

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Tony Zimbardi

Robert Morrison

Brandi D'Amore, Vice Chair

Michael Connolly, Chair



HOLLYWOOD UNITED NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Certified Council #52,

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COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness Committee

Monday, September 27, 2021, 6:30 PM

Webinar ID:945 9331 3243

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/94593313243>

Welcome

6:33 PM start

1. Roll Call

Attending

Robert Morrison

Brandi D'Amore

Michael Connolly

Tony Zimbardi

2. Approval of Minutes

#9. 41.18, not 41.19

Motion Made: Motion to approve of Minutes

Motion: Tony Zimbardi

Second: Michael Connolly

Vote: Yes-0, No-0, Abstain-0, Recused-0, Ineligible-0

3. Public Comment on items not on the Agenda

Stakeholder Ana Kar said that she of course wants to be helpful to unhoused people, but suggested that the committee be better about outreach in general.

4. Discussion and possible motion to recommend to full Board a community impact statement (CIS) for CD 13 Resolution Council File 21-4118-S1 (see link) as it pertains to City Ordinance 41.18 to determine recommendations for implementation of the Council File: <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=21-4118-S1> . City Ordinance 41.18 link is provided below:
<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=20-1376-S1>

Brandi D'Amore explained that public comments will be limited to one minute per person on this agenda item, and moved Neighborhood Prosecutor Ethan Weaver and LAPD Senior Lead Officer Heather Mata to panelists to explain the motion.

Ethan Weaver said it was good to see such a big turnout, and explained that there are two laws that deal with homelessness in the municipal code: 5611, and 4118, which regulates where people can be on the sidewalk. Section A and B have been on the books for years prohibiting sleeping in doorways and entryways, and now City Council has approved adding section C, which provides a list of sensitive locations that the City Council has power to prohibit camping around, including schools, daycares, freeways, and over and underpasses. But the new law, Section C, doesn't prohibit sleeping and camping outright, it requires City Council to vote to prohibit it. So the motion comes from CD13 to prohibit camping, etc. around them, and the City Council will have to vote to pass it or not. If they pass it, it triggers a set of things that needs to be done: after outreach is completed, no-camping signs need to be posted at those locations for 14 days, and after 14 days, it will be a misdemeanor to camp at those locations.

Michael Connolly asked how RV's are seen in that category since there is so much sidewalk. Mr. Weaver said that since 4118 governs sidewalks and not rights-of-way, the previous ordinance has lapsed; his sense is you would need a separate ordinance for right of way, but that's a different issue. On behalf of him and SLO Mata, it's up to stakeholders as voters to decide how they feel about the laws the City Council passes. Mr. Weaver said that he and SLO Mata are just enforcers.

Robert Morrison asked if Mr. Weaver knew what teams would be doing outreach to each site and what the City's capacity for that is.

Mr. Weaver said he did not know, but Councilmember Raman was very engaged in what pre-prohibition outreach would look like.

Ms. D'Amore said that Hannah Cho had another meeting, and that CD13 has done extensive outreach to the Hollywood/Bronson, Gower, and Yucca areas for several weeks. They've been able to locate some housing for some. She asked Mr. Weaver if he could speak to what happens when housing's refused. Mr. Weaver said his recollection of the debate was that a genuine offer of housing was a part of the enforcement and what CD4 was fighting for, but that would be something they would want to nail down with their council office.

Ms. D'Amore thought that did not answer the question, asking how that would impact relocation if outreach was rejected. Mr. Weaver said the reason the offer of housing is important is a city can prohibit camping in the city if there's a genuine alternative because of the Boise Supreme Court decision. Before they consider a criminal filing, that will be an important factor.

Mr. Connolly asked how many City councilmembers need to vote for the motion to pass, and Mr. Weaver said it needed a simple majority of 8 yes votes out of 15 councilmembers, plus the Mayor's signature. Ms. D'Amore asked if the locations are being voted on individually, and Mr. Weaver guessed that it is a single motion which needs to be voted on holistically. Mr. Connolly asked when the vote on the resolution was, and Mr. Weaver did not know when it's being scheduled.

SLO Mata explained that they do not know what enforcement looks like moving forward, and LAPD has not provided protocols for how that will look. As soon as that happens, she will relay that to HUNC and the community.

