Motion to support Conditional Use Beverage (CUB) at 3229 S Helms Ave

Agenda Item: GB071918-2
Date: July 19, 2018
Proposed By: LUED Committee

Background

The project representative presented this proposed CUB to the Land Use and Economic Development (LUED) committee at their June 5, 2018 meeting. The CUB would allow the continued sale and dispensing of a full line of alcoholic beverages for on-site consumption in conjunction with an existing 3,596 square-foot restaurant, Father’s Office, located within the Helms Bakery complex at 3229 S Helms Ave. The subject property is zoned C2-2D-CPIO (commercial). The only change to the current application is a request for an increase in seating. The restaurant is requesting an increase in seating from 78 to 110. The hours will remain the same.

Neighbors were noticed for the LUED meeting and there were no neighbors in attendance in opposition to the project. Jonathan Brand and Ellen Lanet voiced support for the application. The project representative provided to the committee Chair many letters of support.

Proposed Motion

Submit a letter in support of the application to City Planning Department case manager Bryan Ochoa (bryan.ochoa@lacity.org) to be included in case file for the CUB at 3229 S Helms Ave; ZA-2018-2441-CUB.

Considerations

| Committee review: (highly recommended) | Votes For: 4 | Against: 0 |

Arguments for: The restaurant is an asset to the Helms complex and has proven themselves responsible in the sale of alcohol.

Arguments against: Waiting in line makes the beer taste better once you get inside.
Bryan Ochoa  
Department of City Planning  
200 N. Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

19 July 2018  
Re:  Case Number ZA-2018-2441-CUB

Dear Mr. Ochoa:

I am writing on behalf of the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council (“SORO NC”) to comment on the requested Conditional Use Beverage (CUB) permit at 3229 S Helms Ave.

At a duly-noticed meeting of the General Board on July 19, 2018, SORO NC voted 00 yes / 00 no / 00 abstain to recommend that the applicant’s license renewal be approved. The applicant demonstrated to us strong neighborhood support for the continued sale and dispensing of alcoholic beverages at this respected business.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about this comment letter.

Sincerely,

Doug Fitzsimmons  
President, South Robertson Neighborhoods Council

Cc:  Jordan Beroukhim, Office of Council President Herb Wesson  
     Krystal Návar, SORO NC Land Use and Economic Development Chair
Motion to support condo conversion at 1051 S Corning St

Agenda Item: GB071918-3
Date: July 19, 2018
Proposed By: LUED Committee

Background

The applicant presented this condo conversion to the Land Use and Economic Development (LUED) committee at their July 3, 2018 meeting. The applicant’s entitlement request is for a Vesting Tentative Tract for a previously-approved, under-construction 19-unit residential building at 1051 S Corning St. The applicant has not yet determined whether the units will be rented or sold.

Typically, the City will require an owner to widen that portion of the street directly in front of the property to meet street width standards. The application for a subdivision (such as a condo map or small lot subdivision) triggers this request. The construction of a new apartment building would not require the widening of the street. Often, this results in piecemeal street widening, with awkward bump outs along the street, and a loss of street parking at every curve. Drivers often drive faster on wider streets. There were 2 neighbors in attendance who were opposed to the widening of the street for these reasons.

Neighbors were noticed for the LUED meeting and there were no neighbors in attendance in opposition to the project.

Proposed Motion

Submit a letter in support of the project and in opposition to street widening to City Planning Department case manager Chuanzhe Song (chuanzhe.song@lacity.org) to be included in case file for the condo map at 1051 S Corning St; VTT-74077-CN.

Considerations

Committee review: (highly recommended)
Votes For: 4 Against: 0

Arguments for:

- Request is to subdivide a previously-approved apartment into condos.
- Street widening is an outdated requirement that reduces street parking, creates an inconsistent streetscape, does nothing to make streets safer, and the cost of the widening is passed on to the renter/home buyer, increasing the cost of housing.

Arguments against:

- Rental units may be replaced with for-sale condos.
- Other projects in the neighborhood were required to widen their portion of the street.
Chuanzhe Song  
Department of City Planning  
200 N. Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  

19 July 2018  

Re: Case Number VTT-74077-CN  

Dear Chuanzhe Song:  

I am writing on behalf of the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council ("SORONC") to comment on the proposed Tentative Tract Map at 1051 S Corning St.  

At a duly-noticed meeting of the General Board on July 19, 2018, SORONC voted 00 yes / 00 no / 00 abstain to recommend that the application be approved. The applicant's request is to subdivide a previously-approved and under-construction apartment into condos.  

