

GB111821-04

SORO NC Committee Memberships as of 11/18/21

Green Team	(Rolled into Quality of Life) Barry Levine
Land Use	Olga Lexell, Barry Levine, Ken Blaker, Steve Chocron, Richard Bloom, Gloria Dioum, Armeen Neshat, Chad Monk, Laurie Levine (Emilia Barrosse- need to rejoin as Board Members)
Business Advocacy and Economic Development Committee	Ken Blaker, Richard Bloom, Jon Liberman, Ethan Frankel
LGBTQ	(Rolled into Quality of Life Committee) Barry Levine,
Outreach Committee	Terrence Gomes, Barry Levine, Michael Lynn, Sophia French, David Notowitz
Parks and Recreation Committee Barry Levine, Jon Liberman, Laurie Levine	
Public Safety Committee	Michael Lynn, Terrence Gomes, Richard Bloom, Robby Naoufal, Chad Monk, Jonathan Tessler, Sophia French, Ken Blaker, Jon Liberman, Laurie Levine, Baila Romm
Quality of Life Committee	Barry Levine, Shevy Dorfman Lieder, Dina Leeds, Armeen Neshat, Sophia French, Shirley Traum, Ethan Frankel
Robertson Revitalization	(Rolled into BA&ED Committee) Barry Levine, Michael Lynn, Jon Liberman, David Notowitz, Joel Weinberger, Ethan Frankel
Transportation Committee	Barry Levine, Olga Lexell, Jonathan Tessler, Armeen Neshat, Sophia French, Joel Weinberger, Laurie Levine
Bylaws Committee	Ken Blaker, Michael Lynn, Terrence Gomes, Jon Liberman
Board Development	Gloria Dioum,
Finance Committee	Barry Levine, Michael Lynn, Gloria Dioum, Robby Naoufal , Jon Liberman
Elections Committee	Terrence Gomes, Gloria Dioum, Olga Lexell
Homelessness Committee	Sophia French, Terrence Gomes, Barry Levine, Michael Lynn, Richard Bloom, Gloria Dioum, Olga Lexell, Dina Leeds, Ken Blaker, Jon Liberman, Laurie Levine, David Notowitz, Baila Romm
Education Committee	Shirley Traum, Barry Levine, Jon Liberman



Motion to Support WRAC Motion on Enforcement of Crimes In or Near Homeless Encampments

Agenda Item: GB111821-05
Date: November 18, 2021
Proposed By: WRAC
Include motion in Consent Agenda? YES

Background

The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) has a Motion that has been approved by 8 other Neighborhood Councils. <https://westsidecouncils.com/motion/enforcement-of-crimes-in-or-near-homeless-encampments/>

The following facts and existing conditions compel immediate action by the City to enforce all existing laws prohibiting the sale, distribution, or use of illegal drugs, human trafficking, and other serious crimes taking place in or near homeless encampments on the Westside:

Homeless encampments are pervasive in all neighborhoods on the Westside of Los Angeles including: Bel-Air–Beverly Crest, Brentwood, Del Rey, Mar Vista, Pacific Palisades, Palms, South Robertson, Venice, Westchester-Playa, West L.A.-Sawtelle, Westside, and Westwood.

Neighbors, residents, business owners, and other community stakeholders frequently observe the sale, distribution, and/or use of illegal drugs in or near homeless encampments on the Westside. Neighbors, residents, business owners, and other community stakeholders have reported to LAPD and others that they have witnessed other serious crimes, including, but not limited to, human trafficking, taking place in or near homeless encampments on the Westside.

Proposed Motion

For the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council to officially support the WRAC Motion to call on the Los Angeles City Council and Mayor Eric Garcetti to direct the Los Angeles Police Department and other relevant law enforcement agencies to enforce all existing, enforceable laws prohibiting the sale and distribution of illegal drugs, human trafficking, and other serious crimes taking place in or near homeless encampments on the Westside of Los Angeles.

Michael Lynn
President

Ken Blaker
Vice-President

Terrence Gomes
Treasurer

Vacant
Secretary

Jon Liberman
Corresponding Secretary

**South Robertson
Neighborhoods Council**

PO Box 35836
Los Angeles, CA 90035

P: (310) 295-9920
E: info@soronc.org

soronc.org





Considerations

Committee review:
(highly recommended)

Votes For:

Against:

Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget:
(applies to funding motions only)

\$ n/a

Arguments for:

Arguments against:

Encampments act as a magnet for these types of crimes.

Could be interpreted as targeting the Homeless.



Motion to Support WRAC Motion to Enforce Laws Prohibiting Blockage of Public Right Of Way

Agenda Item: GB111821-06
Date: November 18, 2021
Proposed By: WRAC
Include motion in Consent Agenda? YES

Background

The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) has a Motion that has been approved by 8 other Neighborhood Councils. <https://westsidecouncils.com/motion/enforce-laws-prohibiting-blockage-of-public-right-of-way/>

The following facts and existing conditions compel immediate action by the City to enforce all existing, enforceable laws prohibiting the blockage of the public right of way, including, but not limited to blockages in or near homeless encampments on the Westside of Los Angeles, including all applicable provisions of the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA):

Homeless encampments are pervasive in all neighborhoods on the Westside of Los Angeles including: Bel-Air–Beverly Crest, Brentwood, Del Rey, Mar Vista, Pacific Palisades, Palms, South Robertson, Venice, Westchester-Playa, West L.A.-Sawtelle, Westside, and Westwood.

Neighbors, residents, business owners, and other community stakeholders have reported numerous instances in or near homeless encampments, where large tents, abandoned bulky items, discarded furniture, trash, and other large objects, frequently block the public right of way, thereby preventing pedestrian and wheelchair passage on sidewalks, in direct violation of the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA), thereby preventing members of the public for using, traversing, and safely walking along public sidewalks, often creating hazardous and dangerous conditions. These illegal conditions have resulted in numerous traffic accidents, liability for the City of Los Angeles, and which have caused serious injury and even death to innocent bystanders as well as those individuals living in or near homeless encampments.

Michael Lynn
President

Ken Blaker
Vice-President

Terrence Gomes
Treasurer

Vacant
Secretary

Jon Liberman
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Proposed Motion

For the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council to officially support the WRAC Motion to call on the Los Angeles City Council and Mayor Eric Garcetti to direct the Los Angeles Police Department and the Department of Public Works' Bureau of Engineering Street Services Division, as well as the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, and the Department of Veterans Affairs to direct the Veterans Affairs Police Department and other relevant law enforcement agencies to enforce all existing, enforceable laws prohibiting the blockage of the public right of way on the Westside of Los Angeles, including all applicable provisions of the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA).

Considerations

Committee review:
(highly recommended)

Votes For:

Against:

Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget:
(applies to funding motions only)

\$ n/a

Arguments for:

Arguments against:

Disabled individuals are unable to pass many sidewalks due to various tents, abandoned bulky items, discarded furniture, trash, and other large objects

Could be interpreted as targeting the Homeless, especially removing belongings.



