



May 12th, 2020

Re: Safe Parking Proposal at 749 S. Los Angeles Street

To Whom It May Concern:

At our regularly held public meeting on May 12th, 2020, the Board of Directors of the Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council (“DLANC”) voted to provide the following comments below:

Homelessness is an unprecedented humanitarian and social crisis that all housed ,and unhoused Angelenos are facing daily.

As such, the need to implement concrete housing, social, and health services is imperative to securing a pathway for unhoused and vulnerable Angelenos out of homelessness.

The Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council (DLANC), as the Certified Neighborhood Council representing the majority of the Downtown Los Angeles area, recognizes the urgency to deliver essential housing, social, and health services to homeless residents both in and around the Skid Row area.

DLANC also recognizes the current judicial pressures placed on the City, in light of the global health pandemic, to deliver essential housing services to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the homeless community.

Although DLANC acknowledges and identifies with the current stresses and strains the City of Los Angeles is facing both internally and externally to fulfill a critical need in addressing the larger citywide homelessness crisis, we feel that such factors do not trump the City’s responsibility to inform its residents, businesses, and stakeholders as to how these measures will impact other parties within the community.

Therefore, DLANC expresses strong concern regarding the lack of community and public outreach conducted by your office and the City of Los Angeles regarding the proposed “Safe Parking” site at 749 S. Los Angeles Street. As stated above, even though DLANC supports general efforts and attention by the City in addressing this crisis within our community, we cannot but relay our apprehension to the lack of transparency and the absence of public hearings, town halls, and community outreach to entities such as the certified NC, BID, and other relevant community parties regarding this proposed site.



We ask that your office and the City of Los Angeles, provide and hold opportunities for the public to comment on this proposal prior to the site becoming operational. We also ask that your office and the City of Los Angeles disclose relevant information regarding this proposal at 749 S. Los Angeles to the public on how issues related to public safety, security, sanitation, and social services will be operated on this site. We hope that through needed public outreach and community participation, broader concerns surrounding the future of this proposal can be remedied.

Sincerely,

Patricia Berman

Patricia (Patti) Berman
President
Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council
DLANC

CC: Office of the Mayor (via email)
Office of the City Attorney (via email)
Council District 14 (via email)
Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) (via email)