



Motion to Submit Letter Supporting Venice Blvd For All

Agenda Item: GB102220-04
Date: October 22, 2020
Proposed By: Transportation Committee

Include motion in Consent Agenda? (No)

Background

Recently, the City of Los Angeles reclaimed control of Venice Boulevard from the California Department of Transportation (CalTrans), including funds to bring the roadway into a state of good repair. This funding represents an opportunity to improve some of the key concerns the community has with Venice Boulevard, such as safety, mobility, emissions/climate change, and quality of life.

To address these pressing concerns, the following items should be prioritized:

1. Protected bicycle/mobility lanes
2. A dedicated 24/7 bus lane
3. Pedestrian improvements (including consistent sidewalks, improved crosswalks, curb extension, sidewalk repairs, leading pedestrian intervals, disabling of pedestrian push buttons, pedestrian-scale lighting)

Accordingly, the Palms Neighborhood Council and Neighbors United of Faircrest Heights recently sent a nearly identical letter.

Proposed Motion

SORO NC shall submit the attached letter.

Considerations

Arguments for:

Fatalities, injuries, and pollution would be reduced by making streets safer and more accessible for bikes, buses, and pedestrians.

Arguments against:

Drivers may be inconvenienced for a few seconds by having to drive more safely.

Charlie Stein
President

Ken Blaker
Vice-President

Jon Liberman
Treasurer

Vacant
Secretary

Olga Lexell
Corresponding Secretary

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October 20, 2020

Seleta Reynolds
General Manager, LADOT
Seleta.reynolds@lacity.org

Herb Wesson
Councilmember, 10th District
email: councilmember.wesson@lacity.org

Paul Koretz
Councilmember, 5th District
email: paul.koretz@lacity.org

Re: Support for Venice Blvd For All

Dear City Leaders,

On behalf of the residents of South Robertson Neighborhoods Council (SORO), we request that the Council Office work with the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) to make improvements to Venice Boulevard.

Recently, the City of Los Angeles reclaimed control of Venice Boulevard from the California Department of Transportation (CalTrans), including funds to bring the roadway into a state of good repair.

SORO believes that the Venice Reclamation Fund represents an opportunity to improve some of the key concerns the community has with Venice Boulevard. Using the funds to simply repave and restripe the street as it would not solve community concerns around safety, mobility, emissions/climate change, and quality of life. Additionally, the Venice Reclamation Fund can and should be used to meet the goals of the City's Mobility Plan 2035, the City's Vision Zero Action Plan, and the City's Green New Deal.

Therefore, SORO requests the following improvements to Venice Boulevard. SORO acknowledges that there are tradeoffs when redesigning a street and requests that the following items be prioritized:

1. Protected bicycle/mobility lanes (as specified in the Mobility Plan 2035)
2. A dedicated 24/7 bus lane (as specified in the Mobility Plan 2035)
3. Pedestrian improvements (including consistent sidewalks, improved crosswalks, curb extension, sidewalk repairs, leading pedestrian

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intervals, disabling of pedestrian push buttons, pedestrian-scale lighting)

Sincerely,

South Robertson Neighborhoods Council



Motion to support proposed 15-unit TOC at 1059 S Holt

Agenda Item:	GB102220-05
Date:	October 22, 2020
Proposed By:	Land Use Committee
Include motion in Consent Agenda?	No

Background

The project team presented this project to the Land Use Committee at their October 6, 2020 meeting. The project consists of 15 units, including 2 units for Extremely Low Income household occupancy. The project is consistent with the by right use per the TOC program.

- Planned height increase from 45' to 57'-7"
- Side yard reduction (2 yards) of 30% from 8' to 5.6'
- Open space reduction of 24.5%

The subject property, located at 1059 S Holt, is just north of the heart of Pico-Robertson. The adjacent properties consist of residential apartments.

