

October 29, 2020

Mayor Eric Garcetti
Councilmember Kevin De Leon
Chief Michael Moore
(by email)

Gentlemen:

At our regularly held public meeting on October 29, 2020, the Board of Directors of the Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council ("DLANC") voted to support this letter.

Tuesday night (October 27, 2020) was one of many nights when downtown Los Angeles was devastated by rioting, looting, graffiti, and mayhem.

The residents and stakeholders of Downtown have had enough. Many are moving out. Some who are unable to move are leaving for a period of time until after the election has been settled. People cannot sleep. The sounds of explosions, screaming and sirens keep them awake and in fear for their safety. In the morning, they are greeted by a neighborhood that looks a war zone. They have cleaned up so many times. If they clean up today, how long before it all starts over? They live in fear of what will happen as we approach Election Day 2020.

Our businesses are destroyed, not only by the loss of income brought on by the pandemic, but also by the tremendous amount of damage done. Businesses are closing forever. Small family owned businesses cannot get back up on their feet. Coronavirus did enough serious damage to the economy and the livability of downtown. Add to it the destruction of property, the looting, the graffiti, and the assaults on persons and we have an atmosphere in which no business can survive (more or less thrive).

Downtown is the heart of this City. It has been its economic driver for many years. If Downtown has no residents and no businesses, then the heart of the city will die. If that happens, what will happen to the city as a whole?

Please give this neighborhood the protection of a nighttime curfew from November 3rd until the election is decided. An ENFORCED nighttime curfew. And please consider specific amendments to the curfew order which will allow commerce and business to continue, while prohibiting loitering and gathering. We ask for increased law enforcement presence in commercial and business corridors. We also ask that you investigate the possibility of using other city law enforcement agencies such as Port of Los Angeles Police, Los Angeles World Airport Police, Bureau of Street Services Investigation & Enforcement Division, and Bureau of Sanitation Watershed Protection Division, to provide additional crime prevention and deterrence presence in Downtown Los Angeles.

Please do not abandon the heart of this City. Please protect Downtown, its people and its businesses. Thank you for time and consideration.

Very truly yours,

*** SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY DLANC BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON October 29, 2020***

Patricia Berman
DLANC President