

Communication from Public

Name: Celeste Voce

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 05:50 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am ashamed that the city is considering such drastic measures that essentially further criminalize homelessness in the city. The city simply does not have enough (as far as quality and quantity) services and housing to adequately serve this population, hence why so many are still on the streets. As a homeowner and as taxpayer, I'm incredibly upset because criminalizing and incarcerating people costs over 7 times as much per year as permanent supportive housing. People deserve dignity, not tickets and jail cells. Please reexamine better allocating funds to provide a greater variety of services and more, cost effective housing. We need creative thinking right now, not lazy measures like this that don't address the underlying causes of homelessness in the city and only perpetuate wealth disparities, which are some of the greatest in the entire country.

Communication from Public

Name: cathy takemoto

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 05:53 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Every life is precious, not a statistic. Consider the immediate needs of the homeless on the street with food, water, winter clothing and temporary shelter during these wet/cold winter months during this COVID 19 pandemic. I thank you.
Respectfully

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 06:07 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: As a tax paying citizen I demand that the Enforced Zone Cleanup be continued!! Our house is located within this cleanup zone and the PROBLEM of HOMELESSNESS will only get WORSE WITHOUT this cleanup. Let the homeless camp next door to these self-righteous "advocates of homelessness"!! Our property was broken into TWICE(!!!) by a homeless individual(s) camped behind our house to which he admitted but was never arrested because nothing was stolen only because our dogs chased the intruder(s) away. The intruder(s) left a jungle knife, hammer, cutter, cellphone and unemployment debit card (which was how we were able to identify the individual) which of course were intended to be used to break into our house and was just returned back to the individual by the police!!! They were even arrogant enough to ask us in front of the police officers if anything was stolen from our property and demanded to speak to the officers' supervisor to get the things they left back. And of course the things were given back without any process and documentation. After these break-ins at our house we knocked door to door at some of our neighbors' to ask if they've had incidents with these homeless people and one neighbor (who is a veteran, no less) said that one day he found a homeless guy in his outdoor jacuzzi!!! Another neighbor who lives one street over also got broken into. Also, multiple times we saw these homeless people burn rubber in their encampment which is surrounded by dry brush!!! I hope I don't have to spell this out to smart people that this is a fire hazard! And not to mention the trash around and near these homeless encampments. I sincerely hope that the City Council will do everything they can NOT to turn our city into another San Francisco and Seattle which are homeless paradise.

Communication from Public

Name: Molly McLean

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 06:08 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am a teaching student and every day I am frustrated that I have to read statistics that blithely state that a quarter of public school students are in poverty. There is little more for students other than their teachers to keep them afloat, which is a shocking state of affairs. Why are teachers expected to hold students above the poverty line? The government has a hard responsibility to its people to make them thrive. By continuing the failing, violent practice of criminalizing homelessness, this city will only wither and burn. I stand with the East Hollywood NC as a resident of that neighborhood in marking my disgust for the proposed amendment to code 41.18. Homelessness is not criminal. People are forced to live on the streets because they are not allowed to thrive elsewhere. If they find that the one place they are allowed to survive is on the street, does that not speak volumes about the city in which they live? Families, friends, people live in my neighborhood on the street. They have already been failed by the system time and time again. You are the people who need to be standing up to poverty, not schoolteachers. You are the ones who have the chance to do something. Please act in the interest of the past, the present, and the future by seeing new avenues of response to homelessness than further criminalizing our Black, Latino, veteran, Native American, queer, mentally ill, poor fellow residents of this city. Thank you. P.S. I do not want to see another landlord on City Council. Those who stand to profit from the housing crisis should not be allowed to make decisions about it, since they have a motive to exacerbate it.