Mr. Connolly asked if the CD4 representative on the Zoom could talk about outreach procedures the councilmember from CD4 thinks are important. Ms. D'Amore noted that the motion addresses CD13, but Mr. Morrison thought it was relevant if she has info about resources required for outreach.

Helene Rotolo from CD4 explained that she was there for agenda item 5 as it relates to her district, and does not feel comfortable offering comment on this item number. The info she can provide is that the City Council did vote to approve the recommendation from the Energy Climate Change and Environmental Justice committee for what the emergency outreach framework is and sanitation framework is, and the Council File is 20-3076. The report that was adopted is a CLA report from 2021. CD4's office's understanding of the process is that appropriate outreach means an offer of interim housing or shelter for the client must be offered before any kind of enforcement can happen. In most Council Districts there will not be enough shelter to be able to be offered to every person in every encampment. Mr. Morrison asked if there was a concern about being able to have enough housing from each district, which Ms. Rotolo confirmed.

Public Comment:

Ms. D'Amore clarified that there is no back and forth in public comment, and that their goal as a committee is to determine whether or not they support this resolution and what questions the committee/board are asking CD13 regarding this.

Mr. Morrison raised a point of order, saying that the agenda lists item A and B for item 4: A is for this issue and B is about adding additional locations. Ms. D'Amore said that they are voting on two things, so they will do public comment twice. She suggested they could do item 4.B. first, and find out whether or not the community should think we should add anything in terms of location. Mr. Morrison noted that the way the item was written was weird, and Ms. D'Amore clarified that it was hard to explain to the board president Sheila Irani how they wanted to address the issue, which is why it was split out. She clarified for the public that they would currently take comments on item 4A, on whether or not they support this resolution.

Ms. D'Amore said that she and several stakeholders present asked CD13 if the terminology of "underpass" affected this resolution, and asked Mr. Weaver to confirm. He did not think so, and said that he thinks it comes to how CalDOT classifies different vehicle classes. His read on it is it is not material.

Stakeholders Cheryl and Jerry Davis said that they understand the unhoused need a place to stay, but they walk throughout the City every day and are forced to walk on the street because the unhoused take up the entire sidewalk, and they are tired of walking in the street.

Stakeholder Laney said she is for this proposal, but would like to make sure the language regarding underpasses/overpasses is clarified. She believes the overpasses do need to be addressed in this issue. She agrees that the unhoused need a place to go; however, in the camp across from her house, there is a homeless person who has been offered housing several times, and refused because he does not like the curfew. She feels if you are offered housing but have not taken it, you do not deserve to just camp there. Other neighbors have reached out to him too.

Stakeholder Ana Kar said that if the problem continues, Hollywood's reputation will slowly be eroded. It is an iconic destination, but the problem is embarrassing, and there are no more excuses. She also believes there is a church in the area and Salvation Army building that are enabling it. She thinks well-intentioned people are bringing down their furniture and siphoning off her water, and she has had to disconnect her sprinkler situation from there.

Stakeholder David Gadd introduced himself as president of the Argyle Civic Association, and said they want to congratulate

Councilmember O'Farrell for putting together his list. They generally approve of his motion, but were appalled to find Gower overpass was not on the list. He spoke to Hannah Cho about this, and she said they want to tackle easier places before tackling the most entrenched encampment in Hollywood. Mr. Gadd also wants language about the underpass/overpass on Bronson to be made clear.

Stakeholder Todd Warner said he is in support of this proposal. Like people said before, adding the Gower underpass is crucial. He has a store, Tailwaggers, at Gower and Bronson, and many of my employees take public transit, and he has had two employees quit recently because they've had to cross the Gower/Bronson underpass/overpass and it's been too dangerous. It's a big concern and he appreciates all the committee's support on this.

Stakeholder Amie Quigley introduced herself as a staff member at Hollywood Presbyterian Church and clarified they have 3 homeless programs, they do not feed on the street, they have engagement programs and support a shelter. They are 100 percent supportive of the resolution, since they cannot operate the church or their children's programs if safety issues persist. They also have rats the size of cats near their church and dumpsters that they have to pay for to haul trash away from the homeless.

Stakeholder Augusta Johnson said she has been a resident of the area her entire life and has seen the ups and down through many years. She is in favor of the resolution regarding 4118, and encourages the City to put Gower encampment on the top of the list. Ms. D'Amore clarified that Gower being added must be a separate agenda item.

