

## Communication from Public

**Name:** MAR VISTA VOICE

**Date Submitted:** 12/14/2021 07:48 PM

**Council File No:** 21-1115

**Comments for Public Posting:** Via email and submission to City Clerk filing portal Re: COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT OPPOSING COUNCIL FILE 21-1115 Esteemed Councilmembers, We are an organization representing Mar Vista stakeholders living in zip codes 90034, 90064 and 90066. Our membership urges the Council to vote NO on the motion within Council File 21-1115 prohibiting outdoor bicycle assembly. The central purpose of this motion is to criminalize homelessness. The proposed ordinance panders to the prejudicial premise that all those who live outdoors and own multiple bikes or parts must have stolen them. There are many unhoused people who engage in bicycle recycling, using donated bicycles and bike parts for rebuilding and resale, and who offer repair services as an honest way to carve out a living. And yet, the ordinance in question presumes that any unhoused person making a living in this way is guilty of theft. Police would be empowered under this ordinance to further prey on vulnerable community members, with enforcement inevitably leading to dangerous confrontations with armed officers. Even where officers stop short of physical violence, law enforcement would have the authority to ticket people, impound bicycles and charge impound fees without probable cause, violating unhoused Angelenos' property rights. Under similar ordinances, the person whose bike is seized must provide proof of ownership such as bicycle registration and serial number in order to retrieve their impounded property. This is difficult if not impossible for most people living on the street, whose identification cards and other paperwork is routinely lost or stolen. Similar ordinances also have loose definitions of illegal "chop shops" which describe what many housed people have in their garage. Many avid housed cyclists collect bike accessories and own multiple bicycles. This ordinance allows the confiscation of property simply because an individual is forced by destitution into the "open air". The real impetus of this legislation is frustration with the optics of abject poverty. We urge you to focus on real solutions (i.e. long term housing) instead of continuing to double down on cruelty and violence against our unhoused neighbors. Sincerely, Mar Vista Voice



December 13, 2021

*Via email and submission to City Clerk filing portal*

**Re: COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT OPPOSING COUNCIL FILE 21-1115**

Esteemed Councilmembers,

We are an organization representing Mar Vista stakeholders living in zip codes 90034, 90064 and 90066. **Our membership urges the Council to vote NO on the motion within Council File 21-1115 prohibiting outdoor bicycle assembly.**

The central purpose of this motion is to criminalize homelessness. The proposed ordinance panders to the prejudicial premise that all those who live outdoors and own multiple bikes or parts must have stolen them. There are many unhoused people who engage in bicycle recycling, using donated bicycles and bike parts for rebuilding and resale, and who offer repair services as an honest way to carve out a living. And yet, the ordinance in question presumes that any unhoused person making a living in this way is guilty of theft.

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Sincerely,

*Mar Vista Voice*