

## Los Angeles Community Action Network

February 28, 2024

Council President Paul Krekorian President pro Tempore Marqueece Harris-Dawson Assistant President pro Tempore Bob Blumenfield Councilmember Eunisses Hernandez Councilmember Nithya Raman Councilmember Katy Yaroslavsky Councilmember Monica Rodriguez Councilmember Imelda Padilla Councilmember Curren Price, Jr. Councilmember Heather Hutt Councilmember Traci Park
Councilmember John Lee
Councilmember Hugo Soto-Martinez
"Councilmember" Kevin de León

200 S. Main St. Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: While we wait... LAMC 41.18 reportback (Council File 21-0329-S4)

Dear Council President Krekorian and Councilmembers,

Today marks a critical juncture as we reflect on the City's 60-day reportback regarding the "cost and efficacy" of LA Municipal Code 41.18 (Council File 21-0329-S4), which is now 261 days past due. As we await this essential information, it is imperative to recognize the stark reality that 6 unhoused individuals perish each day across the city of Los Angeles, even as enforcement of LAMC 41.18 persists in Skid Row and beyond.

The LA Community Action Network (LA CAN) Human & Civil Rights Committee eagerly anticipated this reportback, seeking transparency regarding the expenditure on LAPD enforcement of LAMC 41.18, alongside the allocations made to LAHSA, Sanitation, and other pertinent departments named in the original motion. Our interest extends to understanding "the average duration of individuals being housed in both interim and permanent housing and the number of people still housed today that were provided housing through LAMC 41.18-driven engagement," among other crucial details outlined in the motion.

However, we recognize that this reportback will not illuminate the true "cost" of LAMC 41.18 enforcement on the unhoused individuals who are subjected to its punitive measures. To address this gap, LA CAN and our community partners have undertaken the task of gathering surveys from unhoused residents across Council Districts. These surveys offer a glimpse into the ongoing impact of LAMC 41.18, underscoring the disproportionate targeting of Black Angelenos who are currently unhoused and most susceptible to citation and arrest under this ordinance.

While we await the City's overdue reportback, LA CAN is presenting our own report, titled "Separate and Unequal," endorsed by over two dozen community organizations and gaining momentum. Our collective voice asserts that criminalization and enforcement do not resolve houselessness, and we are steadfast in our commitment to dismantling the false narrative suggesting otherwise.

It is incumbent upon the LA City Council to acknowledge the urgency of this matter. By persisting in enforcement-centric approaches and withholding the overdue reportback on LAMC 41.18, a conflicting message is conveyed to the community.

Sincerely,

Pete White, Executive Director

\*logos on reverse side for identification purposes only