The subject property, a single family home, is 6,411 square feet and located in the [Q] R3-1-0 Zone. The proposed building is a 15-unit 5 story apartment project and utilizes a TOC Tier 3 Incentive program to increase FAR from 3:1 to 4.5:1 and a density increase from 9 units to 15 units.

The owner of the single family home is actively involved in the development process. Despite some concerns from neighbors, the project is worthwhile because it creates density without displacing current residents and locates new multi-family development in proximity to transportation corridors and high activity areas acting as a buffer between said transit corridors and commercial development and existing lower density residential development.

The applicant noticed residents within 500 feet of the property for the Land Use Committee meeting. There were some residents in attendance.

The Land Use Committee voted unanimously to recommend the General Board support the project.

Proposed Motion

Submit a letter in support of the application to City Planning Associate Michelle Carter (michelle.carter@lacity.org) to be included in the case file for the proposed 15-unit TOC at 1059 S Holt; DIR-2020-4254-TOC-HCA.

Doug Fitzsimmons
President

Ken Blaker
Vice-President

Jon Liberman
Treasurer

Beth Hirsch
Secretary

Martin Epstein
Corresponding Secretary

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Considerations

Committee review:

Votes For: 7

Against: 0

Arguments for:

The project provides 15 units of much-needed living space in a neighborhood next to a major transit corridor, without displacing any residents.

The project is consistent with by right use for the TOC program.

15 new units – 1 existing units = 14 net new units

Arguments against:

Neighbors expressed concerns over parking allotment and appearance of building.

Bare minimum amount of low income housing for TOC.

Multiple developments already happening in this area.



Michelle Carter
Department of City Planning
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

22 October 2020

Re: Case Number DIR-2020-4254-TOC-HCA

Dear Ms Carter:

I am writing on behalf of the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council (“SORO NC”) to comment on the proposed 15-unit TOC Apartment Building at 1059 S. Holt Ave.

At a duly-noticed meeting of the General Board on October 22, 2020, SORO NC voted 00 yes / 00 no / 00 abstain to recommend that the applicant’s project be approved. The project provides 15 units, including 2 units for Extremely Low Income household occupancy. The project is consistent with the by right use per the TOC program.

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

Sincerely,

Charlie Stein
President, South Robertson Neighborhoods Council

Cc: Aviv Kleinman, Office of Council Member Paul Koretz
Olga Lexell, SORO NC Land Use Committee Chair

Charlie Stein
President

Ken Blaker
Vice-President

Jon Liberman
Treasurer

Vacant
Secretary

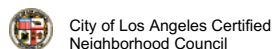
Oga Lexell
Corresponding Secretary

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Motion to support the 57-unit Eldercare Facility at 843-847 S Sherbourne Dr

Agenda Item:	GB102220-06
Date:	September 21, 2020
Proposed By:	Land Use Committee
Include motion in Consent Agenda?	No

Background

The project consists of 56 units in a 7-story, 67-foot high building with 40 automobile parking spaces within 32,120 square feet of floor area. The facility consists of 48 Assisted Living Units and 8 Alzheimer's/Dementia Care Units. A kosher kitchen is a key feature of the building, providing kosher food to those residents that request it. The building adheres to all setbacks except for a raised rear deck and a light well in the front yard. The application includes the following entitlement requests.

- To allow 56 rooms with a height/FAR at 67-feet/4.5:1, consistent with TOC Tier 3.

The subject property, located at 843-847 S Sherbourne Dr, is at the edge of the city border with Beverly Hills. The adjacent properties consist of 2- to 4-story multi-unit apartment buildings.

The applicant noticed residents within 500 feet of the property for the Land Use Committee meeting. There were many residents in attendance to ask questions and provide comment on the building. The majority of commenters were in opposition to the project due to concerns ranging from the size and height of the building to traffic, and the fact that the same developer is already in the process of creating an Eldercare Facility nearby.