Stakeholder Rob also wanted Gower added to the list. He also asked in regards to how much space is allowed to be on the sidewalk from a tent if they are taking into consideration parking meters and tentpoles that don't allow a wheelchair to pass, because he saw a bad situation related to that recently.

Stakeholder Sandy said she is in favor of 4118 and seconds everything the people before her have said, and said the issues with some of these areas is a public health problem. With the rats she has lived in this community on Canyon drive for 46 years. And there are dead rats in the gutters, so you can't walk in the community feeling safe.

Stakeholder Zoe Bannon said that she understands all the outreach that different organizations are doing, but a lot of these people are refusing the help/housing, meanwhile, every time the stakeholders need help, they can't have help. The unhoused can't be arrested, several people have been chased, just today, several transients tried to start fires. And many stakeholders have little children that are scared to walk around their neighborhood.

Stakeholder Andrew Chadsey said he was in favor of 4118 and having Gower added. He wishes it was not so divisive, and thinks people are refusing housing because of mental issues. He would like to see them have more services, and more enforcement of what they can do for the unhoused and for neighbors. If they have housing and they offer it, that would meet the criteria.

Stakeholder Soren wanted to quote Helen Rotolo: "'Before any site can be declared a sensitive area, the outreach would have to have happened.' And her statement is, they know it won't work because there's not enough housing. So ipso facto, they won't play."

Stakeholder Missy Kelly supported the motion, and said the issue that people want fixed is not a question of housing, people on the street do not want the city's housing, and also wanted to add Gower to the list.

Stakeholder Alli White said she is speaking out in favor of the motion, and is calling on behalf of a lot of parents at Delany Wright preschool, all 4 sides are surrounded by encampments and they are unable to safely walk. She is also speaking out in favor of safe and sanitary conditions around the preschool.

Stakeholder Anne Ovsepyan said her issue is a solution to the issue is too late when the encampments are already around their schools and children and doing drugs early in the morning. They cannot walk by them safely. At night she hears a lot of screams and there are a lot of cars parked with people doing drugs and people running around naked, and she is tired of living in a neighborhood like this and wants them to move.

Stakeholder Lena Artunian said she has lived at Franklin and Cerrano for 20 years, and the surroundings have changed drastically. With the RV's on Franklin, apartment owners cannot park their cars. They have seen drugs around their schools, and they cannot walk safely. They finally got one person cleared from the bus stop with a mattress but there needs to be more done. The surrounding beautiful Los Feliz has become trash, and just the other day she saw a gang member dealing drugs.

Stakeholder Christine Rothman lives in Bronson Canyon and is fairly active on the Nextdoor app. She agrees with the motion, and thinks the overpass/underpass on Bronson needs to be addressed immediately, as it is a peril for all stakeholders. Her main concern is there is a guy running around their neighborhood trying to set fires, and thinks there should be an all-out manhunt for this guy.

Mr. Connolly noted that some people who have spoken previously are not muted.

Stakeholder Stephen said that they have written about the issues to a number of City councilmembers, and a large percentage of students of Cheremoya have to walk through Gower, and the area has been terrorized with crime. He has called about that arsonist and the police have not responded. He said stakeholders are also worried about the traffic issues and small business issues.

Stakeholder Rita Noravian said they do not know how this is going to be implemented, and that Helene Rotolo's statement is ridiculous, asking what they are going to do when something happens to their kids. She added that they just got rid of the person outside of Immaculate Heart, but it took two months.

Stakeholder Randy Howell said he supports 4118, his neighbors, and adding the Gower area, and thanked the neighbors for their help who got the person at the bus stop removed.

Stakeholder Robert J. Sexton said he is located in CD4 a couple blocks away from the various encampments and approves of 4118, except for Cahuenga and Danger Island which are not located in CD13. He already heard from the council rep of not going along with this, but if this happens in CD13, there will be no place for these people to go except for Cahuenga and Danger Island, and he would just rather they find a way to all play together.

