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Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council  
Brentwood Community Council  
Del Rey Neighborhood Council  
Mar Vista Community Council  
Neighborhood Council of Westchester-Playa  
North Westwood Neighborhood Council  
Pacific Palisades Community Council

Palms Neighborhood Council  
South Robertson Neighborhoods Council  
Venice Neighborhood Council  
West LA-Sawtelle Neighborhood Council  
Westside Neighborhood Council  
Westwood Community Council  
Westwood Neighborhood Council

January 25, 2024

Hon. Lindsey Horvath – Chair, LA County Board of Supervisors (BOS)

Hon. Kathryn Barger, Hon. Janice Hahn, Hon. Holly Mitchell, Hon. Hilda Solis – Supervisors

*Via email to all addressees*

Re: BOS Decision to Delay Implementation of SB 43 – Request for Information

Dear BOS Chair Horvath and Supervisors Barger, Hahn, Mitchell, and Solis:

The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) is a cooperative coalition, founded in 2009, of all fourteen neighborhood and community councils on the Westside of Los Angeles located in CDs 5 and 11 and portions of CDs 4 and 10. WRAC Member Councils collectively represent approximately 500,000 Angelenos – including unhoused individuals with severe mental illness and/or who are suffering from substance abuse disorder.

WRAC is aware that on December 19, 2023, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (BOS) passed a motion by BOS Chair Lindsey Horvath to delay implementation of Senate Bill 43 in Los Angeles County until January 2026.

Severely mentally ill and/or drug or alcohol-addicted unhoused individuals are present throughout communities on the Westside of Los Angeles and have long been a matter of concern for our neighborhood and community councils. Many of WRAC's Member Council board members and constituents have worked for years with government and private-sector partners to obtain services (including mental and physical health and addiction assistance as well as shelter/housing) for such individuals. WRAC's Member Councils are familiar with the serious needs and challenges, including those of mental health and substance abuse, facing unhoused individuals on the Westside.

WRAC therefore requests that the BOS provide the following information:

1) Reasons for Delayed Implementation:

- What are the *reasons for the delay*, and more specifically, why was the delay extended to two years, until January 2026, rather than a shorter delay of 6 months or one year (*i.e.*, either to July 2024 or to January 2025)? *Please provide specific details* to help us understand why such a delay is necessary.
- What *specific measures and/or protocols* must be put in place in order for the County to implement SB 43 effectively, and what time frame does the BOS estimate is required for implementation of each such measure and/or protocol? What County entity is or will be charged with developing such measures or protocols?

2) Plan to Save Lives in the Interim:

- During the two-year interim before implementation of SB 43, what *specific plans to save the lives of unhoused individuals* with severe mental illness, and/or who are suffering from substance abuse disorder, does the BOS intend to put in place?
- Please *describe any such plans in detail*. If BOS does not currently have such plans in place, what specific steps, if any, does BOS propose in order to develop and implement such plans before SB 43's implementation?

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This request for information was proposed by the WRAC Homelessness Committee at its public meeting on January 9, 2024, and approved by the WRAC Board at its public meeting on January 22, 2024.

We look forward to your responses. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation with this important matter.

Sincerely,

*Robin Greenberg and Christina Spitz*

Robin Greenberg, Chair, and Christina Spitz, Vice-Chair  
Westside Regional Alliance of Councils

cc (via email):

Hon. Traci Park, Council District 11  
Hon. Katy Yaroslavsky, Council District 5  
Hon. Nithya Raman, Council District 4  
Hon. Heather Hutt, Council District 10  
Key staff for all Supervisors