Motion for the SORO NC to hire a service to take and edit minutes of its General Board meetings at a rate of \$29.26 per hour, up to \$250 per month

Agenda Item: GB 111821-07
Date: November 18, 2021
Proposed By: Executive Committee
Include motion in Consent Agenda? (Yes)

Background

The SORO NC has been without the Executive Committee (EC) position of Secretary for four months. As such, many obligations and functions of that position have fallen on the other EC members. In the past, one of the main obstacles for fielding candidates for Secretary, is the obligation for taking minutes at the General Board meeting.

Several other Neighborhood Councils have turned to an outside vendor to take minutes at their General Board meetings and prepare an official draft. The LA City Clerk currently has a set rate of \$29.26 for this service and has approved the following Temp Service Providers: Apple One Employment Services, Lloyd Staffing, Partners in Diversity, Bridgap Temporary Staffing, and Services Agency.

Bridgap Temporary Staffing is owned by SORO NC Treasurer, Terrence Gomes, and will be ineligible for consideration. Further, due to the conflict of interest, Mr. Gomes will recuse himself from this item.

The typical SORO NC General Board meeting runs 3 hours and editing usually takes 3-4 hours.

Proposed Motion

That the SORO NC hire a service, chosen from the LA City Clerk list of approved vendors, to take and edit minutes of its General Board meetings at a rate of \$29.26 per hour, up to \$250 per month.

Considerations

Arguments for:

Streamlines our process so ALL Board Members can fully participate in the meeting

Arguments against:

A Board member should really step up and fulfill the responsibilities of the position

Michael Lynn
President

Ken Blaker
Vice-President

Terrence Gomes
Treasurer

Vacant
Secretary

Jon Liberman
Corresponding Secretary

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New format is mobile friendly

We lose some permissions options and features



Motion for the SORO NC to purchase website design services from WebCorner for \$2500 and monthly hosting and maintenance services for up to \$250 per month

Agenda Item: GB 111821-08
Date: November 18, 2021
Proposed By: Executive
Include motion in Consent Agenda? (Yes)

Michael Lynn
President

Ken Blaker
Vice-President

Terrence Gomes
Treasurer

Vacant
Secretary

Jon Liberman
Corresponding Secretary

Background

The SORO NC website (www.soronc.org) has been running on an outdated platform of Drupal for several years, with updates no longer supported. This has resulted in the loss of several necessary site functions, including updating information on various pages, inability to fix broken links and uploading documents. Also, the website does not currently have a security certificate and is not optimized for mobile devices.

Many Neighborhood Councils have contracted with various vendors for the design and hosting services for their websites. One of the more popular vendors is WebCorner. They offer a package to NCs which includes designing, hosting, security certificate and maintenance of a Word Press website. This is one of the most popular modern website platforms. It offers ease of use, navigation and information for both Board Members and Stakeholders.

The full WebCorner proposal for the South Robertson NC can be found [here](#).

Proposed Motion

The SORO NC shall purchase design services from WebCorner for \$2500 to create a new Wordpress website, as well as pay for monthly hosting and maintenance services for up to \$250 per month.

Considerations

Arguments for:

The current SORO NC website is outdated and many functions are inoperable

New format is mobile friendly

Arguments against:

We could hire someone to upgrade to a newer version of the current format

We lose some permissions options and features

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South Robertson Neighborhood Council Development Proposal





The Web Corner, Inc.
15300 Ventura Blvd. Ste 400
Sherman Oaks, CA 91403

ncsupport@thewebcorner.com
www.TheWebCorner.com
Phone 818-345-7443

South Robertson Neighborhood Council Development Proposal

We appreciate the opportunity develop and maintain a new council website. The Web Corner is excited to have launched our Neighborhood Council SaaS platform which comes with exciting new features that simplify tasks, has a more modern framework and enhanced security.

Originally founded in 2004, the Web Corner has been providing companies, government institutions, nongovernment organizations and individuals reliable services for various purposes. Our services include web design, business development, marketing online, as well as sales assistance.

The Web Corner can create a custom website for the Neighborhood Council and supply full support monthly. We have established a solid reputation with Neighborhood Councils for over 15 years. We also understand the budget and obligations the council needs to fulfill and are fully capable of meeting these needs.

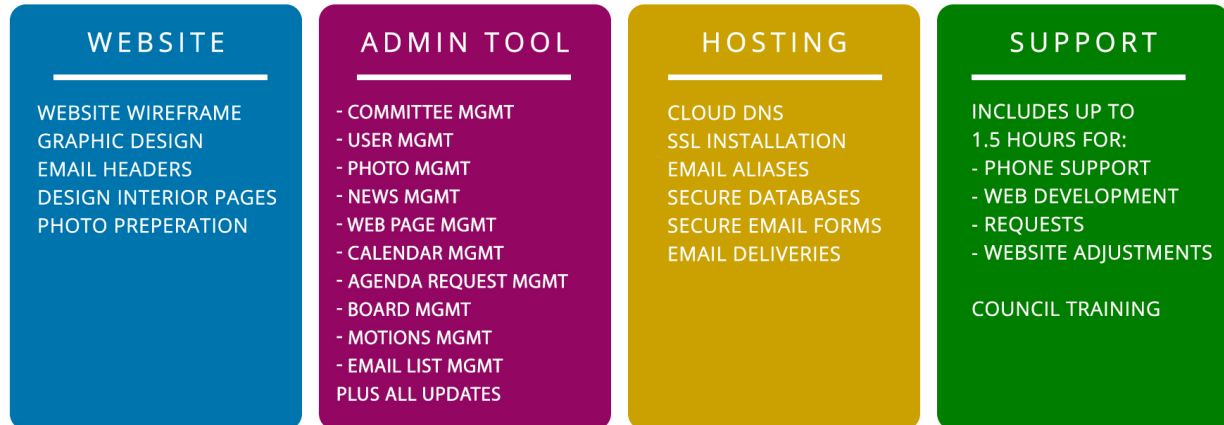
The council will be able to work directly with our team via phone, email, virtual meetings or even in-person meetings. The Web Corner office is located at 15300 Ventura Blvd. Ste 400 in Sherman Oaks.

Thank you for the continued support and opportunity.