Ms. D'Amore asked the committee if they have general support or lack of support for 4118. Mr. Connolly said he is generally in favor of this, adding that the issue has evolved into something not sustainable for anybody. As a parent of two young children he does not want them being exposed to the things they are being exposed to. He added that it will have a direct negative effect on businesses in the area. The item coming up later is specifically about that. He understands that COVID slowed down the city in terms of what they could do and what was safe, but it also gave leeway to these encampments. He left work the other day and hit Bronson and Gower and it was shocking. These areas are surrounding a lot of schools and children and they are vulnerable and don't have an option. And this has evolved from a homeless issue to a rampant mental health and drug crisis.

Mr. Connolly explained that he lives deep in the oaks, you have to get lost to get here, and the cops have been there twice in as many weeks, and something has to happen. He has to applaud CD13 for taking this initiative, and does not approve of the laissez faire approach of CD4. There seems to be an attitude in the encampments of, "We can do whatever we want and we suffer no consequences". They have to take care of those who need help, but they have to take care of everybody. He thinks there is a reckoning coming, and this can't all happen at one time: he believes the situation is a pressure cooker about to explode, and inaction or excuses or saying it isn't the perfect scenario are unhelpful. He is in favor of this proposal and encourages his fellow board members to present a CIS to the full board to support the actions of CD13.

Mr. Morrison thought it was important to center his experience for a moment. He has worked in homeless services for the past 11 years and currently works in a place where they operate permanent supportive housing for 600 people who were chronically homeless before they helped them. He has seen the encampments and knows the sanitation and safety issues, and he thinks they are all legitimate concerns they need to address. He does think this strategy is premature and will be ineffective. He thinks the sense that there are enough resources out there for people on the streets, be it health services or drug services is just not the case in his experience. There are only 15,000 shelter beds in LA and there are over 30,000 people who are homeless. So as they look to enforce this strategy across LA, those beds are already full. He also thinks that as they work to make encampments in one area, as someone mentioned, what's going to happen is just musical chairs and what they will see is movement and coalescence in different areas. They saw this in LAPD's enforcement of the Skid Row area. He also thinks it is worth noting that people that are African American are overrepresented in LA's homeless population by 4 to 1 so any decision will disproportionately affect them. CARE sweeps and tickets will adversely affect homeless people's ability to find housing in the future. And SLO Mata said LAPD does not have an enforcement mechanism, so they should probably wait until they have an actual mechanism to enforce it. And homelessness is a function of larger problems: he thinks that this strategy will address symptoms but not larger problems. He thinks some of the tools they have in their belt can be used to address this without moving to this extreme step.

Tony Zimbardi said he is with the college around the Yucca and Capitol Records area. Even their college age students grapple with this every day. The college has shuttle vans just to drive students from one building to the next, whereas their NY campus has students walking dozens of blocks. Their students still have a hard time getting around the neighborhood, and they need to get something moving to make this better.

Ms. D'Amore acknowledged that this is not an easy topic to discuss. She asked Mr. Weaver how the Judge Carter ruling affects 4118, and he said he is not an expert in the appellate case striking Carter's ruling down. Had that order remained in effect, his read is basically that all of LA's homeless related resources would be redirected to Skid Row. So he does not believe it affects the matter before the committee tonight, but it reduces the uncertainty of how LA can use its resources moving forward. In his opinion, this ordinance was written anticipating Judge Carter's ruling, and the inclusion of under/overpasses was written in anticipation of his case. He thinks that that's what the city council was trying to be ready for, and if Judge Carter was looking to clear the city of homeless, it would be with the underpasses and overpasses.

Ms. D'Amore thought that unless they support it, the ordinance does not make any momentum to pass the practicalities. They deeply appreciate the people coming out, but they are mostly CD4 residents, not CD13. She has spent time trying to reach out to CD13 and reaching out to CD13 homeless and has learned that they have a tremendous amount of their population who have been released from recent incarceration. They have given them information on the Housing Is Key program. She also happened to sit on PLUM, and noted that if people are living in a building within 500 feet of a freeway, the developer is supposed to provide low-income housing. She also found it interesting that people supporting them being moved are not recognizing that many of them may be dying of black lung disease, or mental illness caused by traffic fumes. They have also talked to women who are homeless in the Villas. Being a homeless woman is dangerous and they are vulnerable; they will sometimes take drugs to stay awake, because they may be victimized if they're asleep. They may not go to shelters, because they may be sexually abused there.

