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**PUBLIC COMMENT OUTLINE WORKSHEET: OPPOSING COUNCIL FILE 20-1376**

REGARDING SITTING, LYING, SLEEPING ON PUBLIC SIDEWALKS

**Notes for Your Public Comment (SPEAK QUICKLY BUT CLEARLY, OR CUT)**

**Who are you? Where are you from? What groups are you a part of? (1-2 sentence)**

MY NAME IS \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. I LIVE IN \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . I AM SPEAKING ESPECIALLY TO THE CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY.

**What is the issue? What happened? What changed or might change? (1 sentence)**

YES, THE LARGE NUMBERS OF CHRONICLY HOMELESS ON THE STREETS OF OUR CITY ARE A TRAGEDY. BUT CRIMINALIZING SITTING, LYING OR SLEEPING ON CITY SIDEWALKS IS NOT THE ANSWER.

**What is your ASK? What EXACTLY do you want the body to do? (1 sentence)**

I ASK YOU TO OPPOSE THE LEGISLATION IN COUNCIL FILE 20-1376. HOMELESSNESS IS NOT A CRIME.

**How is the issue impacting you, people close to you, people like you, and/or the community at large? (2-3 sentences)**

[OFFER YOUR PERSONAL CONNECTION TO THE ISSUE HERE….]

**Why is the current situation not working/proposed action ineffective/wrong? (1-2 sentences)**

YOUR LEGISLATION SHIFTS THE ISSUE TO CITY SIDEWALKS AND UNDERPASSES. BUT THAT’S NOT THE ISSUE. THE ISSUE ARE PEOPLE. PEOPLE WITH NAMES LIKE JASON AND RYAN AND NICOLA. PEOPLE WHO ARE CHRONICALLY HOMELESS, OFTEN ALSO WITH A PHYSICAL, MENTAL HEALTH OR ADDICTION DISABILITY.

UNTIL WE HAVE ENOUGH HOUSING THAT TRULY ADDRESSES THE NEEDS OF THE CHRONICALLY HOMELESS, ENFORCEMENT CAN’T WORK. YOU SAY ENFORCEMENT WILL INCLUDE DIVERSION. BUT HERE IN THE VALLEY WE HAVE TO ASK: DIVERSION INTO WHAT? INTO THE FEW EXISTING DUAL DIAGNOSIS BEDS THAT ARE ALREADY CONSISTENTLY FULL BECAUSE OF EXISTING DIVERSION PROGRAMS?

**What is the possible solution? (1-2 sentences)**

LOCATION-BASED ENFORCEMENT MAKES NO SENSE AND IS A WASTE OF TAXPAYER MONEY. INVEST INSTEAD IN PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING, HELP RELAX EXCLUSIONARY ZONING WHICH STANDS IN THE WAY OF NEW SUPPORTIVE HOUSING PROJECTS, AND WORK WITH US TO DEVELOP THE DUAL-DIAGNOSIS RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS WE NEED IN THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY.

**Why is the solution better than the status quo/proposed action? (3-4 sentences)** [included above]

**Restate your ask/exactly what you are asking the body to do (1 sentence).**

**[IF TIME]**

[I ASK YOU AGAIN, ESPECIALLY THE CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS FROM THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY WHICH IS MY HOME AND MY COMMUNITY TOO. OPPOSE THE REWRITES OF 41.18 AND 56.11 IN COUNCIL FILE 20-1376.]

**Thank the body. (1 sentence)**

THANK YOU.