Communication from Public

Name: Max S

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 06:08 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I urge our city council to vote for : - relocating all the unhoused persons currently living under the freeway underpasses and then post signs prohibiting camping under and 500 ft from the underpass - creating a 500 ft buffer around any homeless housing project - enforce ADA laws I live near Woodbridge Park (Moorpark @ Vineland underpass) and this area is extremely unsafe. Homeless people are constantly crossing the street, and because it's dark under the bridge we can't see them, car are swerving at the last minute, creating a dangerous situation. It's impossible to walk under the bridges with the tents and trash blocking the sidewalks, and it forces pedestrians to walk on the road. A wheelchair will NOT be able to go through. Last, the underpasses are now "no mans land" filled with trash, drug dealers, people living in squalor and it's unacceptable !!!

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 06:30 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I agree that we should have narrow enforcement buffers around new homeless service sites and underpasses. The homeless encampments in the above-mentioned areas create unsafe and unsanitary conditions for both the homeless and others who traverse those areas.

Communication from Public

Name: Tenant on Teesdale Ave.

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 06:31 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Los Angeles City Council Members, I am respectfully asking for your support in continuing the enhanced cleanup of areas surrounding and bordering our neighborhoods (Saticoy Street - both of them and Raymer St.). These cleanups have made a significant difference in stopping the spread of trash and "other items" on our public sidewalks and streets that are so close to where we live with our families and children. We understand there are those who advocate for people experiencing homelessness, however, they are not living in the neighborhoods and do not see first hand what happens when there are not cleanups of these areas. We ask you to take a drive around before the cleanups and see how bad things are in the area. We sympathize with those experiencing homelessness, however, it is unfortunate that the impact to the areas where these individuals set up camp becomes a mess full of trash and belongings thrown around and left behind. We thank you for your understanding of our situation and for your support in keeping up the enforced Zone clean-ups which only help keep our neighborhoods and city cleaner!

Communication from Public

Name: Grace

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 06:34 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I oppose increased enforcement of codes 41.18 and 56.11. Angelenos faced with homelessness should be met with compassion, support, solutions. You cannot "sweep" and police away the fact that people's basic needs aren't being met. Until you start adequately meeting the need that exists, the problem will persist. How that isn't clear to you, I don't know. People can't pull themselves out of deep poverty without help. We have the resources to help them.

Communication from Public

Name: Nick

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 06:42 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: It's understandable why people are upset with the homelessness crisis in LA. It's horrible. People shouldn't be living on the street. But they are there because rent has become completely unaffordable and jobs unavailable and services effectively non-existent. Please do not enforce municipal codes 41.18 and 56.11, which do not address the problem, only the symptoms, by unfairly targeting our most vulnerable citizens.

Communication from Public

Name: Nick
Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 04:07 PM
Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, my name is Nick Heller and I Am a young voter living in District 3 represented by CM Bob Blumenfield. On his website, he states “ It is not illegal to be homeless.” It is a simple idea and I encourage CM Blumenfield and the council to take this point seriously and without exception. Therefore, I frankly find it egregious that CM Blumenfield can say such a thing while attempting to push through Council File: 20-1376. Being homeless isn’t illegal, so there can be no justifiable law that criminalizes our homeless neighbors. At a time when Angelinos are overwhelmingly looking for alternatives to police and incarceration, as seen in the approval of Measure J, the Councilmembers supporting the resolution display a profound disconnect from the desires of their constituents. It is not illegal to be homeless, and it should not be illegal for them to find shelter under freeways when our politicians have failed to fight for their shelter under roofs. All of this compounds with the pandemic. The cruelty of trying to displace, criminalize, and traumatize our homeless neighbors at the height of COVID is blatantly immoral. Councilmember Blumenfield on his website encourages us to ask what our children think when they see homeless people left without help on the streets. What will our children think when the homeless our beaten, humiliated, and arrested on our streets?

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 05:15 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: AS A TAX PAYING CITIZEN I STRONGLY DEMAND TO KEEP THE ENFORCED ZONE CLEAN UP!! OUR HOUSE IS WITHIN THE AREA COVERED BY THIS CLEAN-UP, IT IS EQUITABLE THAT SINCE WE RELIGIOUSLY PAY OUR TAXES ON TIME AND IN FULL ALL THE TIME THEN WE DESERVE TO LIVE IN AN AREA/NEIGHBORHOOD THAT IS: 1. SAFE, 2. CLEAN, 3. WITH WELL-MAINTAINED INFRASTRUCTURE, AND 4. HIGH-QUALITY GOVERNMENT SERVICE.

