

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jamie Penn

**Date Submitted:** 03/25/2021 01:09 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0329

**Comments for Public Posting:** In regards to these motions, a citywide framework for homelessness policy: There was one personal account someone I know gave, "head of LAHSA's Heidi Marston walking quickly past tents asking "do you need anything?" not pausing for a response. Another worker following few steps behind saying, "Did you do these?" pointing at a row of tents she had walked right past." There were multiple people asleep that I can confirm myself when the enforcement started to happen, some of them almost trampled by police had people not intervened.?? To cite Kenneth Meija, candidate for city controller: "Around 400 LAPD officers were present for at least 8 hours. The average total pay for a full-time LAPD employee in 2020 was \$135,777.33 or \$65.28/hr (including overtime)." This puts estimates of the cost of the atrocity last night to around \$208,896. In one night. Someone's arm was broken last night. Police have the city shut down for blocks around a community park. Last night LAPD was stopping people at checkpoints and asking for ID. There were so many violations of people's rights last night and I am still dealing with the trauma so it is honestly hard to recount. Social housing would be an actual solution, which helps anchor the average cost of housing to a more affordable cost for working-class Angelenos.?? Housing is a human right. Jamie Delphine Penn Assistant Secretary Sub-District 3 Wilshire Center Koreatown Neighborhood Council

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Courtney  
**Date Submitted:** 03/25/2021 11:48 AM  
**Council File No:** 21-0329

**Comments for Public Posting:** I want to thank the council members for their recognition that a united citywide response to houselessness is required. I also want to highlight that the events that transpired in Echo Park Lake on the night of Wednesday, March 24, demonstrate this. One single councilmember decided to deploy LAPD solely to perpetrate violence against unhoused Angelenos. This response was not only inappropriate, it was costly. For the amount LAPD was paid to be in EPL last night, hundreds of unhoused Angelenos could have been housed and eventually transitioned to permanent housing through supportive services. However, none of this was considered - only the whims of Councilmember O'Farrell and the whims of a few of his vocally anti-houselessness constituents were considered before this event. How would you treat a family member, a friend, a loved one who was experiencing houselessness? Would you treat them with respect, dignity, care, and empathy, or would you treat them as less than and bring a heavily armed, highly volatile, deadly police force to evict them from their shelter with no warning? Displacement doesn't work. Displacement is against CDC guidelines for how to handle houseless encampments during a pandemic. Displacement is a public health risk. Displacement does nothing but disappear the problem for the convenience of middle class aesthetics and gentrification. Lastly, and most importantly, I urge this body to condemn the use of LAPD in ANY unhoused outreach, and to not include them in any future efforts. There is no fiscal, moral, practical, or logical reason for police to be involved. Support your constituents (yes, unhoused folks are you constituents, too, they pay taxes, vote, and can vote you out) with care and dignity that meets their needs - not with unannounced, violent removal, which only temporarily disappears your problems and is in fact a risk to public health.