

## **Background – Proposed Motion to Oppose CF 21-0329-S5 (PPCC meeting 6/13/24)**

See motion by Councilwoman Yaroslavsky in CF 21-0329-S5 (“the Yaroslavsky motion”) regarding LAMC Sec. 41.18 (ordinance regulating encampments in the PROW/public spaces in Los Angeles): [https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2021/21-0329-S5\\_misc\\_6-04-24.pdf](https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2021/21-0329-S5_misc_6-04-24.pdf)

See the City’s Chief Legislative Analyst report in a related council file, stating that “LAPD believes that LAMC Sec. 41.18 and its subsections have an overwhelmingly positive impact on public safety” (5/31/24 CLA report, p. 7: [https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2021/21-0329-S4\\_rpt\\_CLA\\_5-31-24.pdf](https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2021/21-0329-S4_rpt_CLA_5-31-24.pdf).)

See Westside Current article about the Yaroslavsky motion: <https://www.westsidecurrent.com/> (“Yaroslavsky Seeks Changes to LA Homelessness Ordinance”)

LAMC Sec. 41.18 is strongly supported by PPCC<sup>1</sup> and by the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC).<sup>2</sup> Councilwoman Park has effectively utilized Sec. 41.18 in Council District 11, with offers of housing and services, describing the ordinance as a tool to allow for the reduction and removal homeless encampments throughout CD 11, thus protecting public health and safety and preserving the use of public spaces – especially spaces near sensitive uses such as schools, parks and libraries – for *all* constituents of the District.

In contrast, CW Yaroslavsky (CD 5) has been a vocal critic of Sec. 41.18. A number of Westside community leaders have expressed concern that the Yaroslavsky motion would effectively eviscerate Sec. 41.18. Among the critical issues that have been identified:

- The Yaroslavsky motion fundamentally misconstrues the purpose of Sec. 41.18, which is *not* an ordinance to provide for or solve the issue of homeless housing; it is instead a tool that Councilmembers may use to make public spaces healthy and safe and to protect the use of these spaces for all constituents.
- Sec. 41.18 provides for safe perimeters around sensitive uses such as schools, parks, day care centers, senior facilities and the like; it protects hardworking people who need to use public facilities.
- Keeping sidewalks accessible, especially for vulnerable people such as children, seniors using walkers, etc., is a matter of basic public safety and common courtesy.
- The Yaroslavsky motion makes implementation of Sec. 41.18 unnecessarily and unreasonably complicated, thus substantially weakening if not eliminating the application and effectiveness of the ordinance.
- The Yaroslavsky motion calls for the needless involvement of county agencies in city policy.

PPCC Vice-President and President-elect Sue Kohl and At-large Rep Chris Spitz accordingly urge the PPCC board to vote in support of the proposed **motion to oppose the Yaroslavsky motion in CF 21-0329-S5 and reiterate PPCC’s support for LAMC Sec. 41.18.**

*Prepared in connection with the 6/13/24 PPCC meeting*

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<sup>1</sup> Since 2021, PPCC has consistently taken positions in strong support of Sec. 41.18, in particular its implementation to protect public spaces near sensitive uses (e.g., schools, park and libraries). See: <https://pacpalicc.org/index.php/lamc-41-18-positions-2021-2023/>; <https://pacpalicc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/PPCC-41.18-further-letter.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> See: <https://westsidecouncils.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/WRAC-Letter-41.18-2.pdf>