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## ENCINO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, August 7, 2019

**Encino Community Center Crafts Room  
4935 Balboa Blvd. Encino, CA, 91316**

**Voting Members Present- ENC Members:**

**Pat Bates\* (Chair), Samantha Greitzer\*,**

**Voting Members Present - Stakeholders:**

**Lauren Telegdy, Heather Rim, Jodie Francisco, Janel Bishop, Alyssa Boyle, Katie Bull,  
Eve Greitzer**

**Alternate Committee Members Present:**

**Rochelle Mitchell, Nick Greitzer**

\* Indicates ENC Board Member or Alternate, no more than 5 Encino Neighborhood Council Board-Members or Alternates may be seated at a time to vote during a committee meeting

Motion, Discussion, and Vote may be taken on all items

- 1. Call to Order at 1901. Quorum was determined.**
- 2. Comments from chair - Pat Bates. Reviewed detailed 2019 Point-In-Time Homeless Count for Encino Census Tracts including Sepulveda Basin. Noted again that it appeared most of the encampment areas in the Basin were not counted.**
- 3. Neighborhood Purposes Grant to Northridge Beautification Foundation for \$5,000 was considered.** Results of project funded by prior \$5000 grant were presented by Don Larson. Wayne Spinder objected to the program during public comment period. **Motion HOM 19-08-001 The ENC Homelessness Committee recommends that the Neighborhood Purposes Grant Request from the Northridge Beautification Committee in the amount of \$5,000 be approved. Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0**
- 4. Reports from Public Officials/Departments/Community Agencies:** Tessa Chernofsky from Supervisor Sheila Kuehl was the only official present. She addressed Measure H - collected through Sales Tax. Most is used for Services, also partnering with City of LA. Partnered with

Blumenfield to purchase the bridge facility in Canoga Park. Just purchased facility in Sylmar, looking at armory in Santa Monica. Many people are being housed, but continuously more losing their housing, and now mostly economic. City is not County Jurisdiction. Will be working on assembling a study group for the Sepulveda Basin. Neighborhood Councils might be included. Briefly addressed Safe Parking. There is limited funds for this.

5. **Public Comment (10 minutes)** Constituent from Lake Balboa said she was provided with detailed information on basin sweeps from CD 6.
6. **Approve minutes of June 5, 2019 Meeting. Yes 9 No 0**
7. **Old Business:**
  - a. Locations for Bridge Housing/Sanitation/Storage/Outreach: Inquiry regarding a large paved lot between Haskell Creek and the Tillman facility has been made, we need to follow up on this again in context of Item 8.g. programs and further in the context of the Sepulveda Basin cleanup which we were recently informed of.
8. **New Business:**
  - b. **Discussion and possible recommendation to file CIS for CF 19-0450.**

**Motion HOM-19-08-002: The ENC Homeless committee recommends that a Community Impact Statement in support of CF 19-0450 be filed.** Passed yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0

Suggested Summary: Encino Neighborhood Council supports the effort to improve on the process of cleanups at homeless encampments. The current process of intermittent clean ups does not appear to have yielded any permanent results and has antagonized the various parties involved. The clean ups are taking nearly \$30 million per year from the city budget without offering any solution to our city's Homeless crises. The current process is reactive without offering an effective way of maintaining the sanitation of unhoused residents of this city. The Encino Neighborhood Council believes it would be beneficial to analyze data and metrics of existing clean-up efforts, examine best practices in other jurisdictions, and to assess how well encampment clean-up efforts align with the goals and objectives of the city's Comprehensive Homelessness Strategy. Further the Encino Neighborhood council recommends formation of local advisory councils comprised of Neighborhood Councils, community-based organizations, public health officials and others to help monitor and improve programs. There are significant local issues which need to be addressed rather than adopting a "one suit fits all" approach. We expect significant improvement as a result changes recently enacted which are slated to take effect this Fall. Also important is evaluating the results of the efforts to avoid pursuing failed programs and wasted funds.
  - c. **Motion: HOM-19-08-003: The ENC Homelessness committee shall issue a letter to the City of Los Angeles departments including but not limited to Council Districts 5 and 6, Sanitation, the Los Angeles Police Department, Recreation and Parks Department, the office of the Mayor and the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment requesting that the Homelessness Committee chair and the ENC president be kept informed in a timely manner of any and all actions proposed regarding "sweeps" or other significant action in homeless encampment areas in the ENC territory including the Sepulveda Basin. The local neighborhood council should have an advisory role in these decisions.** Passed Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0

According to Article 9 of the Los Angeles City Charter, the purpose of the Neighborhood Councils (NCs) is to have an advisory role on issues of concern to the neighborhood. Further, they are charged with monitoring the delivery of City services in their respective areas.