Sincerely,

Robert Adams, President
The Web Corner, Inc.
Phone: (818) 345-7443
Email: rob@thewebcorner.com

Neighborhood Council 2.0 SaaS Platform



Setup Cost: \$2,500

Overview:

- Transferring existing data from current website into the new website
- Media preparing and posting of photos and/or videos
- Logo design if needed
- Enhanced Calendar with customized category events
- Funding and Motions features
- Agenda Requests – now available per committee
- Committees overview page and individual committee pages
- About, Resources, Events & News pages
- Board page(s) ability to post board profiles and photos
- Bylaws & financial documents
- Contact form
- Mailing List, Email newsletter collection database



Admin Tool / Capabilities:

- Give individual access to users (Full access to admin or to specific committees).
- Ability to assign users to specific committee's so they can only edit what they are assigned to.
- Ability to showcase committee chairs on their committee pages
- Ability to post calendar items
- Ability to post events/news
- Ability to post Media / Photos / Documents
- Ability to post Board Rules
- Ability to create custom pages
- Ability to control menus and nested menus in the top navigation
- Ability to control homepage slider and logo
- Download Email Newsletter Database to Excel (csv/tab)
- Ability to post Financial Documents
- Drag & Drop photos and documents throughout the administrative tool

Testing & Launch:

- Perform full checklist prior to testing
- Testing with council
- Training (First initial training session is included in the design & setup)
- Approval from Neighborhood Council & Launch



Required Maintenance \$199/ month

- Up to 1.5 hours for; phone support, web development, requests, & website adjustments
- Secure Website Hosting: Service fee to keep the website online in its current state

Optional Email Accounts

- Alias accounts (Forwards to another email): Free
- Standard Email Accounts: \$3.50 each per month
- Exchange Email Accounts: \$13.50 each per month
- Office 365 Email Accounts: \$15 each per month

Additional work exceeding the monthly maintenance time will be billed at our regular hourly rates (see “Additional Pricing” for details)



Additional Pricing

Website Development - Design Only	\$200/hour
Website Development - Programming Only	\$150/hour
Website Development - Project Management	\$150/hour
Website Development - Production Migration	\$150/hour
Website Development - Graphic Design Only	\$150/hour
Maintenance - Content Development	\$150/hour
Maintenance - Content Website Only	\$150/hour
Maintenance - Technical Support	\$150/hour
Maintenance - Design	\$150/hour
Maintenance - Manual Content Entry Only	\$150/hour
Maintenance - Database Administrative Services	\$150/hour
Training - Development	\$75/hour
Training - Videos	\$75/hour
Training - NC Board Members	\$75/hour
Training and Documentation	\$75/hour
Telephone Support	\$75/hour

Monthly Expenditure Report

GB111821-10



Reporting Month: October 2021

Budget Fiscal Year: 2021-2022

NC Name: South Robertson
Neighborhood Council

Monthly Cash Reconciliation					
Beginning Balance	Total Spent	Remaining Balance	Outstanding	Commitments	Net Available
\$41620.03	\$987.00	\$40633.03	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$40633.03

Monthly Cash Flow Analysis					
Budget Category	Adopted Budget	Total Spent this Month	Unspent Budget Balance	Outstanding	Net Available
Office	\$24700.00	\$987.00	\$23713.00	\$0.00	\$23713.00
Outreach		\$0.00		\$0.00	
Elections		\$0.00		\$0.00	
Community Improvement Project	\$4300.00	\$0.00	\$4300.00	\$0.00	\$4300.00
Neighborhood Purpose Grants	\$12620.03	\$0.00	\$12620.03	\$0.00	\$12620.03
Funding Requests Under Review: \$0.00		Encumbrances: \$0.00		Previous Expenditures: \$0.00	

Expenditures						
#	Vendor	Date	Description	Budget Category	Sub-category	Total
1	PUBLIC STORAGE 20499	10/12/2021	SORONC Storage Unit	General Operations Expenditure	Office	\$987.00
Subtotal:						\$987.00

Outstanding Expenditures						
#	Vendor	Date	Description	Budget Category	Sub-category	Total
Subtotal: Outstanding						\$0.00



Your Payment Receipt

6007 Venice Blvd, Los Angeles, CA, 90034, (323) 545-4621

Receipt #: 967381492
10/12/2021 3:47:39 PM

Thank you for using Public Storage! This confirms your payment of **\$987.00** on 10/12/2021 by **Master Card** ending in **7213**.

Your Account Details

Terrence a Gomes

Account Number	Phone	Email	Address
13352721	(310) 717-3456	jonliberman@soronc.org	PO Box 35836 Los Angeles, CA 90035

Storage Payment Details

Location Address: 5917 Burchard Ave, Los Angeles, CA, 90034, (323) 383-9913

Space Number: 254

	Payment Received	Past Due/Due Now	Due Next 02/01/2022
Rent	\$951.00	\$0.00	\$287.00
Insurance	\$36.00	\$0.00	\$9.00
Total	\$987.00	\$0.00	\$296.00

Payment Method Details

	Amount
Master Card ****7213	\$987.00
Total	\$987.00

PLEASE SIGN HERE

10/12/2021

DATE



Motion to support Council File 21-0002-S165 in support of repealing CA State Constitution Article 34

Agenda Item: *GB111821-11*

Date: November 18, 2021

Proposed By: Land Use Committee

Include motion in Consent Agenda? Yes

Background

Article 34 was added to the California constitution in 1950 and requires that developments that consist of more than 49% of affordable units and are supported by more than 51% of government funds be approved by a referendum submitted to the voting public. This initiative was passed by fewer than 50,000 votes. To date, affordable housing developments are the only classification of housing that must meet these strict requirements. The intention of this article was to bypass the United States Supreme Court decision *Shelley v Kramer* (1948) which outlawed racially restrictive housing covenants. For the past decade, Los Angeles has struggled to fund and build affordable housing units in a timely manner as a result of this process.

California senators Allen and Wiener introduced State Constitution Amendment 2 to repeal Article 34. The Los Angeles City Council is considering whether to support SCA 2.

Proposed Motion

Submit a community impact statement to city council in support of CF 21-0002-S165, which aims to support the repeal of Article 32. Additionally, submit a written letter to both CD5 and CD10.

CIS text: The city of LA is in a housing crisis, specifically in regard to housing supply for low-income residents. Other cities have responded to this crisis by offering robust public housing options. California cannot do the same because Article 34 of the state constitution prohibits the development, construction, or



acquisition of this type of project except under narrow circumstances and must be repealed. The Southern California Association of Nonprofit Housing has assessed that our region needs 500,000 new income-restricted units to fill in the housing gap, which we are not currently on track to build as a result of this limitation. The SORO NC supports CF 21-0002-S65 and urges the City of LA to SUPPORT SCA 2 to repeal Article 34 in order to remove limits placed on affordable housing construction.

Considerations

Committee review:	Votes For: 6	Against: 0
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Arguments for:

There is a significant shortage of affordable housing in the state of California, as is evident by the ongoing Los Angeles homelessness crisis.

Arguments against:

Affordable housing doesn't increase property values the same way market rate housing does.



Motion to submit letter to CD 5 regarding a lack of cut curbs in SORO Zones 1 and 7

Agenda Item: GB111821-12
Date: November 18, 2021
Proposed By: Land Use Committee
Include motion in Consent Agenda? Yes

Background

A cut curb is a solid ramp graded down from the top surface of a sidewalk to the surface of an adjoining street, designed to make sidewalk crossings ADA accessible and convenient for pedestrians. In the United States, curb cuts are legally mandated by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

The median age in 90035 is several years older than the median age of Los Angeles overall. Further, in Los Angeles, the number of adults 65+ is expected to double by 2030. Our city's infrastructure must accommodate an increasingly elderly population, which includes making sidewalks accessible to all pedestrians.

Proposed Motion

Submit the attached letter to CD 5 and CD 10.

Considerations

Committee review: Votes For: 6 Against: 0

Arguments for:

Curb cut benefit virtually everyone in South Robertson, especially those with disabilities.

Arguments against:

The city may not have the funding to institute curb cuts in all places that need them.



Esteemed councilmembers,

As you may know, South Robertson is a community with a much higher median age than the city of Los Angeles as a whole. Further, by 2030, the city anticipates the number of adults 65+ to double. We must re-envision our infrastructure, especially our streets, to accommodate everyone — especially those with physical disabilities.

As of now, there are multiple major intersections in Zones 1 and 7 of South Robertson that do not have cut curbs. Examples in Zone 1 west of Robertson Blvd include the intersections of Whitworth Drive and Rexford, Glenville, Oakhurst, Wetherly, Crest, LaPeer, Swall, and Clark. Within Zone 7, there is a lack of cut curbs in the following locations: on Kincardine behind Hamilton High School, Bagley St, Oakhurst, Cardiff, Beverly, Beverly & Castle Heights, and Cattaraugus & Reynier.

In order to make pedestrians feel safe walking our streets, we need to remove hassles like tall curbs. Our neighborhood contains large portions of the High Injury Network, and a lack of walkable sidewalks is a major contributor to hit and run incidents.

We urge our city council districts to change these curbs immediately. No one should have to walk in the middle of a busy road because the sidewalk does not accommodate them.

This letter includes CD5 locations but it is the intention of the Land Use Committee to identify additional areas in CD10 once we are given a representative voice on city council once again.



Motion to submit letter to CD 5 and CD 10 regarding a lack of trash cans in key SORO corridors

Agenda Item: GB111821-13
Date:
Proposed By: Land Use Committee
Include motion in Consent Agenda? Yes

Background

The South Robertson neighborhood contains several high traffic boulevards including Pico, Robertson, Venice, LaCienega, National, Beverly, and others. However, many of these densely populated and frequented areas do not have a sufficient amount of trash cans to accommodate litter that accumulates in surrounding areas.

Proposed Motion

Submit the attached letter to CD 5 and CD 10.

Considerations

Committee review: Votes For: 6 Against: 0

Arguments for:

People are less likely to litter if there are trash cans conveniently located.

Arguments against:

The city may not reliably pick up trash cans.



Esteemed councilmembers,

Over the last several years, there was an effort to obtain trash cans for the South Robertson neighborhood. However, these trash cans are almost exclusively dispersed along Pico Blvd. According to [a map of Los Angeles trash cans](#), Pico Blvd hosts nearly 4-6 public trash cans per block.

But other major thoroughfares have almost no trash cans on any blocks, save for major intersections.

We are writing to request additional trash cans be placed in areas such as Robertson & Cattaraugus around Hamilton High School, Robertson Blvd in general, LaCienega Blvd, Beverwil Blvd, Olympic Blvd, and the intersection of National and Venice.

We urge our city council districts to provide us with trash cans that the city will regularly empty. Additionally, we request solar compact trash cans in the densest areas of South Robertson such as the South Robertson business corridor and the intersection of Robertson & LaCienega.



Motion to submit a letter to the Los Angeles Department of Transportation, and copy Council District 5 and Council District 10 encouraging the department to pursue Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program Funding from the Cap and Trade program for eligible infrastructure projects in South Robertson.

Agenda Item: GB111821-14
Date: November 18, 2021
Proposed By: Transportation Committee

Include motion in Consent Agenda? Yes

Michael Lynn
President

Ken Blaker
Vice-President

Terrence Gomes
Treasurer

Vacant
Secretary

Jon Liberman
Corresponding Secretary

Background

The Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program (AHSC) as administered by the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) allocates funds from the State Cap and Trade program toward eligible affordable housing and local infrastructure projects. To date, the program has allocated millions of dollars in its six years of operation, and Los Angeles County has a set aside in each cycle for funding. The program is competitive in nature, and benefits infrastructure projects calculated to reduce a significant amount of greenhouse gas emissions.

The South Robertson area currently has several infrastructure projects that would be eligible for funding, and could be highly competitive, The Purple Line First/Last Mile plan, Robertson Great Streets Designation and improvements, Improved Bus Service on La Cienega Boulevard, and upgraded Bike Lanes on Venice Boulevard area all currently planned either within the council boundaries or immediately adjacent to it, and would all benefit a large number of SORO residents. All of these projects have in the past received enthusiastic support of the neighborhood council, and could be highly competitive for program funding.

The South Robertson area also has a lack of existing and planned affordable housing, which is an additional problem AHSC funds could dedicate funds to alleviate. AHSC funding has the ability to dedicate up to \$60 million per project for both affordable housing and local infrastructure improvements, and could provide a substantially positive impact for local residents and the community at large.

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Neighborhoods Council**

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Proposed Motion

- I. The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council (SORO NC) shall submit a letter to the Los Angeles Department of Transportation, and copy Council District 5 and Council District 10 encouraging the department to pursue Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program Funding from the Cap and Trade program for eligible infrastructure projects in South Robertson.

Considerations

Arguments for:

South Robertson has many eligible infrastructure projects that could benefit or be improved upon with additional funds

South Robertson has a lack of affordable housing that could compete for funding

Many of the eligible infrastructure projects planned for the area have received enthusiastic support from local residents and the SORO Neighborhoods Council

Projects can compete for up to \$60 million in funding each cycle, with an additional cycle planned for 2022

Arguments against:

There may be other programs better suited as funding sources for local projects

Local sales tax revenues and general funds may serve as alternative funding sources

Seleta Reynolds
General Manager
Los Angeles Department of Transportation
ladot@lacity.org

The Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) program, administered by the California Department of Housing and Community Development, has to date allocated millions of dollars for both affordable housing and infrastructure improvements that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Los Angeles County has had numerous projects win funding through competitive cycles in the 6 years that the program has been in operation, including at least one project in the nearby Mid City West Neighborhood Council Area. South Robertson currently has the Purple Line First/Last Mile Plan, Robertson Great Street Designation and improvements, La Cienega Boulevard Improved Bus Service, and upgraded Bike Lanes all planned in or immediately adjacent to the Neighborhoods Council boundaries, however designated funding has either been lacking or could be increased to allow for additional improvements. All of these programs could be eligible for AHSC funding, and could be highly competitive.

South Robertson has been significantly impacted by poor local air quality due to nearby oil drilling and I-10 freeway traffic, all of which impacts local residents and nearby schools. The area has a dearth of designated affordable housing, and the AHSC program has the ability to allocated badly needed funding for both sustainable infrastructure projects and income-based affordable housing.

We the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council encourage the Los Angeles Department of Transportation to partner with affordable housing developers on projects in and near the Neighborhoods Council boundaries to apply for funding within South Robertson. Numerous eligible projects within the council area have already been approved by the Department and enthusiastically supported by the Neighborhoods Council, and this program has the ability to unlock additional funding for infrastructure and much needed affordable housing within the area.

Sincerely,



Motion to Submit a Community Impact Statement supporting the passage of Council File 21-1223 determining streets recommended for speed limit reductions, with recommendations for evaluation including Bagley Avenue, Robertson Boulevard, Venice Boulevard, Pico Boulevard, Cashio Street, Airdrome Street, and 18th Street to determine if they are appropriate for speed limit reduction.

Agenda Item: GB111821-15
Date: November 18, 2021
Proposed By: Transportation Committee

Include motion in Consent Agenda? Yes

Michael Lynn
President

Ken Blaker
Vice-President

Terrence Gomes
Treasurer

Vacant
Secretary

Jon Liberman
Corresponding Secretary

Background

The city of Los Angeles has several streets located on the high injury network or with sites that generate high amount of pedestrian and cyclist traffic, including schools, transit stations, and other high destination areas. Decreased speeds have been proven to result in safer conditions for children and local residents, and can be implemented in a way that does not generate additional congestion.

The passage of AB-43 means that the city of Los Angeles no longer has to choose between enforcing speed limits and maintaining an increased speed limit based on an outdated traffic study model. Studies have shown that a pedestrian hit by a car traveling under 20 miles per hour has a 95 percent likelihood of surviving, at 30 miles per hour has a 55 percent likelihood of surviving, and at 40 miles per hour has a 5 percent likelihood of surviving. Using a smart implementation strategy after sufficient analysis, reducing speed limits has the ability to save lives within South Robertson.

Within the Neighborhoods Council Boundaries and immediately bordering it, there are multiple sites that generate high volumes of pedestrian and cyclist trips, including many regularly visited by children or along the high injury network. Hamilton High School is a regular generator of high numbers of pedestrian trips by children along Robertson Boulevard, Bagley Avenue is included in the high injury network, the Culver City Metro Station generates large numbers of pedestrian trips including many Hamilton students, and Pico Boulevard has large numbers of pedestrian visitors to its numerous temples and synagogues.

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Evaluating these streets to determine if they can accommodate slower speeds without generating additional congestion has the ability to make South Robertson significantly safer for children and residents, without causing an undo burden on commuters.

Proposed Motion

- I. The SORO NC shall The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council (SORO NC) shall submit a Community Impact Statement supporting the passage of Council File 21-1223 determining streets recommended for speed limit reductions, with recommendations for evaluation including Bagley Avenue, Robertson Boulevard, Venice Boulevard, Pico Boulevard, Cashio Street, Airdrome Street, and 18th Street to determine if they are appropriate for speed limit reduction.

Considerations

Arguments for:

The roofed option provides better shelter and more comfortable seating for riders

WiFi connectivity and real time arrival information are perfectly suited amenities for SORO, and solar power would ensure that they are adequately powered

The “blade” option would be inconveniencing for elderly passengers or those with mobility limitations, and would provide little to no comfort in poor weather conditions

The bus shelter program regularly generates enough revenue for proper maintenance and service

Arguments against:

Streets may already be safe enough for residents with existing speed limits

PASSED XX-XX-XX-XX ON XXX, 2021

Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: CF #21-1223, Speed Limit Reductions

Dear City Council,

The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council **SUPPORTS** CF #21-1223.

Cars traveling at high rates of speed can provide a high safety risk to residents, and especially to vulnerable road users outside of the car commuting on foot, by bike, or on a scooter. In the last couple of decades our City has suffered from “speed creep” where we keep raising speed limits on major corridors to be able to enforce them, under the perverted logic of the 85th percentile rule. Statistics have shown that an individual hit by a car traveling under 20 miles per hour has a 95 percent likelihood of surviving, at 30 miles per hour has a 55 percent likelihood of surviving, and at 40 miles per hour has a 5 percent likelihood of surviving. By decreasing speeds in residential areas, we have the ability to save lives, make communities safer for local residents, and can do so in a way that does not lead to increased congestion

With the passage of AB-43, the City of Los Angeles no longer has to choose between enforcing the speed limit and keeping the speed limit elevated based on an outdated traffic study model. We enthusiastically support the City of Los Angeles taking advantage of this new law, and lowering speed limits wherever possible. We also encourage the City to no longer raise speed limits city-wide, as permitted under the law.

Within the South Robertson boundaries, we would encourage the Los Angeles Department of Transportation to evaluate speed reductions at Bagley Avenue, parts of Robertson Boulevard near Hamilton High School, parts of Venice Boulevard near the Culver City Metro Station, Pico Boulevard, Cashio Street, Airdrome Street, and 18th Street. These areas currently have high pedestrian and cyclist traffic, are located on the high injury network, or are near sensitive areas that are heavily visited by children. We encourage the department to conduct a traffic study to measure the impacts on these areas, and to determine if the areas can accommodate lower speeds in a way that balances congestion and increased safety.

Sincerely,



Motion to Submit a Community Impact Statement Supporting Council File 21-1224 Requesting a Report on the Metro-LADOT Bus Lane Enforcement Pilot Regarding Illegal Parking in Bus Lanes During Peak Hours, Potentially Impacting Bus Service Along Wilshire Boulevard.

Agenda Item: GB111821-16

Date: November 18, 2021

Proposed By: Transportation Committee

Include motion in Consent Agenda? Yes

Michael Lynn
President

Ken Blaker
Vice-President

Terrence Gomes
Treasurer

Vacant
Secretary

Jon Liberman
Corresponding Secretary

Background Proposed Motion

- I. The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council (SORO NC) shall submit a Community Impact Statement (CIS) supporting the passage of Council File 21-1224 requesting a report on the Metro-LADOT bus lane enforcement pilot regarding illegal parking in bus lanes during peak hours.

Considerations

Arguments for:

It is currently illegal to park in bus only lanes during peak hours, however enforcement is practically nonexistent due to a lack of resources

AB 917 authorized LADOT and Metro to coordinate increased automatic enforcement in a cost effective manner

The Council File includes provisions such as a sufficient warning period and public outreach to ensure advanced warning is given before any additional enforcement

Arguments against:

The bus lanes in their current status might not need this additional enforcement

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Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: CF #21-1224, Bus Lane Enforcement

Dear City Council,

The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council **SUPPORTS** CF #21-1224.

Currently in Los Angeles, bus only lanes are regularly unforced, meaning that despite currently existing laws that reserve them for transit operations in peak hours, commuters are often impacted by individuals violating existing Los Angeles traffic laws. There are not enough traffic officers in Los Angeles to enforce the bus lanes, and even if there were, there are more effective means of enforcement that would not require a substantial budget increase.

South Robertson commuters in particular would benefit from this, as the Wilshire peak hour bus only lane provides a crucial transit connection just north of our Neighborhoods Council boundary. The Metro 720 bus line is a workhorse line of the county system, and currently provides the only major east-west transit connections from our community to areas such as Santa Monica, Downtown Los Angeles, and other vital job centers.

Therefore, with the passage of AB-917, we encourage the City of Los Angeles to move forward, in cooperation with Metro, in utilizing cameras on the front of busses that will automatically ticket cars parked in the bus lane. We also encourage the City to pursue further legislation at the State level to expand this concept to cars illegally *occupying space* in the bus lane. We also support the city's plan to coordinate with LADOT and LA Metro to implement a full communications plan to the public on any upcoming enforcement, and support a warning period to ensure no one is penalized by a lack of awareness.

With this system in place, we hope that buses will raise their average speed city-wide using their own dedicated lanes, making the bus more attractive and helping people get out of cars (the single biggest source of greenhouse gas emissions in California), which can be accomplished through enforcing existing laws.

Sincerely,



Motion to support WRAC motion to support LA City Council File 21-0929 and also request that the definition of radius be clarified to specify a radius of 500 feet from the nearest exterior boundary lines of the schools listed in an attachment

Agenda Item: GB111821-17
Date: November 18, 2021
Proposed By: WRAC
Include motion in Consent Agenda? YES

Background

The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) has a Motion that has been approved by 6 other Neighborhood Councils.

<https://westsidecouncils.com/motion/support-for-cf-21-0929-buscaino-koretz/>

On September 3, 2021, the so-called “anti-camping” ordinance, recently passed in City Council by an overwhelming majority, went into effect. See: https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2020/20-1376-S1_ord_187127_09-03-21.pdf.

The ordinance provides for certain limited areas (for example, near driveways and fire hydrants) where individuals are banned from using the sidewalk or other public-rights-of-way (PROW) to “sit, lie, sleep, store, use, maintain or place personal property,” i.e., to set up homeless encampments. It also provides that in specified additional areas, this activity (camping in the PROW) may be banned within a certain radius from the site, but only if the Councilmember first brings a resolution in City Council to designate the site under LAMC Sec. 41.18; the Council passes the resolution; and signs banning the activity are then posted at the site, with enforcement (mainly issuance of citations) to occur 14 days after signage is posted (LAMC Sec. 41.18(c)(1)-(4) and 41.18 (d)). The sites requiring such a “pre-enforcement” resolution are:

- 1) “Sensitive uses” – schools, day care centers, public parks and public libraries (radius prohibition up to 500 ft.; 41.18(c)(1));2

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- 2) Overpasses, underpasses, freeway ramps, tunnels, bridges, pedestrian bridges, subways, washes, spreading grounds and active railways, when public health, safety or welfare is served by the prohibition (radius prohibition up to 500 ft.; 41.18(c)(2));
- 3) Designated facilities opened after January 1, 2018 that provide shelter, safe sleeping or safe parking to homeless persons or that serve as homeless services navigation centers (radius prohibition up to 1,000 ft.; 41.18(c)(3));
- 4) Locations in public rights-of-way for which there is documentation of a “particular and ongoing threat to public health or safety” (prohibition not to exceed one year; no radius prohibition specified; 41.18(c)(4)).

On August 17, 2021, Councilmember Joe Buscaino brought a resolution in Council (CF 21-0929; second by Paul Koretz) seeking designation of all public (LAUSD) schools in Los Angeles as sensitive sites where homeless encampments could be banned within a 500 ft. radius (Sec. 41.18(c)(1)). The schools are listed in an attachment to the resolution. See: https://clkrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2021/21-0929_misc_08-17-21.pdf.

1 Certain additional motions regarding a citywide homeless outreach framework were passed by the City County on September 14, 2021 (CF 20-1376 and 21-0329). The anti-camping ordinance does not require pre-enforcement outreach in the specific designated areas; the CLA’s report issued in connection with these motions explained that such outreach (i.e, pre-enforcement offers of shelter/housing) was not required in these cases. The WRAC motion sponsors and the WRAC Homelessness Committee believe that current disturbing conditions – the existence of widespread homeless encampments in the PROW throughout the City, which engendered enactment of the anti-camping ordinance - - clearly require action under the terms of the existing ordinance in order to designate sites for enforcement without delay. At the same, the WRAC Homelessness Committee feels strongly that offers of shelter/housing should be made to and refused by the homeless prior to enforcement of the ordinance, and the recommended motion so provides.

2 Schools, day care centers, public parks and libraries are defined terms in LAMC Sec. 105.01 (a provision of the City cannabis ordinance which the anti-camping ordinance



specifically references). The definitions of these sensitive uses include private and public schools as well as open space areas. The resolution proposed in CF 21-0929 addresses only public (LAUSD) schools.

The motion sponsors regard this resolution as a reasonable, common-sense approach. The City's public schools are known and easily identified; it would be a waste of time and public resources for Councilmembers to bring scores of resolutions in Council in order to designate individual public schools as sensitive, as would otherwise be required under the anti-camping ordinance.

The existence of widespread homeless encampments, particularly those in the PROW throughout the City, has been THE presenting issue in Los Angeles for at least the past year.

We are advised that encampments have grown in the PROW adjacent to school property at many LAUSD schools throughout the district and the City, presenting dangerous conditions unacceptable for students and school staff. Here is one example in South LA: <https://abc7.com/south-los-angeles-homeless-elementary-school-gerald-a-lawson-academy/10565069/>. Recent reports and commentary about a dangerous encampment outside of Westminster School in Venice can be found in: <https://www.westsidecurrent.com/brentwood/>. See also the Venice NC position regarding Westminster School: <http://pacpalicc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/westminster-school-safety.pdf>.

Protecting our children and supporting our schools are priorities for the vast majority of WRAC constituents with families. Passage of motion #1 – support for the resolution in CF 21-0929 – would be consistent with these priorities.

We also request in motion #1 that the “radius” prohibition be specified as 500 ft. from the exterior boundary of each of the sites. This would help ensure that the distance is not measured from interior locations within each site and communities would be afforded maximum protection. Motion #2: This motion calls for Councilmembers representing WRAC Member-Councils to consult with their respective Member-Councils and bring resolutions in Council designating additional sites that are identified to the Councilmembers by Member-Councils, for enforcement under the anti-camping ordinance (LAMC Sec. 41.18(c)(1)-(4) and 41.18(d)).



The motion is intended to emphasize the importance of this issue to Councilmembers and their constituents and to stress that action should be taken to designate these sites without delay. Further, as noted in FN 1, the motion calls for offers of shelter/housing to be made and refused prior to enforcement under the ordinance. It is unknown whether Councilmembers Bonin and Raman, who voted against enacting the anti-camping ordinance, will seek to designate any sites in their respective districts for this purpose.

Adopting this motion as a WRAC position may have a positive impact on these or any Councilmembers who may otherwise be reluctant to bring such resolutions.

Proposed Motion

Regarding the WRAC motion to support Council File 21-0929 (Buscaino/Koretz): The SORO NC supports the proposed resolution for the City Council to prohibit sitting, lying, sleeping, or storing, using, maintaining, or placing personal property, in or upon any street, sidewalk, or other public rights-of-way within a radius of 500 feet from all schools listed in Attachment A to the Council File; and further, upon adoption of the resolution, for the City Council to direct the Department of Transportation to post signs giving notice of the restrictions in the radius specified.

SORO NC also requests that the definition of “radius” be clarified to specify a radius of 500 feet from the exterior boundary lines of the schools listed in Attachment A to the Council File.

Considerations

Committee review: <i>(highly recommended)</i>	Votes For:	Against:
Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget: <i>(applies to funding motions only)</i>		\$ n/a



Motion to support WRAC motion to request for Councilmembers to Cooperate with Member Councils re Designation of Sites Under LAMC Sec. 41.18

Agenda Item: GB111821-18
Date: November 18, 2021
Proposed By: WRAC
Include motion in Consent Agenda? YES

Background

The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) has a Motion that has been approved by 5 other Neighborhood Councils. <https://westsidecouncils.com/motion/request-for-councilmembers-to-cooperate-with-member-councils-re-designation-of-sites-under-lamc-sec-41-18/>

On September 3, 2021, the so-called “anti-camping” ordinance, recently passed in City Council by an overwhelming majority, went into effect. See: https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2020/20-1376-S1_ord_187127_09-03-21.pdf.

The ordinance provides for certain limited areas (for example, near driveways and fire hydrants) where individuals are banned from using the sidewalk or other public-rights-of-way (PROW) to “sit, lie, sleep, store, use, maintain or place personal property,” i.e., to set up homeless encampments. It also provides that in specified additional areas, this activity (camping in the PROW) may be banned within a certain radius from the site, but only if the Councilmember first brings a resolution in City Council to designate the site under LAMC Sec. 41.18; the Council passes the resolution; and signs banning the activity are then posted at the site, with enforcement (mainly issuance of citations) to occur 14 days after signage is posted (LAMC Sec. 41.18(c)(1)-(4) and 41.18 (d)). The sites requiring such a “pre-enforcement” resolution are:

- 1) “Sensitive uses” – schools, day care centers, public parks and public libraries (radius prohibition up to 500 ft.; 41.18(c)(1));2
- 2) Overpasses, underpasses, freeway ramps, tunnels, bridges, pedestrian bridges, subways, washes, spreading grounds and active railways, when public health, safety or

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welfare is served by the prohibition (radius prohibition up to 500 ft.; 41.18(c)(2));

3) Designated facilities opened after January 1, 2018 that provide shelter, safe sleeping or safe parking to homeless persons or that serve as homeless services navigation centers (radius prohibition up to 1,000 ft.; 41.18(c)(3));

4) Locations in public rights-of-way for which there is documentation of a “particular and ongoing threat to public health or safety” (prohibition not to exceed one year; no radius prohibition specified; 41.18(c)(4)).

On August 17, 2021, Councilmember Joe Buscaino brought a resolution in Council (CF 21-0929; second by Paul Koretz) seeking designation of all public (LAUSD) schools in Los Angeles as sensitive sites where homeless encampments could be banned within a 500 ft. radius (Sec. 41.18(c)(1)). The schools are listed in an attachment to the resolution. See:

https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2021/21-0929_misc_08-17-21.pdf.

1 Certain additional motions regarding a citywide homeless outreach framework were passed by the City County on September 14, 2021 (CF 20-1376 and 21-0329). The anti-camping ordinance does not require pre-enforcement outreach in the specific designated areas; the CLA’s report issued in connection with these motions explained that such outreach (i.e, pre-enforcement offers of shelter/housing) was not required in these cases. The WRAC motion sponsors and the WRAC Homelessness Committee believe that current disturbing conditions – the existence of widespread homeless encampments in the PROW throughout the City, which engendered enactment of the anti-camping ordinance - - clearly require action under the terms of the existing ordinance in order to designate sites for enforcement without delay. At the same, the WRAC Homelessness Committee feels strongly that offers of shelter/housing should be made to and refused by the homeless prior to enforcement of the ordinance, and the recommended motion so provides.

2 Schools, day care centers, public parks and libraries are defined terms in LAMC Sec. 105.01 (a provision of the City cannabis ordinance which the anti-camping ordinance specifically references). The definitions of these sensitive uses include private and public schools as well as open



space areas. The resolution proposed in CF 21-0929 addresses only public (LAUSD) schools.

The motion sponsors regard this resolution as a reasonable, common-sense approach. The City's public schools are known and easily identified; it would be a waste of time and public resources for Councilmembers to bring scores of resolutions in Council in order to designate individual public schools as sensitive, as would otherwise be required under the anti-camping ordinance.

The existence of widespread homeless encampments, particularly those in the PROW throughout the City, has been THE presenting issue in Los Angeles for at least the past year.

We are advised that encampments have grown in the PROW adjacent to school property at many LAUSD schools throughout the district and the City, presenting dangerous conditions unacceptable for students and school staff. Here is one example in South LA: <https://abc7.com/south-los-angeles-homeless-elementary-school-gerald-a-lawson-academy/10565069/>. Recent reports and commentary about a dangerous encampment outside of Westminster School in Venice can be found in: <https://www.westsidecurrent.com/brentwood/>. See also the Venice NC position regarding Westminster School: <http://pacpalicc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/westminster-school-safety.pdf>.

Protecting our children and supporting our schools are priorities for the vast majority of WRAC constituents with families. Passage of motion #1 – support for the resolution in CF 21-0929 – would be consistent with these priorities.

We also request in motion #1 that the “radius” prohibition be specified as 500 ft. from the exterior boundary of each of the sites. This would help ensure that the distance is not measured from interior locations within each site and communities would be afforded maximum protection.

Motion #2: This motion calls for Councilmembers representing WRAC Member-Councils to consult with their respective Member-Councils and bring resolutions in Council designating additional sites that are identified to the Councilmembers by Member-Councils, for enforcement under the anti-camping ordinance (LAMC Sec. 41.18(c)(1)-(4) and 41.18(d)). The motion is intended to



emphasize the importance of this issue to Councilmembers and their constituents and to stress that action should be taken to designate these sites without delay. Further, as noted in FN 1, the motion calls for offers of shelter/housing to be made and refused prior to enforcement under the ordinance. It is unknown whether Councilmembers Bonin and Raman, who voted against enacting the anti-camping ordinance, will seek to designate any sites in their respective districts for this purpose.

Adopting this motion as a WRAC position may have a positive impact on these or any Councilmembers who may otherwise be reluctant to bring such resolutions.

Proposed Motion

Regarding the WRAC motion to urge Councilmembers Bonin, Koretz, Raman and Ridley-Thomas (Councilmembers representing WRAC Member-Councils) to consult as soon as possible with their respective WRAC Member-Councils for input as to the designation of sites within their districts for enforcement pursuant to LAMC Sec. 41.18(c)(1)-(4) and 41.18(d), including: 1) schools, day care centers, public parks and public libraries, as defined in LAMC Sec. 105.01 (“sensitive uses”) (41.18(c)(1)); 2) overpasses, underpasses, freeway ramps, tunnels, bridges, pedestrian bridges, subways, washes, spreading grounds and active railways, when public health, safety or welfare is served by the prohibition (41.18(c)(2)); 3) designated facilities opened after January 1, 2018 that provide shelter, safe sleeping or safe parking to homeless persons or that serve as homeless services navigation centers (41.18(c)(3)); 4) any locations in public rights-of-way for which there is documentation of a “particular and ongoing threat to public health or safety” (41.18(c)(4)). No enforcement action shall be taken unless the individuals have been offered shelter and have refused the offer.

SORO NC further requests that 1) Councilmembers bring resolutions in Council pursuant to LAMC Sec. 41.18(c)(1)-(4) and 41.18(d) as soon as any sites meeting the requirements of such sub-sections are identified to them by their respective WRAC Member-Councils; and 2) the distance of the radius prohibition set forth in such resolutions shall be as requested by the relevant WRAC Member-Councils, consistent with the distance set forth in such sub-sections.



