

WRAC MOTIONS

Motion:

Severely mentally ill persons in Los Angeles, who are unable to avail themselves of current public services, are dying on our streets. We demand the City of Los Angeles collaborate with the County of Los Angeles to fully utilize the Lanterman-Petrus-Short Act, including section 5150 and fast-track conservatorships of these individuals, to enable life-saving care. Further, we ask that the city add to its legislative program a demand that the State Legislature provide funds to the county to create as many fully-staffed psychiatric beds as necessary to properly house and treat these individuals.

5150 Motion Background Report: The Lanterman–Petris–Short (LPS) Act (Cal. Welf & Inst. Code, sec. 5000 et seq.) regulates involuntary civil commitment to a mental health institution in the state of California. The act set the precedent for modern mental health commitment procedures in the United States. The bipartisan bill was coauthored by California State Assemblyman Frank D. Lanterman (R) and California State Senators Nicholas C. Petris (D) and Alan Short (D), and signed into law in 1967 by Governor Ronald Reagan. [1] The Act went into full effect on July 1, 1972. It cited seven articles of intent:

- To end the inappropriate, indefinite, and involuntary commitment of mentally disordered persons, people with developmental disabilities, and persons impaired by chronic alcoholism, and to eliminate legal disabilities;

- To provide prompt evaluation and treatment of persons with serious mental disorders or impaired by chronic alcoholism;
- To guarantee and protect public safety;
- To safeguard individual rights through judicial review;
- To provide individualized treatment, supervision, and placement services by a conservatorship program for gravely disabled persons;
- To encourage the full use of all existing agencies, professional personnel and public funds to accomplish these objectives and to prevent duplication of services and unnecessary expenditures;
- To protect mentally disordered persons and developmentally disabled persons from criminal acts.

As administered today in Los Angeles County, it does not adequately address the thousands of mentally ill homeless individuals languishing on public property throughout our communities. The three-day psychiatric holds that are permitted are employed only in the most extreme circumstances and are relatively useless in gaining the long-term psychiatric care that is often needed to improve patients' mental and physical conditions. The longer conservatorships allowed under the Act are even more rare due to the severe lack of psychiatric beds. Los Angeles County only has 22.7 out of the recommended 50-per-100,000 mental health beds.

(<http://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/bos/supdocs/131546.pdf>,
<https://www.treatmentadvocacycenter.org/storage/documents/backgrounders/bed-supply-need-percapita.pdf>).

Dr. Jonathan Sherin, of the County Department of Mental Health, in response to a motion in the LA Alliance case, identified the many deficiencies in the county's mental health system, and recommended the county add an additional 500 beds. Of those 500 beds, the county has only added a little over 100. <http://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/bos/supdocs/132696.pdf>. LA Alliance attorney Elizabeth Mitchell recently wrote: "If you talk to folks who run the county psych facilities, they will tell you horror stories about people sitting in emergency wards for months waiting for interim and long term mental health beds, which means they have nowhere to put new patients in crisis, and literally have to turn away people being brought in on 5150 holds. Courts won't conserve even desperate mental health patients because there's nowhere to put them."

Cloud Kitchen

Motion

WHEREAS businesses referred to as “cloud kitchens” or “ghost kitchens” represent a fairly new form of commerce and land use concept, and,

WHEREAS this new business model has the potential to create significant impacts on neighboring business and residential communities, and

WHEREAS the City of Los Angeles has not established a specific zoning classification for such businesses, thus creating potential inconsistencies, uncertainty and lack of transparency for applicants, City staff, and those seeking to review these proposed projects, and

WHEREAS the absence of clear classification for cloud/ghost kitchens can result in some being treated as commercial and/or retail uses, while others may be grouped as light manufacturing, and WHEREAS none of these classifications accurately captures the true nature of these operations, and

WHEREAS cloud kitchen/ghost kitchens are being established in many areas across the City of Los Angeles,

Therefore, be it moved that the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) requests that the City, represented by our Council District, PLUM, the City Council, in coordination with the Departments of Planning and Building and Safety:

— define what constitutes a Cloud/ghost kitchen, including possible different categories of such operations based upon numbers of kitchens and/or square footage involved,

—identify criteria for the evaluation of their applications for buildout and permitting, including a process to evaluate potential impacts on their surroundings (noise, odor, traffic and requirements pertaining to factors

—assess needed infrastructure (adequacy of electric service to area), parking and/or loading zones,

WRAC believes that providing this needed clarification will remove uncertainties as and contribute to the establishment of successful enterprises by creating the structure needed to guide the city’s review and decision-making process

Refers to City Council file 20-0584 and 20-0498

WRAC supports motions (City Council File: 20-0584 and 20-0498) introduced by Councilmember David Ryu/Koretz and O’Farrell/Martinez to create incentives for employees of businesses and for government officials and employees to work from home.

While remote work is not a panacea for the climate crisis, making the practice more widespread and available in Los Angeles could help to reduce commuter traffic, which would have the benefit of reducing vehicle air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. Teleworking is just one of many tools in our toolbox that we must utilize to fight the climate crisis and create sustainable air quality improvements to our region.

By improving air quality, we also create healthier Angelenos. Air pollution is linked to a host of health problems and makes people more vulnerable to COVID-19. A recent UCLA study found that approximately 14,000 premature deaths could be avoided annually if California decreases greenhouse

gas emissions to net zero by 2050. Underserved communities who suffer the most from air pollution would see disproportionately higher level of benefits from cleaner air, the study also found.

WRAC actively supports the City studying these issues further and exploring their timely implementation in the City of Los Angeles.

Motion

The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils requests that the City Council direct City Attorney Mike Feuer to provide a legal opinion as to whether or not the City Planning Department and commissions have the legal right under State and City laws and ordinances to consider the financial interest of the developer when considering entitlements.

Motion

The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils requests that the city of Los Angeles improves signage in electric vehicle charging locations to discourage non-charging vehicles (both ICE and EVs) from parking there. It further requests that the city issue a warning ticket and subsequent fine to any vehicle owners who repeatedly park in these spots illegally once adequate signage is installed.

For more detailed info on WRAC motions:

[Pending Motions – Westside Regional Alliance of Councils \(westsidecouncils.com\)](https://westsidecouncils.com)