The Land Use Committee voted to recommend the General Board support the project contingent on the project team demonstrating at the time of the General Board meeting a good faith effort to address four recurring neighbor concerns: the parking availability in the neighborhood, the design of the building façade, the privacy concerns of the buildings next door, and outreach issues pertaining to the demolishing of currently existing rent-controlled units.

Proposed Motion

Submit a letter in support of the application to City Planning Associate Michelle Carter (michelle.carter@lacity.org) to be included in the case file for the 56-unit Eldercare Facility at 843-847 S Sherbourne Dr.; ZA-2019-7715-ELD.

Doug Fitzsimmons
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Vice-President

Jon Liberman
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Considerations

Committee review:

Votes For: 4

Against: 1

Arguments for:

The project provides 56-units of much-needed senior living space in a neighborhood that allows locals to “age in place.”

While the list of concerns from the neighborhood is long, granting the minimal entitlement request allows for a building that is appropriate for the site and that fits in the existing context of the neighborhood and its aging population.

56 new units – 12 existing units = 44 net new units

Arguments against:

12 market-rate rent-controlled apartments will be demolished (tenants already evicted).

Developer already has existing similar facility close by.

Building design is different from neighborhood’s appearance.

Neighbors felt they were not notified early enough to research.



Michelle Carter
Department of City Planning
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

22 October 2020

Re: Case Number ZA-2019-7715-ELD

Dear Ms Carter:

I am writing on behalf of the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council (“SORO NC”) to comment on the proposed 57-unit Eldercare Facility at 843-847 S. Sherbourne Dr.

At a duly-noticed meeting of the General Board on August 20, 2020, SORO NC voted 00 yes / 00 no / 00 abstain to recommend that the applicant’s project be approved. The project provides 48 Assisted Living Units and 8 Alzheimer’s/Dementia Care Units, including a kosher kitchen to address the needs of the surrounding community. Granting the requested entitlements allows for a building that is appropriate for the site and that fits in the existing context of the neighborhood.

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

Sincerely,

Charlie Stein
President, South Robertson Neighborhoods Council

Cc: Aviv Kleinman, Office of Council Member Paul Koretz
Krystal Návar, SORO NC Land Use Committee Chair

Charlie Stein
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Ken Blaker
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Motion to Write a Letter of Recognition for West LAPD Senior Lead Officers Community Relations

Agenda Item: GB102220-07
Date: October 22, 2020
Proposed By: Public Safety Committee
Include motion in Consent Agenda? NO

Background

In the past four years, the West LAPD Community Relations program has been very successful. In particular, the Senior Lead Officers assigned to the South Robertson area have proven to be great assets in our community, assisting Stakeholders with various issues throughout the neighborhoods.

This letter of recognition offers the appreciation and praise that they deserve, as well as identifies several individual examples of their involvement and dedication.

Charlie Stein
President

Ken Blaker
Vice-President

Jon Liberman
Treasurer

Vacant
Secretary

Olga Lexell
Corresponding Secretary

Proposed Motion

- I. For the SORO NC to send a letter of recognition to West LAPD Captain Jonathan Tom, and CC: Mayor Eric Garcetti, LAPD Chief Michael Moore, Los Angeles Police Commission, Councilmember Herb Wesson, and Councilmember Paul Koretz.

Considerations

Committee review:
(highly recommended)

Votes For: 6

Against: 1

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

\$ N/A

Arguments for:

Officers should get acknowledged for positive actions.

Arguments against:

Praising police might be perceived as tone-deaf to some community members

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Captain Jonathan Tom
West Los Angeles Police Department
1663 Butler Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90025

October 22, 2020

Re: Community Relations and WLAPD Senior Lead Officers

Dear Captain Tom:

The SORO NC would like to recognize the success of the LAPD Community Policing program, and specifically praise the Senior Lead Officers that have been assigned to the South Robertson area over the past 4 years. They have regularly interacted with Stakeholders at Public Safety Committee meetings and are an important part of several annual SORO NC sponsored events such as Coffee with A Cop, SOROFEST and the Los Angeles Homeless Count.

