

LAW AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

August 22, 1995
1:00 p.m.

City Council Chamber
915 "I" Street
Sacramento, California

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The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m.

In attendance were Chairperson Ortiz, Committee Members Fargo, Cohn and Steinberg.

2.1 Amendment of Chapters 44.01 and 44.03 and Deletion of Chapter 44.04 of Title 44 of the Sacramento City Code, Relating to Trailer Campers and Public Camps.

Jane Christenson, Office of the Chief, gave a recap of last week's committee discussion regarding this ordinance. She spoke about the legal policies and concerns regarding the suggested amendments from Legal Services.

Bruce Cline, Deputy City Attorney, identified the changes that were made to the report. He contacted Bill Kennedy but Mr. Kennedy declined to participate in any revision to the ordinance.

Councilmember Steinberg wanted some demographic statistics on homeless such as the number of families and children that are homeless. He questioned the need for the ordinance. Ms. Christenson stated this ordinance was cleaning up and clarifying the existing ordinance. She also stated she does not have the statistical information Councilmember Steinberg is seeking. Councilmember Fargo stated as of the last census, one-third of the homeless is mentally ill and there are 500 homeless children.

Public Testimony

Polo Aguilar, River Park Neighborhood Association, supports the ordinance. Mr. Aguilar gave examples of people sleeping and living in their vehicles on private and public property.

Armando Chacon supports this ordinance.

James Fletter, Fort Sutter Co., supports this ordinance.

Tim Brown, Sacramento Housing Alliance, opposes the ordinance. He asked where the neighborhood representatives have been when issues of funding homeless services have come before the County. He feels the ordinance will force the homeless into residential area. He proposes a sunset clause where the ordinance will be reviewed after one year. He also stated the County is in need of more shelters.

Bill Kennedy, Legal Services, opposes this ordinance.

Captain Richard Brazier, Police Department, opposes the 24 hour notice. The reasons he gave for opposing the 24 hour notice is Police is under staffed and the Police would not be able to disperse individuals immediately.

Councilmember Cohn agreed Police does not have the staff to give the 24 hour notice and objects to the 24 hour notice.

Chairperson Ortiz suggested committing resources to assist in outreach programs.

Councilmember Steinberg wants to see the policy mesh with outreach programs.

The Committee voted as follows:

MOVED: Cohn
SECONDED: Fargo


AYES: Cohn, Fargo and Ortiz


ABSTAIN: Steinberg

2.2 An Ordinance Amending Title 58 of the Sacramento City Code to Establish Procedures for Volunteer Projects.

This item was continued to September 5, 1995.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 P.M.


DEBORAH ORTIZ
Committee Chairperson


SYLVIA TANG
Secretary