

POLICY MOTION

DIRECTORS: Marton & Ruesch

TITLE: A letter and a Community Impact Statement Against Council File: 22-0158

PURPOSE: Opposition to amend or remove current processes for shelters

BACKGROUND:

The current LAMC (Los Angeles Municipal Code) provides for temporary and permanent homeless shelters to be built. However, they are not automatically "by right". As with all building, zoning is an important component as well as input from the public and community before approval.

Council Member Bonin presented a motion to make future shelters "by right", i.e., auto-approved, and to make all current shelters permanent also "by right" thus removing public involvement in the approval process.

Additionally, it seeks to amend Sections of the Los Angeles Municipal Codes to remove zoning restrictions for shelters. Currently, shelters are restricted from:

- Residential Estate (e.g., one-family dwellings, parks, playgrounds, community centers)
- One-Family Residential (e.g., single-family homes, parks, playground, community centers)
- Multiple Residential (e.g., two-family dwellings, apartment houses, multiple dwellings)
- Commercial (e.g., banks, clubs, churches, schools, businesses, child care, parking areas)
- Commercial C1 (e.g., local retail stores <100k sq-ft, offices, parking areas, clinics)
- Commercial C1.5 (e.g., theaters, broadcasting studios, parks, playground)
- Manufacturing MR1 (e.g., clinics, media products, animal hospitals, kennels)
- Manufacturing MR2 (e.g., industrial uses, mortuaries, animal keeping)
- Parking (e.g., surface, underground, or parking buildings)
- Open Space/Public Facilities/Submerged Lands (e.g., parks, recreation facilities, nature reserves, agricultural uses, parking under freeways, fire and police stations, libraries, post offices, public elementary and secondary schools, navigation, shipping, fishing, recreation)

Re-zoning would irrevocably alter the Community Plan Update which the MVCC community input and years of work invested.

THE MOTION:

The MVCC approves a letter and a CIS AGAINST Council File 22-0158.

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HOMELESSNESS AND POVERTY

MOTION PLANNING & LAND USE MANAGEMENT

The Los Angeles homelessness crisis requires the City to be innovative and cut red tape wherever possible. The number of people sleeping on our streets every night far exceeds the beds we are able to offer. There are churches, synagogues, mosques, temples and other properties owned by non-profits that are eager to be part of the solution, but are barred based on the location of their property. We need to continue to work to make it as easy as possible for these charitable organizations to build and operate homeless shelters in the City.

On March 28, 2017, the Los Angeles City Council started this process by adopting Ordinance No. 184836 to amend Section 12.03, 12.80, and 12.81 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) to more quickly establish temporary homeless emergency shelters during a declared shelter crisis. In particular, LAMC Sec. 12.80 allows for temporary shelters for the homeless on City owned and leased properties in any zone as a matter of right. LAMC Sec. 12.81 allows for temporary shelters to be established and operated in the R3, RAS3, R4, RAS4, R5, C2, C4, C5, CM, M1, M2, and M3 zones, if the shelter is operated by a religious institution or a non-profit, charitable organization on property the organization owns or leases.

We need to go further. As a matter of practicality, many religious organizations and other charitable entities that could take advantage of this provision own and/or operate properties in R3 and more restrictive zones. Amending the process would serve the City's goal to produce additional, flexible interim housing solutions as part of a multipronged approach to addressing the housing crisis.

I THEREFORE MOVE that City Council instruct Los Angeles City Planning (LACP), with assistance from other relevant Departments, to report back in 45 days with options to amend Sections 12.03, 12.80, and 12.81 of the LAMC to allow "shelters for the homeless" and other forms of interim housing to be established and operated on properties located outside of R3, RAS3, R4, RAS4, R5, C2, C4, C5, CM, M1, M2, and M3 zones during a declared shelter crisis.

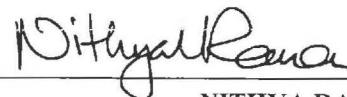
I FURTHER MOVE that City Council instruct LACP, with assistance from other relevant Departments, to report back in 45 days with options to amend Section 14.00 of the LAMC to streamline the administrative approval of "shelters for the homeless" as a public benefit project. The report shall consider expanding where shelters can operate as a matter of right, allowing for a broader array of innovative interim housing solutions by reducing or eliminating certain objective zoning requirements, revising existing performance standards to reflect current best practices, and explore additional strategies to facilitate the provision of interim housing.

I FURTHER MOVE the City Council instruct LACP, with assistance from the City Attorney, to report back in 45 days with options that identify a streamlined processes to allow existing and new emergency / temporary shelters to extend their operation or be made permanent in order to provide greater certainty on potential future operation under the LAMC.

PRESENTED BY:



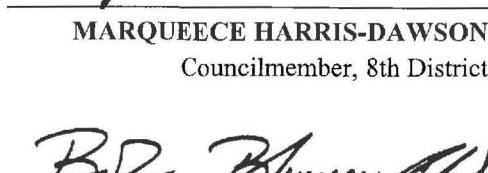
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FEB 09 2022