and others working with homeless individuals every day. We have learned the best outcomes for both the homeless and the community at large are achieved when the offer of services is coupled with consequences for not accepting services. We understand that cities across our Country are having success with diversion programs, and we believe it is important that an individual not be stigmatized for being homeless. We understand diversion programs are designed so as not to leave a stain on an individual's record. However, if for any reason the diversion programs being considered as part of the proposed ordinances would mar an individual's record, then we would strongly encourage expunging one's record in connection with the successful completion of any diversion program.

As for Councilmember Bonin's substitute motion, we encourage Councilmember Bonin (and the rest of the City Council) to consider both motions in tandem, and not as alternatives. The BCC urges Councilmember Bonin to support the efforts of Councilmembers Blumenfield, Rodriguez, Buscaino, Krekorian, Price, Lee and Cedillo , and the office of the City Attorney, and support the amendments to LAMC 41.18 and 56.11. The BCC supports Councilmember Bonin's "Substitute Motion" as an additional, stand-alone motion. In particular, the BCC supports Councilmember Bonin's proposal to have an APP developed that will provide real-time information to those working directly with the homeless on shelter/housing options. The BCC is concerned that if Councilman Bonin's motion is adopted in lieu of the efforts of Councilmembers Blumenfield, Rodriguez, Buscaino, Krekorian, Price, Lee and Cedillo, and the office of the City Attorney, the result will be to slow rather than accelerate the process of facilitating the housing of those currently living on the street.

Please add this letter to Council File No. 20-1376.

Respectfully submitted,

Brentwood Community Council

cc: Councilmember Mike Bonin, CD 11

Communication from Public

Name: Kelly

Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 10:44 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I absolutely OPPOSE this ordinance because it is cruel to punish people for sleeping on the streets when they have nowhere to go! We are in the middle of a historic global pandemic, we can't penalize the homeless when there is literally no alternative that meets the capacity of need.

Communication from Public

Name: Love T Boussiqu

Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 12:38 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am NOT in support of 20-1376. In the midst of a pandemic we should show more compassion and empathy to those without homes. Criminalizing the homeless is not the right solution and we should be finding ways to allocate resources that will actually benefit them mentally and emotionally instead of destroying their homes and forcing them to different areas.

Communication from Public

Name: Susan Collins

Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 12:45 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmembers, Please accept this letter as my strong support for the motion to update LAMC 41.18 and LAMC 56.11. The city assured community members that if they allowed Bridge Shelters and / or Supportive housing, the city would provide additional clean ups and no camping zones around the sites. Every resident has compassion for people in need, which is why we overwhelmingly agreed to raise our taxes and pay for these programs. The city is in crisis with communities fighting back against all housing programs because the city has not kept their promises - community members have seen the lack of oversight, the increase in encampments, filth, trash, drug dealings and paraphernalia, human excrement, crime, etc. that has happened at every emergency Bridge Homeless Shelter, at many of the Supportive housing projects and through out the city. The taxpayers have done our part and then watched our hard earned dollars wasted on over priced housing projects while at the same time watching our quality of life being destroyed. My mother is confined to a wheelchair and is no longer protected by the ADA within the City of Los Angeles. The sidewalks are blocked by piles of debris and people suffering with mental illness, and drug addiction. It is time to protect ALL the residents of this city. You can start by providing us with safe public spaces and keeping the walkways clear for people with disabilities to have free access. These requests are really so basic, that it's heartbreaking that we're having to beg for them. Please, Please, do the right thing and support the needed updates to LAMC 41.18 and LAMC 56.11
Thank you, Susan Collins

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 12:50 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember, 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 amending LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11. It is currently scheduled for a full Council vote on November 24th. I am a resident of Los Angeles and have witnessed first hand the effects of lack of affordable housing in LA. 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. As a tax paying citizen, 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. Signed, Erika Bernal

