



**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS  
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS  
HOLLY J. MITCHELL  
SHEILA KUEHL  
JANICE HAHN  
KATHRYN BARGER

**Correspondence Received**

Agenda #	Relate To	Position	The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:	
			Name	Comments
18.		<b>Favor</b>	Adam Shapiro	I have seen this problem getting worse and worse with malibu owners ending up suffering the consequences. We need to have the basic common sense to not allow this in a high fire environment
			Adrian Crowley	
			Adrian Schneider	We strongly support this agenda measure for the safety of the fire sensitive topanga canyon area
			Alan Graner	
			Alexandra E Rodriguez	
			Alicia Karapetyan	
			Alicia M Seward	
			Alison Lorch	
			Alyssa M Toledo	
			Amanda Still	
			Amber Trimble	
			Amy Terranova	
			Ana Olivares	
			Anais Laurant	
			Andrea Koepke	The dense brush and the dry conditions make this area totally unsuitable for camp living. As homeowners, we have been evacuated or put on "alert" numerous times due to fires started in encampments. The residents of the Santa Monica Mountains IMPLORE you to please step up to the plate and protect us from future fires. My neighbors and I are frightened and feel totally powerless to protect ourselves from "accidental" fires set by those using fire for heat and cooking. The current situation with encampments hidden in brush is untenable and is a disaster waiting the happen.
			Andrea Segall	
			anita ko	We have A homeless encampment and at the bottom of our hill. We have had to call the fire department on numerous occasions when they light up their barbecue and Propane. We live in fear every single day. Malibu resident
			Anna Smith	
			Anthony M Shale	
			Arlinda Henderson	Want them gone

As of: 8/11/2021 8:05:26 AM



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18.		<b>Favor</b>	Arman Araz Barsegian	
			Armine Shakhnazaryan	
			Atreyu Smith	
			August Maggio	
			Barbara Avnet	Please pay attention. We live in fire prone neighborhoods and this must be addressed
			Bella Pulley	
			Brenda Larison	My husband and I live in a high fire hazard area and have seen several fires started in relation to the homeless encampments over the years, endangering the property and lives of ourselves and our neighbors. With the changing climate this risk is increasing in frequency and intensity. Reducing the chance of fires associated with homeless encampments should be of the highest priority.
			Brian Dolansky	
			Brooke deRosa	Seriously. Let's cut down the fire hazard as much as possible.
			Calan R Compton	
			Callen D STILPHEN	
			Cameron Dymond	
			Cameron Neff	
			Carla Endow	
			Carla McCloskey	The fire danger is too great. We must remove these encampments.
			Carlos Herrera	
			Carrie Herring	
			Catherine Beyerle	
			Catherine Bybee	
			Catherine A Thompson	
			Charlene Simpson	
			Cheryl Onaitis	



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18.		<b>Favor</b>	Chopper Bernet	This ia a small step towards helping all of us in the area avoid a disaster that has already come very close to fruition. We ned to find the homeless help and support and also avoid a tragedy.
			Christina Roper	
			Christine Markow	
			claudia cevenini	We live in a high risk area in Topanga where 5 fires were started by homeless encampment in the last 8 months. We work so hard to keep our properties safe and clear of brush, we pay more taxes and, while accepting the risk of living where we live, we cannot have more man made threats that are preventable. We are happy to assist in any way necessary and we won't stop in our efforts until a safer environment is created for both residents and homeless population
			Claudia Silverthorn	
			Clement Pigott	I support this motion.
			Cleotilde Blanco	
			Comran Hojabrpour	
			Coral Padilla	
			Courtney Prather	
			Cynthia Raymond	
			Damen M Anderson	
			Dana Mason	
			Daniel Conness	I have been on more homeless encampment fires in the last four years and it's getting worse. We hold the BOS accountable for this. Do your job we do ours!!!! You are going to see a rise of Firefighters cancer because of this.
			daniel thomson	
			Daniela Bone	
			Darren G Ferguson	
			David Gonzalez	



