

## Community Relations

Southeast Community Police Station Los Angeles Police Department



May 18, 2022

To: Council District 15

RE: 121st street Gate

This letter is in support of maintaining the gate at 121st Street. It has come to the attention of Southeast Area that Council District 15 will be looking into the renewal of the 121st Street gate closure. The gate is located on 121st Street just west of Figueroa St. The gate was originally constructed after the community of Athens on the Hill was dealing with an influx of crime and criminal element which carried over from the Figueroa Street corridor. Several key locations that housed the criminal element on Figueroa Street are, the Edge of Town Motel, an abandon lot with a homeless encampment and an apartment duplex that is located within a hundred feet of the fence. Prostitution, narcotic use and sales along with property crimes were on the rise in the Athens community primarily due to the access of 121st Street from Figueroa Street. Drug paraphernalia and used condoms where consistently found in the communities' front lawns and near the sidewalks. A large percentage of crimes being generated were from the Edge of Town Motel. Also, at the Apartment Duplex Gang officers were consistently involved in investigations dealing with gang members and crimes attributed to the Raymond Avenue Crips

A recent 2-year crime summary report revealed over 120 crimes have occurred ranging from robberies, aggregate assaults, prostitution and various thefts from person along with motor vehicles. These crimes were specifically along Figueroa Street just outside of the Athens on the Hill community. Recently the City of Los Angeles's Safe Neighborhood & Anti-Gang Division City attorney filed a complaint for abatement and injunction against the motel. Another Los Angeles City attorney filed a criminal complaint against the owner of the vacant lot which houses a major encampment. With the help of our partners in the City Attorney's office and construction of the 121st Street gate, allowed Southeast Area to combat and lower the level of crime within the Athens on the Hill Community. The removal of the 121st Street gate would cause an influx of this criminal element back into the community, causing victimization of the Athens on the Hill Community.

Very truly yours,

CLINT L. DOHMEN, Captain

Commanding Officer

Southeast Area