Communication from Public

Name: lori Friedman

Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 01:01 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Council Members, Please accept this letter as my strong support for the motion to update LAMC 41.18 and LAMC 56.11. The city assured community members that if they allowed Bridge Shelters and / or Supportive housing, the city would provide additional clean ups, security and no camping zones around the sites. That has not happened. Every resident has compassion for people in need, which is why we overwhelmingly agreed to raise our taxes and pay for these programs. Our city is in crisis with communities fighting back against all housing programs because the city has not kept their promises - community members have seen the lack of oversight, the increase in encampments, filth, trash, drug dealings and paraphernalia, human excrement, crime, etc. which has happened at every emergency Bridge Homeless Shelter, at many of the Supportive housing projects and throughout our city. The taxpayers have done our part and then watched our hard earned dollars wasted on over priced housing projects while at the same time watching our quality of life being destroyed. People with physical disabilities are no longer protected by the ADA within the City of Los Angeles. The sidewalks are blocked by piles of debris and people suffering with mental illness, and drug addiction. It is time to protect ALL the residents of this city. You can start by providing us with safe public spaces and keeping the walkways clear for people with disabilities to have free access. These requests are so basic, that it's heartbreaking and infuriating that we're having to beg for them. Please, do the right thing and support the needed updates to LAMC 41.18 and LAMC 56.11 Regards, Lori

Communication from Public

Name: Jamal Brown

Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 01:21 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Council Members, Please accept this letter as my strong support for the motion to update LAMC 41.18 and LAMC 56.11. The city assured community members that if they allowed Bridge Shelters and / or Supportive housing, the city would provide additional clean ups, security and no camping zones around the sites. That has not happened. Every resident has compassion for people in need, which is why we overwhelmingly agreed to raise our taxes and pay for these programs. Our city is in crisis with communities fighting back against all housing programs because the city has not kept their promises - community members have seen the lack of oversight, the increase in encampments, filth, trash, drug dealings and paraphernalia, human excrement, crime, etc. which has happened at every emergency Bridge Homeless Shelter, at many of the Supportive housing projects and throughout our city. The taxpayers have done our part and then watched our hard earned dollars wasted on over priced housing projects while at the same time watching our quality of life being destroyed. People with physical disabilities are no longer protected by the ADA within the City of Los Angeles. The sidewalks are blocked by piles of debris and people suffering with mental illness, and drug addiction. It is time to protect ALL the residents of this city. You can start by providing us with safe public spaces and keeping the walkways clear for people with disabilities to have free access. These requests are so basic, that it's heartbreaking and infuriating that we're having to beg for them. Please, do the right thing and support the needed updates to LAMC 41.18 and LAMC 56.11

Communication from Public

Name: Blake Griggs

Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 01:44 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: As a resident of Echo Park I see homelessness constantly, and what angers me is the absolute failure of the city to provide any help to these individuals. Instead, we waste time & money deciding on the best way to change the law in order to put these folks in jail. You see society fail and then decide to not fix the problem by building housing and holding exploitative landlords accountable but rather use the police to arrest them to feel better in your district. Fire the abusive cops, and use their salaries and my taxes to give people help and hope - not jailtime. Pass the People's Budget and listen to SELAH, Blake Griggs

Communication from Public

Name: Bryan Kramer

Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 01:57 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Strongly opposed. Why do we keep revisiting this over and over again? We need better ideas and better leadership. Councilmembers would do better to explain to anti-homeless constituencies why their ideas for resolving this crisis are shameful and ineffective, rather than pretending to "hear both sides." Do your job, Councilmembers. Lead by example and do what's right. More housing, no criminalization.

Communication from Public

Name: Darah Head
Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 02:00 PM
Council File No: 20-1376
Comments for Public Posting: Stop wasting time and money criminalizing our unhoused neighbors.

Communication from Public

Name: Ann English

Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 03:56 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember Cedillo, 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 amending LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11. It is currently scheduled for a full Council vote on November 24th. 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. We have seen time and again how ineffective - not to mention cruel and inhumane- such strategies are in Los Angeles. The idea that we would even contemplate such a position, at any time, let alone during a pandemic and an expected wave of evictions is simply ludicrous. We will not be able - to again - push this issue down the line by providing rushed emergency responses, shelters, bridge home programs, etc. and abandoning the cause of permanent affordable housing for everyone who requires it. 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 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. With Hope and Respect, Ann English

Communication from Public

Name: Bill clark
Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 02:34 PM
Council File No: 20-1376
Comments for Public Posting: I support the motion