- d. **Motion HOM-19-08-003: Any Homelessness Committee member, including ENC Board members, must notify and obtain permission from, and preferably involve the ENC Homelessness Chairperson and the ENC President prior to speaking with the media, City, State and Federal Officers and/or anyone else and representing themselves in official capacity as representing the ENC and/or its Homelessness Committee.** Passed Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0

This is important to convey a coherent and unified message. Further, there are issues that may need to be voted on by the entire board for approval, or that may go beyond the purview of the ENC and should be handled through unrelated avenues such as a non-profit organization. This presents an opportunity to be made aware of this.

- e. **Safe Parking:** Who on the committee would like to begin investigating potential Safe Parking sites in our territory? Committee members will arrange for Safe parking people to come to next meeting. Raised question of why can't the city do it on some of their lots.
- f. **Sanctioned Encampments:** Who would like to research this? Chairperson has started, will provide references. Lauren is interested and Heather noted that someone at USC may be working on this. One attendee noted there was a sanctioned encampment in Sylmar. Here is link to the USC Study group <https://socialinnovation.usc.edu/special-initiatives/homelessness-policy-research-institute/research/>
- g. **Census 2020 and January 2019 PIT count: Who would like to help with this?** It is crucially important that we advocate for a significant role of the neighborhood councils in the 2020 U.S. Census. For our area we need to have an advisory role in counting the unsheltered homeless. Tuesday 7/30/19 at a NC Homeless Liaison meeting at City hall we were assured that both LAHSA counts even the hard-to-find people, and the Census will as well. We know this is nonsense, and we need to get involved. For the past 2 years LAHSA has failed to even try to count the number of homeless in the basin, and they when we find out, it is too late to do anything about it and we are told it really doesn't matter. The Chairperson will contact DONE and Mayor's Census 2020 coordinator.
- h. Briefly described at meeting by Chairperson: Regarding the constellation of measures passed by city council and approved by the mayor on advice from the LA Bureau of Sanitation regarding services to encampment areas. (cf 14-1499-s7, 14-1499-s8, 19-0600-s89, 19-0600-s156 et al): **In particular – we need to be aware of any specific and ongoing issues we can weigh in on to lend support.** It appears that funding for the program was approved for current fiscal year in amount of \$4,785,000, this needs to be confirmed. An amendment to the motion requested within 30 days reports by LAHSA, Bureau of Sanitation and LAPD regarding plans and justification for police support of Sanitation CARE teams. Those reports should be available by 8/7/19, we will be very interested in the findings, and truly hope these programs are not derailed by minor issues. Of particular interest to our committee is a provision in the Energy, Climate Change, and Environmental Justice Committee Report of 6/25/19 (attached) that ... **BOS is to develop and report in 30 days on strategies and an implementation schedule for a) The Sepulveda Basin, in coordination with**

**Department of Recreation and Parks and the Los Angeles homeless Service Authority (LAHSA)."** The reason for our concern on this measure is that LAHSA appears to be both oblivious to and uninterested in the extent of the homeless population in the Basin. RAP is extremely aware of the situation but likely comes to the table with a slant towards law enforcement rather than a combination of outreach, support and mitigation.

- i. Follow progress on proposed audit of the Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) act by the California legislature, as supported by Los Angeles City Council Resolution 19-0002-s116.

## 9. Date of next Homelessness Committee Meeting is Wednesday October 2, 2019, 7PM

## 10. Adjournment at 8:29 PM

The Encino Neighborhood Council (ENC), is a Certified Neighborhood Council of the City of Los Angeles which ADVISES City, other Governmental Officials' and the Community on issues or concerns that are affecting the community of ENCINO. The ENC is made up of volunteers who are ELECTED by the community who live, work or otherwise are involved in the community of ENCINO. The ENC also makes appropriations of City Funds for Community Projects and needs as requested and approved by various committees and the general board.

PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS – The public is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the Board on any agenda item before the Board takes an action on an item. Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Board's jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period.

Please note that under the Brown Act, the Board is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future Board meeting. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker per item, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board or Committee.

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PUBLIC ACCESS OF RECORDS – In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at our website: [encinonc.org](http://encinonc.org) or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact Alex Garay, Board President, at (818) 971-6996 or email via [president@encinonc.org](mailto:president@encinonc.org).

RECONSIDERATION AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS

For information on the ENC's process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the ENC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our Board meetings and our website <http://www.encinonc.org/bylaws.ph>

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Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte a Alex Garay, Presidente de la Mesa Directiva, al [\(818\) 971-6996](tel:8189716996) o por correo electrónico [president@encinonc.org](mailto:president@encinonc.org) para avisar al Concejo Vecinal.

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