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18.		<b>Favor</b>	David Kelmenson	I am a homeowner in the big rock neighborhood of Malibu... There are active homeless encampments in our neighborhood apparently on private property. We must get them out! With climate change upon us coupled with so many recent fires being started by homeless encampments, we must have a way to get them out now! If one of these encampment fires happens during a dry windy event in the fall, we are all toast. Litterally.
			David Menken	I support this motion. Thank you.
			Debbie Carlson	
			Derek Jones	
			Derrick Regnier	
			Desiree D Juarez	
			Diana Regan	
			Diana Regan	Remove the homeless from fire zones permanently. Make it a crime to go back.
			Diane Gomez	
			Dianna Lira	This sounds like it supports the fire department and lets them do their job. I hope it's the case. If there are any funds or measures for anything other than fire prevention, then I oppose.
			Dillon Padgett	
			Dominic E Montelongo	
			Doug Anderson	
			Ed P	
			Edgar Mejia	
			Eileen Heisler	Something must be done to prohibit homeless encampments in high fire danger areas. Please act before it's too late — our homes are in danger. Let's not waste any more precious resources fighting fires that can be prevented! We know the problem- let's take action to fix it before it's too late .
			Elaine Tennis	
			Elie Cohn	NO MORE FIRES! ITS EXTREMELY DANGEROUS SITUATION WITH PEOPLE CAMPING IN THE HILLS !
			Ellen Dollase	The frequent fires in Tuna Canyon must be stopped. Homeless encampments threaten loss of life, property, flora and fauna. The drought has made it imperative that something be done.



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18.		<b>Favor</b>	ELLEN SOUTH	see letter attached above
			Emily G Myers	
			Emma H Kirby	I am in favor of the motion being considered to provide Sheriff and fire departments more authority to relocate homeless folks within unincorporated areas.
			Erica Kopmar	
			Ericka Irwin	
			Erin DiMaggio	
			Eve H Wagner	Please pass this measure to help reduce the risk of fires. With wild fire behavior getting worse, we simply cannot risk having someone start a fire in a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. We have already had fires started by the homeless in this area. Every step that can be taken to mitigate against risk should be taken. Thank you.
			Gabriel Lizardo	
			Gabriela Suarez	
			Gabriella C Perez	
			Garrett A Prins	
			Genevieve M Clavreul	
			Geoffrey H Sheldon	Would like to prohibit camping in high fire hazard severity zones
			George Hillis	
			Gerardo Marroquin	
			Gina Orr	Please remove homeless encampments in very high fire hazard areas like Topanga! There are more and more of them coming here because we are unincorporated. It's crazy!
			Gina Walter	
			Ginnie Nikolaou	
			Grace Flowers	
			Guillermo Rios	
			Hakop Kosoyan	
			HaleyRae C Porwoll	



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			Name	Comments
18.		<b>Favor</b>	Helen Erskine	I strongly support this motion. It makes no sense to allow homeless to burn down the canyon which is quite likely to happen sooner or later with the number of homeless setting up here. Better for them to have a home elsewhere, better for the humans and animals in the canyon not to have their homes burned down. As far as the animals, we saw animals around us who fled the Palisades fire and doubtless many animals and birds could not escape and died. I don't want my home to burn down and in the worst case scenario, major loss of life like the Paradise fire. I will hold anyone who votes no on this liable if that occurs. It is also very important that this is not a one-time thing but regular patrols are made or the homeless will just return.  Please pass this motion.
			Hiram E Meraz	
			Jacqueline G Orth	
			Jaime Lopez	This is essential common sense. The risks of these encampments in extreme fire zones are dire. This measure will save lives. Please serve your community and do the right thing.
			James M Dooley	
			Jamie Fonseca	
			Jan M Owe	
			Jane Bell	
			Jane E Terjung	So glad to see this Motion and hope it is approved.  The Homeless camping in the brush are truly a fire hazard to themselves and nearby neighborhoods - especially when near hillsides.  Also very glad to see that this effort includes an initial Outreach to relocate and help, as well as follow-up to make sure that folks are still okay.  During the last year or so I became more familiar with the Homeless in and around my community of Topanga as I helped hand out food from the county. And although I saw a few iffy types who might not see reason, the majority were folks down on their luck who just needed a hand up.  Passing this Motion could make us ALL safer, plus help a lot of folks in need.  PLEASE VOTE YES. Sincerely, —Jane in Topanga, lucky to be HOMED

