

The City of Los Angeles places a high priority on the quality of life of the City's youth. Although efforts to deter criminal activity among youth and further protect them from such criminal activity have strengthened over the years in the City, there are areas for improving the safety of our young people.

On January 25, 2006, the body of 14-year old Emmery Munoz was found near the loading dock of a Boyle Heights warehouse, an area well-known for underground parties (Flier Parties) among high school students. The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) believes that her death may be linked to Flyer Party activity in that area. Emmery is one of many young people who have died as a consequence of the violence that results from Flyer Parties.

The LAPD describes Flyer Parties as non-permitted underground parties usually attended by individuals between the ages of 16 to 24 years of age. These parties are held in empty warehouses, closed businesses, private residences, empty lots and other locations not easily detected by the police and the community. Flyer Party promoters advertise by word of mouth, Internet web sites and through the distribution of flyers which attract between 50 and 500 individuals per event. Admission is charged at the door. Alcohol, nitrous oxide and illegal drugs are often sold and used at these illegal parties. Attendees may become victims of crimes, such as physical/sexual assault, assault with a deadly weapon, or homicide.

On any given weekend, it is estimated that 20 to 30 of these parties occur within the City. According to the LAPD, attendees include "Party Crews," "Tag Bangers," and rival gang members.

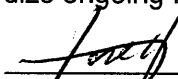
Shootings and gang violence are common at Flyer Parties throughout the City. In 2004, an LAPD officer was shot in South Los Angeles as he tried to protect party goers from a shooting gang member. Despite such violence, Flyer Party promoters are still successful in attracting and endangering many of our City's youth.

Over the last few years, police have made attempts to "crack down" on parties by enforcing state and local criminal laws. Young adults have been cited for curfew violations, disturbing the peace, public intoxication and possession of nitrous oxide and other drugs. Heads of households have also been cited for loud music, serving alcohol to minors and charging an entrance fee. DJs have gotten their equipment impounded. However, despite these efforts, Flyer Parties continue to attract hundreds of young adults. Another strategy to complement current efforts would be to raise awareness among parents and young adults about the dangers of Flyer Parties.

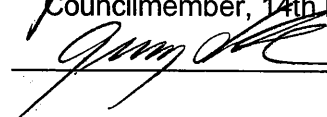
I THEREFORE MOVE that the Los Angeles Police Department report on methods to raise awareness among parents and young adults about the dangers of Flyer Parties and Rave Parties, and what precautions might be put into effect to urge youth against attending these parties.

I FURTHER MOVE that Los Angeles Police Department report on additional penalties the City can consider to ensure that promoters of flyer parties—as well as the owners and proprietors of warehouses where they are held—are held accountable for illegal flyer parties. No report will be requested of the Department that could in any way jeopardize ongoing investigations.

PRESENTED BY


JOSE HUIZAR
Councilmember, 14th District

SECONDED BY



JAN 24 2007

07-0184

CD14

EGG

REF TO 06-0010-526

EG