

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 10:11 PM

Council File No: 20-1173

Comments for Public Posting: The First Baptist Church of Venice sits at what is called E.L. Holmes Square on the corners of 7th and Westminster Ave. It has been a community spiritual space, refuge, and institution for over 110 years. It was founded and attended by historic Los Angeles personages such as Arthur Reese and Irving Tabor who were instrumental in creating the world famous destination and bohemian culture of Venice Beach. I'm writing to support designating the First Baptist Church of Venice a historic cultural monument. The idea of taking a church that served the black community of Venice for so long and turning it into an outsized private family compound is appalling. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: John Cantú

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 12:23 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I know from too many Nextdoor posts that homeowners too often want to resort to criminalization to curb homelessness around their communities. As a homeowner myself, I don't see how 41-18 is anything but a cruel supplication to that perspective, one that doesn't believe in the rights everyone has to a roof over their head. It does not represent the LA I want to live in. I condemn the decisions of Councilmembers Cedillo, Krekorian, Blumenfield, Rodriguez, Price, Lee, and Buscaino to support 41-18 and urge Councilmembers Ryu, Koretz, Martinez, Dawson, Weeons, Bonin, O'Farrell, and de León to show the courage to do the right thing that their colleagues would not. We need to find ways to serve our unhoused community for their safety and for the safety of Los Angeles. Criminalizing public space and destroying their belongings is a death sentence, one that every supporter will have to take accountability for. I strongly urge the City Council to reconsider and care for the well-being of ALL in Los Angeles.

Communication from Public

Name: Elizabeth Medrano

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:32 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I have been a renter for 26 years and have watched and experienced homelessness personally. As years have gone by my rent has increased from \$495 for a single in the 90s to now \$2,000 dollars within the same geographic area. I have seen the increase of people pushed out to the streets. Many times I have been in the brink of losing my apartment. The housing crisis has been here and present in LA since I remember and only increased at horrible levels. We need and Must focus on HouseKeys Not Handcuffs!

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 02:50 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Please vote in Favor of Council File 20-1376. This motion is vital because it will help Los Angeles maintain a balance between helping the homeless and helping the residents and homeowners keep and maintain a clean and healthy community and while still staying within the parameters of the Boise Idaho decision. I support this motion because it addresses The Americans with Disabilities Act, which has been dismissed for too long by the city of Los Angeles. The disabled and wheelchair bound are forced onto the streets endangering their lives with cars whizzing by them at 40+ mph because the sidewalks are blocked. The disabled through the ADA are guaranteed equal access to and equal opportunity in public Accommodations. I also support this motion because it addresses the many promises made and promises broken by the city. The people of Venice who live near the bridge shelter on Sunset were promised encampment cleanups and secure zones. Eight months later this shelter is surrounded more than ever with tent encampments, a massive surge in crime, theft, break-ins, assaults, sexual harassment, sexual assaults, car break ins, and the list goes on and on. If the promises are not kept, then no community will want a Bridge Shelter in their neighborhood. And finally, I support this motion because it seeks to amend 41.18, which is vitally important in addressing sleeping on sidewalks at particular locations and hours of the day. Thank you for this reasonable and well thought out motion to help Los Angeles maintain a balance between helping the homeless and helping the residents and homeowners keep and maintain a clean and healthy community. Sincerely, Matthew Nuss Venice Resident

Communication from Public

Name: Lee Williams

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:25 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I ask the council to support this motion for a number of reasons. 1) Having tents outside the facility lowers the ability of shelter residents to quickly transition to life indoors. The sex and drug activities happening in these tents holds these residents back from fully participating in programs and services inside the facilities. This hurts the residents and lowers their successful recovery. The community is committed to providing shelter, the residents should be given the best opportunity to recover from life on the streets and that is best served by removing the distractions that hamper that. 2) Just as we have banned smoking in public places for the fact one person smoking in a close space can ruin the experience of everyone around them, it takes only a few folks in tents surrounding our facilities to undermine the efforts of the community to provide for the unhoused. The community support for shelters is weakened by the few who are living double lives inside and outside the shelters as well as those who are unwilling to come indoors. This puts the community, local businesses and public health at risk and will lead to community resistance to participate in the solutions to end homelessness. 3) We need to give these shelters all the attention and support to improve their success and encourage other townships and communities to participate in solutions.

Communication from Public

Name: Emily Markoe

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:28 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I oppose the proposed amendments to city codes 41.18 and 56.11 as they will negatively impact our unhoused community AND do not provide any true steps to productive help for unhoused people. Do not criminalize homelessness. Instead, provide more housing resources and other services to help our unhoused community find housing.

Communication from Public

Name: Elizabeth huff

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 01:32 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I urge the city council to oppose 41.18. Criminalizing behavior does not get rid of behavior, as we have seen with the incredibly unsuccessful war on drugs. People need services and they need help, they don't need to be thrown in jail and given a fine. Such practices only make it harder for people to get off the streets and find stable income. I am a proud Angeleno, but actions like these make me ashamed of our city.

Communication from Public

Name: Ben Cassorla
Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:00 AM
Council File No: 20-1376
Comments for Public Posting: Not supporting our homeless population during a pandemic is incredibly short sighted. Please vote against this horrible motion.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 05:01 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: There is trash EVERYWHERE! Urine, feces, garbage, used needles. The list goes on. They have trash around all the encampments. This is a pandemic and you want people to abide by the rules. Well please clean this disgusting mess up! I'm sick of my tax money not doing anything

Communication from Public

Name: Tracey
Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:05 AM
Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I vote YES on 41.18 to enforce and remove people who camp with their belongings. First let me be clear, both sides actually agree on what it is they want and that is to not have homeless people and their belongings living on the streets. What we don't agree on is the avenue in which to get there. This is not a one size fits all solution because there are many reasons for homelessness. Some of them are people that are just down and out on their luck, some have mental illness, some are drug addicted that actually want and prefer this lifestyle. By allowing this to continue, you are promoting this lifestyle of living, and taking away any chance they have to become productive members of society, to get clean and sober, and/or get the mental health treatment some of them need. This is not about punishing them this is about helping them by NOT allowing them to remain in the street. You are killing them and taking away their dignity to want a better life. There are clear cut real life examples coming from people who've lived this exact life in the streets and they will flat out tell you that enabling them is killing them! Most of them refuse help and refuse to move. I talk to many of them and for the ones that refuse they will flat out tell you they don't want to leave. Help them help themselves and they will make a better decision for themselves when there are consequences to willfully remain on the street. What's happening now is not helping. You're killing them slowly and while I truly believe the activists heart is in the right place, the approach is not. Please enforce and remove and I know you will see a change for the better. Do something different. Let's work together in this!

Communication from Public

Name: Nathan Arriaza
Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 12:06 PM
Council File No: 20-1376
Comments for Public Posting: I oppose more sweeps of unhouse people

Communication from Public

Name: Nicole Petrie

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 01:58 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmembers, 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 amendmending 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, Nicole Petrie 90045

Communication from Public

Name: Matthew Paine

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 01:11 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly support this motion. There is currently no law enforcement whatsoever near these encampments. People block sidewalks, have BBQs out in the open, drink, use drugs, urinate and defecate in the open. It is disgusting, and it is a tragedy. If services are offered, people should take them. If people choose not to take them, they should not be permitted to block sidewalks and infringe on the rights of the people that pay taxes and live within the law.

Communication from Public

Name: Isabella Gerasole

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 03:10 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: 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 amendmending 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, Isabella Gerasole

Communication from Public

Name: Jessica Gonzales

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 12:40 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly urge you to oppose 41.18. Remember in second grade when everyone went around and said what they wanted to be when they grew up? Firefighters, astronauts, presidents...No one said homeless in LA. No one. It is not laziness, nor a failure to pull oneself up by one's bootstraps. It is the result of the city's failure to meet the needs of its most vulnerable residents. It is the result of choosing money and power over the well-being of constituents. These people need help. And the fact that you think draconian kneecapping and criminalization of unhoused residents is some sort of "solution" legitimately terrifies me. They're not eyesores, they're human beings. I imagine you've grown callous over the years of career politicianing but please grow a soul. This isn't just morally depraved, it will literally make the problem worse for everyone.

Communication from Public

Name: Tito A. Hernandez

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 03:23 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I support providing the city more power to enforce no camping laws 500ft from overpasses and any supplied homeless shelter or homeless services. We cannot have people living in these encampment conditions putting themselves in danger and tax payers around those communities.

Communication from Public

Name: Michelle Y.

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 12:22 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: 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 amendmending 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.

Communication from Public

Name: Flor

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:08 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: My family and I support amending the current policy. There are available shelter beds that are unused, yet, tent encampments continue to grow on our sidewalks. We need a better enforcement mechanism. There has been a continued increase in crime, including assault, theft, and illicit drug sales in our neighborhood and all surrounding areas of L.A. This is not a human rights issue because services are available and provided to the unhoused. Many homeless refuse help because they want to keep using/dealing drugs. We live in an area where if we want to get to the park or across the street, we must walk on the actual busy STREET to do so! The encampments have taken over the whole sidewalks; my children and I are just not safe in our neighborhood! I've included a picture of what we deal with on a daily basis.



