

## **COUNCILMEMBER ENGLANDER'S E-NEWS**

**April 27, 2012**

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### **RECENT LEGISLATION**

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#### **Community Care Facility Ordinance Moving Forward to Full City Council...**

After numerous public hearings in the Planning and Land Use Management Committee (PLUM), long deliberations, and dozens of hours of public comment, the Community Care Facilities Ordinance was finally sent on to the full City Council by the PLUM Committee this week.

Councilmember Englander, who has led the work on the Ordinance, serves on the PLUM Committee. The version of the Ordinance that will now come before the Council is the original version as it was drafted by the City Attorney in 2011, which we support. That means that it will only require a simple majority for the Council to pass it.

Our office has been working for several years to enact common-sense legislation to deal with unlicensed nuisance group homes and boarding facilities, which have proliferated in single family neighborhoods. The restrictions are based on already existing Los Angeles zoning rules, and include requiring licensed facilities to have adequate parking, security, programs and supervision in place and limits on numbers of residents. Legitimate, licensed, well-run facilities should be able to meet these requirements, which are meant to ensure that the neighbors' quality of life is protected.

The ordinance is very carefully and specifically crafted so that it doesn't single out or discriminate against any groups, and will not ban licensed group homes. In fact, with this new ordinance and updated definitions, people with disabilities, veterans, those living in poverty, and people afflicted by substance addiction and mental illness, will have better opportunities for housing in safe, protected and healthy living conditions.

Definitions in the ordinance will ensure that unlicensed, unregulated group homes will not be allowed in single family home areas.

We will announce the date of the hearing in the City Council.