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 02:51 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Why are we still talking about this? You literally have a judge reminding you in COURT that you do not have housing. You do not have services. And even if you did, which you DON'T, no one should ever be forced into them. Stop wasting our time and money criminalizing our neighbors. You are literally killing people.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 05:16 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Open letter to the Los Angeles City Council: At the annual meeting of the Sherwood Forest Homeowner's Association held on November 17, 2020, a presentation and discussion was held regarding the proposed homeless shelter at the location currently owned by Skateland. It is a consensus of the Board that while in favor of the location, our concern is the safety and well-being of the community. While there were specifics offered as to the security within the location, enforcement of encampments that may appear in the neighborhood surrounding the location were not adequately addressed. Lacking was a City ordinance offering an enforcement of encampments that may surround Skateland. It is the feeling of the Board that the proposed Amendment to LAMC 41.18 and LAMC 56.11 be supported by members of the City Council and approved on November 24th. Patrick Coffin
Sherwood Forest HOA, President



Sherwood Forest Homeowners Association
P.O. Box 33542, Granada Hills, CA 91344

11/19/2020

Open letter to the Los Angeles City Council:

At the annual meeting of the Sherwood Forest Homeowner's Association held on November 17, 2020, a presentation and discussion were held regarding the proposed homeless shelter at the location currently owned by Skateland. It is a consensus of the Board that while in favor of the location, our concern is the safety and well-being of the community. While there were specifics offered as to the security within the location, enforcement of encampments that may appear in the neighborhood surrounding the location were not adequately addressed. Lacking was a City ordinance offering an enforcement of encampments that may surround Skateland.

It is the feeling of the Board that the proposed Amendment to LAMC 41.18 and LAMC 56.11 be supported by members of the City Council and approved on November 24th.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Patrick Coffin", is written over the printed name.

Patrick Coffin
Sherwood Forest HOA, President

Cc: Steve Slutzah
Margaret Landers
Marilynn Meyer
April Trafton
Donnie Cresse
Lisa Coffin
J. Tidalgo
Jeff Baker
John Fitzpatrick
Mike Bell
Rita Zajic
Scott Wright
Stephanie A. Wagner
Virginia Williams

Communication from Public

Name: E

Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 05:25 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Please find more adequate housing for the homeless than the streets and abandoned buildings of Sherman Oaks. This is a beautiful neighborhood being destroyed. Homeless are attacking people in front of Ralph's fresh because they reside in the old sportsman's lodge and hang out on the corners, High and disoriented. This is unacceptable! We didn't purchase homes in an upscale area to be brought down by the homeless population. It's destroying SO.

Communication from Public

Name: West Valley Resistance

Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 05:51 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear L.A. City Councilmembers, We are horrified at this motion, which criminalizes many of the homeless population living near or under freeway under passes and ramps, yet still not providing enough beds, or storage space for the unhoused population, their pets and belongings. Please vote against this draconian motion, which we feel violates the constitutional rights of the unhoused population, and is especially cruel during the most dire pandemic in this century. Thank you for your time, West Valley Resistance

Communication from Public

Name: Jesse

Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 06:39 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: As a lifelong resident and homeowner in Sherman Oaks, I am appalled by this. Criminalizing homelessness in this way is not only inhumane, but also not in any way a solution to the homeless crisis. This only continues to move people around and makes it even more impossible to get back on their feet. So many people are just one bad stroke of luck away from being unable to pay rent, now more than ever. Let's focus on stopping the next wave of homelessness instead of inhumanely punishing people.