Communication from Public

Name: Darianna Cardilli

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:40 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Please pass the amendment to 41.18. As a resident of Los Angeles since 1996, and a homeowner since 2012, I no longer feel safe in this city. In the past 4 years the homeless presence near our house has increased exponentially, to the point that we no longer feel safe to walk to the store, walk the dog or go with our child to the nearby park. The encampments under the 101 at Laurel Canyon, Moorpark and Vineland are obscene and medieval - reminiscent of a third world country, not a city in one of the richest states of the US, that plans to hold the Olympics in 2028. This crisis existed well before CoVid 19, and now that the number of tents has tripled, only a change in the LAMC will address this issue. The living conditions of the unhoused are unsanitary, with drug paraphernalia on the ground, the stench of urine and feces, and vermin infesting the area. The homeless are often belligerent and aggressive, and their belongings spill over the sidewalk, not allowing 3 feet of clearance for a wheelchair, which is not in compliance with the ADA. As a law-abiding citizen, I feel my rights to live in a clean, safe environment are being subjugated to those who are homeless because of substance abuse and mental health issues. I donate to and volunteer with the Interfaith Pantry and other shelters and homeless organizations, I have empathy for those who have fallen on hard times, but in the case of the able bodied 20-30 year olds under the freeway overpass near my house, this seems to be a lifestyle choice. They vandalize and steal from small businesses (already suffering from the shut down of the pandemic) and harass customers. It is time for LA City Council to listen to its tax paying constituents, and amend the code to prevent sidewalk encampments near schools, parks and freeways entrances.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 02:02 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Yes, please amend LAMC 41.18 and 56.11! We need greater enforcement to keep our streets clean and safe. The situation is untenable!!

Communication from Public

Name: Jessica Vandenberg
Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:01 AM
Council File No: 20-1376
Comments for Public Posting: I oppose 41.18. Demanding that the city decriminalize poverty by repealing 41.18 and focus attentive on providing permanent housing at all unhoused angelenos.

Communication from Public

Name: Mohammad Hassanpour

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 04:55 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: With Respect this is Mohammad Hassanpour, a volunteer with the United Way's EveryoneIn Campaign, addressing Item 42. This motion and draft ordinance are the wrong approach to solving homelessness. I understand the reason for wanting such an ordinance, but prior experience shows it is a counterproductive approach. - All people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be banned from public spaces. - Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness. It is sweeping a problem under the rug. - While outreach workers and homeless service providers are working tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, consistent with the guidance and approach of the Departments of Public Health and Health Services to stay home to prevent the spread of COVID-19, but this proposal conflicts with their efforts. - This proposal wastes limited resources while jeopardizing the health and safety of those exposed to the elements during this crisis. - This motion effectively makes homelessness illegal in Los Angeles and thus constitutes the largest increase in the criminalization of homelessness in decades. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus on increasing access to immediate housing in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors. Please find the ACLU's legal primer on anti-camping ordinances attached.

Anti-Camping Ordinances – Important Case Law and Frequently Asked Questions

I. Important Cases

Statement of Interest of the United States, *Bell v. Boise*, No. 1:09-cv-00540, ECF No. 276 (D. Idaho Aug. 6, 2015)

The United States Department of Justice (“DOJ”) filed a statement of their position on the constitutionality of anti-camping ordinances in this federal lawsuit. In the statement, the DOJ argues that laws criminalizing camping or sleeping outdoors are unconstitutional when there is either (1) inadequate shelter space for a city’s homeless population or (2) shelter restrictions preventing certain individuals from accessing shelter. This is because sleeping is a necessary, unavoidable function of being alive, and the DOJ argues when people have *nowhere else* to do so, their choice to camp or sleep outside cannot be seen as voluntary. The Eighth Amendment prohibition against cruel and unusual punishment bars criminalizing an individual’s status. The DOJ argues that involuntary conduct, such as sleeping outdoors when no reasonable access to shelter space exists, is akin to criminalizing status and therefore cruel and unusual punishment.

Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order, *City of North Bend v. Joseph Bradshaw*, No. Y123426A (Muni. Court of Issaquah)

This order overturned the North Bend municipal ordinance used to convict Joseph Bradshaw of illegal camping. The ordinance banned camping in all parks, sidewalks, streets, alleys, or other publicly owned property accessible to the public. Camping was defined by the ordinance as making living accommodations or preparations to sleep, sleeping, erecting a tent, or storing belongings, among other activities. The North Bend Municipal Court ruled that, because the ordinance so broadly defined areas where camping was prohibited, the law infringed upon the constitutional right to travel since it “makes it impossible for homeless persons to live within the city.” It also ruled that the ordinance was cruel and unusual, since it effectively criminalized sleeping on any public property, despite sleeping being an unavoidable consequence of being human. Although some resources for the homeless were available in North Bend, the Court found that they were limited and that it was unclear if any would have been accessible by the plaintiff the night he was charged with illegal camping. Additionally, the Court held that pitching a tent, or sheltering oneself, was implicit in the right of a homeless individual to sleep. Finally, the court also ruled that the fact that sleeping in parks during the daytime was legal was not sufficient to preserve the important right to sleep, since “human beings are not nocturnal by nature.”

Memorandum Decision, *Everett v. Bluhm et al.*, No. CRP 7006 (Muni. Court of Everett Jan. 12, 2016)

The Everett Municipal Court ruled that the City of Everett’s anti-camping ordinance was unlawful in this Order. Everett’s law effectively prohibited camping on all publicly owned land and defined camping as pitching a tent or other structure or evidence of other “camp paraphernalia.” The court ruled, much like the North Bend Court, that the law violated the constitutional right to travel and the Eighth Amendment right to be free from cruel and unusual punishment. The court held that the resources available to Everett’s homeless population were

not sufficient to support “a large segment” of that population, and therefore there was no reasonable alternative to sleeping outside.

II. Frequently Asked Questions

What is an anti-camping ordinance? An anti-camping ordinance is a law that criminalizes the act of sleeping or pitching tents or other structures on publicly owned property. Anti-camping laws may also be contained in other city ordinances – for instance, the DOJ’s Statement of Interest noted that one of the ordinances in question in that case was a “disorderly conduct” ordinance that also criminalized sleeping in publicly owned areas. Some laws may criminalize sleeping, while others may focus on pitching tents or storing your belongings on public property. Additionally, some trespass ordinances may have the effect of criminalizing camping on public property.

What is the status versus conduct distinction? The status/conduct distinction holds that laws criminalizing a person for their status are cruel and unusual, while laws that make specified conduct or actions a crime are not. Under this distinction, courts have held, for instance, that a law criminalizing *the status of being an addict* is cruel and unusual, but laws that criminalize purchasing or using illegal drugs are not.

Do anti-camping ordinances criminalize status or conduct? Two courts in Washington and the DOJ have decided that bans on camping in public spaces criminalize homeless individuals for actions that are inseparable from their status because the actions are involuntary and unavoidable consequences of being human and homeless when there is inadequate shelter. And as the DOJ argues, “the Eighth Amendment outlaws the punishment of unavoidable conduct we know to be universal.”

Why does the DOJ consider camping ordinances to be status rather than conduct offenses? Because all human beings must sleep, individuals have no choice but to sleep *somewhere*. Because of that, in municipalities where there are not enough shelter beds, the homeless population is forced into a catch-22. It is illegal to sleep outside, but individuals cannot sleep anywhere else. Because they have no choice but to violate the law, the DOJ (and multiple Washington courts) have found that anti-camping ordinances criminalize conduct that is “indistinguishable from the status of homelessness.”

Do all anti-camping ordinances violate the Eighth Amendment? Maybe not, and any answer to this question is likely dependent on the facts in your community. It is possible that a city could have enough shelter resources that the homeless population *truly* has a choice to sleep elsewhere. When reasonable alternatives to outdoor camping exist, enforcement of anti-camping ordinances may not be unconstitutional. However, Washington courts have ruled that the mere existence of some resources for the homeless is not enough to overcome a finding that a law is cruel and unusual. For instance, in *Everett v. Bluhm*, the court held that there were not enough shelter beds to support “a large majority” of the city’s homeless and therefore the ban was unconstitutional. The DOJ also argues that restrictions on *who* can access shelter beds may make them inaccessible despite being unoccupied.

What is the right to travel? The right to travel is the right to be free from laws that either “penalize[] migration from state to state, or make[] it impossible to move about a state.” As Washington courts in both *Everett* and *North Bend* held, laws written so broadly that they make it impossible for a homeless person to live within a city (i.e. by criminalizing camping or lying down in *all* public places) may violate the right to travel.

Can public health concerns overcome this right? It depends. Washington courts have held that while public health and safety concerns may justify passing *some* ordinances to address public health and safety concerns associated with homeless camping, these ordinances must allow people to sleep and have shelter from the elements somewhere. For example, laws requiring that people not camp where they are blocking traffic are valid. But a city can’t eliminate sleeping in all public places if there is inadequate shelter space. As both courts ruled, laws addressing these concerns are only constitutional if they do not do “violence to important rights.”

