



October 26, 2020

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

RE: Rescind Council File# 20-0147, as amended by motion 72-P and motion 72-P-A/ Support Citywide CARE+ Cleanups

Dear Council President Martinez,

On behalf of the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce and our more than 800 members we represent, **we strongly support the reinstatement of CARE+ cleanups citywide.** The Hollywood Chamber of Commerce is deeply concerned with the increase in individuals experiencing homelessness pre and post coronavirus pandemic and is equally alarmed at the potential health risks that may become present in our community if citywide CARE+ cleanups are not immediately executed. We applaud the motion introduced by Councilmember Buscaino to rescind Council File# 20-0147, as amended by motion 72-P and motion 72-P-A, and reinstate CARE+ cleanups citywide and ask that you schedule this motion in committee quickly.

A Los Angeles Department of Sanitation and Environment (LASAN) report released on October 13, 2020 highlighted that CARE+ cleanups authorized in A Bridge Home Special Enforcement Cleaning Zones (ABH SECZ) since July 29, 2020 through October 2, 2020 saw 276 tons of material removed from encampments and 3 tons of hazardous and bio-waste collected from homeless encampments within the ABH SECZ. The report stated, "In the interest of public health, **many areas of the City that have gone without comprehensive CARE+ cleanings need immediate sanitary services.**" In the past, LASAN has proven that comprehensive CARE+ cleanups and other sanitary services have stopped the spread of hepatitis A and other diseases from spreading in our community. It is imperative that the Council follow the suggestion of LASAN to protect all community members from another potential disease outbreak and enable CARE+ cleanups to resume throughout the City.

It is essential to not only protect individuals from the spread of disease but properly support those experiencing homelessness find pathways to permanent supportive housing. CARE+ cleanups provide wrap around services to those experiencing homelessness ensuring that their mental and physical wellbeing are protected while pathways to permanent housing can be secured. As encampments are removed and homeless individuals receive the support they need from the City, businesses owners will have more opportunity to bring employees back to work and continue customer engagement, helping bring back desperately needed jobs and revenue to the City.

It is imperative that the homeless community and business community are properly supported through these trying times. For these reasons we urge you to support the motion to rescind Council File# 20-0147, as amended by motion 72-P and motion 72-P-A, and reinstate CARE+ cleanups citywide. 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