



COASTAL SAN PEDRO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Doug Epperhart

President

Dean Pentcheff

Vice President

Kathleen Martin

Secretary

Louis Dominguez

Treasurer

October 22, 2019

Los Angeles City Council and
Rules, Elections & Intergovernmental Relations Committee
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Motion opposing Los Angeles City Council resolution requesting Governor Gavin Newsom to declare a State of Emergency on homelessness (Council File 19-0002-S172).

Whereas, the Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council has reviewed and analyzed the Resolution promulgated by the Los Angeles City Council on September 25, 2019 asking Governor Gavin Newsom to declare a State of Emergency on homelessness in the State of California; and

Whereas, the CSPNC finds that this Resolution is overly broad and vague, and that it lacks substantial evidence to support it, and it is an attempt to skirt laws, obtain legal immunities for emergency actions taken, and evade accountability for a failure to act on the homelessness issues over many years; and

Whereas, the City of Los Angeles' resources must be reallocated to support a feasible and much more efficient and effective plan that accommodates the emergency nature of the homelessness issue facing our City and these priorities must supersede funding to build permanent supportive housing, which should begin after emergency needs are met; and

Whereas, an example of a more efficient and effective solution is a modern Quonset hut (i.e. a 3,000 sq. ft. Quonset hut costs about \$22,500 plus freight for the structure, and there would be additional costs for the necessary interior improvements); and

Whereas, constitutional rights, environmental laws, public safety and health laws and regulations must be followed to accomplish these goals comprehensively and safely for the welfare of all Californians, and a State of Emergency attempting to void applicable laws and regulations is not in support of the safety and well-being of the City of Los Angeles residents or California residents generally; and

Whereas, the Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council supports the findings and the recommendations of the City Controller in the required audit report dated October 10, 2019 regarding Proposition HHH funds; and

Whereas, we owe it to the taxpayers who voted to approve Proposition HHH as well as to our homeless population to be certain that the \$1.2 billion in bond proceeds is going towards the absolute best and highest priority use in order to address the emergency nature of the crisis at hand.

Therefore be it resolved, the Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council opposes the adoption of the motion regarding a declaration of a State of Emergency by the Los Angeles City Council (Council File 19-0002-S172); and

Be it further resolved, the CSPNC requests immediate steps by the City Council to meet with City department officials to come up with an emergency plan for resolving the emergency medical and social needs of our homeless population, using existing City resources:

- the first priority must be focusing on options for emergency shelters that can be built much more cost-effectively, efficiently and expeditiously than the City's current proposals;
- the second most immediate need is for the City Council to provide access to hygienic facilities, including restrooms and showers; and
- thirdly, adequate mental health and other supportive services must be provided; and
- the homeless-related projects currently being considered by the City must be re-evaluated and modified based on the recommendations in the required audit report dated October 10, 2019 regarding Proposition HHH funds, to more effectively (both in terms of cost and speed) address the emergency nature of the crisis at a hand, despite any preliminary approvals.

Please contact Robin Rudisill at 310-721-2343 should you have any questions related to this letter.

Sincerely,



Doug Epperhart, President
On behalf of the Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council Board

cc: Mayor Garcetti, City Controller, Ryan Ferguson