Communication from Public

Name: Brennan Lindner
Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 02:09 PM
Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear City Council Members, Please vote in Favor of Council File 20-1376. This motion is vital because it will help Los Angeles maintain a balance between helping the homeless and helping the residents and homeowners keep and maintain a clean and healthy community and while still staying within the parameters of the Boise Idaho decision. This motion addresses the serious Americans with Disabilities Act violations, and while most people believe it only addresses those in wheelchairs, the ADA covers all disabilities, including those with autism, emotional disorders and more. My children suffer from these disabilities and are unable to walk in many sidewalk areas due to the noise, smell and obstructions. This is not acceptable. Please pass this reasonable and well thought out motion to help Los Angeles maintain a balance between helping the homeless and helping the residents and homeowners keep and maintain a clean and healthy community. Sincerely, Brennan Lindner 1127 Garfield Ave. Venice, CA 90291

Communication from Public

Name: Mitch Blumenfeld

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 12:10 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: For more than 3 years we have been enduring homeless encampments on the west side of Broadway between 38th and 39th. We have had no less than 6 fires that have damaged our building as a result of these encampments. We have an environment that fosters crime such as stolen motorcycles, bikes, drugs, illegal dumping, human waste being left on the sidewalk, drug activity, our emergency doors have been blocked in the event of an emergency, just to name a few things. I have sent pictures to Councilman's Prices' office demonstrating what I am talking about. Our walk in customer sales have decreased by 80% pre-Covid due to the condition of the neighborhood (prior to 2016, we were at 11th and Olive). I have been physically accosted in my own parking lot by the homeless. I now carry a weapon for personal protection even though after numerous attempts to get licensed, I was turned down. When is our City, with all the tax dollars we pay, going to consider the rights of the business and property owner. Your priorities have completely abandoned the people who pay your salaries. We are now considering moving our business out of the City of Los Angeles, and more than likely out of the State of California. It saddens me as I am a native Angelino and our business has been a fixture in downtown Los Angeles since 1949. I am sure we are not the first and from what I hear, are not the last to consider this alternative.

Communication from Public

Name: Paul

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:05 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: You should focus your efforts on providing hotel rooms, motel rooms, and permanent housing to ALL unhoused Angelenos (not just those in specific areas that are visible to the general public). You should end Special Enforcement and Cleaning Zones (SECZ) permanently. You need to respect CDC guidelines and work with health department officials to ensure that basic sanitation needs are met without the threat of displacement. You must halt all CARE+ “comprehensive cleanup” operations. You need to remove law enforcement from outreach. You should repeal LAMC 41.18, LAMC 56.11, and all ordinances used to criminalize unhoused residents.

Communication from Public

Name: Lauren Gold

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 12:22 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am appalled by Council File 20-1376. We should not be criminalizing unhoused citizens of Los Angeles - This motion is blatantly cruel. 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, Lauren

Communication from Public

Name: Arielle Sallai

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 01:49 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: It's clear that evictions cause homelessness, and we are in the midst of an eviction crisis as a result of the COVID pandemic. It's also clear that encampment sweeps are evictions, too — removing human beings from their chosen shelter, against their will. It seems quite obvious that evicting people from encampments won't solve our crisis of homelessness. It will exacerbate it. Councilman Blumenfeld put it quite plainly: The point of this motion is to "create visible progress." My question is: Progress for whom? Not for unhoused people, but progress for privileged homeowners who don't want to see poverty over the health outcomes of the vulnerable themselves. It's sad to see this almost exactly four years after voters affirmed the housing first model by passing proposition HHH, and practically no progress has been made. To be clear, the lack of progress is entirely your fault, and it does not wipe your hands of responsibility to actually house people. No one is going to fall for "visible" progress absent of actual progress, and human beings will suffer and die in the process of these criminalization policies. This is plainly unconstitutional in violation of *Martin v Boise*, which states that it is cruel and unusual punishment to ban people from living on the street when they have nowhere else to go. Because of your lack of progress on Prop HHH, there ARE NOT ENOUGH SHELTER BEDS. YOU CAN'T KEEP DOING THIS AND FINDING CARVEOUTS TO LITERALLY TORTURE PEOPLE WITH. Just fucking house people. I don't know what else to say anymore. Human beings deserve to live in dignity, and you are all shameless and disgusting if you vote yes.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:31 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: We live in fear of daily theft, trash, drug use, zombies, aggressive behavior, drug paraphernalia like needles and burnt foil, piles of trash. This is not what living in a 1.5mil dollar home should feel like! I can't walk the streets with my children as it is not safe. We pay massive amounts of property taxes, sales tax, fuel tax... I should not be able to watch homeless people camp in our neighborhood, defecating openly, shooting up illegal narcotics with NO fear of police interference! We live in a neighborhood known for 50+ years as Candy Cane Lane, hundreds of thousands people travel to see our holiday lights every year. Sadly this year we are discussing going dark as we don't feel supported by our city keeping our streets safe. We have the worst overpass encampments in the west valley and NOTHING has been done to protect OUR RIGHTS! These "homeless" people are drug addicts who have been given EVERY opportunity to get help but choose to live the lawless lifestyle LA has supported. This MUST stop, our children deserve more!!! PLEASE PROVIDE MANDATORY HOUSING AND MAKE ENCAMPMENTS ILLEGAL.

Communication from Public

Name: William Hourigan

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 02:58 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, I'm writing as a resident of Los Angeles CD14 to demand that the City Council (and my councilperson Kevin De Leon) oppose the proposed legislation 41.18 criminalizing homelessness in Los Angeles. This is an inhumane and compassionless response to what is certainly a serious problem. Instead, I request that the Council propose legislation decriminalizing poverty and homelessness, focus effort and resources on providing hotel rooms and housing to unhoused Angelenos, and end Care+ sweeps in favor of work actually meeting the needs of unhoused Angelenos. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Evan Tuohey

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:06 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: 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.

Communication from Public

Name: Alison Fedyna

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:22 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to request that you repeal all laws that criminalize homelessness, including 41.18. It is despicable that this council would move to further criminalize poverty by going after unhoused residents in Los Angeles instead of focusing efforts on providing accommodation and permanent housing to unhoused Angelinos. In this moment when we are facing a pandemic and record unemployment we should be putting our efforts towards creating immediate and innovative solutions to provide permanent housing options to some of our most vulnerable community members, not criminalize them for not having access to opportunity. Because of this, I am asking you to vote no on 41.18. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Lisa Roy

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 10:38 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: As a Social Worker currently serving the unhoused of downtown Los Angeles, I want to voice my strong opposition to this proposal. Any attempt to criminalize homelessness, no matter how well intentioned or how it is paired with coercive services, is not doing justice for my clients. I get it. You have constituents that are complaining. And some of them have legitimate concerns that you want to address. But pushing unhoused from area to area is not justice. I promise - the negative effects of sweeps on my clients, psychologically and socially, far outweigh the positives of a temporary "clean" street. Shelter should be readily available and voluntary every time. Coerced shelter is merely jail with another name. Believe it or not, we can trust the vast majority of unhoused people to choose the rock or hard place that best serves their needs. When there are enough quality, voluntary shelter beds for those on the streets, then maybe we can talk about creative ways to incentivize participation in shelter. Until then? Please stop the sweeps.

Communication from Public

Name: Tudor Popescu

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:40 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I oppose this motion because it criminalizes the poor and offers no new services. At a time when our country is facing an economic crisis due to the pandemic, the city council should not further hurt the poor. It should offer services and support mutual aid efforts.

Communication from Public

Name: Traci Shomof

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:28 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: We need our sidewalks cleaned and cleared. It is absolutely horrible how the city is handling the situation and something needs to change. It is unsanitary, unsafe, and uncomfortable to keep living in a city that allows this to happen on the sidewalks in business and residential areas.

Communication from Public

Name: Tracia

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 02:04 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Speaking for every neighbor I know - we support these amendments. People should not be allowed to live on the sidewalk wherever they like. If services exist, they should take them.

Communication from Public

Name: Roxy Crimson

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 06:52 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Please vote in favor of amendment 41. Our city has been destroyed. Sidewalks are being blocked and my family is no longer going outside due to the growing encampments in the neighborhood. I appreciate you clearing these so residents are able to freely walk to school, go to parks, etc. once again. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: David F. Pumpkins

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 02:28 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I'm strongly in opposition to this Ordinance as well as the manner in which this conversation was brought to the discussion. It is extremely distressing to see the City Attorney draft an Ordinance endangering lives of our most vulnerable communities and commission even more LAPD cruelty against unhoused Angelenos. Public property belongs to the public. Stop criminalizing poverty and start working on actual solutions.

Communication from Public

Name: Nisha Vyas

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:57 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am a Los Angeles City resident, living in Council District 10. I write to vociferously oppose the motion introduced by Councilmember Blumenfield on October 21, and the October 26 draft ordinance prepared by the City Attorney's office, related to amending Ord 41.18. This is a draconian proposal that invests City resources into further criminalizing homelessness. Criminalizing homelessness does not only not work, it is a cruel and inhumane way to treat people who are the victims of our local, state and federal failures in crafting coherent and meaningful housing policy. At any time, such a proposal would and should attract strong opposition from residents of a City fed up with our officials' inability to meaningfully address the crisis through services, offering housing, and shoring up housing stability. But during the COVID-19 global pandemic at the start of a third wave in our communities, this move by the City Council is unconscionable. Please stop playing politics with people's lives. Reject the motion and the proposal outright.

Communication from Public

Name: Maggie
Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 06:08 PM
Council File No: 20-1376
Comments for Public Posting: I live in EAST LA. Homelessness is a public issue, and this would criminalize it—no! People experiencing homelessness need SUPPORT, not fees, citations, and this nonsense.