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18.		Favor	Jason Shickle	
			Jason Sobora	
			Jason M Brooks	There is absolutely no excuse for tolerating homeless encampments at any time in any place in or a near wildfire risk areas. Whatever the human cost associated with forcibly removing and/or relocating encampments is vastly smaller than the human, ecological, and financial costs associated with a wildfire started within or near an encampment.  This is totally obvious to any clear thinking individual and tolerating anything but intolerance toward encampments recklessly endangers many lives and communities.  Remove encampments NOW.
			Jaspreet K Katrib	Please vote In Favor as the lives of Topanga residents is at risk! Thank you.
			JC Crowley	
			Jeffrey Millan	
			Jennie Green	This MUST happen.
			Jens Koepke	We have had multiple fires in the last two years in Topanga Canyon, particularly in Tuna Canyon, that have been linked back to a homeless encampment. They have required large County resources to put out. They have put hundreds of properties and thousands of lives at risk. If such a homeless fire ever starts during a strong Santa Ana event, it could be a catastrophe for Topanga. The County has also put great effort to try to clean up the watersheds in Topanga Canyon. That has included imposing harsh requirements on homeowners' septic systems in the Canyon. Yet, homeless encampments, many of which are close to the creeks, result in a lot of human waste and pathogens getting into the watershed. WE NEED ACTION NOW!
			Jeremy R Elder	
			Jess Bianchi	Insurances dropping us in high fire zones we can't afford to loose our home in a fire that is preventable.
			Jesse OKeefe	Homeless people are trespassers and trespassing is a unlawful... unenforced laws are not laws at all.
			Jesse D Martin	
			Joe Parsons	
			John Tolle	
			Joseph Stammersky	

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18.		<b>Favor</b>	Joseph b Lopez	
			Joshua Brumfield	
			Jovonny Devicente	
			Joyce Wilkinson	
			Juan Berrcera	
			Juan L Alcala	
			Julie Ries	As an 11-year resident of Topanga, I support this motion. The frequency and severity of fires in our area have increased dramatically, as have the number of homeless living nearby. This past May we we were forced to evacuate due to a fire set by a homeless arsonist. Please advance this motion to protect lives, property, and the state park wilderness.
			Kameron Moise	
			Karen Ahrens Pigott	I support this motion.
			Karen R Lorre	
			Karin Benson	
			Kenneth Miller	I'm a resident of Topanga Canyon, and am very concerned about the growing danger of wildfire in this vulnerable area. In my opinion, this motion does an excellent job of balancing the need to protect our neighborhood from catastrophe and the moral imperative of treating people experiencing homelessness in a humane, non-punitive, and supportive way. I urge the Board of Supervisors to vote "yes."
			Kevin Glasgow	
			Kevin Williams	
			Kim Ford	
			Kirk Myers	
			Kirsten Kuhar	
			Kona Tucker	
			Kris Davila	
			Larz Anderson	This is an urgent public safety issue for everyone involved
			Laurie Ozanich	
			Leo Miller	

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18.		<b>Favor</b>	Leroy Wulfmeier	
			lesli watts	PLease pass the ordinance prohibiting homeless encampments in high fire areas. I live above Tuna canyon there have been many encampments where fires started this year. Please help
			Linda Hill	
			Lisa Asterino	
			Lisa Marie F Pagano	Please vote to support this motion. It is first and foremost a safety issue before anything else. It is critical to protect all involved (flora, animals, humans, residences, protected trees and creatures). Thank you.
			Liz Alarcon	
			Lou Sassel	
			Luke Erickson	
			Madison Zimmerman	
			Margaret Cohn	
			Margo T Lane	Having lived through the Woolsey Fire (we lost trees, fortunately not our home), we live in constant apprehension of another fire. It's frightening to see the many homeless encampments surrounding and embedded in our community--I've personally witnessed people lighting fires to cook in the midst of trees and undergrowth. Oftentimes, applicable property owners don't live here and thus no regulatory complaint is filed by the owner. We need to be assured that the law enforcement, fire prevention and/or other appropriate agencies are equipped and authorized to protect our community from the fire devastation that will inevitably arrive if this situation remains unaddressed.
			Mariela Madriz Cerna	
			Marina Benvenga	Please get the homeless out of Pacific Palisades, Topanga Canyon, Malibu, Woodland Hills, Calabasas
			Mark Kirchoffner	
			Mark C Johnson	Very much in favor. It is extremely dangerous having people camping anywhere other than permitted camp sites. I believe even approved campsites have fire restrictions in place at this time and are monitored for compliance and safety.
			Mark L Torres	
			Mary Isaacs	I am strongly in favor of this motion and any others that will help reduce fire risks.



