

Councilmember Marni von Wilpert City of San Diego • Fifth District

Today, the San Diego City Council voted to pass the City's Unsafe Camping Ordinance, brought forth by Mayor Todd Gloria and Councilmember Stephen Whitburn. While we have much more work to do to provide support and resources for our unsheltered population, this ordinance regulating where people can and cannot safely camp on public property is one step our City can take to improve public health and safety for all San Diegans.

I am proud that the ordinance passed with my proposed amendments that include: an effective date 30 days after the opening of the first safe camping site, consideration of additional safe sleeping spaces, increased outreach to homeless individuals in our open spaces, and the creation of a working group to monitor and provide feedback to the City on the implementation of the ordinance.

Homelessness is an incredibly difficult issue, and I know this ordinance will not solve the City's health and safety problems overnight. I am hopeful that providing a safe place for people to go in the increased shelter capacity and the new safe sleeping lots, along with compassionate enforcement of rules around how we use our public spaces, we can keep everyone safe and healthy in our city.

I remain committed to working with Mayor Todd Gloria, my City Council colleagues, our local public health and homeless service providers to continue to provide support and resources for our unhoused residents, and to keep our city safe.

-Councilmember Marni von Wilpert

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