Communication from Public

Name: Emma

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:48 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am extremely opposed to 41.18. The city needs to decriminalize poverty and homelessness, not worsen those conditions with laws like 41.18. The city council. should be using its power to provide more permanent and safe housing for Angelenos and put an end to the harmful Care+ sweeps.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 06:05 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Please help us clean up our neighborhoods, this is a health crisis that needs to be addressed

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 10:15 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: The situation at Echo Park lake is ridiculous. A community resource is being held hostage by the unhoused. I live two blocks from the park. Nothing is safe on our front porches, things left out are stolen but no one is dumb enough to leave anything valuable enough out that's worth calling the police about. I walk the streets around the park and every morning, a woman in a broken down white minivan on Bellevue gets out of her van and dumps a small trashcan / chamberpot with that nights waste onto the park grounds a few feet from the walking path. None of the unhoused wear masks. It's not safe to walk with my one year old around the lake to see the ducks and geese. I feel like my city and our representatives are failing us.

Communication from Public

Name: Ryan Dalton

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 12:37 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am a CD4 resident and I oppose this legislation. This attempt to criminalize poverty in the midst of an economic crisis and pandemic is appalling, cynical, and a total abdication not only of moral responsibility but of the job you have been elected to do.

Communication from Public

Name: Michelle

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:56 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am a resident of District 14 (El Sereno) and I strongly encourage the Council to approve the attached ordinance. This ordinance will help protect residents and existing neighborhoods. During the past year, there has been a significant increase in the number of people either camping in parks and other open spaces areas or in public right-of-ways. Many of the unhoused people stay and use the parks, open spaces, or adjacent sidewalk and street right-of-way (ROW) as their own personal property. They are using open spaces, parks and the sidewalk to sit, cook, store items, drink and use drugs. The use of the parks, open space, and ROW as living space detracts from the quality of life for all residents in the neighborhood. Further, because people are living in these spaces, residents are unable to use the parks, open space areas, and ROW as intended. Finally, the use of the ROW as “living space” is also a public health concern because people are leaving trash and human waste in parks, open space areas, and the ROW. Everyone in the neighborhood are fed up with cleaning up trash and sometimes human waste constantly as a result of these camps. Please approve this now. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Catherine St George

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 12:03 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: The fact that this ordinance based on this motion, which, if passed, would amend LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11 to allow the city to ban: Sitting, sleeping or lying down within 500 feet of freeways, ramps, and tunnels Sitting, sleeping or lying down within 500 feet of any facility opened after January 2018 that provides housing, shelter, services, safe parking, or storage to unhoused people Storing property in the areas listed above Additionally, it would ban sitting, sleeping, or lying down in ANY PUBLIC SPACE IN THE CITY if “an offer of shelter is provided before enforcement occurs.” Is beyond DISGRACEFUL and INHUMANE. To then not provide any new housing resources, wrap-around services for those experiencing homelessness, or any solutions to decrease the unhoused population in LA., yet look to expand harmful criminalization policies is a level of cruelty I never imagined could happen during such trying times. This is WRONG ON EVERY LEVEL.

Communication from Public

Name: Samantha Step
Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:19 AM
Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am requesting that you oppose any legislation that allows the city to ban sitting, sleeping, and lying within 500 feet of freeways, ramps, and tunnels; within 500 feet of any facility opened after January 2018 that provides housing, shelter, services, safe parking, or storage to unhoused people; or any that criminalizes storage of property in the areas listed above. There is no reason to further criminalize people for simply existing, and further overburdening our punitive system. Doing so will waste tax dollars and further harm those who are already lacking resources to change their situation anyway.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 03:24 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I'd like to stand by Services Not Sweeps' Coalition Statement: We demand that the city take the following actions immediately:
Focus efforts on providing hotel rooms, motel rooms, and permanent housing to ALL unhoused Angelenos (not just those in specific areas that are visible to the general public) End Special Enforcement and Cleaning Zones (SECZ) permanently Respect CDC guidelines and work with health department officials to ensure that basic sanitation needs are met without the threat of displacement Halt all CARE+ “comprehensive cleanup” operations Remove law enforcement from outreach Repeal LAMC 41.18, LAMC 56.11, and all ordinances used to criminalize unhoused residents.

Communication from Public

Name: Eric Ares

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:17 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am a resident of CD1 and I STRONGLY urge a NO vote on this motion. This measure is wrong, ineffective, inconsistent with current public health guidelines re: COVID-19, and cruel. Experiencing homelessness is a crisis, not a crime. All people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. The best available research shows punitive approaches are expensive, ineffective, and counter-productive. They move people experiencing homelessness around without creating or taking advantage of permanent solutions. Approaches like this are tied to racist systems of oppression that undervalue the civil rights of those experiencing homelessness, who are disproportionately Black and deserve the same access to public services as housed residents. Proposals like this motion, which seeks to move homelessness out of sight, without solving it, erode collective trust and frustrate the effectiveness of those working fervently on complex permanent solutions. The proposed ordinance is inconsistent with the guidance of the Departments of Public Health and Health Services for everyone to shelter in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19. When COVID-19 began spreading through the homeless community, over 50% of infections occurred in congregate shelters where overcrowding and lack of adequate hygiene infrastructure contributed to an unsafe environment for residents and staff. Sheltering in place has prevented wide scale spread of COVID-19 amongst the unsheltered homeless population. As congregate sites continue to work with reduced bed capacity to prevent the spread of COVID-19 inside interim housing, the ability to shelter in place is increasingly critical to the health and safety of unhoused Angelenos. With the coldest and rainiest days approaching - and winter shelters already full because they never closed - it is especially cruel to make it illegal for someone without a home to follow public health guidance and take shelter from the rain underneath a freeway. We know that pushing people from one public space to another doesn't make it any more likely that the person will secure permanent housing. We should be fighting poverty, not poor people. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus on increasing access to immediate housing in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors

can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Olivia Lee

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 01:56 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: As the largest Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), AltaMed Health Services provides comprehensive health services to underserved populations across LA County, including people experiencing homelessness. Additionally, AltaMed provides specialized case management services for our homeless patients and has assisted dozens of patients in accessing Project Roomkey sites throughout the current pandemic. AltaMed strongly opposes agenda item 42 and believes this motion and subsequent amendments to the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) are the wrong approaches to solving homelessness in Los Angeles. If approved, the motion would allow an ordinance amending Section 41.18 of the LAMC to specify the particular times and locations where it shall be unlawful for a person to sit, lie, or sleep on public property. Ultimately giving the City of Los Angeles authority to make it illegal for people experiencing homelessness to exist near any shelter or homeless services related property, within 500 feet of freeways, or anywhere in the city if they have been “offered shelter.” This motion effectively makes homelessness illegal in Los Angeles and constitutes the largest increase in the criminalization of homelessness in decades. While Section 41.18 focuses on when and where individuals may lodge, Section 56.11 regulates where and how people may store their personal property in public spaces. If agenda item 42 is approved, the draft ordinance would amend LAMC Section 56.11 to align with the new provisions of Section 41.18 by banning the storage of personal property in any area where sitting, lying, and sleeping is banned by Section 41.18. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness. In fact, it's a completely ineffective approach – data and research clearly state that an enforcement-led approach is not evidence-based. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal also conflicts with their efforts and depends on the misuse of limited housing and financial resources while jeopardizing the health and safety of those most in need of being inside. The guidance and approach of the Departments of Public Health and Health Services has been for everyone to shelter in place and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among the homeless population. Additionally, we'd like to emphasize the

importance of continuing and increasing trained Outreach Teams with an accompanying infrastructure that will enable linkages to services including housing options. AltaMed is working with such a team at the moment due to the large encampment near one of our clinics and patient safety concerns as to clinic access. All people should have the right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. Therefore, AltaMed urges the city councilmembers to vote no on this motion and instead focus on increasing access to immediate housing, including maintaining access to Project Roomkey, throughout Los Angeles so that our unhoused neighbors can access shelter.

Communication from Public

Name: Lara Schilling

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:06 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am utterly APPALLED by Agenda Item No. 42. In the middle of a pandemic, in a city & county with skyrocketing rents and the second highest unemployment rate in the state - LA City Councilmembers Blumenfield, Buscaino, Rodriguez, Krekorian, Price, Cedillo, and Lee are FURTHER criminalizing houselessness. It is not a crime to be unhoused. There are clear reasons - cited above - for why our neighbors are losing their homes. I beg you to focus on THOSE issues rather than the people themselves, who are not to blame for their current circumstances. Agenda Item No. 42 is both actively dehumanizing and inhumane. Have you zero empathy for your neighbors?

Communication from Public

Name: Debra Kaufman
Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 10:49 AM
Council File No: 20-1173

Comments for Public Posting: I have lived in Venice for over 40 years and have always recognized the historic importance of the First Baptist Church of Venice. It should be designated a Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monument. The building has played a key role in maintaining, and more recently in focusing, the long history of the Black community in Venice. It sits like a beacon across from Oakwood Park in the heart of what has been Venice's Black neighborhood and is a classic example of late mid-century architecture. Over these many years the First Baptist Church of Venice has also played key roles in the community, as some vibrant and committed churches do, providing a site for spiritual gathering and community building, social justice activism, community health and social service work, community-serving non-profits, housing for people in need, community events, and more. For some reason the city has overlooked the dynamic history of Black Venice and the centrality of this church in that history - and it's high-time to remedy that oversight. Please do the right thing and designate the First Baptist Church of Venice a Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monument.