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18.		Favor	Mary Moore	
			Matthew Ferraro	Homeless encampments have been a problem for Topangan homeowners for years because of the fire danger they impose. The situation is now untenable with current fire behaviour. We experienced 2 fires here in Tuna Canyon in the last weeks alone. Before that, I watched the Palisades fire from my deck. When homeless encampments become a danger to public health and safety, action needs to be taken before lives are lost and homes are destroyed in a fire. Common Sense. Now that the decision is before you to act, the responsibility will be on you personally as board members to take action to stop this insanity of allowing the homeless to wreak havoc and destroy lives. Please help reduce the risk of fires in these areas by removing the homeless encampments and restricting access to these areas by the general public for camping, glamping or any type of "off the grid" living.
			Matthew Fonseca	
			Maureen Kemper	Hopefully this includes encampments with as few as 1 person. Also, something needs to be done about unpermitted habitations which seem to have been the source of several recent fires in the Malibu/Topanga area. Thank you,
			Megan Brody	As a long-time resident of Topanga Canyon, I have seen within my own life the drastic and alarming increase of fire threats in our community. Any action we can take to reduce the risk of catastrophic fire in Topanga and the surrounding areas is critical. We need to remove these encampments that put our community and people's lives at risk and find other alternatives to provide accessible housing.
			Meghan Ketz	
			Melinda Taylor-Ross	Please don't harass Sheriff Villanueva. He's been able to clear the Venice boardwalk, when no one else could. Our councilman, Mike Bonin will not do anything for us regarding the homeless in Venice. We've tried working with him, and he completely ignores us. We don't feel we have the representation we need moving forward, so we're trying to recall Mike Bonin. Please support the sheriff. You might not like him, but we do! Sheila Kuehl hasn't been any help either. Shame on you for ignoring your constituents.
			Melinda w Mendel	
			Michael Kelly	
			Michael Wurzel	
			Michael A Dossett	
			Michelle Rickman	



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18.		<b>Favor</b>	Michelle M Moyer	
			Monica B Mc Carthy	Thank you for creating this! I appreciate it very much, and the efforts to house the unhoused rather than just move them out. The fire danger makes this a priority over other areas. I feel badly. I'm not a "not in my neighborhood" type, but we owe it to the firefighters; the trees, brush and animals, if not ourselves, to do everything we can to stop these fires from accidentally starting.
			Natalie Perez	
			Natasha torres	
			Nicole Clark	
			Nicole Yoblonski	
			Nicole M Reyes	
			Orlando Lopez	
			Patrick Malloy	
			Peggy Landy	
			Ramy K Katrib	fully support this measure, which is long overdue. how we deal with homelessness is a secondary consideration to public safety. the topanga community is mobilizing more than ever to make sure the action items of this measure are followed through, and if measure does not pass, then we're all asking "what the hell?"
			Rebecca Chavez	
			Rebecca Kellstrom	
			Regina Smith	
			Richard Taylor	
			Richelle Traugh	
			Robert Gugajew	
			Robin Conway	
			Robyn Rubio	
			Rodolfo Bojorquez	
			Rona Cohen	
			Ronald Kimura	



