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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

August 26, 2024

Hon. Karen Bass, Mayor, City of Los Angeles
Hon. Paul Krekorian, President, Los Angeles City Council; co-sponsor of CF 24-0140-S1
Hon. Marqueece Harris-Dawson, President Pro Tempore and President-elect, Los Angeles City Council
Hon. Traci Park, Councilwoman, CD 11; initiating sponsor of CF 24-0140-S1
Additional CF co-sponsors: Hon. Kevin de León, Hon. John S. Lee, Hon. Curren D. Price, Jr., Hon. Bob Blumenfield (for Hon. Monica Rodriguez), and Hon. Imelda Padilla (second)
Hon. Katy Yaroslavsky, Councilwoman, CD 5
Hon. Nithya Raman, Councilmember, CD 4
Hon. Heather Hutt, Councilwoman, CD 10

Via email and submission to the City Clerk online filing portal in CF 24-0140-S1

Re: Council File 24-0140-S1 (Park, Krekorian, et al.): SUPPORT

Dear Mayor Bass and City Councilmembers:

The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) is a cooperative coalition of all 14 neighborhood and community councils on the Westside of Los Angeles, in Council Districts 5 and 11 and portions of Council Districts 4 and 10. Our Alliance collectively represents over 500,000 housed and unhoused Angelenos.

On August 5, 2024,¹ we advised City officials that five (5) WRAC Member Councils had passed the following motion in support of the above-referenced Council File (or modified versions in keeping with the spirit of the motion):

“The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils strongly supports the motion in CF 24-0140-S1 (Park, Krekorian and other CMs), calling for the City Attorney to analyze the impact of the Supreme Court’s ruling in City of Grants Pass, Oregon v. Johnson – that anti-camping laws do not violate the 8th Amendment’s prohibition against cruel and unusual punishment – on the City’s ability to regulate encampments in public spaces in Los Angeles, and further calling for a report by the Chief Legislative Analyst on current laws restricting camping in the 87 other cities in Los Angeles County that will impact the City of Los Angeles.”

Three (3) more councils have now passed the above motion, for a total of eight (8) WRAC Member Councils (a majority) adopting this position. As a result, the motion above has become an adopted position of WRAC.

The following WRAC members have now passed the above motion or modified versions in keeping with its spirit: Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council; Brentwood Community Council*; Mar Vista Community Council*; Neighborhood Council Westchester-Playa; Pacific Palisades Community Council*; West LA-Sawtelle Neighborhood Council; Westside Neighborhood Council*; and Venice Neighborhood Council [*modified versions*]*.²

¹ See 8/5/24 WRAC letter: <https://westsidecouncils.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/WRAC-Letter-Grants-Pass.pdf>.

² Minority Position: North Westwood Neighborhood Council has voted against the above WRAC motion re CF 24-0140-S1. No other WRAC Member Council has opposed this WRAC motion.

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Westside Regional Alliance of Councils
To: Mayor Bass and Councilmembers

As explained more fully in our letter of August 26, 2024, submitted in CF 21-0390-S5,³ WRAC has taken multiple positions in support of the use of LAMC Sec. 41.18 to address encampments which threaten public health and safety in numerous public right of way (PROW) areas in our Westside neighborhoods. WRAC Member Councils appreciate that 41.18 has been used effectively in several Westside areas to ease unsafe and unhealthy conditions and to assist our unhoused neighbors.

WRAC Member Councils have also expressed concern about the impact of larger numbers of unhoused individuals migrating to the City of Los Angeles from other jurisdictions with more restrictive anti-camping laws – a development that some of our coastal areas are already experiencing. An analysis of the camping regulations in place in other LA County cities, and of the impacts on Los Angeles neighborhoods, is imperative.

We urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass the motion in CF 24-0140-S1 at the earliest opportunity.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated prompt attention to this request.

Sincerely,

Robin Greenberg and Christina Spitz

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

³ See: <https://westsidecouncils.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/WRAC-Letter-CF21-0329-S5-1.pdf>.