Communication from Public

Name: Rachel Hawthorne

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 02:54 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: How about instead of throwing them aside, maybe actually help out the homeless. Half of them can't even get jobs because an address is required... WELL HOW ARE THEY SUPPOSED TO MAKE MONEY TO BUY THE HOUSE WHEN THEY NEED A HOUSE TO GET A JOB????? make it make sense.

Communication from Public

Name: Isabella Roland
Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:31 AM
Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmembers, 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. The text of the motion instructs the city attorney to draft amendments to 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, Isabella Roland

Communication from Public

Name: Griffin G.

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 01:11 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: While no one would claim that the motion at hand has any hope of solving homelessness in LA, I must say that I fail to see how this even qualifies as a stop-gap - or anything but a cruel and cynical attempt by an inept Council to punish unhoused Angelenos for your own failure to address multiple ongoing crises. The motion pays homage to the ongoing disaster of a housing crisis brought on by speculators, including those in your midst; it is laden with ostensible concern over the health, sanitation, and safety of unhoused people living near under/overpasses; and it leverages the reality of this city's racist, classist, environmentally destructive, and downright impractical transportation infrastructure. But, rather than attempting to address those issues head on, the Council is proposing to criminalize the very state of homelessness and provide legal cover to send in LAPD, LASD, and CHP officers to kick unhoused people out of the only semblance of shelter they have been able to find! Do you really think that further criminalizing some of our most vulnerable neighbors is appropriate, especially given the present popular outrage over police and sheriff abuses of power? The co-sponsors ought to be ashamed of such a cynical attempt to punish, through eviction and state violence, those Angelenos most adversely impacted by multiple ongoing crises. May you all rest listlessly with the knowledge that the people see this motion for what it is, and that we will see you for who you are should you fail to contest it.

Communication from Public

Name: Andres Gonzalez

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:00 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: 41.18 is a criminalization of the unhoused population at a time when every the average Angelino can barely stay in their homes. Reject 41.18 and all other ordinances that criminalize the unhoused population. Provide homes not police warrants. End CARE + and other city policies that legitimize sweeps on unhoused and displaced populations. These actions only further the stressors that families and LA residents are experiencing right now, and to treat the unhoused population as criminals is to treat everyone in this city as a criminal, especially when so many of us are facing evictions and displacement.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 12:22 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: We are in the midst of a humanitarian crisis. It is currently not possible to pay rent anywhere in the US while earning minimum wage. Unemployment is at an all time high and COVID-19 case numbers are surging. The other day on La Cienega Blvd I witnessed a pregnant woman wading through traffic asking for change while holding a sign that said "EVICTED PLEASE HELP". Ordinance 41.18 is a testament to how we treat our most vulnerable. Where will her and her newborn baby sleep? With the 2028 Olympics on the horizon, this ordinance is seeking "sanitize" Los Angeles. People who are experiencing homelessness are not subhuman, and they should not be further harassed by the police. I beg of you to reconsider your choices as protectors of this city.

Communication from Public

Name: Sarah Rogozen
Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:29 AM
Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Council, I am a homelessness prevention attorney, working with people experiencing homelessness, who endure the consequences of the criminalization of homelessness measures already being enforced in Los Angeles. The proposed ordinance would make their lives so much worse. Every citation an unhoused person receives makes it harder for them to access jobs and housing. This is directly counter to our goals to reduce homelessness. When an encampment is "cleared," IDs, medication, and other precious items are destroyed. In my experience, it is almost impossible to obtain new identification once all of a person's identifying documents have been destroyed in a sweep. Without their ID, a person cannot access housing and food stamps, and can't receive services from many agencies. People live under freeways because that is where they feel safe and sheltered. I have never had a client who told me they felt safe in a homeless shelter. It is cruel to forcibly remove people from the homes they have created for themselves, and it is cruel to destroy their shelter and belongings. The proposed ordinance would also be gravely unjust from a racial equity and community safety perspective. Black community members are disproportionately represented in the homeless population, and will disproportionately bear the brunt of the violence embedded in the proposal. Passing this ordinance will create more contacts between Black people and police, when the police enforce the proposed law, or "support" the Bureau of Sanitation in doing so. We know how much harm the Black community has experienced in this city from police encounters, and we should not compound those losses by creating more opportunities for violence. We must be a better city than this. Instead of wreaking havoc on the lives of some of the most vulnerable members of our society, let's focus our energy and our funds on policies that support the unhoused -- survival supplies, sustainably affordable housing, and decriminalizing homelessness -- not greater criminalization. I urge you to reject the proposed ordinance.

Communication from Public

Name: Annemarie Werthwein

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 12:16 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I object to criminalizing homelessness. During a pandemic so many are unemployed and have lost their homes . This is unjust .

Communication from Public

Name: Audrey Nguyen
Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:19 AM
Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I along with many other citizens of this city, demand that the city council repeal all laws that criminalize homelessness including 41.18. Provide housekeys not handcuffs! Focus efforts on providing hotel rooms and permanent housing to ALL unhoused Angelenos. End "Care+" sweeps that don't actually care for homeless folks asking them to pack all their belongings within 10 minutes and be knocked down even further in life. Work with health department officials to meet residents needs without threatening displacement. DO NOT PASS 41.18!!!!

Communication from Public

Name: Nicole

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 06:13 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing against the October 21st, 2020 motion (Council File 20-1376) I don't see how it is anything other than a waste of money and resources - Throwing the homeless population in jail over petty or made-up offenses is NOT a solution to the city's mounting problem. After a few months, they will be back on the streets in a worse state. We ask you to be humane in your policies but most of all we ask you to be effective with taxpayer money and not waste it on systems perpetuating the problem (like police/ jail) instead of solving it. I demand you oppose the motion to instruct the city attorney to draft amendments to LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11 and start thinking about real solutions for once. Nicole

Communication from Public

Name: Silvana Naguib
Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:20 AM
Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am an attorney at Public Counsel serving people experiencing homelessness. I and all the homelessness advocates I know am appalled by this proposal. There is absolutely no reason to criminalize sleeping near freeways. Our city has failed people experiencing homelessness. The "offers of shelter" are empty and, if they come, come from LAHSA workers who are accompanied by police officers. Shelters do not accept couples, and they don't accept pets, for starters. You are demanding that people experiencing homelessness accept an offer that doesn't exist and doesn't make them feel safe, and separates them from their loved ones and all feelings of safety, or be subject to arrest. This is horrific cruelty. Freeway underpasses are some of the only places in the county where people can be safe from the rain, wind, and sun. Where they can stay away from business owners who harass and/or call the police on them. This will cause unimaginable harm and create barriers to permanent housing. You will make the work of advocates exponentially more difficult. To attempt to push this through with so little notice during the week before election day is unconscionable. I hope the few councilmembers with integrity will see through this blatant cruelty and opportunism.

Communication from Public

Name: Madlelyn

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:12 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Madlelyn; I would like to speak on Item 42 and make a general public comment. To say that homelessness is a huge problem in our community is an understatement. I manage the office at a business operating for over 20 years in Council District 9. For many years, our business has experienced extreme difficulties with the homeless and displaced population. Encampments have become a permanent feature in our community. It's no longer just tents. It's little makeshift houses, broken down RVs, and tents that span entire city blocks, with no access to the public right of way. On many occasions, the encampments have been the first thing I have had to deal with on my way to work, and as soon as I arrive at the office. They block driveways and right of way, making it impossible to load and unload merchandise. They steal power and water, start fires, relieve themselves in the streets, and much worse. We need to do something. We can't keep allowing people just to set up house wherever they feel like it for as long as they want. The sidewalk shouldn't be considered home for weeks, months, and years in some instances. We have been victims of vandalism, theft, and arson. We have had fire damage caused by electrical theft. One fire destroyed an entire encampment and left the encampment residents with nothing. It burned for almost an hour and nearly reached our offices. The fire crew had extreme difficulty extinguishing the fire because the closest hydrant was damaged from encampments stealing water from it. Our business was broken into and burglarized as recently as this last Sunday the 25th. Merchandise was stolen and property was damaged. Moreover, this wasn't even close to the first incident. During a break-in last year, not only was merchandise stolen, but our roof was damaged. We have had rocks thrown over our fence, damaging an employee's vehicle. Which of course we had to pay for. In another instance, an employee's car battery was stolen. We had to pay for it. I feel that all of these instances could have been avoided if people were not allowed to camp like this, in the public right of way. Last year I started taking a new route on my way to work in the morning because there was a man who would openly masturbate and do drugs on the sidewalk. I had to walk into the street on the new route, passing an encampment that blocked public right of way and wreaked of human waste. And now, with