Considerations

Committee review:
(highly recommended)

Votes For:

Against:

Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget:
(applies to funding motions only)

\$ n/a



Motion to support WRAC motion to request a written City Attorney Opinion re Consideration of Developer's Financial Interest

Agenda Item: GB111821-19
Date: November 18, 2021
Proposed By: WRAC
Include motion in Consent Agenda? YES

Background

The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) has a Motion that has been approved by 5 other Neighborhood Councils. <https://westsidecouncils.com/motion/request-for-city-attorney-opinion-re-consideration-of-developers-financial-interest/>

In connection with applications for Adjustments, Los Angeles Municipal Code Sec. 12.28.C.4(a) (Finding #1) requires a Finding that the project design must be "impractical or infeasible" unless the Adjustment is granted.

At an April 7, 2021 hearing before the West LA Area Planning Commission, the Commissioners asked the Planning Dept. to clarify what "impractical or infeasible" project design means.

The City Attorney at the hearing stated that the Findings are "silent" on this issue, and he concluded that considering financial impact on the developer is not prohibited – and thus allowed even though the Code does not explicitly state this. Does this also mean that other financial impacts like campaign contributions can be considered (even if they are reported to the Ethics Commission)?

One Commissioner also stated that extra time and money to redesign plans and re-submit to plancheck is considered "project design." Most development professionals and planners disagree on this. Development and architecture professionals consider "design" to be engineered plans and graphics drafted and printed on paper. "Project design" is different from "project plancheck processing," which is what the Commissioner stated.

Conversely, the City would have specifically included "plancheck process processing" in the list of required Findings in LAMC Sec. 12.28.C.4, if they meant for the financial impact of additional re-

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design and plancheck processing to be considered, but they chose to exclude it. Considering this exclusion to be the legal standard of "silent" is doubtful and questionable.

It appears that in the context of variance applications, under California law financial impact is only considered if the applicant can clearly show that he/she was deprived of all economic benefit as a result of a unique hardship to the property in question, not because of a self-created hardship (e.g., a claim that the project doesn't "pencil out" for the developer unless the exception is granted).

In light of apparent confusion at the April 7th WLA APC hearing as to whether consideration of financial impact is allowed, the City Attorney should be directed to provide an opinion on whether or not the financial interest of the developer can legally be considered, including what is meant by financial impact, under what circumstances can financial impact be considered, and for what types of entitlement applications.

Proposed Motion

The SORO NC supports the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils motion that requests that the City Council direct City Attorney Mike Feuer to provide a legal opinion as to whether or not the City Planning Department and commissions have the legal right under State and City laws and ordinances to consider the financial interest of the developer when considering entitlements.

Considerations

Committee review: <i>(highly recommended)</i>	Votes For:	Against:
Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget: <i>(applies to funding motions only)</i>		\$ n/a



Motion to support WRAC motion to oppose Misuse of Specific Plan Process

Agenda Item: GB111821-20
Date: November 18, 2021
Proposed By: WRAC
Include motion in Consent Agenda? YES

Background

The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) has a Motion that has been approved by 5 other Neighborhood Councils. <https://westsidecouncils.com/motion/oppose-misuse-of-specific-plan-process/>

A Specific Plan is defined by the Los Angeles Department of City Planning as a planning document that implements the goals and policies of the General Plan and Community Plans,[1] and, shall provide by ordinance regulatory controls or incentives for the systematic execution of the General Plan and shall provide for public needs, convenience, and general welfare. [2] “A Specific Plan is a popular form of a land use overlay. An overlay is an additional layer of planning control, establishing stricter standards that go beyond what the underlying zoning would normally regulate;”[3] (Emphasis added.)

Utilizing a Specific Plan for the purpose of upzoning open space and/or low density residential to commercial would be in conflict with the policies, procedures and goals set forth in the city’s General Plan, Community Plans and Specific Plans. This type of inappropriate use of Specific Plans has the potential to establish negative precedent for the Westside. Such city actions are particularly egregious when the result would be to reduce much needed open space, compromise sensitive natural resources, or degrade the quality of the area’s single-family residential communities.

The Specific Plan process is not and should not be used as a means to usurp the planning process or for “spot zoning,” a practice that seeks to bypass traditional land use practices that results in:

- (1) bypassing protective codes
- (2) creating unique zoning designations in conflict with the area’s Community Plans,
- (3) resulting in dangerous precedents,

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(4) failing to provide for public needs, convenience, and general welfare as required by the code.

[1] Los Angeles Department of City Planning, What is a Specific Plan?, available at: <https://planning.lacity.org/blog/what-specific-plan> [2] Specific Plan Areas: https://geohub.lacity.org/datasets/61ffdfc055e84fdb9b0860469134_0 [3] Los Angeles Department of City Planning, What is a Specific Plan?, available at: <https://planning.lacity.org/blog/what-specific-plan>

Proposed Motion

The SORO NC supports the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils motion that opposes the City’s use of Specific Plans that would result in upzoning open space and/or low-density residential neighborhoods. The use of specific plans in this manner creates significant negative impacts for all residential communities, the environment and natural resources. We urge our City Councilmembers to reject land use applications for individual development projects that represent a misuse of the Specific plan process. We ask that the City Council inform Planning not to process these types of requests

Considerations

Committee review: <i>(highly recommended)</i>	Votes For:	Against:
Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget: <i>(applies to funding motions only)</i>		\$ n/a



Motion to support WRAC motion to support Assembly Constitutional Amendment 7

Agenda Item: GB111821-21
Date: November 18, 2021
Proposed By: WRAC
Include motion in Consent Agenda? YES

Background

The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) has a Motion that has been approved by 6 other Neighborhood Councils. <https://westsidecouncils.com/motion/support-for-aca-7-muratsuchi-glazer/>

WRAC's adopted position, already expressed in five motions passed by a majority or more of member councils, is strongly in support of local control over land use and zoning decisions (Oppose SB 827, SB 50, SB 9 and SB 10; Support SB 15). See: <https://westsidecouncils.com/adopted-positions/>

The Los Angeles City Council has also expressed support for local land use regulations and procedures (resolutions passed opposing SB 827 and SB 50 unless amended):
<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=18-0002-S13>
<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=19-0002-S38>

Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi (D-Torrance) and Senator Steve Glazer (D-Contra Costa) introduced Assembly Constitutional Amendment (ACA) 7 in the State Assembly in March 2021, proposing an amendment to the State Constitution that would restore local government control over land use decisions. If passed in the legislature, ACA 7 would put this proposed Constitutional amendment on the next ballot for a decision by the voters.

Bill text:
https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220ACA7

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Proposed Motion

The SORO NC supports the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) motion that supports Assembly Constitutional Amendment 7 (Muratsuchi/Glazer), which would place on the ballot for voter decision a Constitutional amendment to restore local governmental control over land use, zoning and planning decisions. WRAC has expressed support for local land use control in five of its adopted positions (Oppose SB 827, SB 50, SB 9 and SB 10; Support SB 15).

Considerations

Committee review:
(highly recommended)

Votes For:

Against:

Amount previously allocated in Committee's working
budget:
(applies to funding motions only)

\$ n/a