



June 20, 2020

To the Bureau of Street Services and Los Angeles Sanitation

The board of the Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council writes today to address concerns expressed to us by community members regarding problems with litter and general street cleanliness in Boyle Heights. We write to both your departments as the concerns expressed to us cover areas that overlap your many responsibilities.

Residents have expressed concern that many of our neighborhood's larger streets including Whittier Blvd, Olympic Blvd, and Soto Street do not receive regular street sweeping. We have received reports of this on some of our smaller residential streets as well our parkways and alleys. As well, our storm drains are routinely overflowing with trash.

We understand that street sweeping in our neighborhood is perhaps more challenging than in other neighborhoods in the city as our community is one of the oldest in the city and consequently many of our homes and apartments were built without garages so our streets are packed with vehicles at all times. We are aware of parking restrictions on streets to allow for street sweeping, but this too is problematic for our community as there is often nowhere for our residents to move their cars during those times.

Because of these challenging circumstances and the reported lack of street sweeping in many areas we write to request that street sweeping immediately resume on all streets in Boyle Heights and further that, because of the unique challenges our community faces with vehicle congestion, street sweeping be done by a ground crew, similar to the ground crews that clean streets along skid row.

We believe that concurrent with this improvement in our street sweeping services are needed improvements in both the number of street trash cans on our streets and in the number of days they are serviced by LA Sanitation. Residents report long stretches of streets lacking any trash cans and the trash cans that we do have are constantly overflowing. It is our understanding that cans are emptied 4 days a week currently. We believe we needed daily servicing in order to keep the trash from overflowing.

We further invite both of your departments to attend an upcoming meeting of our Transportation and Environment Committee. Community members have requested an opportunity to meet and speak with both of your departments as liter as a



troubling problem for our neighborhood that we hope to work with your departments to correct.

Respectfully,

The Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council