

Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to City Council and Committees.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at NCsupport@lacity.org.

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Contact Information

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(16) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 04/20/2021

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 04/21/2021

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 21-0263

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: In light of hate crimes against Asian Americans and continued harassment of women and non-binary people, the Los Feliz Neighborhood Council (LFNC) believes new strategies to keep people safe and stop harassment on city streets and Metro are necessary now more than ever. The LFNC therefore urges adoption of effective “soft approaches” to curb harassment on the street and on transit. Harassment and the violence that may follow can cause grave harm to victims, disproportionately women and non-binary people, people of color, people with disabilities, LGBTQ people, and others from structurally disempowered groups. Harassment is unfortunately prevalent—normalized in much of our society—while underreporting means its true pervasiveness is much higher than official statistics indicate. Harassment is a particular problem in transportation settings like streets, sidewalks, buses, trains, and stations. Over-crowded at peak hours or empty and unlit off-peak, these spaces provide opportunities for harassment. Many riders and pedestrians feel unsafe using transit and walking, limiting their mobility options. The LFNC therefore supports the adoption of “soft approaches” outlined in the motion, including bystander training and intervention programs, educational campaigns, and easy-to-use, well-publicized reporting methods accessible with and without a smartphone. We also hope the strategies in a recent UCLA Lewis Center report on transit safety are considered, including better lighting and station upkeep, real-time arrival information, transit ambassadors, on-demand stops at night, and simply running more frequent buses. Finally, we urge that there be an avenue for reporting and preventing harassment for those who may not feel comfortable around armed law enforcement. Undocumented riders, riders of color, and other groups may be better able to report harassment and feel safe if they have outreach staff, hotlines, and other methods they can trust.