



P.O. Box 16192, Long Beach, CA 90806
wrigleyassociation@gmail.com

April 14, 2023

Re: Proposed LA Metro Homeless Resource Hub Location - Willow Station

Dear Councilman Uranga,

We, the Wrigley Association, are writing this letter to request an update on the proposed LA Metro Homeless Resource Hub. We are grateful for the recent invitation to attend the City of Long Beach Homeless Community Roundtable where our member, Kelly McHugh Lopes, was able to voice our concerns about the Willow Station being considered as a possible site for the proposed hub. In the meeting, Mayor Richardson stated that you and your office advocated for your constituents and halted the plan, however, it was not clear if the Willow Station is no longer being considered, if the plan has been simply halted, and/or if another location was deemed more appropriate. We would like to respectfully request an update on the LA Metro plan and the status of the Willow Station as a proposed location.

We would also like to emphasize that Wrigley residents have been working tirelessly to improve our community through this organization for years and we are committed to continue this work by advocating for our needs. Our community desperately needs resources and investment similar to those we have recently witnessed in Uptown and the Zaferia communities. We are in agreement that the homeless issue is a humanitarian issue, however, we cannot ignore the systemic inequality that the residents of this part of town have experienced as a whole, historically and continuing to this day. The ramifications of Redlining have debilitated this neighborhood's ability to flourish and adding 60+ homeless individuals to the area nightly if the hub is placed in Wrigley would strain our limited resources and is not sustainable long-term. This is an equity issue and needs to be understood as such, to ignore this negates the impacts of decades of disinvestment in our basic infrastructure. Though we are aware of staffing changes at the district level, we still expect your support and continued advocacy when it comes to LA Metro's proposed Homeless Resource Hub.

We respectfully request an update on this issue and any information that has been communicated with your office about LA Metro's planned hub. As you know, the LA Metro meeting hosted by our Association was well attended and received a fair amount of media coverage, resulting in several requests for comments from journalists, researchers, and the support from neighboring associations whose residents would also feel the impacts of the placement of this hub in one of the few shopping centers in this area, near Veterans Park, one of our very few green spaces, Memorial Hospital and medical offices, as well as Jackie Robinson, Holy Innocents, and Lafayette primary schools. Leadership from our adjacent neighborhood associations have expressed their solidarity and willingness to support our efforts. We are discussing the possibility of hosting a town hall, but would like to reach out to you first as our

Our Mission: The Wrigley Association is a 501 C4 non-profit organization, (CA State ID # 1673284) whose mission is to promote the common interest, instill pride, establish and encourage the highest standards in Wrigley. To foster an active understanding of citizenship and civic responsibility. To oppose and discourage discrimination and to create a sense of belonging. To promote higher business standards and encourage uniformity and cooperation among merchants, property owners and residents. To eliminate crime, promote community pride, and develop wholesome, enjoyable, cultural, social, and physical activities.

councilperson for information so that we can determine if this is a necessary next step. We plan to meet Monday, April 17th at 6pm, and would like to receive a response from your office prior to our meeting.

This letter should also serve to express our wholehearted commitment to advocate for our community and make sure that we bring to light the equity issues that using the Willow Station as the site for the proposed LA Metro Homelessness Resource Hub would bring. We historically have been deprived of adequate services that have had a massive negative impact on our community's ability to thrive. Wrigley is willing to do its part to assist in the Mayor's goal to house those who for a milieu of reasons are currently unhoused, but this is an issue that requires the commitment of the City as a whole. To burden a community that has little to provide for those who have nothing is unjust. The City needs to assess the situation and call on all districts to assist. Changing the location of the "end of the line" from Downtown to Wrigley is not the answer. We only ask for what our community deserves, and we hope that you, as our elected representative, advocate for innovative, long-term solutions.

We look forward to your prompt written reply to our concerns and any updates available related to the LA Metro proposition.

In solidarity,

Wrigley Association

Our Mission: The Wrigley Association is a 501 C4 non-profit organization, (CA State ID # 1673284) whose mission is to promote the common interest, instill pride, establish and encourage the highest standards in Wrigley. To foster an active understanding of citizenship and civic responsibility. To oppose and discourage discrimination and to create a sense of belonging. To promote higher business standards and encourage uniformity and cooperation among merchants, property owners and residents. To eliminate crime, promote community pride, and develop wholesome, enjoyable, cultural, social, and physical activities.