COVID, I don't trust the neighborhood's safety at all. I have been in contact with the city council and city services for years. In the last few months, I have been in closer contact in hopes of finding a solution to the ongoing problem that has only worsened over the last year. We need to find a way to get people to accept the resources they're offered. Allowing the homeless to camp wherever they want is not working. The encampments refuse to use the city resources provided to them. There are bridge homes, there are shelters, and there are essential resources like water, showers, and bathrooms that the residents have access to, but instead, for whatever reason, they choose to camp out on the street. It's almost like they don't want help from the community, from the city. We need to change the policy. We can't keep letting people camp wherever they want. They need to use the resources provided to them. We need to be able to walk by, to do business, and to feel safe. For far too long we have been pleading for sound and fair solutions to this humanitarian crisis and while Councilmember Curren Price and his staff have made great efforts in trying to meet our requests, the countless restrictions and obstacles set by current laws, and lawsuits have been a massive challenge. I am calling to voice my support for a set of proposals that would amend Municipal Code section 41.18 which would: Ban sitting, sleeping, or lying when it is within 500 feet of a freeway overpass and/or tunnel. As well as prohibit homeless encampments within 500 feet of housing shelters, supportive services, and safe parking or storage for homeless persons. I also support the removal of homeless camps when it blocks the public right away in a manner that violates the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Additionally, I support amending 56.11 to align it with the new version of 48.11 by banning the storage of personal property where sitting, sleeping, or lying is banned and to suspend the Bulky item provisions so LA Sanitation can keep our community clean. I urge the City Council to support this much-needed policy now. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Linell Catalan

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:02 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I oppose changes made to LAMC section 41.18. As public health nurse who has worked in homeless services, I am appalled, angry and disgusted with the stipulations listed in this drafted ordinance. It is inhuman and utterly disconnected. It does not seek to address the underlying root of homelessness: poor access to mental health services, poor access to healthcare, a housing affordability crisis and limited TRAUMA INFORMED services to help transition homeless individuals into housing. There has yet to be meaningful effort to coordinate services to assist people experiencing homelessness. Criminalization of the poor and vulnerable is NOT ACCEPTABLE.

Communication from Public

Name: Linda Mcclellan
Date Submitted: 10/27/2020 08:32 PM
Council File No: 20-1376
Comments for Public Posting: Please clear out the homeless encampments that are spreading throughout the san Fernando valley. No trash piles, no train of stolen shopping carts filled with stuff, no tents blocking the sidewalk, no piles of stolen bicycles, no feces and urine, no needles, no , no no!!!stop enabling and literally allowing open drug use. And btw, please kick out do nothing Blumenthal.

Communication from Public

Name: Isabel Naturman

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 10:13 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Councilmember Lee: On October 21 2020, you were among a group of City Councilmembers who presented a motion that stands to increase the criminalization of unhoused Angelenos across the city— including CD-12. Councilmember Lee— have you ever actually taken the time to engage with the unhoused residents in your district, past displacing them when pressured by fearmongering and discriminatory CD-12 homeowners, or when exploiting their situation for photo opportunities? Have you ever asked them directly what they might want or need? As someone that has gotten to know some of my unhoused neighbors in CD-12, I can say confidently that this motion is NOT IT. This stands to completely derail any type of positive solution, and dehumanizes and criminalizes our neighbors that need care. 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, this is yet 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, Isabel Naturman

Communication from Public

Name: Ruby Rivera

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 01:06 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: This is Ruby Rivera with Innerscity Struggle and the Healthy LA Coalition, addressing Item 42. This cruel motion and draft ordinance are the wrong approach to solving homelessness. All people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with their efforts and depends on the misuse of limited housing and financial resources while jeopardizing the health and safety of those most in need of being inside. The guidance and approach of the Departments of Public Health and Health Services has been for everyone to shelter in place and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among the homeless population. This motion effectively makes homelessness illegal in Los Angeles constitutes the largest increase in the criminalization of homelessness in decades. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus on increasing access to immediate housing in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: D. Hicks

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 12:02 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Dawn with Venice Community Housing, addressing Item 42. This cruel motion and draft ordinance are the wrong approach to solving homelessness. All people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with their efforts and depends on the misuse of limited housing and financial resources while jeopardizing the health and safety of those most in need of being inside. The guidance and approach of the Departments of Public Health and Health Services has been for everyone to shelter in place and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among the homeless population. This motion effectively makes homelessness illegal in Los Angeles constitutes the largest increase in the criminalization of homelessness in decades. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus on increasing access to immediate housing in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors. We demand the city: Repeal all laws that criminalize homelessness including 41.18, focus efforts on providing hotel rooms and permanent housing to ALL unhoused Angelenos, and work with health department officials to meet residents' needs without threatening displacement.

Communication from Public

Name: Olivia Gibian

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:45 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to oppose the amendments to LA municipal codes 41.18 and 56.11, proposed by LA city council members Blumfield, Buscaino, Rodriguez, Krekorian, Price, Cedillo, and Lee on Oct 21. The proposed motion would drastically expand the criminalization of homelessness in our city, to devastating effects. I am asking the City Council to focus on expanding services to our unhoused community, as well as putting resources into expanding transitional/ permanent housing opportunities. People's lives are at stake, and further criminalization does nothing to help those in need. Thank you for your consideration.

Communication from Public

Name: Jennifer O'Donnell

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 06:39 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am asking City Council to oppose the revision to Municipal Code 41.18. Sweeps are a cruel, expensive, and ineffective response to homelessness. There are better ways, and we are a better people than this.

Communication from Public

Name: Mitra Jouhari

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 10:06 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Banning sitting, sleeping, or lying by these public spaces is inhumane. How can the council live with this? People deserve a place to sit and a place to lay. How can you stomach making it harder for people to simply find a place to rest? I don't know how you can sleep at night, pushing forward legislation like this. I hope you see how activated this voter base is and where our priorities lie - we are not corrupt like you and we will keep fighting for our unhoused neighbors. It's your JOB to make people's lives better, and that includes the unhoused people in your district. Do NOT pass this ban.

Communication from Public

Name: Margery Brown
Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 01:59 PM
Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: If the Council votes in favor of this motion, I can only hope that they will understand that, at the present time, we are terribly short of beds in which to place the homeless who are sleeping on the streets. Everything possible IS being done to remedy this situation, but we need thousands of beds, and it takes time to find or build them...a great deal of time and money. There has also been a problem, often getting the homeless to agree to go to a shelter, and there has been nothing anyone can do about that. If you pass this motion, and a person refuses help, will there be a remedy for this problem....some consequences for the homeless person? Without it, we will be in the same situation as we are now.....for a very long time.

Communication from Public

Name: Sophie Bridges

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 02:18 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I was born and raised in Hollywood, where the impact of the City's failure to provide unhoused services is painfully clear. It is shocking and appalling that a city as rich as ours seemingly cannot provide resources to its most vulnerable residents. The City's current policy is already a human rights violation, and item 42 will only make things worse. I would like to see City Council spend time, energy, and public money on actually strengthening services for unhoused people. I would like to see an end to the ironically named CARE+ sweeps, and renewed commitment to getting unhoused people in multiple types of housing— including hotel rooms, particularly as the COVID-19 crisis continues to rage. Unpaid community organizers are currently picking up the City's slack, and working around the clock to save the lives the City jeopardizes every day. Today I attempted to give public comment at a virtual City Council meeting. The meeting started late and allowed an abusive commenter to hijack both the public comment waiting room and the actual comment session. Moreover, the public comment session was moved to after an unrelated hour-long presentation on school reopening, and then to a later special session. It was hard not to think City Council was attempting to make it as difficult as possible to hear input from their constituents. How many Angelenos can afford to take more than three hours off work in the middle of the day for the chance to express their perspective their elected officials for 1 minute? Imagine the LA we could have if the Council spent as much time doing their jobs as they do stifling public input. That's the kind of LA I'd like to live in.

Communication from Public

Name: David Albrecht
Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 12:17 PM
Council File No: 20-1376
Comments for Public Posting: I strongly OPPOSE any amendments to LAMC 41.18. The issues surrounding the unhoused in Los Angeles are not addressed through enhanced criminalization and enforcement. "Services not sweeps."

Communication from Public

Name: Ashraf Farassati
Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 09:08 PM
Council File No: 20-1376
Comments for Public Posting: Oppose 4118. Decriminalize poverty, provide housing, save the 70,000 people suffering on the streets of Los Angeles!

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 12:41 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: On October 21 2020, LA City Councilmembers Blumenfield, Buscaino, Rodriguez, Krekorian, Price, Cedillo, and Lee presented a motion that instructs the city attorney to draft amendments to 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 are spending time and city resources for a motion that will only shield neighbors from the view of the homelessness crisis, but not do anything to actually address the crisis. City Council and the Mayor's office need to 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 provide truly dignified living accommodations. I oppose the motion to instruct the city attorney to draft amendments to LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11. Sincerely, Chase Weaver

Communication from Public

Name: Jarred

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 01:27 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: The 41.18 proposal is a ghastly, sociopathic disaster that will kill unhoused people in our community. Our unhoused neighbors need homes, not handcuffs, and passing this would be an abhorrent action. Where the hell are these people supposed to go? Temporary hotel rooms and permanent housing solve the problem of homelessness humanely. Policing just causes more misery and death. Sweeps must end NOW and these people need to be given help. Adopt council member Bonin's substitute Item 42 proposal.

Communication from Public

Name: Heather
Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 03:12 PM
Council File No: 20-1376
Comments for Public Posting: Thank you so much for proposing this idea! Please vote it in, our cities need cleaning up! The transients are a hazard to our safety and health!