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18.		<b>Favor</b>	Rosemary G Dagit	Our stream surveys in the Santa Monica Mountains have identified numerous untended campfires most often associated with access from the road shoulder to parklands. It will take just one ignition to extirpate federally endangered fish and frog populations, not to mention creating thousands of more unhoused residents if their homes are destroyed. I am sending this as an individual and do not represent any organizations. I fully support efforts to enforce relocation and find other suitable housing options for homeless currently residing in our unincorporated wildlands.
			Ryan A Couse	
			Sander Greenland	Also needed: Crackdown on unpermitted Air B'nB trailers and commercial camping, retreat, and "glamping" operations in these zones. The Las Flores fire last month (July 19th) was started by an unpermitted nightly "luxury" trailer retreat rental.
			Sandra Luban	
			Sara L Urquidez	
			Sarah Hayes	
			Scott McDonald	Please vote in favor of this motion. Now more then ever fire risk is at an all time high and it is critical to remove any chance of accidental fire in our Mountains. Not only to protect human life, property but all wildlife and beautiful landscapes we all have taken for granted. We must put in place effective rules and regulations that work and can be rapidly implemented.
			Sean Harmon	
			Sharon Carlsen	This dangerous situation must be addressed. Please help.
			Sharon Cohen	As a resident of Topanga Canyon living close to Topanga State Park, I favor the measure to relocate homeless encampments located there and in other unincorporated county areas at high risk of severe fires. Fires started in these encampments pose a severe risk to human and animal life, as well as structures, and the cost of fighting them is vastly higher than the cost of relocating the people living in them.
			Shelley Schneider	We need to protect our homes!
			Shelley Urquidez	Fund Mental Health!!! Get these people off the streets. It's a danger to our communities!
			Shery Zarnegin	
			Stefanie Hester	
			Stephanie Macrae	



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18.		Favor	Tam Taylor	The removal of homeless encampments is critical to the well being of the canyon. The community makes every effort to support the homeless over many years but the heightened risk and the number of fires since January make it imperative that the community no longer be put at risk.
			Thomas Reed	
			Tiffany Carlson	
			Valerie Belt	
			Wally Miglin	
			William Klug	
			William Marlow	The number of fire starts caused by homeless encampments is increasing. Not only are they dangerous to those camping, to the community that lives in these areas and to fire fighters, they are extremely costly to contain and put out. The cost of putting out a single fire caused by persons experiencing homelessness costs tens to hundreds of thousands of dollars. These monies could provide housing for many. The risk to human life is too great to allow this continue as is and the money required to fight them could be better put to use providing safe housing.
			William Tennis	
			Yolanda J Luna	
			Yorit Tal	
			Yvonne Graner	
			Yvonne I Monje	
			Zoe Frampton	As a long time topanga homeowner and leader of my T-CEP neighborhood network I am very aware of every time there is a fire of any size in topanga malibu or the palisades and it has been happening with alarming frequency. The fire in the spring came within a quarter of a mile of our home. It just isn't safe to have anyone camping even temporarily in the park. If a cooking fire is set on a windy night it could wipe out our entire community. I urge you to address this problem immediately and keep people from living in these high risk areas of the parks!
			Zora Dakir	
		Oppose	Alexander McKee	
			Alexandria Swedlow	
			Alexis Munoz	



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18.		<b>Oppose</b>	Angel Tomasetti	
			anush froian	Homeless encampments should be eradicated.
			ARTUR CHARKHCHYAN	
			Barbara J Dally	
			Carl Kalamon	
			Carolina Salazar	
			Christine Hamrick	
			Christopher M King	
			Clinton Huff	
			Danielle Carry	
			Danika Smith	
			Darleen Leichtle	
			David B Owens	
			Dean Vallejo	
			Delvin Kendall	
			Devon Mirsky	
			Doris A Myers	
			Emma Gordon	
			Garrett Branch	
			Gloria Javier	
			Harley H Orzame	
			Henry Bagumyan	
			Israel Rivero	
			Jaime Gonzalez negrete	
			James McNeery	



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			Jason Knopke	
			Jeffrey Schmidt	
			Jesus Acosta	
			Jocelyn Aker	
			Jose Vargas	
			Joy Schuerger	
			Juan G Lobo	
			Keven A Marquez	
			Leigh Edelman	
			Liliana Soto	
			Marcela Rodriguez	
			Martha B Goldwater	
			Maytor H McKinley V	
			Megan Gilpin	
			Melissa Gutierrez	
			MICAELA GONZALEZ	HOW ABOUT JUST ENFORCE EXISTING LOCAL LAWS
			Minerva Juarez	
			Monica Wood	
			Onnie E Bomgaars	
			Petrit Zenelaj	
			Rachel Vasquez	
			Randolph L Fowler	
			Robert Haymond	
			Robin Breaux	
			robin michels	
			Samuel Y Ho	