We would also like to voice our opposition to the typically-required street widening. Typically, the City will require an owner to widen that portion of the street directly in front of the property to meet street width standards. The application for a subdivision (such as a condo map or small lot subdivision) triggers this request. The construction of a new apartment building would not require the widening of the street. Often, this results in piecemeal street widening, with awkward bump outs along the street, and a loss of street parking at every curve. Drivers often drive faster on wider streets. Street widening is an outdated requirement that reduces street parking, creates an inconsistent streetscape, does nothing to make streets safer, and the cost of the widening is passed on to the renter/home buyer, increasing the cost of housing. For these reasons, we urge the City to waive the requirement for street widening for this project.  

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about this comment letter.  

Sincerely,  

Doug Fitzsimmons  
President, South Robertson Neighborhoods Council  

Cc: Faisai Alserri, Office of Council Member Paul Koretz  
Krystal Návar, SORONC Land Use and Economic Development Chair
Motion to support condo conversion at 1220 S Bedford St

Agenda Item: GB071918-4
Date: July 19, 2018
Proposed By: LUED Committee

Background

The applicant presented this condo conversion to the Land Use and Economic Development (LUED) committee at their July 3, 2018 meeting. The applicant’s entitlement request is for a Vesting Tentative Tract for a previously-approved, under-construction 20-unit residential building at 1220 S Bedford St. The applicant has not yet determined whether the units will be rented or sold.

Typically, the City will require an owner to widen that portion of the street directly in front of the property to meet street width standards. The application for a subdivision (such as a condo map or small lot subdivision) triggers this request. The construction of a new apartment building would not require the widening of the street. Often, this results in piecemeal street widening, with awkward bump outs along the street, and a loss of street parking at every curve. Drivers often drive faster on wider streets. There were 2 neighbors in attendance who were opposed to the widening of the street for these reasons.

Neighbors were noticed for the LUED meeting and there were no neighbors in attendance in opposition to the project.

Proposed Motion

Submit a letter in support of the project and in opposition to street widening to City Planning Department case manager Bryan Ochoa (bryan.ochoa@lacity.org) to be included in case file for the condo map at 1220 S Bedford St; VTT-74076-CN.

Considerations

Committee review: (highly recommended)
Votes For: 4 Against: 0

Arguments for:
- Project is to subdivide a previously-approved apartment into condos.
- Street widening is an outdated requirement that reduces street parking, creates an inconsistent streetscape, does nothing to make streets safer, and the cost of the widening is passed on to the renter/home buyer, increasing the cost of housing.

Arguments against:
- Rental units may be replaced with for-sale condos.
- Other projects in the neighborhood were required to widen their portion of the street.
Bryan Ochoa  
Department of City Planning  
200 N. Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

19 July 2018

Re: Case Number VTT-74076-CN

Dear Mr. Ochoa:

I am writing on behalf of the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council ("SORO NC") to comment on the proposed Tentative Tract Map at 1220 S Bedford St.

At a duly-noticed meeting of the General Board on July 19, 2018, SORO NC voted 00 yes / 00 no / 00 abstain to recommend that the application be approved. The applicant’s request is to subdivide a previously-approved and under-construction apartment into condos.

We would also like to voice our opposition to the typically-required street widening. Typically, the City will require an owner to widen that portion of the street directly in front of the property to meet street width standards. The application for a subdivision (such as a condo map or small lot subdivision) triggers this request. The construction of a new apartment building would not require the widening of the street. Often, this results in piecemeal street widening, with awkward bump outs along the street, and a loss of street parking at every curve. Drivers often drive faster on wider streets. Street widening is an outdated requirement that reduces street parking, creates an inconsistent streetscape, does nothing to make streets safer, and the cost of the widening is passed on to the renter/home buyer, increasing the cost of housing. For these reasons, we urge the City to waive the requirement for street widening for this project.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about this comment letter.

Sincerely,

Doug Fitzsimmons  
President, South Robertson Neighborhoods Council

Cc: Faisai Alserri, Office of Council Member Paul Koretz  
Krystal Návar, SORO NC Land Use and Economic Development Chair
Motion to oppose lifting beach curfew

Agenda Item: GB071918-5

Date: 19 July 2018

Proposed By: Westside Regional Alliance of Councils

Background

The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) has asked its member councils to consider the following motion of regional interest.

