



August 9, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

The Mar Vista Community Council, at its regular August 9 meeting of its Board of Directors, approved the following motion:

Mar Vista Community Council

P.O. Box 66871
Mar Vista, CA 90066

Board of Directors 2011-2012

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Albert Olson
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Certified Neighborhood Council
August 13, 2002

WHEREAS, an alarming trend within the boundaries of the MVCC is the practice of people rummaging through rubbish and/or recycling containers without the permission of the user of the container;

WHEREAS, this practice of "Scavenging" is expressly prohibited by Los Angeles Municipal Code section 66.28 and the City of Los Angeles, already in dire economic straits, actually loses significant revenue to provide essential services from scavenged recycling;

WHEREAS, Scavenging may result in the inadvertent disclosure of sensitive personal information to the individual conducting the scavenging and increase the risk of identity theft;

WHEREAS, identity theft is a devastating crime, requiring by some estimates 330 hours of the victim's time to manage and repair the crime;

WHEREAS, the MVCC recognizes that many of the individuals conducting Scavenging present no danger and do so only to provide themselves and their families with supplemental income; and

WHEREAS, nonetheless, individuals conducting Scavenging, generally doing so between sundown and sunrise, tend to (i) create unacceptable levels of noise, (ii) alarm unsuspecting and elderly residents, (iii) disrupt sleeping patterns, and (iv) generally interrupt the quiet enjoyment of residents.

THEREFORE, the MVCC calls upon the LAPD, the CD-11 office, and any other agency of the L.A. city government with jurisdiction, to:

1. Undertake reasonable and compassionate efforts to enforce the existing ordinance to the extent permitted by available resources for the purposes of disrupting or dissuading individuals from conducting Scavenging on our local streets; and

2. Develop, implement, and communicate a plan to educate homeowners on how best to manage the illegal practice of Scavenging, including how to interact with Scavengers and how to effectively dispose of confidential personal information.

Thank You,

Albert Olson
Chair
Mar Vista Community Council
Board of Directors