Communication from Public

Name: Sarah B

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 04:52 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: This law is inhumane and completely short sighted. Where will these people go? Just away right? What sort of public policy is that? Disappointing

Communication from Public

Name: Abe Frank

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 08:19 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I'm writing to ask that you oppose the draft ordinance amending section 41.18 of the LA Municipal Code as designated in Council File 20-1376. Criminalizing the act of being homeless in large swaths of Los Angeles while the city continues to lack adequate available housing and services is cruel, counterproductive, and would expose the city to greater legal liability. We are a wealthy, wonderful city, and should be capable of taking care of our homeless, not criminalizing them, especially when their lack of shelter is partly our fault as a community. In this time of empty hotels and luxury lofts, we should be thinking about how to house the people already here. Criminalizing sitting, sleeping, and lying in broad areas of Los Angeles will cause our unhoused participants and neighbors to face more citations, arrests, and fees -- all of which serve as impediments to obtaining employment, housing, and other important resources. Moreover, displacing unhoused residents severs the relationships that they have built with homeless outreach and caseworkers, setting them back or permanently derailing them on their path to stable housing and services. Finally, the confiscation of personal property often results in the loss of family photos, prescription medications, and the ID cards and paperwork necessary for obtaining housing and other services. Additionally, the proposal to criminalize an unhoused resident's ability to sit, sleep, or lie in any public area throughout the city if they are offered any form of shelter by any city employee is deeply flawed. There are many reasons why someone living on the street may not feel comfortable immediately accepting an offer of shelter. For instance, the shelter could require someone to dispose of his or her belongings or separate from family, community, and support animals. Many unhoused individuals are also understandably reluctant to accept help from a city that has historically mistreated them.

Communication from Public

Name: Row Zadeh

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 08:21 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember Martinez, Please accept this letter as my strong support for the motion to update LAMC 41.18 and LAMC 56.11 so that we can put an end to the enormous problem loitering, indecent exposure, panhandling, public defecation, and obstructions on our public right-of way. My 9-year-old granddaughter, while walking with me, had to witness a grown man taking his pants off in front of Starbuck to urinate on the sidewalk. How can I remove this horrific image out of her young mind? Updating these two municipal codes will be a step forward in addressing the above issues and the current crisis in our community. I am counting on you to help get these motions passed and am willing to do all that you ask of me to support you and your efforts. Please do not hesitate to contact me. Sincerely,
Row J. Zadeh President F&R Enterprises 818-309-8100

Communication from Public

Name: Laura Trickey

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 08:32 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: As a Woodland Hills resident, I have experience firsthand the ever growing homeless population residing under our freeway overpasses. I am grateful to all of the hard work our city representatives are doing to make positive changes in regard to this seemingly monumental challenge. I support any bills that enforce "buffer" zones around city housing for our homeless residents. I also encourage and support any efforts to address the deeper matter of drug addiction and mental illness, which are a the true root of many of the homeless on our streets. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Vote YES
Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 09:08 PM
Council File No: 20-1376
Comments for Public Posting: Please clean up LA! Look at the Bonin-Ryu substitute motion's last paragraph regarding how Orange County cleaned up their act and beautified their river on the Anaheim/Orange border again. IT CAN BE DONE, but requires a City Council to vote YES on measures like this!

Communication from Public

Name: Crystal
Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 07:18 PM
Council File No: 20-1376
Comments for Public Posting: I strongly oppose 41.18!!!!!! Stop criminalizing unhoused people and do something to help them instead.