Proposed Motion

I. The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council opposes the lifting of the beach curfew currently in place, which restricts beach access from midnight to 5am, daily. This is in consideration of public health and safety concerns and in keeping with long standing practice, supported by LAPD and LA County Beaches and Harbors, who are tasked with maintaining the safety and integrity of the beach and the shoreline, respectively.

Considerations

Committee review: (highly recommended)

Votes For: 0 Against:

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

Arguments for:

There are safety and liability issues with nighttime beach access, including inability of lifeguards to see swimmers in trouble, fire hazards, etc.

Arguments against:

People arguably have a constitutional right to access public lands.
Motion to oppose the automatic renewal of the City’s bus shelter advertising 20-year contract with Decaux

Agenda Item: GB071918-6
Date: 19 July 2018
Proposed By: Westside Regional Alliance of Councils

Background
The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) has asked its member councils to consider the following motion of regional interest.

Proposed Motion
I. The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council strongly opposes the automatic renewal of the City’s Bus Shelter/Advertising 20-year contract with AC Decaux.

II. SORONC further requests the City to withdraw the renegotiation of the sidewalk furniture contract with Decaux from the City Attorney’s office, and to allow a process of community input which can culminate in an open RFP, awarded based on parameters laid out by community impact and ridership needs. The City should solicit comments from the community about problems/issues, and then issue an open RFP that addresses these issues/problems to numerous advertising firms.

Considerations
Committee review: (highly recommended)
Votes For: 0
Against:

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

Arguments for:
Given the length of the contract, the process should incorporate public input, including input from the Neighborhood Councils.

Arguments against:
AC Decaux is the current contracted party and, barring evidence of a breach of the previous contract, should be renewed.
Motion to Support the Safe Parking LA Site at Ikar 1737 La Cienega Blvd

Agenda Item: GB071918-9
Date: July 19, 2018
Proposed By: Beth Hirsch - Homelessness Liaison

Background

According to the latest LAHSA Homeless Count results, approximately 25% of our County’s people experiencing homelessness are living in vehicles. Some are families, mothers with children, single men and women, many with jobs, unable to find an affordable place to live. They are vulnerable to crime and harassment. They struggle to find safe, consistent places to park overnight where they can get a good night’s sleep and be more easily located by case workers and outreach teams that can offer support services and housing.

The Safe Parking LA program helps provide homeless vehicle dwellers a safe place and more. The program and their partners like Ikar, offer a secure lot, private security, water, bathrooms, wifi and regular access to needed services.

The clients must apply to be in the program, pass a background check, agree to follow all the rules of the program and accept services to help them get back on their feet.

Safe Parking LA is a vetted program. It operates discreetly and is a better alternative to random parking that can sometimes come into conflict with local businesses and residential communities.

Proposed Motion

Soro NC supports following:

I. To support the creation of a Safe Parking LA Site at Ikar, 1737 La Cienega Blvd 90035 which helps provide a much needed service to our city’s homeless population living in vehicles.

Considerations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arguments for:</th>
<th>Arguments against:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Helps alleviate a significant problem relating to homelessness.</td>
<td>Doesn’t help all homeless living in cars and RV’s.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vetted, supervised program with little to no impact on the community.</td>
<td>Nearby residents may not support it.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE NEED

- 25% of the population experiencing homelessness in the city and county of Los Angeles currently live in a vehicle, including families, veterans, single women.
- Vehicle dwelling exists in every council district and all eight spas.
- Until 2017, this was illegal, disrupting access to case management and access to social services.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

- Any private parking lot can host "parkers" overnight between 8pm and 6am, especially faith communities.
- There are no city requirements to provide additional services beyond a safe place to park at night.
- There is no cost to the lot owner and Safe Parking LA can arrange for insurance, case management, etc.

NEXT STEPS

- Find a way to say yes to Safe Parking in your neighborhood.
- Safe Parking LA will come to talk to your NC, faith group, or community organization.
- All you have to do is want to provide stability and safety for those already living in their vehicles within your community.

www.safeparkingla.org
INSURANCE
Safe Parking LA (SPALA) will list your institution as an additional insured to our $1,000,000- $3,000,000 policy. In addition, each vehicle dweller is required to have their own motor vehicle insurance.

VANDALISM
The Santa Barbara program with 125 vehicles, in existence for over 13 years, has not experienced a single instance of vandalism and in fact the Santa Barbara Police Department has acknowledged the reduction in calls and citations regarding people living in their vehicles. The San Diego program with 75 vehicles, soon to be 115 spaces, has been in existence for nine years has had two unrelated episodes of vandalism from people outside of the program. People living in their vehicles serve as a deterrent to vandalism and are not the source of it.

