

## **RESOLUTION FOR ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE BETTER ENFORCEMENT AGAINST HOMELESSNESS USES IN VENICE**

WHEREAS:

1. There are homeless encampments, tents and oversized vehicles used by homeless persons throughout Venice, including but not limited to: the Flower-Lincoln corner, Rose Avenue at Whole Foods, Frederick and Lake, Main Street, Washington and Venice Blvds and PenMar Park.

2. Los Angeles Housing and Services Authority and Rand Corporation recently reported there is a 45% increase in homelessness in West Los Angeles and there are 523 homeless in Venice.

3. This exists even though for several years the City has had an anti camping ordinance, LAMC sec. 41.18. It has not been effective because it sets so many conditions for its enforcement that it can only be enforced in narrow circumstances which prevent its effective enforcement.

4. Homelessness is more widespread in Venice than any other part of the City except Skid Row and Hollywood. Therefore it is appropriate for the City to adopt a homelessness ordinance for Venice only as it did in 2010 with Ordinance 181413, which provides special procedures applicable to Venice only for Oversized Vehicle signs.

5. The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals recently acknowledged in a case brought by the City and County of San Francisco that those who refuse specific offers of shelter are considered voluntarily homeless and as such a 2022 injunction, which restricted city workers from moving or clearing homeless encampments, does not apply, and San Francisco has thus returned to clearing encampments after offers of shelter have been made (<https://sfstandard.com/2023/09/25/san-francisco-to-resume-enforcing-laws-against-homeless-people-who-refuse-shelter-mayor/>); and,

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, the Venice Neighborhood Council calls upon the Los Angeles City Council to pass and the Mayor to sign a Venice-specific ordinance, which provides:

1. In instances when specific shelter has been offered to a person dwelling on public property in the Venice district of the city of Los Angeles, police officers may issue citations pursuant to LAMC Sec.11.00 against any person camping on public property even if within a vehicle

2. Regardless of shelter availability, officers may enforce violations in the following locations:

(a) Within 1000 feet of K-12 schools, child care centers, and adult day care centers.

(b) Within 1000 feet of a facility offering temporary shelter or affordable housing for individuals who had previously been homeless.

(c) In City parks and the Venice Beach Recreation Area, where a substantial public health and safety risk is determined, including within 1000 feet of a location or area which the Los Angeles Police Department has determined to have had a heightened level of crimes involving murder, assault, sex trafficking, bike or auto theft, or drug sales.

(d) When there is an immediate threat to public safety or a threat of fire or the person is wanted in connection to another crime.

Upon passage this Resolution shall be delivered to Mayor Karen Bass and City Councilmember Traci Park

Date:

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Secretary