Communication from Public

Name: Andrew Chittenden

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 07:28 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: This motion and the revised ordinance ignore the issue of new homelessness. Even if the city were to identify housing for 100% of the people currently living on the street, every day 270 more LA residents fall into homelessness. Unless 270 new residences are being built or supplied each day, it seems unlikely that any law that clears an area has any meaningful purpose beyond punishing those about to become homeless by reducing the areas in which they are able to find shelter. This is not the way to satisfy Judge Carter's orders. If adequate, appropriate housing and service solutions existed for the homeless population, you would not need this law. And as Bonin pointed out, it's entirely unenforceable. How do you plan to prove that you've offered housing to any specific individual? Or that the housing you're offering actually exists at that moment in time? If you want to fix specific underpasses, fix specific underpasses. A blanket law like this is inhumane. On a more personal note, my neighborhood (Los Feliz, CD4) has experienced a drastic reduction in criminal activity, nuisance dumping and sanitary issues since the relaxation of the 41.18 and 56.11 enforcement. Housed neighbors are actually getting to know their unhoused neighbors, and a level of trust, community support and mutual aid has emerged that a return to Draconian enforcement measures would erase. Residents of the encampment next our apartment are orderly and respectful, and they provide structure and support for those who have more recently found themselves homeless. Efforts like the provision of portapotties and handwashing stations, in addition to voluntary trash collection, have produced a more consistent, positive, long-lasting improvement to our block than any sweeps and arrest have done, which tends instead to scare away stable individuals who fear they'll be a target, and instead encourages the influx of high-volume drug dealing and coercive prostitution.

Communication from Public

Name: Amanda Hamm

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 07:39 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Sweeps are inhumane, violent, and do nothing to provide safety for our unhoused neighbors or for the community at large. Instead of wasting money on sweeps under the guise of public health and safety, provide trash pick up, toilets, and other measures to ensure houseless Angelenos are safe and healthy. Our most vulnerable populations need the most resources. They don't need to be demonized or harassed. Treat them with care and compassion. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Jessica Moog

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 07:43 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am opposed to the new ordinance that would allow strict enforcement of Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11 and further criminalize our unhoused populations. The proposed ordinance will only make it harder for those experiencing homelessness now and in the future, rather than addressing the underlying causations of homelessness: out of control rents, stagnant wages, and a dire lack of physical or mental health resources. I call on my councilmember, David Ryu, and all other members to reject this ordinance and show compassion to fellow humans and Angelenos. It has been an extraordinarily hard year, and as we go into a holiday season filled with doubt and anxiety, it is excessively inhumane to pass policy that makes every single night harder for the poorest among us.

Communication from Public

Name: Diana Chang

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 08:10 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I'm commenting to OPPOSE this motion. I believe the effects of this motion would not only be unproductive in solving the homeless crisis but would in fact exacerbate the crisis and increase the ripple effects of homelessness, which affect all Angelenos. This motion is not the answer.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 09:18 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Passing this would bring some relief to our neighborhoods, seeing people defecate in public, use pipes, and freely take off their clothes is not safe for the public or children. Businesses have suffered which from people sitting in random areas which brings less tax dollars to our community services.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 09:23 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: The passage of amendment 41.18 has my support. Unfortunately, not everyone that is offered help accepts it, as a result, our neighborhood has had many problems. In addition, this would pressure additional housing units. Please pass this, this would also enable people to walk safely on the streets again and be at ease.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 10:29 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: We should be enforcing current law, which states that tents must be taken down at 6 am. It is very unfortunate that people who need to use the sidewalks to get from place to place must walk into the street into traffic because the sidewalk is obstructed. I also am against the law that allows for bulky items to be on the sidewalks. There is trash piling up, which also obstructs the sidewalks. I am also concerned about the safety of children when they are in the parks. Many parks have a high number of homeless camping. It is very unfortunate that some of them are doing drugs and leaving needles around. What if a child was to pick a needle up? There is the same issue of the trash. Echo Park Lake has become a huge homeless encampment, which needs to be dealt with. What about the people who want to enjoy the park? Safety is an issue because of the drug use or people who are mentally ill, who need immediate help. I am also APALLED at the number of tents on the boardwalk on Venice Beach. Tents on the beach and encampments along the sidewalks on the beach should be ILLEGAL. When I went for a walk over the summer in Venice all the way to Santa Monica, I could see homeless people drinking in their tents, half clothed, with trash piles everywhere. This attracts rats and crime. The laws for public drunkenness and public drug use should be enforced. If people want to live on the sidewalk, you should charge them property tax.