As of: 8/11/2021 8:05:26 AM



**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS  
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS  
HOLLY J. MITCHELL  
SHEILA KUEHL  
JANICE HAHN  
KATHRYN BARGER

**Correspondence Received**

The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:				
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
18.		<b>Oppose</b>	Shane T Chapman	Their fires come from 1. Smoking (meth most of the time) 2. Cooking 3. Heat source when it's cold out. Unless you clean up camps and build a shelter instead of single person housing at a ridiculous amount of money per unit (more that what half of the LA county population can afford for themselves), you're just waisting time here.
			Sopana Sann	
			Steve Alvarado	
			Susan J Garcia	
			Timmothy Harmon	
			Trever Wyatt Hopper	
			Vee Jaramillo	
			Vilma Zenelaj	
			Weston S Orlandi	
			William Ruth	
			Ziv Majar	
		<b>Other</b>	Brenda Puentes	





**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS  
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
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18.		Other	Jo Drummond	<p>In just the past year, Malibu has experienced nearly a dozen brush fires, several near Big Rock, attributed to transient vagrants. Fortunately, the fires were identified quickly, the winds were calm, and LACFD was able to extinguish these fires without loss of life and with only minimal loss of property and injury. With less fortunate conditions, any one of those fires could have grown into the next Woolsey Fire (or worse).</p> <p>For over the last 4 months there have been illegal campers just above moonshadows, near our homes in big rock, on private property where apparently the city has failed to obtain a "letter of agency" so even though the homeless have been ushered out it they have returned and the debris is twice the size as it started 4 months ago. It includes propane tanks and cooking supplies which can cause fires. There have also been other areas above Tuna Canyon that need to be regularly patrolled for homeless encampments that have been growing on and off.</p> <p>I understand that the City has adopted legislation to deal with the fire danger posed by transient vagrants in specific locations in Malibu and under specific weather conditions. Although these actions are a step in the right direction, they fail to address the fact that CalFire has designated the entirety of the City of Malibu as a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (a "VHFHSZ") and there is insufficient time and resources to locate transient encampments, evict and relocate the inhabitants, and remediate the fire hazard conditions when we are in or approaching a red flag situation.</p> <p>Please declare a formal resolution declaring an emergency situation in Malibu resulting from the severe danger to the health, safety and welfare to the community posed by unhoused individuals living in areas designated by CalFire as a VHFHSZ, and declaring the City's desire that the LASD strictly enforce the City's No Camping Ordinance. An emergency situation should also allow bypass of the letter of agency necessary to access private property as well and make those negligent owners be billed for the cleanup. Chief Villanueva has already apparently cleaned up Venice so resources are available.</p> <p>The time has come to take aggressive action needed to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the community. This includes City Council &amp; the county taking the necessary action to compel LASD to enforce Malibu's No Camping Ordinance – as it currently exists or as it may be amended to make it more impervious to legal challenge. Hopefully the county can use the resources to also find other rehabilitation and relocation facilities for the homeless who are posing a risk to malibu so they are off the streets and our fire prone brush areas.</p>
			Kara Hardwick	How will you do this? I'd like more info
			Sara Huelskamp	What is the long term plan here, every time they are moved from one place they go back a couple weeks later.
			Travis Warner	How will this be done?
		Item Total	298	

Grand Total			298	
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**From:** [ExecutiveOffice](#)  
**To:** [First District](#); [Holly J. Mitchell](#); [Supervisor Janice Hahn \(Fourth District\)](#); [Sheila](#); [Barger, Kathryn](#)  
**Cc:** [PublicComments](#); [CommServ](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Written Comment on Agenda Item 18  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 10, 2021 10:52:33 AM

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The following correspondence is being forwarded to you for your review/information.