In Bronson, the committee knows they have arson problems, siphoning electricity problems, and a prostitution problem, and a gang problem, and she has walked there with Senior Lead Officer White. They have talked to people who were relocated from Bronson because people took their tents and wouldn't let them back in. So she supports 4118, but they need to clarify reports of what outreach is actually done. She thinks they need to find where the 500 feet goes and they need to hold the city accountable, but there needs to be clarification about the enforcement. So she would urge that if the committee votes to do this, they should put in language to make sure it's enforceable and make sure they have done their due diligence. Because whether stakeholders realize it or not, even the homeless are HUNC stakeholders. So she urges the committee to pass this, but to tell Mitch O'Farrell that they hold him accountable to some respect. The language will not yet include the possible expansion until the committee votes on item 4.B.

Mr. Connolly asked if they need to come up with that other language on this Zoom, and Ms. D'Amore said they need to come up with what they agree that Mr. Connolly will modify before October 11th. They need to clarify underpass/overpass, whether any one location will be killed/passed depending on the city council vote on the resolution, and she believes there needs to be some documented proof of outreach to the NC's that the resolution involves. Mr. Morrison said he would not vote in support of anything of this motion as it is, but would vote in support of asking CD13 for clarification. Ms. D'Amore suggested that Mr. Connolly add Mr. Morrison's questions.

Mr. Connolly laid out the areas of clarification, adding points from Mr. Morrison, who was interested in the LAPD enforcement protocol, and how the city will provide additional capacity for housing across the city, as well as being interested in the definition of what appropriate housing is and who determines that definition for each person. He also wanted to know how this intersects with CARE+ sweeps. Ms. D'Amore added regarding the CARE+ sweeps, as of September 6 they can give notice to a location within 72 hours, and residents of a location need to remove all their belongings for the location to be cleaned and sanitized, and anything left behind will be disposed of. Some of the sanitation issues may be resolved.

Mr. Connolly moved to vote to support this with the bullet points laid out by Ms. D'Amore and Mr. Morrison.

Motion Made: Motion to recommend to full Board a community impact statement (CIS) for CD 13 Resolution Council File 21-4118-S1 (see link) as it pertains to City Ordinance 41.18 to determine recommendations for implementation of the Council File with requests for clarification <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=21-4118-S1> . City Ordinance 41.18 link is provided below: <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=20-1376-S1>

Motion: Michael Connolly **Second:** Tony Zimbardi **Vote:** Yes-3, No-1, Abstain-0, Recused-0, Ineligible-0

Yes

Brandi D'Amore

Michael Connolly

Tony Zimbardi

No

Robert Morrison

- A) Discussion and possible motion to recommend locations within CD13 and HUNC for CF 21-4118-S1 including, but not limited to Gower Underpass, Argyle Ave., Yucca St., La Baig Ave., Carlos Way, and Bronson Ave.
https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2021/21-4118-S1_mot_09-14-21.pdf

Brandi D'Amore explained that the next part is to determine whether to add areas to the request. Because of the 4118 is live, nothing is implemented or planned yet and because of the sensitivity of Gower, they want to make sure it can be added at a later time. That specific area is State property, so it's multi-departmental, partly CalTrans.

The stakeholder numbered 373406 raised their hand to talk, but did not unmute and did not comment.

Stakeholder David Gadd said it seems they were discussing in their last motion in a vote of confidence or not in 4118, and thinks they were supposed to vote on the locations. Also, he thought Robert Morrison's livelihood seems to depend on homeless people existing in LA. They have cell phones, they could come to the meeting. Ms. D'Amore said she has actually spent time doing outreach to the homeless, and some of them think the deck is stacked against them already, so they didn't attend. Nor all of them have cell phones. Michael Connolly noted that the previous item was a CIS to support or not support O'Farrell's resolution of 4118. He added that Mr. Morrison is an extremely noble person and asked attendees and panelists to refrain from personal attacks.

Stakeholder Sandy believed they should add the Gower underpass to the list now. She appreciates that they are saying they can add other locations later, but believes if they do not put something down, they will not have any money to add something else, and since Gower is such an egregious location, they should get the really dangerous and public-health-wise locations on the list now.

