

Motion Regarding Formal Request to LAPD for Increased Enforcement, Patrol, and Accountability

Homeless Issues Committee

August 21, 2019

Background: This motion was originally drafted and approved through the Homeless Issues Committee (HIC) while the Committee was under the previous leadership. At the 07/09/19 Mar Vista Community Council Board of Directors meeting the motion was sent back to HIC to be amended, reviewed, correctly formatted, and reconsidered.

After careful review of the motion the Chair of the Homeless Issues Committee, Armond Seretti, has revised the motion to include only items under the purview of the Homeless Issues Committee by removing and/or amending the following:

1. **Removal of the exhaustive list of drug/controlled substances** – At the 07/09/19 MVCC BOD meeting the author of the original motion, Robyn Doyno, voiced his disapproval with the “exhaustive” list of drugs. Out of respect for the original author of the motion and his work and without changing the intent of the request the list of drugs has been removed.
2. **Removal of reference to specific encampments** – Given the nature of the encampments it would be best to not mention any area specifically. By listing specific encampments we run the risk of an encampment moving and having to pass a similar motion every month.
3. **Added option of bicycle or mounted patrol in addition to “walking”** – By requesting LAPD to “walk” we limit our request to walking. Theoretically LAPD could say that they do not or cannot offer walking patrol for this area. The more options the better.
4. **Any and all reference to the creation of Neighborhood Watch groups** – This is an item for the HICs parent committee, Public Health and Safety Committee. The Homeless Issues Committee should concentrate on issues directly related to assisting homeless individuals or people affected by homelessness. While an individual Neighborhood Watch group may choose to include reporting and documenting the actions of homeless individuals it is the opinion of the Chair that by assisting in the creation a Neighborhood Watch program within the Homeless Issues Committee it is too easy to create the impression of bias against homeless individuals. The Chair fully recognizes, acknowledges, and has been a victim to crime committed by homeless individuals however also recognizes the need to compartmentalize business into their appropriate committees.
5. **Removal of the Petition** – This is not required and, if this motion progresses through Board adoption, would not be included in the letter from the Chair to LAPD

MOTION:

MVCC to send a letter formally requesting the following:

- Stepped up enforcement for possession and/or sale of controlled substances in and around homeless encampments
- Uniformed officers to walk, cycle, or ride on horseback Venice Blvd. and nearby streets with known encampments at least twice daily
- LAPD representation at the MVCC Homeless Issues Committee and the Mar Vista Community Council Board of Directors meeting

Los Angeles Police Department, Pacific Division

12312 Culver Blvd.

Los Angeles, CA 90066

Cpt. Setzer and Cpt. Morrison,

In an effort to assist stakeholders in Mar Vista with quality of life concerns and after passing through both the Homeless Issues Committee and the Public Health and Safety Committee, the Mar Vista Community Council makes the following formal requests of the Los Angeles Police Department.

1. **Stepped up enforcement for possession and/or sale of controlled substances in and around homeless encampments** - Controlled substances are being used openly and without fear of prosecution. Increases in the amount of arrests for violations of California Health and Safety Codes 11350, 11351, 11377, 11378 can act as a deterrent for the widespread blatant violations seen daily in our community.
2. **Uniformed officers to walk, cycle, or ride on horseback Venice Blvd. and nearby streets with known encampments at least twice daily** – Walking, cycling, or riding will give officers the ability to familiarize the department with individuals living in the encampments, offers increased patrol and enforcement opportunities, and increases the amount of proactive policing in the area. Officers outside of vehicles are more available for public engagement and, in certain scenarios, are able to witness crime as it happens.
3. **LAPD representation at the MVCC Homeless Issues Committee and the Mar Vista Community Council Board of Directors meeting for regular updates on the following –**
 - The status of the local encampments including arrests made
 - Crime report updates
 - What proactive measures are being taken by LAPD to mitigate crime, drug, and gang activity
 - What the public can do to aid law enforcement in their efforts

Respectfully,

cc: Commander Choi, Councilman Mike Bonin, Hannah Levien, Councilman Paul Koretz, Supervisor Shiela Kuehl, Supervisor Mark Ridley- Thomas, Mayor Eric Garcetti, Los Angeles Police Commission

