

WINNETKA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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March 24, 2008

Dear Chief Moore,

I am contacting you on behalf of the Winnetka Neighborhood Council (WNC) to request your assistance with an on-going problem in our community regarding parking restrictions along the 7200 block of Quartz Ave., and the homeless issue in the same location of Winnetka.

The WNC has been fighting an on-going battle with the City since 2005 to have "No Parking From 11:00 PM – 5:00 AM" signs on the 7200 block of Quartz Ave. On September 22, 2005, Councilman Dennis P. Zine addressed a letter to the District Engineer of Department of Transportation, Ken Firoozmand requesting "No Overnight Parking" restrictions on the 7200 block of Quartz Ave. (see attached letter) A petition was signed by the residents representing this particular location, as they were unsatisfied with the illegally parked vehicles and the homeless residing within a walkway behind "Norm's Auto Body".

The residents in this area should not have to hear, see nor smell the transients that are loitering, urinating and using narcotics in their community. This particular pathway is a fire hazard as it contains combustibles from the businesses near by. In order to keep warm and maintain privacy, a make shift fire is lit in between the two buildings. This is unsafe for the neighbors and the homeless themselves. On a related issue we would like to ask you for direct intervention and assistance with the homeless problem in this area.

During the year of 2006, the "No Parking From 11:00 PM – 5:00 AM" signs were posted; however, were not posted where requested. Per Councilman Zine, the request was for the entire block of Quartz Ave. from Sherman Way to Valerio Street. Due to the lack of completion, Mr. Firoozmand was informed by Winnetka Neighborhood Council member Art Sims that the task had not been completed accurately. Mr. Firoozmand indicated that a petition from the business owners must be submitted in order to have the "No Parking From 11:00 PM – 5:00 AM" signs posted. Please see attached petition signed by the business owners in 2006.

During the year of 2007, Mr. Firoozmand attended the Winnetka Neighborhood Council as he was invited to discuss the non-completion of the signs on the 7200 block of Quartz Ave. The board members reminded him that the business side of Quartz Ave. was ignored and that the petition signed by the business owners had been submitted, per his request. Mr. Firoozmand reported that a letter from LAPD needed to be submitted for the request of these signs on the business side of Quartz Ave. Therefore, we are requesting for your assistance in the completion of the signs on the 7200 block of Quartz Ave. This is not a new request, but a request to complete the task that should have been corrected many months ago.

At this time, we are beginning the year of 2008 and the residents of the neighborhood; deserve to be able to walk in their neighborhood during the day and even in the evening. As we will soon be seeing the warmer temperatures we are bound to see more illegally parked vehicles and many more homeless loitering in this

area. This will again, lead to more delinquency and crime in this area as well as illegal drinking and drugs will be surfaced as it has continued in the colder months. Many of these transients have permanently placed themselves in this location to live, sleep, and use narcotics. It should not be expected that the residents must cope with these deplorable living situations near their homes and business and to deal with the illegally parked vehicles.

Winnetka Neighborhood Council would like to ask for your cooperation in that Ken Firoozmand has informed us to contact you for further review. Should you have any questions please contact me at 818/522.4508 or attend our next Public Safety Committee on April 15, 2008 at 6:30 P.M. Location: 20830 Sherman Way, Winnetka in the Valley Village facility.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

MaryAnn Smiley
Chair of Public Safety Committee, WNC