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 04:27 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: “If the price of making sure that the kids of Venice don’t need to walk in the middle of the street to get to school because the sidewalks are filled with encampments is a string of profanities on my social media accounts, that’s the price we will pay because the alternative is just absolutely unthinkable,” Bonin said. Venice kids, parents with strollers, and the disabled have to use the streets to avoid the needles, feces, and trash left by those who are not mentally stable. Business owners are to risk their safety as mentally unstable people suffer on the street and will NOT go into shelters. Expansion of homeless services without enforcement is dangerous for kids, residents, and the unhoused. It provides an environment ripe for criminal exploitation.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 12:31 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am a resident in CM Koretz's district. Criminalization of homelessness doesn't work and is illegal. It will cost the City millions in attorneys fees to address a social issue, money that could be spent on evidence based practices and services to help people. Yes, homelessness is a problem but criminalizing having possessions on the street will not house or feed people. Haven't we learned anything about addressing these systemic issues? We have competent staff at our homelessness and housing agencies. Is this based on their recommendations or is this more of let's just do anything so we get re-elected?

Communication from Public

Name: Dennis Hathaway
Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 04:50 PM
Council File No: 20-1173

Comments for Public Posting: I urge the City Council to support consideration of the First Baptist Church of Venice as a city Historic-Cultural Monument. As a long-time Venice resident, I am aware of the singular role the Oakwood neighborhood where the church is located has played in the cultural history of the community and Los Angeles as a whole. Oakwood was once the only place where black people were allowed to live in Venice, and the church was a central part of those residents' lives and remained so even after the area was desegregated. Remembering that history is important for everyone, no matter their race or ethnicity, and I hope the city will recognize and honor it by directing the Cultural Heritage Commission to consider it for inclusion with all the other important cultural and historic sites in the city.

Communication from Public

Name: Anna

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 12:30 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am STRONGLY opposed to 41.18 and 56.11 Councilmembers, you know that unhoused people are your constituents too, right? If you care so little for their lives, how am I supposed to believe that you care about anyone's life? Our unhoused neighbors should be allowed to live with dignity and respect, and instead, you have decided to strip those things from them, piece by piece, through legislation after legislation, until nothing remains, and then you further punish them for having nothing! You helped design and manufacture the environment in which we all live now, yet you take no responsibility for the harm you have caused. I live near a freeway, do you know what I see when I notice a tent encampment in my neighborhood? The total and absolute FAILURE of our so-called representatives to truly represent, advocate for, and provide basic human needs for their constituency; the FAILURE of decades of criminalization austerity measures instead of relief; the failure of YOU to do anything to offer affordable housing, rent relief, eviction protections, adequate shelters, anything... we have been screaming at you to provide these things for so long, and you can't be bothered, but suddenly you decide you urgently need to make it illegal to sleep near a freeway and you ram that through no problem. And guess what? California was already living in a housing hellscape before the pandemic, but we are NOW living on the precipice of mass evictions, which you have done NOTHING to help prevent. More people stand to be out on the street in this city, and you are spending your time passing criminalization measures instead of ANYTHING substantive that might help. Just unconscionably cruel. Shame on you, and shame on all of you. You have blood on your hands. If you actually want to represent the will of your constituents, DEFUND THE POLICE, SEIZE THE HOTELS, and use that extra money and space to house people!

Communication from Public

Name: Ruth Evans Lane
Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:39 AM
Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I live in Palms (zip 90034), and I implore City Council to reject the hideous motion introduced that would drastically expand the criminalization and banishment of unhoused Angelenos across the city by amending LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11. My own neighborhood includes many unhoused individuals, and while I would love for my neighbors to be off the streets, I want to see that done by moving them into housing, not sending them away when they have no place else to go. Why are they not given homes in the many vacant hotel rooms in the city? Why are there so many apartments for rent in Palms and yet so many people on the street? THESE are the problems I want City Council to solve. I do not want you to force my unhoused neighbors into more dangerous situations, to confiscate their property, or to break apart their 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, 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: Abigail E Kuhns

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 01:46 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am a member of CD 11 writing to OPPOSE 41.18. Further criminalizing the unhoused during a pandemic when you have failed to pass any meaningful anti eviction legislation makes you no better than our current presidential administration. Your commitment to punishing the poor is abhorrent and despicable. You don't care about relieving homelessness because if you did, you would have actually implemented Project Roomkey and allowed unhoused people to access shelter during a pandemic. The unhoused are some of the most vulnerable members of our community here in LA. They are pushed out of their homes because of high rents and wage stagnation in a city that caters exclusively to white, wealthy landowners. We will not stop protesting until you take steps to divest funds from the white supremacist death squad known as the LAPD and actually redistribute these funds to give the unhoused the resources they deserve.

Communication from Public

Name: Alison Hurst

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 12:37 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Hello. This is Alison Hurst with Safe Place for Youth, addressing Item 42. This cruel motion and draft ordinance are the wrong approach to solving homelessness. All people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with their efforts and depends on the misuse of limited housing and financial resources while jeopardizing the health and safety of those most in need of being inside. The guidance and approach of the Departments of Public Health and Health Services has been for everyone to shelter in place and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among the homeless population. This motion effectively makes homelessness illegal in Los Angeles constitutes the largest increase in the criminalization of homelessness in decades. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus on increasing access to immediate housing in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors. Best regards, Alison Hurst Safe Place for Youth

Communication from Public

Name: Virginia Reece

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 12:34 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to strongly oppose the October 21st, 2020 motion (Council File 20-1376) from CMs Blumenfield, Buscaino, Rodriguez, Krekorian, Price, Cedillo, and Lee to drastically expand the criminalization and banishment of unhoused Angelenos across the city by amending LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11. Our homeless problem in Los Angeles was already awful before Covid-19. Now, after our federal government's complete failure of action, many more individuals and families have lost their homes and been pushed out onto our streets. Our local response to this should not be to criminalize the homeless population further. We need our City Council to be focused on building affordable housing and coming up with compassionate, common-sense solutions. I work in Hollywood, so I've seen our police used to disband and shuffle homeless camps around. What a waste of time and resources. We can do better than that. I demand you oppose the motion to instruct the city attorney to draft amendments to LA Municipal Codes 41.18 and 56.11 and start thinking about real solutions. Thank you for your time, Virginia Reece Encino, CA

Communication from Public

Name: Mitch Blumenfeld
Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:37 AM
Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: For more than 3 years we have been enduring homeless encampments on the west side of Broadway between 38th and 39th. We have had no less than 6 fires that have damaged our building as a result of these encampments. We have an environment that fosters crime such as stolen motorcycles, bikes, drugs, illegal dumping, human waste being left on the sidewalk, drug activity, our emergency doors have been blocked in the event of an emergency, just to name a few things. I have sent pictures to Councilman's Prices' office demonstrating what I am talking about. Our walk in customer sales have decreased by 80% pre-Covid due to the condition of the neighborhood (prior to 2016, we were at 11th and Olive). I have been physically accosted in my own parking lot by the homeless. I now carry a weapon for personal protection even though after numerous attempts to get licensed, I was turned down. When is our City, with all the tax dollars we pay, going to consider the rights of the business and property owner. Your priorities have completely abandoned the people who pay your salaries. We are now considering moving our business out of the City of Los Angeles, and more than likely out of the State of California. It saddens me as I am a native Angelino and our business has been a fixture in downtown Los Angeles since 1949. I am sure we are not the first and from what I hear, are not the last to consider this alternative. Sincerely, Mitch Blumenfeld Acme Display Fixture Co. 3829 S Broadway Los Angeles, CA 90037 213.477.7160

Communication from Public

Name: Greg Dunn

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:26 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly oppose this motion - we cannot continue to criminalize homelessness. Clearly this approach does not work, as our city's homelessness problem has continued to worsen while our coty has offered no real support to people without homes.

Communication from Public

Name: Fred

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 02:34 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: The distance from public transportation and freeways should be increased to at least 3,000 feet. 500 feet does not allow for safe walking of elderly, handicapped, or children. Most retail establishments are within 3,000 feet or along major thoroughfares. Current tents, trash, abandoned furniture, bicycles, lack of sanitary streets and side walks (human and animal excrement and rodents) affect the viability of our neighborhoods and businesses. Good examples of this filth are the west side of N. Heliotrope Dr and Santa Monica Blvd. and N. Vine St between Santa Monica and Sunset Blvd. I invite you to take a look and walk the city.

Communication from Public

Name: Pablo Uribe

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:47 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to strongly oppose law 41.18. We need justice in Los Angeles for everyone. We need to repeal all laws that criminalize homelessness. We need to provide all unhoused people in Los Angeles with hotel rooms and permanent housing, and end all street sweeps. I'm talking about a minimum. But look at you. You are supporting 41.18, and it is shameful and angering. We are here and watching this unfold, and we will work until we succeed to get you and people who share your interests out of power. thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Gabrielle Carroll

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:05 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I oppose this blatant criminalization of homelessness. You people were supposed to help fix the homelessness issue in the city but everything you do makes things worse for people without homes. Any one of you that supports this movement is a disgusting traitor to this city. You don't care about the needs of Angelenos. You just care about having everything "look" perfect. This is a complete failure for Los Angeles.

Communication from Public

Name: Amelia Hazinski

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 08:57 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: City Council must repeal LAMC 41.18. The proposed changes are an affront to human dignity. The city has threatened and displaced its unhoused citizens for decades and this approach has failed. Instead of attempting to alleviate homelessness, the Council is choosing to criminalize sleep. City Council's time should be spent creating permanent housing for all Angelenos, not restricting the uses of public space. Poverty is not a crime.

