

Dear Councilman Rosendahl:

The following motion was approved by the Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa at its regular Board Meeting on December 1, 2009.

Whereas the stakeholders of the NCWP recognize the tragedy of the increasing number of families with minor children who are forced to live in their vehicles; and further believe that the cost of not addressing this issue is too great in both human and economic terms.

Whereas Councilman Bill Rosendahl researched the models for safe parking programs that work in other municipalities (Santa Barbara and Eugene, Oregon); These programs also provide immediate relief to those children who must sleep in vehicles with their parents and offer expedited transition for the entire family into permanent housing;

Whereas the ad hoc committee on homelessness and vehicular occupancy feels that a City sponsored safe parking pilot program using best practices from both Eugene, Oregon and Santa Barbara may well provide a partial, yet highly cost effective solution that benefits these homeless children, their parents and our community.

Therefore, the ad hoc committee on homelessness and vehicular occupancy voted to request the NCWP to send a letter to The City Council in support of Councilmember Rosendahl's motion to create a provision for Councilmember Rosendahl to designate discrete and distinct areas of the NCWP district for a pilot program where homeless families with minor children would be allowed to park and sleep overnight, by permit and with case management services. Furthermore, the committee recommends that the pilot program for homeless family parking be chosen from two sites: 1) the LAPD Academy on Manchester and 2) in the area near the LAFD station property on Emerson Avenue at Westchester Parkway.

We believe this letter speaks for the broad majority of Westchester Playa stakeholders and welcome your commitment to join with us to help build a better Westchester Playa Community.

Sincerely,

Cyndi Hench
President
Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa