

## Email Letter to Judge Carter 5/17/21

**From:** <info@pacpalicc.org>

**To:** <doc\_chambers@cacd.uscourts.gov>

**Cc:** <davidcard22@gmail.com>

**Sent:** 5/17/2021

**Subject:** Alliance for Human Rights v. City of Los Angeles/City proposal re use of state beaches for homeless housing

To the Honorable David O. Carter and Special Master Michele Martinez:

For your information and consideration, we are forwarding the attached letter from Pacific Palisades Community Council (PPCC), sent yesterday to all Los Angeles City Councilmembers, regarding a motion by Councilmember Bonin in City Council that proposes a feasibility study for the use of state beach parking lots and parks for homeless housing.

PPCC and thousands of Los Angeles citizens strongly oppose using public beaches, beach parking lots and parks for this purpose, for the reasons stated in our letter.

This issue is now in stark relief with respect to Will Rogers State Beach, located in Pacific Palisades, due to the dangerous, ongoing "Palisades Fire." As widely reported in local and national news media, this morning the fire is still 0% contained and spreading; residents of the Topanga State Park area remain under mandatory evacuation orders, and residents in the Pacific Palisades Highlands area are under evacuation warnings.

I attach a photo taken yesterday of the Will Rogers State Beach parking lot, which is being used as a command post by firefighters (and is typically used for this purpose during wildfire events). The use is ongoing throughout this fire event. This is the site where we were told by Councilmember Bonin that homeless housing would be placed pursuant to his motion.

I also note that Will Rogers State Beach is operated by Los Angeles County Beaches & Harbors. County Code expressly prohibits habitation/dwelling on beach parking lots in Los Angeles (see reference in our letter).

We understand that an important matter to be addressed at the May 27 hearing in the *Alliance* case will be the availability/suitability of sites that might be used for homeless housing in Los Angeles. As we explained in our earlier letter to you of [April 24](#), in a recent Court filing (quarterly MOU report) that predates any study per the motion in City Council, the City of Los Angeles has listed the Will Rogers State Beach parking lot as one of the sites proposed for such housing.

We respectfully submit that this *clearly inappropriate site, on a state beach where habitation/dwelling is expressly prohibited*, should be excluded from any settlement or order mandating locations for homeless housing in Los Angeles.

I am cc'ing PPCC Chair David Card. Please feel free to contact him or me if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Thank you for considering our letters and for your dedication to addressing homelessness in Los Angeles.

Best regards,

Christina Spitz

Secretary

Pacific Palisades Community Council

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