Communication from Public

Name: Alexander Mullenix
Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:21 AM
Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Submitting my public comment via written comment as I am unlikely to be allowed to comment today: Hello. My name is Alexander Mullenix. I am calling as a resident of Koreatown and someone who engages with unhoused folks on a regular basis. I want to start by saying that each member of the council should be ashamed to be a part of a body that regularly pursues criminalization as a method for handling our homelessness crisis. This crisis is not about the aesthetics of sidewalks, its about human lives. I recognize that you may think changes to 41.18 and 56.11 are necessary due to court rulings, but I want to remind you that judges have ruled against *you* and your laws, not against our unhoused residents. How does it feel to have it be a part of court record that you are bad at your job? They have told you what the remedy is: Provide housing, not handcuffs. Do you really think that in this period of massive uprising against police brutality that you should be prioritizing the same extreme punitive measures that courts have already told you go to far? Are you comfortable having blood on your hands the next time a cop beats or kills an unhoused person? It happens *ALL* the time. Do what is right by our community and vote against item no 42 on the agenda for Wednesday, October 28th.

Communication from Public

Name: Gary Wexler

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 05:38 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Pass Amendment 41:18. Homelessness is heartbreaking and tragic event in any city, but particularly in a creative and well-to-do city like Los Angeles. Allowing people to set up homeless encampments under the freeway overpasses, in the parks, along the river, in front of abandoned stores is not the solution. Absolutely, these people deserve the dignity of a home. But these are not dignified homes that afford anyone human respect and decency. This is indeed a slippery slope on two sides. On one side, the homeless are human beings and need to be treated as such. On the other side are the residents of the neighborhoods who are threatened by those homeless who are mentally ill, store owners facing enough economic stress who have homeless harassing their clientele, residents who are now afraid to walk the streets of their neighborhoods even in daylight, who have become the victims of verbal and physical abuse by some of the homeless, who are witnessing some homeless shooting up in broad daylight and finding empty hypodermic needles on the sidewalks of their neighborhoods, many just a few feet from schools. Allowing the encampments to grow and fester will only raise crime, create further economic depression, create fear and resentment. We need to be more considerate of everyone in finding solutions and be more creative about the entire problem. Pass Amendment 41:18.

Communication from Public

Name: Clarence Carter

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:10 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: For far too long the city has not taken real action to help create a safe place for people to get off the streets. We have continued with a failed plan of housing first that did not work in Utah where the plan was originally hatched. We need to get real about creating real solutions to get 10s of 1000s of people off the street not 40 and 50 people at a time. The City comptroller was very clear when he said the Mayor's plan will never work. He ran the numbers, as is his job, and determined there is not enough money to ever achieve getting our city's total homeless population off the street. According to him, there are at least 7,500 governmental own properties that could be converted into homeless shelters that could get 10s of 1000s homeless people off the street. Yet we keep giving our tax paying dollars to developers to dig into the ground for new facilities that are completely inadequate to really make a difference, but it lines pockets of developers and 501 (c) 3 organizations that pretend they are really trying to help the homeless population. We need to stop this money grab that is lead by politicians that are somehow tied to these developers and 501 (c) 3s, and examine real solutions that can bring about real change. I have plenty of Ideas. I'm glad the can was not kicked down the road once again. It time to have real discussions and it's time for real change. Clarence "CC" Carter Venice Neighborhood Council

Communication from Public

Name: Alana

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 10:57 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I urge that the Los Angeles City Council do not pass the amendment to LAMC 41.18 and to repeal LAMC 41.18 and 56.11 which further criminalizes poverty and homelessness, rather than providing real solutions. Policies like this allow Los Angeles to continue to terrorize the most marginalized Angelenos, which is especially cruel in a pandemic and as winter approaches. How can the city of LA criminalize people sleeping on the streets, when they do not provide an adequate number of beds for those who need them? How can the city tear down tents and belongings of unhoused peoples for "blocking the sidewalks", when allowing restaurants to take over the sidewalks and lanes of traffic? We need to care for all of our city's people, not just the ones with money. The city's "cleanups" of the belongings of unhoused people does nothing to address the problem of homelessness or to help those affected by it. Over 66,000 Angelenos live on the streets, shelters, and in cars, and over 1,000 unhoused people have died in LA so far this year. Preventing unhoused people from taking shelter under freeways, tunnels, or near service facilities without providing alternates will cause more people to die. Taking unhoused people's belongings which may include tents, sleeping bags, clothing, or medications will cause more people to die. City council needs to stop trying to simply make the city look cleaner, and implement measures to actually help our most marginalized communities.

Communication from Public

Name: Linda Quintero

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:52 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Yes! Please give the City more power to enforce no camping rules. The law abiding, tax paying citizens are tired of this abhorrent filth on our streets, with many more out of state and out of Los Angeles people coming here every day. Please make it stop, it is shameful!

Communication from Public

Name: John Baginski

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 05:03 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I hope that the Council can approve this balanced and fair measure. The families, residents and visitors to the many neighborhoods impacted need your support and vote. Please find the right balance and support this motion. My daughter no longer walks to the beach with me because it feels and is so unsafe. Current policies are destroying our neighborhood and must be modified. This motion addresses the serious Americans with Disabilities Act violations, it addresses the promises made and the promises broken by the city for residents who live near Bridge Housing Shelters, and it addresses LAMC Sec. 41.18. Thank you for this reasonable and well thought out motion to help Los Angeles maintain a balance between helping the homeless and helping the residents and homeowners keep and maintain a clean and healthy community. Thank you. John Baginski 30 Year Venice Resident

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 03:07 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: 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 amendmending 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 am an LA native. I live in District 4. This is, hands down, the worst homeless epidemic I have witnessed here in my entire life. How can we now push unhoused people further into despair and poverty by withholding resources and aid from them, (during a health pandemic!), and simultaneously punish and criminalize them for being poor? 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: Cooper Kenward

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 12:24 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Hello. This is Cooper Kenward , addressing Item 42. This cruel motion and draft ordinance are the wrong approach to solving homelessness. All people have an equal right to access public spaces and no one should be arbitrarily banned from large sections of the city. Pushing people from one public space to another does not end homelessness. As outreach workers and homeless service providers work tirelessly to move those most vulnerable to COVID-19 into permanent housing, this proposal conflicts with their efforts and depends on the misuse of limited housing and financial resources while jeopardizing the health and safety of those most in need of being inside. The guidance and approach of the Departments of Public Health and Health Services has been for everyone to shelter in place and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among the homeless population. This motion effectively makes homelessness illegal in Los Angeles constitutes the largest increase in the criminalization of homelessness in decades. I urge the council to vote no on this motion and instead focus on increasing access to immediate housing in every neighborhood so that our unhoused neighbors can come safely indoors.

Communication from Public

Name: Kathryn Cody

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:38 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: This is inhumane treatment!! Please do not move forward with this.

Communication from Public

Name: Alexander D. Mullenix

Date Submitted: 10/26/2020 12:02 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: I want to request that Council President Martinez table the vote for this measure and end this blatant attempt to criminalize unhoused Angelenos. I recognize that existing law is complicated by court rulings, but this is the fault of the City of Los Angeles, not judges or those without housing. Please consider the fact that this measure creates an unclear and convoluted standard for where a person can and cannot exist in this city. How is an unhoused person supposed to know if they are within 500 feet of a shelter and whether that shelter opened before or after 2018? Why are unhoused people and their belongings being targeted for ADA violations when restaurants are being encouraged to block sidewalks across the city? Why is it that when a measure negatively targets unhoused people, it gets rushed through the city council when any plan for helping people has to be studied endlessly or start as a limited pilot? Please have some courage to do what's right for our residents that we fail each and every day. Work for housing, not handcuffs. Work for healthcare, not more punitive measures.

Communication from Public

Name: Dane A

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 11:56 AM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: Clean up our city! Get these people off the streets and force them into the mental health and addiction facilities that they desperately need. It's disgusting the Council is allowing the current status quo and perpetuating the lawlessness and filth across our County. Shame on you.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 12:18 PM

Council File No: 20-1376

Comments for Public Posting: This is an absolutely cruel and disgusting ordinance that criminalizes unsheltered Angelenos for sitting and sleeping within 10 feet of driveways, 500 ft of homeless services, 500 ft of freeways, and any public space in the city if "shelter" is "offered". It is unbelievably cruel to be moving this forward when there is such a gap in affordable housing around Los Angeles, is currently in the throes of a global pandemic, and is at the end of a summer has been cruel to unsheltered folks with its sweltering heat and unlivable smog. What the City instead needs to do is listen to organizations doing work on the ground like KTown 4 All, and to fulfill their demands: - decriminalize poverty by repealing all laws that criminalize homelessness, like this one - provide housekeys and not handcuffs by providing hotel rooms and permanent housing to all unhoused Angelenos - end sweeps: this means working with health department officials and meet residents' needs without threatening displacement, throwing out their essential medication, displacing them from their communities and more.

Communication from Public

Name: Jon Millstein
Date Submitted: 10/28/2020 02:57 PM
Council File No: 20-1376
Comments for Public Posting: I'm requesting that all city council members oppose Municipal Code 41.18, because further criminalizing homelessness will not make it any easier for people who are unhoused to get off the streets, and any law that does that is making our homelessness crisis worse.