Stakeholder Randy Howell understood the sensitivity of the Gower underpass, but thought it was important to understand the sensitivity of the people in this community who have to avoid or go through it, and it should be added now rather than throwing it onto a pile later. Ms. D'Amore added for clarity that the Hollywood Wilton encampment cannot be added to this list. She noted that it will have to be part of the outreach and CARE+ list. Mr. Connolly noted that CARE+ hasn't been in business for a year and a half, so once that comes back into rotation, there are very specific locations that do not fall into the sensitivity categories including Argyle, Gower, and Lebaig. Those were the locations that they had picked that fit the criteria that fell under the resolution that may not have been requested under Councilmember O'Farrell's resolution.

Stakeholder Augusta Johnson asked if Gower cannot be added to the list whether they can request to have a CARE+ sweep ASAP, and Ms. D'Amore confirmed it was already on the CARE+ list.

Stakeholder Amie Quigley wanted to echo the sentiment of adding the Yucca, Carlos, etc. and would greatly appreciate the council's advocacy to that area.

Mr. Connolly asked if Carlos, Yucca, etc. fall into the sensitive area category, and Ms. D'Amore said they do. Mr. Connolly asked if it was a CalTrans issue and Ms. D'Amore said the issue is some people are living on the embankment. Also, Hannah Cho said there is one sanitation truck for CD13. Their areas, believe it or not, have been on a regular CARE plan, so when CDC guidelines were in effect, they had regular peripheral cleaning in effect. So what they might define as "regularly" may not be what they define as regularly. But the area is due for several CARE+ cleanups. Mr. Connolly noted that the squeaky wheel gets the grease and they should bombard them with requests. Ms. D'Amore said that Ms. Cho noted that bombarding them actually makes it harder to get stuff done. Mr. Connolly expressed a desire to push back on that point, and Ms. D'Amore asserted that they would not debate the material of what Ms. Cho said, noting that other people have engaged with her in a racist manner, and it makes it harder for her to get things done and interact with people.

Mr. Morrison noted as a point of order that they are doing public comment, but should not respond to public comment.

Stakeholder Zoe Bannon said that everything being talked about right now is about how to make their unhoused neighbors more comfortable on the street and it is really making her upset because no one is addressing the safety issue.

Stakeholder Laney agreed with what Ms. Bannon said, adding that she appreciated the new language. She said she was sorry that Mr. Morrison was accosted earlier and that she appreciated his work and the board's work.

Stakeholder Ana Kar noted that the problem is not just one of housing, it's also one of drugs and mental health, and there has to be an integrated approach. She agrees with the previous people, it does not seem like the stakeholders have rights, they seem to be at the mercy of homeless people. They are talking about rats, and a guy sleeping in her doorstep with an axe in his hand, and they need to address it.

Stakeholder Todd supported adding Gower to the list, saying it is one of the most dangerous ones and should be top of the list; that said, he is grateful for all of the committee, especially Mr. Morrison, and acknowledged that there are a lot of questions they should look at.

Stakeholder Brandon Malone said he heard a lot of people speaking to action and a lot of concern, Hollywood Presbyterian Church is carrying out cleanups partnering with friends experiencing homelessness, and their biggest thing to tackle is sanitation. If they are able to partner and help their people clean up this trash, it won't end homelessness, but will make things cleaner and safer. He is in favor of expansion, but thinks they need to talk about immediate solutions. Ms. D'Amore confirmed that the city will bring new wire trash cans and will be implementing some kind of new sanitation policy.

Stakeholder Stephen Cragg supported expansion, but as a point of clarification wondered about the area by Immaculate Heart. Ms. D'Amore noted they cannot speak about that topic since it is not on the agenda, which listed the areas qualified for expansion. But she is very familiar with that area by the staircase, and if they want to have a conversation about that in Transportation and Works, they will be back in October.

Stakeholder Andrew Chadsey supported expanding and including more locations.

Stakeholder Marco DiMaccio thanked Mr. Morrison for his work, but wanted to question the logic about pushing the problem around the city, saying in that case, it would make more of the city aware of the problem, and he does support including Gower.

Stakeholder Alli White wanted to support the expansion. Ms. D'Amore noted that people supporting the expansion need to delineate what they're in favor of expanding. Mr. Connolly suggested including the areas of expansion on the agenda in the motion and supported adding Argyle, Gower, Carlos, Yucca, and LaBaig on their list.

