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March 16, 2022

Addressed to:

Councilmember Nithya Raman
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Sent by Email:

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RE: SCNC Board Agenda Item 10(a)

Dear Councilmember Raman:

On March 16, 2022, at its regular meeting, the Studio City Neighborhood Council passed the following motion:

The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council (SCNC) requests that Councilmember Raman designate the underpass at Coldwater Canyon Ave./101 freeway as a special enforcement zone under LAMC Section 41.18(c)(2). We thank Councilmember Raman and the CD4 staff for their efforts in clearing out the homeless encampment at this underpass. The residents and businesses in proximity to this underpass can now breathe a sigh of relief, no longer living in fear, surrounded by criminal activity, trash, open-air drug use, and a reduced quality of life. But once an area has been cleared, it is imperative to keep that location encampment-free. Otherwise, the cycle of despair will only continue for the homeless and adjacent businesses. Until there is a city-wide approach to the homeless crisis, a special enforcement designation of the Coldwater Canyon Ave./101 freeway underpass is crucial. The underpass has been a public health and safety problem for two years now, marked by incessant drug dealing, illegal drug use, and fires. Breathing diesel fumes is also harmful to the health of those camping there. There is therefore ample evidence to support an enforcement resolution for a City Council vote. Such a designation would prevent individuals from sitting, lying, sleeping, or storing, using, maintaining, or placing personal property, or otherwise obstructing the public right-of-way of the underpass. If a special enforcement designation is not given, the LAPD will only be able to cite as infractions violations of the Americans with Disabilities Act pursuant to Section 41.18(a)(1), and not for living in a tent at the underpass. To date, Councilmember Raman has failed to designate *any* special enforcement

zones, unlike councilmembers in neighboring districts. It is now time for Councilmember Raman to designate the underpass as a special enforcement zone. Outreach alone will not solve the problem for the service resistant, so a legal enforcement tool must also be an option. A designation will ensure that our residents, disabled persons, and children can safely travel through the underpass without obstructions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randall Fried". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Randall Fried
President,
Studio City Neighborhood Council