Communication from Public

Name: Anh Ly
Date Submitted: 11/04/2020 07:02 PM
Council File No: 20-1376
Comments for Public Posting: Read.

Communication from Public

Name: Nathan Rightnour

Date Submitted: 11/09/2020 05:19 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: The Wilshire/San Vicente homeless problem needs to be resolved. Everyone driving by feels on-edge and while I don't drive often, I often see people aimlessly on the street in the middle of traffic. Someone is going to get killed.

Communication from Public

Name: Zarah

Date Submitted: 11/11/2020 09:52 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I think it's absolutely deplorable that LA City Councilmembers Blumenfield, Buscaino, Rodriguez, Krekorian, Price, Cedillo, and Lee are more concerned with the optics of our city than actually helping our unhoused neighbors. We are currently in a pandemic where people are losing their jobs and being evicted from their homes and need our help getting their lives back together rather than being cited or arrested for trying to find a new place to live. There are hotels that are closed because of this pandemic and instead of giving them a place to stay in these empty rooms, you would rather put them in jail. Shame on you Blumenfield, Buscaino, Rodriguez, Krekorian, Price, Cedillo, and Lee. Please instead of voting yes on this, actually follow through on Project Roomkey and make an effort to help our unhoused neighbors instead of vilifying them.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/12/2020 08:57 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: We must provide services and care to unhoused Angelenos during this difficult time. Criminalizing homeless does not solve the problem and only causes more suffering. There are many vacant hotel rooms that can safely house these individuals while we work on a more compassionate solution.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/16/2020 08:39 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Housing heals homelessness, not intimidation or enforcement sweeps. Investing in preventative ways to keep people from becoming homeless and building affordable housing (NOT shelter) is a far better use of funding and actually might have a strategic impact on the landscape of homelessness in LA, if done correctly.

Communication from Public

Name: Jordan Dominguez
Date Submitted: 11/14/2020 01:58 PM
Council File No: 20-1376
Comments for Public Posting: Hello. I am teacher and resident in this community. I DEMAND YOU STOP CRIMINALIZING OUR UNHOUSED NEIGHBORS!!! Immediate access to housing with no readiness conditions Individualized and person-driven support Social and community integration. End this toxic NIMBYism!

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 08:04 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Thank you for the incredible improvement to the Corbin FWY underpass. When will the rights of the residents of LA City to enjoy peaceful access to our communities going to be fully defended? The Corbin underpass enjoyed ONE day with a larger tent encampment. IT WAS NEVER CLEARED. While one tent is a great relief from the 24 groups that were previously there we know it is a magnet. To date there are now 4-5 tents and growing. After leaving Corbin, the campers set-up under the Taft HS sign. They dispersed and are now coming back together. It is only a matter of time before our sidewalks will not be walkable. This impacts many employees of businesses on Ventura BLVD who use Martha street for parking. It interferes with the local economy that funds the positions in the LA CITY. If the City Council wont change ordinances to protect the rights of it's constituents, perhaps they will do it for the economy? DO YOUR JOB or step down and allow new leaders to make the tough decisions. As an LA resident for 60 years I am FED UP that the disorder and dysfunction impact my day to day life.

Communication from Public

Name: Abigail Lechleiter

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 08:08 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Stop being cowards who are trying to sweep your unhoused constituents under the rug. How about instead you work towards actual social reforms that help get unhoused angelenos back on their feet. Rather than punish them or abuse them with your street sweeps. This is your chance to not be heartless robots. You are given this chance a lot recently and yet you continue to show your constituents that you only care about them when they have a house to live in. We all see what you are doing and it is fucking disgusting. Take care of the people who put you in office. And that means ALL the people, not the ones you handpick to be worth your time.

Communication from Public

Name: Kelly Kuvo
Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 02:35 AM
Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, I live in an apartment at Sunset & 4th Ave in Venice. A snapshot of what I see everyday - my formerly ALL rent-controlled building of 15 units now has 6 vacant market-rate units costing 4000 a month. They have been vacant for months. Our “new” landlord who bought the building 5 years ago is in no rush to fill them because he’s now flipping the property for 9 million dollars. Not surprisingly, the surviving long-term tenants, such as myself, who remain, are in RSO units. Because, sadly, we are some of the few low-income old Venice Angelenos that can afford to remain living here! Looking out my window, there are 5 tents with homeless people. Up the street, more tents and homeless people. Around the corner, the same! It breaks my heart that there is available housing in my building right next to these encampments every night. If my current landlord had succeeded in getting all of us evicted from this building, more would be out on the streets too! I worked for the 2020 Census as a Field Supervisor and my team of enumerators made me aware that similar vacancies are everywhere in Venice and Santa Monica! Who turned our city into a 3rd World Country and is getting away with it? What’s happening is unconscionable and heartless, greedy and mean. Now my housed neighbors wonder if the 4000 a month units will be turned into Section 8 housing, and guess what? We are OK with that because we would prefer to see people living inside rather than out on the sidewalk. THAT is the Venice spirit that has all but been wiped out of our community, but it’s not dead yet. Slum by the Sea, indeed. Thank you for your time.

Communication from Public

Name: Lauren

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 01:03 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: This motion is inhumane and 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. I completely oppose the motion to instruct the city attorney to draft amendments to LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11.

Communication from Public

Name: Mila Fradkin
Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 01:03 PM
Council File No: 20-1376
Comments for Public Posting: Total support.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 02:05 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Neighborhoods need to know that they will be protected if they have a shelter in their neighborhood. Otherwise NIMBY.

Communication from Public

Name: Rachel Van Amburgh

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 02:15 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: 41.18 is a grossly inhumane approach to the city's lack of affordable housing. Criminalizing homelessness is killing hundreds of unhoused Angelenos every year along with being a gigantic waste of taxpayer money. Stop sweeps and start putting this money toward actual services!!!

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 02:37 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: This motion that effectively criminalizes homelessness is unconscionable, cruel, and will only serve to make the homelessness crisis worse. If someone is unhoused, house them!

Communication from Public

Name: Juliet Deem
Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 03:34 PM
Council File No: 20-1376
Comments for Public Posting: the unhoused are our community members. they deserve the attentive care and dedicated programming to allow them a chance at whole and safe wellbeing. criminalization does not eliminate a problem, it exacerbates dehumanization these people already experience every day.

Communication from Public

Name: La Tisha Conto

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 03:41 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am in District 5. I am submitting this public comment in opposition of Blumenfield's attempt to criminalize people who seek shelter under and near highways. I am very familiar with sit and lie. Having just moved back to Encino after spending 5 years in Spokane WA, I can tell you that sit and lie is very much the solution for so many politicians - be they Republican or Democrat. In spokane, similar to what was done under the Pico overpass, they carried out their Basalt on the Homeless by placing basalt rocks along the highway so as to make it more uncomfortable for those who seek shelter and rest. There is no way to get around a sit and lie order other than to tell the truth about it: you are criminalizing the people suffering from the worst failures of our government, systems, and institutions. In the middle of a pandemic. I am speaking with personal experience. Several members in my family have been homeless for periods in their lives. When I tell people that - and they're nimbys - they think they are playing gotcha by asking me why don't they live with me? So many reasons really - interpersonal violence, substance use disorder, mental health issues - mean that it isn't always possible for those we love to live with us. But I maintain it is always possible for us to support where they want to live, where they feel safe, where they feel free. Of course, there is also the issue of those who seek housing and are denied - for prior convictions, credit scores, priced out of market, the list goes on. We have horrible choices for unhoused people to choose from. Go to a crowded shelter - if there is a bed available, and risk getting COVID. Or show up at the ER for a short stay - but risk getting COVID. Or, sleep in solitude, or near friends for safety and comfort by the side of a road and risk getting arrested and going to jail - to get COVID. My suggestion? Get some better options. AND STOP (NOT) SOLVING ALL YOUR PROBLEMS WITH THE COPS.