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**From:** Rangel, Rhonda <RRangel@bos.lacounty.gov> **On Behalf Of** CommServ  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 10, 2021 9:57 AM  
**To:** ExecutiveOffice <ExecutiveOffice@bos.lacounty.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Written Comment on Agenda Item 18

Hello,

Please see the email below received in Commission Services.

Thank you,

***Rhonda Rangel***  
*Executive Office Board of Supervisors*  
*Commission Services Division*  
*Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, Room B-50*  
*Los Angeles, CA 90012*  
*213-974-1455 Phone*  
*213-633-5102 Fax*

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**From:** Kevin Gaston <[kgaston@treepeople.org](mailto:kgaston@treepeople.org)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 10, 2021 9:22 AM  
**To:** CommServ <[CommServ@bos.lacounty.gov](mailto:CommServ@bos.lacounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** Written Comment on Agenda Item 18

TreePeople Land Trust supports the motion considered under Agenda Item #18. As an open space land manager in the Santa Monica Mountains, we consider it critical that public agencies and firefighting personnel are provided the necessary procedures to clear high-risk areas of potential sources of combustion. As evidenced by recent fires in lower Tuna Canyon, homeless encampments in VHSFZ's create a substantial risk to the community and further pressure limited public resources. We ask that individuals living in these areas are approached respectfully and provided necessary services during outreach and clearance.

(Please note we attempted to comment via the online portal, but the website was crashing)

Thanks,



**Kevin Gaston, Deputy Director**  
**TreePeople Land Trust**  
*formerly Mountains Restoration Trust*

[kgaston@treepeople.org](mailto:kgaston@treepeople.org)

W: 818.591.1701

23075 Mulholland Highway | Calabasas, CA 91302

[Join us for TREE CARE SUMMER!](#) Help us care for thousands of trees to ensure they survive and thrive.

From: Ellen South <ellencraig@me.com>

Subject: As a homeowner in the Santa Monica mountains, I'm so scared by the...

Date: August 9, 2021 at 12:15:02 PM PDT

To: Ellen South <ellencraig@me.com>

As a homeowner in the Santa Monica mountains, I'm so scared by the threat of homeless people camping and cooking in the dry brush they are making camps in. There have already been fires caused, the latest just a stone throw from my back patio. Bravo 69 put it out as it was just close to their location: but if there had been more need for them elsewhere, we would not have been so lucky. Some teepees have even put up in full visibility of the Los Flores fire department, just below them on the mountain side. Please please put fire protection into effect by letting these people know they cannot camp out in these mountains it is a massive risk that they don't understand. I have lived in these mountains since 1988 and witnessed the 1993 fire. We are seeing them pop up any where and everywhere with the homeless populations setting up homes in the mountains. We need the law to move them out into other accommodation. First priority , before other homeless encampments in the city, for massive community safety.

August 9, 2021

Attention: Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

We, residents of Topanga, respectfully request that action be taken to prevent camping fires and similar high-risk human behaviors, in order to **protect our lives, homes, and community**, including the homeless themselves.

Our foremost concern is public safety for the residents of Topanga and all those living within the Santa Monica Mountains. There have been a record number of fires in L.A. County started by human behavior. The recent Palisades, Tuna and Las Flores Fires and at least three fires along Topanga Canyon Blvd, demonstrate how close these fires came to devastating our community. Had it been Red Flag Days, we certainly would have had a different fate.

Topanga Canyon is experiencing serious effects of California's drought first hand, with considerable acreage of dry brush, poised for kindling. The combination of homeless encampments and their camp fires, along with high winds, and this desiccated vegetation create the "perfect storm" for mass devastation to residents, workers, and wildlife in Topanga. Residents and local governments of Pacific Palisades and Malibu all agree that we are in a "crisis."

Given the critical risk to life and property that will only increase over the coming months, we implore you to **approve agenda item 18 - Reducing the Risk of Fires Associated with Homeless Encampments in High Fire Hazard Severity Zones with a sense of urgency.**

It has been reported that about 20 fires have been started this year in and around Topanga and Malibu. WE NEED ACTION NOW!

Thank you.

Respectfully,  
Residents of Topanga

I am opposed to Item 16 for defunding the police department. We need the sheriffs department refunded so they can keep our communities safe. We need our Sheriff Department !!!