Among the numerous emails, calls and reports the Public Safety Committee has received about LAPD, there has been a growing number of good comments from the community regarding how our SLOs are addressing situations and affecting positive outcomes in their service to South Robertson.

Examples:

- SLO Chris Baker- meeting with Reynier Park neighbors to address various problems (Reynier Park calls to LAPD have significantly decreased since SLO Baker took over.)
- SLO Matt Kirk- meeting with Crestview Neighbors in efforts to reduce home burglaries and thefts.
- SLO Chris Baker and Officer James Allen (Acting SLO)- assisting Social Workers to provide residents of several homeless encampments with City and County Services.
- SLOs Chris Ragsdale and Matt Kirk- mitigating complaints by neighbors of the owner of 8755 W Olympic.
- SLO Chris Baker- Stepped up to expedite LAPD response to a 911 call that was ignored
- SLOs Matt Kirk and Chris Baker- Distributing Fireworks Advisory letter to all the students.
- SLOs Chris Baker and Matt Kirk- Coordinating a successful Citizen Patrol program.
- SLO Chris Baker- Town Hall meetings addressing Anti-Semitism in the Jewish Community
- Neighborhood Watch Meetings (multiple).
- SLO Chris Baker- Personally walking the beat on Pico Blvd., proactively identifying Safety needs of businesses and religious institutions along Pico Blvd.
- SLOs Chris Baker and Matt Kirk- Personal dedication to protecting Houses of Worship from terrorism threats.
- "Active Shooter" Training presentations in the community.
- SLO Matt Kirk- has been very responsive in dealing with Gang graffiti and communication with the WLA Gang unit on their activities.
- SLO Chris Baker- Coordinated with Narcotics officers and City Attorney to shut down illegal marijuana dispensaries and drug trafficking.

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These Senior Lead Officers demonstrate all of the positive attributes that make community policing work. They are a shining example for Senior Lead Officers throughout LAPD to follow, as well as a success story for all Police Officers throughout the country.

The SORO NC and South Robertson Stakeholders hereby recognize Senior Lead Officers Chris Baker, Chris Ragsdale, Matt Kirk, and Officer James Allen for their high level of service, communication, and dedication to the safety of the South Robertson Community.

Sincerely,

Charlie Stein
President
South Robertson Neighborhoods Council

DRAFT



Motion to fund SORO NC business cards by up to \$800

Agenda Item: GB102220-08
Date: October 22, 2020
Proposed By: Executive Committee
Include motion in Consent Agenda? YES

Background

Since we last printed business cards we have had a number of seats and officer positions change.

This motion will provide sufficient funding for cards for up to 13 board members., at \$55 per box.

City business cards help identify us as official City representatives. While we may be able to find less-expensive alternatives, cards printed by the City's General Services Department have the advantage of an engraved and embossed City seal and union label; this is clearly an official City of LA card.

Proposed Motion

To approve up to \$800 in additional funds for the printing of business cards for new SORO NC Board members and for existing members with new titles.

Considerations

Committee review: NA
(highly recommended)

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

Arguments for: Arguments against:

Helps Board members identify themselves to the community and reinforces that the NC is an official City entity.

Charlie Stein
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Ken Blaker
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Motion to add a Standing Rule on submission of motions for Board consideration

Agenda Item: GB102220-09
Date: October 22, 2020
Proposed By: Executive Committee
Include motion in Consent Agenda? YES

Background

At our last General Board meeting some motions were submitted where the action called for required the submission of a letter or a CIS. These were not included with the motion. Under those circumstances Board Members had to vote on measures without knowing what the result of their vote would look like.

Proposed Motion

- I. The Soro NC Standing Rules have a new standing rule added which states that “All motions brought before the Board that require additional written correspondence as a result of a Board vote shall have a draft of said correspondence included with the proposed motion at the time that the motion is first considered by the Board.”

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:

Board Members and the public will know what the proposed result of a motion is.

Members may prefer letting someone else figure out what to say/

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