Communication from Public

Name: ERIN GRILEY
Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 10:26 AM
Council File No: 20-1376
Comments for Public Posting: 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.

Communication from Public

Name: christopher cohen

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 10:39 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Hello - 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. 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.
Signed, Chris Cohen

Communication from Public

Name: Rick Garvey

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 12:33 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: This motion and draft ordinance needs to be halted immediately and rejected for these reasons and more: • It is a poor attempt to get around the Court decision in Martin v. Boise without actually offering much needed housing. • Is the City of LA going to hand out 500 foot measuring tapes to senior, disabled, and mentally ill unhoused people so they know when they can rest after leaving a service? For clarity the signs should really say “NO HOMELESS ZONE” in both English and Spanish because that is exactly what this is: a No Homeless Zone law that is Racist at its roots since only 8% of the population in Los Angeles are Black, but 40% of the homeless population is Black. • This is not just about 500 feet here and there. As a resolution, this racist law that discriminates against disabled people living unhoused will spread throughout the City like the Oversized Vehicle Ordinance. • The City of LA has not come remotely close to providing even a small percentage of the required low income or affordable long term housing to meet the housing and homeless crisis prior to the COVID epidemic, but it wants to now make it a crime for a disabled unhoused person to sit within 500 feet of a service? This is inhumane. • A shelter bed is NOT housing. It is a temporary bed in a congregate living space. Congregate living spaces are where COVID is more pervasive. It is reasonable to reject shelter beds for this reason alone. People need real long term permanent housing opportunities, not more criminalization. • This law will move unhoused people to a new street and it will be used to criminalize unhoused people when HOUSING SHOULD BE THE FOCUS. You need to do better. Please vote NO.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 11:56 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: As a voter in Los Angeles, I am disgusted by the council's insistence on passing CF 20-1376 that seeks to expand criminalization of homelessness. Punitive treatment of the unhoused wastes taxpayer money and has proven to provide no long term solutions. The city should instead spend money on services without stipulations. The motion is particularly tone deaf considering the crisis that we are in, as many of your formerly working class constituents are sliding into new poverty and homelessness. Consider focusing on services that allow your constituents to maintain their human dignity before you punish them for not taking part in a broken economy that pushed them away to begin with. Please see studies on the success of "housing first" models, the first from Charlotte, the second here in California-
<https://phys.org/news/2020-11-success-charlotte-mecklenburg-efforts-homelessness.html>
<https://www.sfgate.com/news/bayarea/article/Sj-Permanent-Supportive-Housing-Project-Sees-15710971.php>

Communication from Public

Name: Urvashi Pathania

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 09:33 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: As a Silver Lake resident, I am concerned to hear that the city council is revisiting the homeless criminalization motion, Council File 20-1376, which would amend LAMC 41.18 to drastically expand the criminalization and banishment of unhoused Angelenos across the city. Homelessness cannot be combated by expanding the carceral system. This has been proven across disciplines time and again. Giving out housekeys, not handcuffs, is the only way for Los Angeles to transform into a more compassionate and safer city for ALL.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 09:33 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: We cannot allow the people who want to live on the street ruin our neighborhoods. To feed their drug habits, they break into cars, houses and business's and have no regard for themselves or anyone else. For the true homeless, find them housing and help them. As for the rest, where is law in forcement ? I support councilman Blumenfield...

Communication from Public

Name: Kriss Stauber

Date Submitted: 11/18/2020 10:13 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am in support of Blumemfield's motion that would allow the city to 1) House 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 3) Enforce ADA laws