Mr. Morrison thanked everyone for their comments and anybody who supported him, and encouraged Mr. Gadd and anyone who wants to talk about homelessness to reach out to him at MyHunc.org. He thinks this issue is an extension of the prior vote, and that Gower reinforces his prior point of this kind of enforcement being premature, and this committee could keep a list of encampments in an organized way to act as a liaison between them, the board, and the council.

Ms. D'Amore added that she has been engaged with these areas in a different way from Mr. Morrison, and since they all qualify, she thinks it's unfair to highlight Bronson without including the others. There were some territory wars that pushed people to different areas, and she thinks all the areas need to be addressed. They have several members from the community discussing how problematic Hollywood and Bronson is, it's now a traffic obstruction coming off the freeway going South, and there are open drug sales taking place, so she would ask that they include the Hollywood and Bronson encampment.

Mr. Connolly motioned to expand the list to include Hollywood and Bronson, Gower, Carlos, Argyle, LaBaig. Mr. Morrison

seconded, and thought it be good to have HUNC on the record looking for ways to get more.

Motion: Michael Connolly

Second: Tony Zimbardi

Vote: Yes-3, No-1, Abstain-0, Recused-0, Ineligible-0

Yes

Brandi D'Amore

Michael Connolly

Tony Zimbardi

No

Robert Morrison

5. Discussion with community stakeholders and City agencies about recent security issues at Gelson's on Franklin Ave.

Brandi D'Amore explained that LAPD Senior Lead Officer Heather Mata has been in talks with executive members at Gelson's, and there are now 2 security members on call at any time. There are some things that Gelson's staff cannot do; in terms of denying access to property based on somebody's appearance, that will most likely not happen. Officer Mata has requested that the two tents on the canyon side move further south. That location has been found to meet all the ADA regulations.

Michael Connolly said there will be a community meeting October 5th with HOA's and Gelson's corporate staff. He also wanted to point out that Gelson's should never turn anyone away based on appearance. Criminal activity is one thing; profiling is another thing. As Ms. D'Amore pointed out, the LAPD is well aware. Mr. Connolly has seen the two new security guards. He thought "encampment" was also a strong word for the unhoused there, saying they are very compliant and it's a model unhoused area. So this agenda item is a precursor to people coming to the community meeting to meet with Gelson's. He added that there is also a tendency to over exaggerate on things like NextDoor, and they do not need everybody terrified to go to Gelson's. Ms. D'Amore added that Officer Mata advised people to stop engaging with NextDoor until they actually engage with an LAPD officer. Also, we've been advised that this falls within other HOAs' jurisdiction.

Helene Rotolo from CD4 added that she reemphasized with Officer Mata, as far as the folks encamped with this area, they have made themselves compliant with 4118, and continue to comply, and their office has engaged with them and are trying to meet supportive housing needs for them. They had a quarantine under their bridge home for the last month and a half and their Project Roomkey place is full with other people needing homes. So they will continue to work with people in this area on maintaining 4118 compliance and ADA compliance and getting their trash collected with their LACCT team.

Robert Morrison asked about a pilot program in the area called CIRCLE, and Ms. Rotolo explained that the CIRCLE program was funded in this year's budget, and the areas it's funding are more in the CD13 side. The contract was awarded to Urban Alchemy, so she does not know if anyone in their office has received a firm date when those services will start, but she does know this contract was awarded. There was a request for expertise in de escalation, without having an armed response, so hopefully this will free up LAPD for more criminal investigations.

Mr. Connolly asked if someone calls a different phone number to engage that service, and Ms. Rotolo did not know since there are a couple programs being funded in the city. Ms. D'Amore has an update, saying Shannon Prior is heading up this program, and plans on coming to HUNC meetings in October. Her understanding is stakeholders can call 911 and indicate it's an unarmed response and CIRCLE can respond.

Stakeholder Todd thanked the board and thought Gelson's is a problem which sometimes overflows. He was hoping there would be other possible solutions, but does appreciate what they have done so far.

Stakeholder David Gadd noted that the person Mr. Connolly referred to as a "model homeless person" spent a night in jail last week for open drug use.

Stakeholder Zoe Bannon said that with the Gelson's situation, the homeless person keeps his area tidy, but has said he will not take City outreach because he does not want a curfew. And it was kind of insulting to say stakeholders shouldn't use Nextdoor.

