



August 17, 2020

The Honorable Members of the Los Angeles City Council
c/o Office of the City Clerk
Los Angeles City Hall 200
N. Spring Street, Rm 395
Los Angeles, CA 90012
clerk.budgetandfinancecommittee@lacity.org

Coronavirus Strain / Potential Outbreak / Los Angeles County Health Department
Re: Special Cleaning Zones at A Bridge Home Shelters

Council File: 20-0147

Dear Councilmembers,

The East Hollywood Neighborhood Council is **in favor of CARE/CARE+ comprehensive cleanups to be suspended until the end of the COVID-19 crisis and indefinitely suspend provision of Los Angeles Municipal Code 56.11 that requires tents to come down during daytime hours within the A Bridge Home shelter Special Cleaning Zones.**

We understand that City Council is feeling pressure to provide sanitary perimeters for the A Bridge Home shelters. We appreciate the effort to install and maintain sanitation stations within the city and especially in areas that are highly populated by people experiencing homelessness. Due to our current health crisis, we believe that the comprehensive cleanups, and specifically requiring tents to come down during daytime hours, will put unhoused individuals at risk. These individuals do not have a place to store their personal belongings. Many do not have bags, carts, or backpacks to move their belongings when a cleanup is being completed. By requiring unhoused individuals to move their tents during daytime hours, they could risk losing some of their belongings, facing increased risk of contracting COVID-19, and/or be faced with the possibility of violence from the police. This is an unacceptable burden on individuals who are already vulnerable and in need of support from the city.

We welcome A Bridge Home shelters in our community, but do not want us to create further hardship on people experiencing homelessness through the Special Cleaning Zones. The East Hollywood Neighborhood Council feels strongly that the council needs to find solutions for assisting unhoused individuals within the 'Special Cleaning Zones' instead of enforcing the encampments with cleanups.

Sincerely,

East Hollywood Neighborhood Council

CC:

Hon. Mitch O'Farrell Councilmember,
13th District Los Angeles
City Hall 200 N. Spring Street, Rm 480
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Hon. Nury Martinez City Council President
Councilmember, 6th District Los Angeles
City Hall 200 N Spring Steet, Ste 470
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Mayor Eric Garcetti
Los Angeles City Hall
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012