COST OF THE PROGRAM
The Safe Parking program presents no cost to the lot owner and, in fact, SPALA budgets a stipend for rent for the lot, covering the costs of electricity, water, or other utility use.

DIFFICULT CLIENTS
All parkers are fully screened with an application and waiver process, in addition to screening via the National Sex Offender database. Eviction and termination of lot privileges can be immediate, if necessary. An active relationship is maintained with LAPD and the City Council office.

DAYCARE/PRESCHOOL/CAMPUS PROGRAMING
All these programs take place at some of the lots in Santa Barbara without incident, with the Safe Parking program running at night. Lot monitors and/or security help to facilitate the access between groups at the onset, until the parkers and other community members work out schedules and program transitions.

213-793-8493
www.SafeParkingLA.org
info@SafeParkingLA.org
Motion to submit Community Impact Statement in support of FUSE Report regarding the state of street related infrastructure

Agenda Item: GB071918-10
Date: July 19, 2018
Proposed By: LUED Committee

Background

“As a result of a desire of the Mayor and Council to improve the delivery of public works services, [the Office of the City Administrative Officer] retained a FUSE Corps Fellow, Laila Alequresh, to conduct a review and prepare a report on the state of street related infrastructure… The FUSE Report provides recommendations to address these opportunities and to improve the effectiveness of service delivery. To support City decision makers, the recommendations are separated into three Tiers based on the scale of the recommendations… The following Tier 1 improvements represent significant structural changes that address the fragmented and siloed decision making that currently exists.

The first recommendation moves DOT into Public Works as a Bureau. The second recommendation creates an Office of Infrastructure Management within the Board of Public Works. These changes are expected to provide an organizational structure that allows for better alignment of related work, provide active support for the delivery of transportation and street related services and provide a framework that further strengthens strategic delivery of capital projects.” (Quoted text taken from CAO’s report Evaluation of the State of Street Related Infrastructure, dated November 20, 2017.)

Proposed Motion

Submit a Community Impact Statement (CIS) in support of the FUSE Report’s Tier 1 recommendations. Submit CIS to City Council and Committees to be included in Council File 17-1311.

Considerations

Committee review: (highly recommended)  
Votes For: 4  
Against: 0

Arguments for:

Efforts should be taken to fix City departments’ redundancies and inefficiencies.

Inefficiencies not only inconvenience residents, they cost taxpayers.

Arguments against:

Creating a new city department will cost taxpayers.
Council File: 17-1311

Community Impact Statement
As adopted by vote of the full SORO NC governing board

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Abstain</th>
<th>Recuse</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
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</table>

Date of vote: 19 July 2018

The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council (SORO NC) supports the FUSE Report’s Tier 1 recommendations. The City’s current management of street related infrastructure is wrought with inefficiencies and redundancies, inconveniencing residents and costing taxpayers. We urge the City to take action to fix the “fragmented and siloed decision making that currently exists” by implementing the report’s recommendations.

Submitted by: Doug Fitzsimmons

Doug Fitzsimmons
President

Ken Blaker
Vice-President

Jon Liberman
Treasurer

Beth Hirsch
Secretary

Martin Epstein
Corresponding Secretary

South Robertson
Neighborhoods Council
PO Box 35836
Los Angeles, CA 90035

P: (310) 295-9920
F: (310) 295-9906
E: info@soronc.org

soronc.org
Motion to review and approve 2019 NC Election worksheet preferences

Agenda Item: GB071918-11
Date: 19 July 2018
Proposed By: Executive

Background

Our 2019 NC election will be held in early spring. The City Clerk is asking that the NC provide input on scheduling and other preferences for the election by August 1.

While the NC will need to create an Election working group to co-ordinate NC activities, the Executive committee is recommending the following options:

Election hours: 11am to 5pm (2016 election: 11:30am to 3pm)

Location: Castle Heights Elementary, with Shenandoah as a backup. (2016: at the SORO Fest). While our default location has typically been at Shenandoah, we’re suggesting Castle Heights to mix it up a bit—and additionally schedule an early pop-up voting tent at Reynier Park. We may consider other pop-up locations as well.

Translations: Spanish. Additional translations are $200/pop, and Exec noted we hadn’t received any ballots in Farsi, etc. when we’ve done other languages in the past.