Stakeholder Christine Rothman wanted to speak to what Ms. Bannon said, and Ms. D'Amore reminded stakeholders that they need to keep it to the agenda topic to security around Gelson's. Ms. Rothman said she has lived in this area for years and been terrified to walk past that structure there, and Gelson's could definitely do more. She has seen drug deals go down in the parking lot. She grew up in New York, and has nevertheless seen things in the Gelson's parking lot that terrify her.

Ms. D'Amore noted that stakeholders seemed to have problems with the security, and explained that Gelson's will not screen who will come into the property. Perhaps they can ask them to patrol the property more often, and maybe they can have a trespass filing. Also, open drug use, and defecation are not arrestable offenses anymore, they are misdemeanors. She also asked SLO Mata to make sure that if somebody feels they are being followed, etc. that someone escorts them around the store. So they need to be concrete about what we want them to do.

Mr. Connolly added that Gelson's is a corporation, and they are going to do what any corporation wants to do. So if the community wants to come in and raise an issue, they will respond to it. They can bring in an agency. Ms. D'Amore said she can tell that Gelson's staff wants to take a more laissez-faire approach, and Mr. Connolly said that is when they should bring in another agency like ACS. Ms. D'Amore noted that it is a different situation on private property. Mr. Connolly noted that they need active solutions to move the ball forward even if it's only slightly, and noted that on Bronson it's not a housing issue, it's a drug/sobriety issue, and he would rather

have unhoused neighbors like the ones on Canyon with decorum that follow some rules.

Ms. D'Amore noted as a pedestrian at that market that she has seen as security stop all types of people for shoplifting, and those that are doing it recreationally will return the items at the time of being caught. The more violent interactions are by those who are stealing out of need. And the committee has no ability to do an actionable item on this.

Mr. Morrison thought a lot of the issues they have talked about tonight are connected, and they are challenging. It is worth continuing to talk about safety in their neighborhood. He himself was across from Gelson's a week ago while getting ice cream with a friend, and they were followed by someone talking to themselves.

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6. Committee Member announcements on items not on the Agenda

Brandi D'Amore noted she has not heard from many of the board about the Vaccination Proof email, which is mandatory from board members. Notice still hasn't been received if a vaccination is subject to PRA, and if it applies to voting stakeholders.

Robert Morrison noted that the redistricting continues in LA, and there's a presentation that's happening tomorrow evening, if attendees google it, they can participate since there could be significant changes to the council district stakeholders in.

7. Old/Ongoing Business

8. New/Future Business

Brandi D'Amore said that she and Robert Morrison talked about attending a workshop with the encampments to prevent fire to work with the individual bottle extinguishers. They wanted to do a workshop for the encampments to enable them to extinguish fires.

Robert Morrison thought centralizing the list of encampments in the area would be good to follow-up, and Ms. D'Amore thought Sheila Irani was doing that at her committee. Ms. D'Amore noted that if several of the board are talking about the PCH encampment about the same thing, they potentially violate the Brown Act. She noted that she wants to make sure that whatever they do is actually actionable, and to remember that previous board members invalidated action by discussing at multiple boards. She also recommended people attend the Homelessness and Social Services committee, and that they are still looking for candidates for their Youth Representative seat on the board.

Adjournment at 9:21 PM

Reconsideration: The Board may reconsider and amend its action on items listed on the agenda if that reconsideration takes place before the end of the meeting at which it was considered or at the next regular meeting. The Board, on either of these two days, shall: (1) Make a Motion for Reconsideration and, if approved, (2) hear the matter and take an action. If the motion to reconsider an action is to be scheduled at the next meeting following the original action, then two items shall be placed on the agenda for that meeting: (1) A Motion for Reconsideration on the described matter and (2) a [Proposed] action should the motion to reconsider be approved. A Motion for Reconsideration can only be made by a Board member who has previously voted on the prevailing side of the original action taken. If a Motion for Reconsideration is not made on the date the action was taken, then a Board member on the prevailing side of the action must submit a memorandum to the Recording Secretary identifying the matter to be reconsidered and a brief description of the reason(s) for requesting reconsideration at the next regular meeting. The aforesaid shall all be in compliance with the Ralph M. Brown Act.