Communication from Public

Name: Adina Gilbert-Hamerling

Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 08:04 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am a resident of CD4 and strongly oppose the current efforts to further criminalize homelessness in Los Angeles. The proposed ordinance is a big step backward--remember when LA County passed Measure J, in support of community investment and alternatives to incarceration? This promotes the the exact opposite. Our city does not have nearly enough housing available to provide safe alternatives to all those experiencing homelessness, and the only way to solve the current crisis is to increase housing availability. Forcing people to pack up their belongings and move from certain areas only creates additional hardships for those already suffering extreme poverty, including many people who are elderly or have medical conditions. As a further note, the CDC has previously issued guidance against clearing encampments during the pandemic, as this causes people to disperse throughout the community and increases the potential for COVID to spread. Our city is already seeing a spike in COVID cases, and people need to be able to stay put unless they are being moved into safe housing.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 08:39 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Today my children and I witnessed a homeless man pull down his pants and defecate on the street. It's my understanding that the mayor has asked police to leave the homeless alone - I know this because when I called the cops during this time, I was told that-but enough is enough. We cannot simply leave the homeless alone. They are taking over our neighborhood and transforming it to an area that I cannot safely take my children to. This is not the neighborhood I paid a premium to live in, to settle in and raise my children. This is NOT downtown, it's a suburb and it should be regulated and kept clean and safe. It is not a place where the homeless can defecate in and leave their heroin needles on our streets. It is not the right neighborhood to open homeless shelters or supportive housing. This is a FAMILY and UPSCALE neighborhood where our tax dollars should at the very least buy us a SAFE and CLEAN neighborhood to live in and walk our children down the street on. Please use our hard earned tax dollars to clean up Sherman Oaks and Encino and remove the homeless from our streets.

Communication from Public

Name: Hanna

Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 09:00 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Please oppose this motion, as we should not be criminalizing homelessness, but rather, allocating funding and resources to help these houseless citizens to obtain reliable housing, food, water, and other basic necessities. They are just as much a part of our community as those who already have reliable housing.

Communication from Public

Name: Ignat Printsev

Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 09:11 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly oppose the vote on Council File 20-1376, which would amend LAMC 41.18 to drastically expand the criminalization and banishment of unhoused Angelenos across the city. This is the opposite of a solution. You cannot criminalize homelessness in this way and expect to make a positive change in our community. Acceptable solutions in providing assistance to the homeless would include: finding a way for the homeless to reside in empty hotel rooms or apartments, building more housing, and building more shelters. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Erin Huffer-Ethial

Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 09:26 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: As a lifelong Angeleno and current SFV taxpayer and homeowner I was appalled to learn about efforts to criminalize homelessness with the passage of Council File-1376. Since when do public officials think it is appropriate to sacrifice the fundamental human rights of our most vulnerable citizens to solve problems relating to lack of access to safe affordable housing and the devastating circumstances of poverty? This hasn't worked in the past and there is no dearth of solutions to address this problem in a humane way. Support and the potential implementation of this measure is and will be a stain on our city's history. Mayor Garcetti said the following in his recent address to Angelenos about COVID-19. I can't help but think his words couldn't be more appropriate when considering the treatment of our homeless neighbors in the city: "And it's our shared responsibility each and every one of us to help move our city from grief to grace, from suffering to strength, and to call on the memory of those who have passed on, to summon the best of our Angeleno spirit to lead with love and with our smarts and with our guts in service of our highest value which his protecting human life. That is our mission. One that we will look back on years and decades from now and tell our children and our grandchildren about how Los Angeles survived its toughest fight, its greatest challenge and we did it together".

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 10:05 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I support Councilman Blumemfield's motion that would allow the city to 1) house the homeless under the freeway and then post signs prohibiting camping and 500 ft from the underpass, 2) create a 500 ft buffer around any homeless housing project, and 3) enforce ADA laws.

Communication from Public

Name: Eric Pardo

Date Submitted: 11/19/2020 10:20 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I urge you to vote against Motion 41.18 as it is inhumane and doesn't offer any potential solutions to the homelessness crisis. Housing ends homelessness, not making it illegal in certain locations. Displacement and arrest will only serve to temporarily hide the issue and make the life of unhoused people more stressful and difficult. Criminalization and the threat of arrest should never be used as a tool to address the homelessness crisis, period. Especially during a pandemic and economic crisis. COVID-19 cases are surging and more people are losing their jobs and becoming unhoused. Passing this legislation now would only serve to compound the struggles of unhoused people by make it harder to live. It will also undoubtedly lead to potentially dangerous, even deadly, arrests. Unhoused people are already arrested at 17x the rate as the overall population in LA, and a third of LAPD's 'use of force' is against unhoused people. That will only rise with the passing of Motion 41.18. This motion is wrong for Los Angeles and I urge you to vote against it.