



16 APR 07 11:50AM

CITY CLERK

March 31, 2016

Mayor Terry Tornek and Pasadena City Council  
100 North Garfield Avenue  
Pasadena, CA 91109

VIA EMAIL

Re: Approval of Measures to Address Homelessness

Dear Mayor Tornek and City Council Members,

The Pasadena Chamber of Commerce is supportive of the staff recommendation to help address homelessness and aggressive panhandling in the City of Pasadena. The Chamber is very pleased that Pasadena has been energetic and successful in efforts to place homeless persons in housing.

While Pasadena and your Housing Department are to be commended on progress made to date to house homeless families and individuals, we agree that more can be done to place homeless persons in housing. We do appreciate efforts to mitigate negative impacts to our businesses and business districts.

We do have some concerns, however, with the geographic boundaries of the proposed camping prohibition.

While we are supportive of these recommendations, we have to question why only the downtown business improvement districts and Hastings Ranch are the areas banning camping on sidewalks and public property. Wouldn't this be much more appropriately applied citywide, or at least in all commercial areas, as the ban on aggressive panhandling will be. Calling out these districts for the ban seems to lead to a conclusion that camping on sidewalks and public spaces is allowed, or perhaps even encouraged, in other commercial areas. I do not think that is the message you want to send businesses in other areas of Pasadena.

The Pasadena Chamber of Commerce is very concerned that our members who do not have businesses in the downtown business improvement districts or Hastings Ranch may suffer as a result of this proposal. It is our preference to have this imposed citywide so all businesses are granted the same protections.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Little". The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive.

Paul Little  
President and Chief Executive Officer

cc: W. Huang, S. Mermell, M. Jomsky, P. Sanchez