Board contact: we’ll appoint an election chair in the next motion. Open question: who is the back up?

Election type: Poll + online voting. In 2016 we participated in the first online voting pilot, and despite a number of issues, half of our ballots were submitted online. We posit that with those issues addressed (and the venue moved from the Festival), we can increase voting over 2016.

Other: NC elections are usually scheduled on Saturdays. That presents a problem for our Orthodox Jewish community.

A full recap of SORO NC’s elections may be found at http://soronc.org/programs/elections.

Proposed Motion

I. The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council approves the attached Election Preferences Worksheet for the 2019 NC election cycle.

II. SORO NC additionally strongly requests that given the religious requirements of many in our community, our election be scheduled on a Sunday.
## Considerations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee review:</th>
<th>Votes For: 0</th>
<th>Against:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(highly recommended)</td>
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<td></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget:</th>
<th>$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(applies to funding motions only)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arguments for:</th>
<th>Arguments against:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Good to try new things to increase voting turnout. Southeastern voters will still have the opportunity to vote online, at Castle Heights, or at any of the pop-up polling locations, including at Reynier Park.</td>
<td>Shenandoah has been a proven location, and has more parking.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Please use this form to provide the Office of the City Clerk with your Neighborhood Council’s polling place, polling place hours, and translation preferences for the 2019 Neighborhood Council Elections. This worksheet will supplement the policies and procedures in the Neighborhood Council 2019 Election Manual.

Board action is required to confirm the information on this worksheet. If this worksheet is not returned to the City Clerk by AUGUST 1, 2018, the City Clerk will use the election hours, polling place preference, and translation requests established for the 2016 Neighborhood Council Elections.

**PLEASE SUBMIT THIS FORM TO THE CITY CLERK BY AUGUST 1, 2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL:</th>
<th>South Robertson Neighborhoods Council</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ELECTION HOURS</strong> – Select a four or six hour window between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. to conduct your election.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>START TIME</td>
<td>11:00 am/pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TO</td>
<td>5:00 am/pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ELECTION LOCATION</strong> – Provide one polling place within your NC boundaries to conduct your election and an alternative location in the event the first location is unavailable. The City Clerk will verify that this location is available on Election Day, complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act, and has adequate parking. If no location is selected, the City Clerk will first select the location used during the 2016 NC Elections or select a new location.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facility Name</td>
<td>Castle Heights Elementary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>9755 Cattaraugus Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90034</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Location Contact Information</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact Name</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternate Facility Name</td>
<td>Shenandoah Elementary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>2450 S Shenandoah St, Los Angeles, CA 90034</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TRANSLATIONS</strong> – Select additional language(s) for the following forms. After the first language selected, the Neighborhood Council must contribute $200 for each additional language.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Candidate Filing Form:</td>
<td>Spanish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specify requested language(s)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voter Registration Form:</td>
<td>Spanish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specify requested language(s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Polling Place Interpreter:</td>
<td>Spanish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specify requested language(s)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NC ELECTION BOARD CONTACT INFORMATION</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Election Committee Chair:</td>
<td>Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary Contact:</td>
<td>Name</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Optional Election Type – Online Voting or Vote-by-Mail

Online and Vote-By-Mail elections have not been funded for the 2019 NC Elections. If the City Council were to provide funding for either of these options, please indicate your Neighborhood Council’s election option *(select only one option)*:

- [ ] At-poll voting only
- [✓] Online voting, with at-poll voting (for documentation and self-affirmation-type elections)
- [ ] Vote-By-Mail, with at-poll voting (for self-affirmation-type elections only)

If your Neighborhood Council selected online voting or Vote-By-Mail, would your board allocate up to $5,000 or more toward the cost of implementation?  

- [ ] YES
- [X] NO

### Neighborhood Council Approval

By signing below, the President/Chair of the above-named Neighborhood Council declares under the penalty of perjury that the information in this Election Information Worksheet was approved as an official action of the Board per the Neighborhood Council’s Bylaws at a Brown Act-noticed Neighborhood Council public meeting, held with a quorum of the Board present. If requested, the Neighborhood Council will provide the Neighborhood Council agenda, minutes, or resolution supporting the approval of this document.

Date of Board Action: _____________________  Board Vote  

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No
- [ ] Abstentions

President/Chair: __________________________________________

**Name**  

**Signature**  

**Phone**  

**Email**

For more information, please contact the Office of the City Clerk-Election Division at  
(213) 978-0444 or at clerk.electionsnc@lacity.org