

Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council

IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN SUNLAND TUJUNGA

7747 Foothill Blvd., Tujunga, CA 91042 • www.stnc.org • 818-951-7411 • FAX 818-951-7412

June 12, 2019

Honorable Senator Portantino
State Capitol, Room 3086
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 516 – Oppose

Dear Senator Portantino:

By vote of the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council Board, we hereby oppose AB-516. This proposed legislation removes the authority of law enforcement or public employees from towing vehicles not in compliance with current CA registration laws, having accumulated over 5 parking citations, or ignoring the 72-hour parking restriction. This will have a severe and negative impact to Sunland-Tujunga.

Driving is a privilege. Citations are issued when the vehicle owner/driver ignores the law. Registrations and license fees are paid to ensure our roads and streets are safe as well as the vehicles traveling on them.

Though it is a valid point that people without financial reserves can ill afford the tow and impound fees, the answer is not to legislate that no one will be subject to the parking and car registration laws. This is incredible legislative overreach, not taking into account the unique city and community conditions existing across the state, particularly in the City of Los Angeles.

For L.A., the ramifications of AB-516 are:

- Parking of RV's and other vehicles used as primary housing will not need to move and street cleaning of the trash and human waste that has collected around those areas will not be possible.
- Vans used as advertising will proliferate, as they will be allowed free parking and not need to be operational. This will expand an existing business model to the detriment of our communities. In Sunland-Tujunga we are already seeing this to advertise "Massage" businesses.

It will be impossible to tell what vehicles are abandoned. No one will need to pay towing to a salvage-yard as they can be abandoned on the street. In Sunland-Tujunga we already see this with the extended parking of cars for days, weeks, months with no local enforcement now. Auto salvage-yards will expand their business onto our streets. In Sunland-Tujunga auto repair businesses already move

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their vehicles onto our streets each day because their own locations do not have the circulation of parking capacity on their sites.

Regarding homeless individuals and the cost that towing creates for them. This is a sad situation but other benefits exist to help. L.A. City has a towing service option if you have had your vehicle towed including performing community service instead of paying parking citation fines. It is part of a program called CAPP.

We support the LAPD by not supporting AB-516. It removes the ability of law enforcement to deal effectively with quality of life issues, public safety, nuisance, blight and other unintended consequences. In Sunland-Tujunga we already have these issues and are unable to get enforcement. We need to halt AB-516 in its tracks so we are not stricken with more of these horrendous quality of life issues.

Therefore, we strongly urge your opposition to this piece of legislation as it comes up in your committees and on the floor of the Senate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Liliana Sanchez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Liliana Sanchez

President

Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council

cc:

Assemblymember Luz Rivas

Councilmember Monica Rodriguez

Grayce Liu, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment

Semee Park, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment

Captain Grimes, Foothill Division, LAPD