



July 10, 2018

Council File 15-1138-S31

Honorable City Council
c/o Office of the City Clerk
Los Angeles City Hall
200 North Spring Street, Room 395
Los Angeles, CA 90012

The Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council (“DLANC”) requests that the following Community Impact Statement be added in support of Council File 15-1138-S31, as yet another attempt to demand immediate action to address the homelessness crisis within our city. We understand the City is not ignoring homelessness, and continues to craft strategies consistent with the Proposition HHH, Measure H, and the Comprehensive Homeless Strategy. We appreciate the vital work the City has done and continues to do, including with this Council File.

During our Central City East Ad Hoc Committee (“CCEAHC”) meetings in Skid Row, our unsheltered stakeholders regularly comment that permanent supportive housing is a wonderful concept, but an equally meaningful contribution could be emergency, temporary or crisis shelter and housing. This Council File acknowledges those concerns. It reports on the need for temporary housing, and the lack thereof in the City. The report from the Chief Administrative Officer discloses the City seems to have even identified potential locations in the Downtown area for Skid Row residents, such as the vacant space surrounding the Los Angeles Civic Center.

But it does not appear the City plans to take any action through this Council File. There are no obvious plans to provide emergency shelter or fund crisis housing options. Instead, this Council File is limited to another set of reports and potential recommendations. That is not enough. Action needs to be taken whenever possible, and unsheltered folks living in Skid Row simply cannot continue to abide while the City studies the issue of homelessness into perpetuity. Furthermore, we believe that any action to provide temporary shelter should also consider ways to employ Skid Row residents in development of the project. Employment can be just as important as housing.

DLANC once again reiterates its demand for ethical, compassionate, and practical actions that will result in significant and measurable improvements to the lives of those experiencing homelessness, and thus the whole Downtown LA community.

This Community Impact Statement is based on the recommendation of the Central City East Ad Hoc Committee on June 27, 2018, and action taken at the Board of Directors meeting on July 10, 2018, when the Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council adopted the following motion and directed that a Community Impact Statement be filed reflecting its position.

Council File 15-1138-S31

July 10, 2018

Page 2

Motion: “The Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council (“DLANC”) should submit a Community Impact Statement in support of Council File 15-1138-S31, which calls on the City to take more immediate action to provide temporary housing to Skid Row residents. DLANC should submit the letter attachment posted with this Agenda in support of the Community Impact Statement.”

Sincerely,

Patricia Berman
DLANC President

Sincerely,

Nate Johnson
DLANC CCEAHC Co-Chair