



October 26, 2020

Honorable Nury Martinez
Los Angeles City Hall
200 N Spring St
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Council File 20-1376 / LAMC 41.18 & LAMC 56.11

Dear Council President Martinez,

On behalf of the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce and our more than 800 members we represent, **we urge City Council to approve the motion to update Los Angeles Municipal Code 41.18 and Los Angeles Municipal Code 56.11.** Past and pending litigation has convoluted community understanding of the homelessness crisis and rights that unhoused individuals and business owners have in protecting their property and properly accessing public rights-of-way. Repealing the current version of LAMC 41.18 and relacing with current City practices, including the Ninth Circuit decision in *Boise v. City of Martin* and amending Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 56.11 to align with the new version of Section 41.18 will create transparency in City operations, improve community understanding, and further incentivize City Council to take swift action in finding safe, temporary and/or permanent housing options for those experiencing homelessness.

Pending litigation between *LA Alliance v. City and County of Los Angeles, et al.* underscores the lack of solutions that have been put in place in the past to adequately address the homelessness crisis within Los Angeles. As a result, the City has begun to expedite their efforts in streamlining the development of shelters and safe housing options for the unhoused community. Concurrently, the statements by Federal Judge Carter explaining that the health and physical safety of those experiencing homelessness should be fostered and highlighting that public space through critical transportation infrastructure must be accessible are remarks that need be immediately acted upon. Additionally, restricting encampments adjacent from newly-erected shelter locations will incentivize those experiencing homelessness to seek housing and necessary wrap-around services and encourage neighboring community members that temporary and permanent shelters are a vital stepping stone in solving the homelessness crisis within our City.

It is imperative that Council take immediate action and repeal the current version of LAMC 41.18, relace with current City practices, and amend LAMC 56.11 to align with the new version of Section 41.18. If you have any questions please contact Carli Olson, Director of Public Policy and Economic Development, at carli@hollywoodchamber.net or (323)785-1761 ext. 115.

Sincerely,

Rana Ghadban
President & CEO