



Motion to fund up to \$5000 for reusable NC-branded shopping bags

Agenda Item: GB041714-4

Date: 4/17/14

Proposed By: Marjan Safinia

Full Proposal

SORO NC's tote bags with logo are one of the most popular community outreach giveaways we have. Following the recent break-in to our storage space, we have very few bags currently left. With elections coming up in mid-May, and the SoRo Festival in early June, we should replenish our store and invest in this long-lasting item.

There has also been some interest by the Green Team in donating bags to local grocery stores to give away. While there is promise in this idea, we need to establish a method so that the giveaway of the bags increases SORO NC outreach e.g. signing up for our mailing list etc.

Proposed Motion

- I. That SORO NC fund up to \$5000 towards the purchase of branded tote bags for SORO NC outreach
- II. That SORO NC requests an increase in the daily purchase card limit to cover the purchase.

Considerations

Committee review: Votes For: 0 Against: 0

Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget: These funds are currently unspent within the committee's budget

Arguments for:

Super popular outreach item that has consistently been used to improve outreach (festival surveys, voters, town halls etc.)

Unspent funds will be swept and the bags represent a long-term investment in an item we can use and store.

Arguments against:

Cost.

These funds could be spent on other programs.

Doug Fitzsimmons
President

Brian Kite
Vice-President

Terrence Gomes
Treasurer

Beth Ryan
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Motion for \$400 Neighborhood Purposes Grant to SoRo Community Foundation for School Board District One Candidate Forum

Agenda Item: GB041714-5
Date: April 17, 2014
Proposed By: Barry E. Levine

Full Proposal

Shall we fund the \$400 NPG to SORO Foundation to provide facility, lighting, audio, translation and custodial services for the LAUSD Candidate forum to be held on May 1, 2014 at Hamilton High School These services will all be provided through the one payment and are within the accepted budget of \$1000.00 passed by the board.

Proposed Motion

- I. The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council shall fund the facility and services through an NPG for \$400.00 to SORO Foundation

Considerations

Committee review:
(highly recommended)

Votes For:

Against:

Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget: \$1000.00
(applies to funding motions only)

Arguments for:

Arguments against:

This will make our town hall function well

It reduces the outside labor at a greater expense

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Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) Document Submission Checklist

Please review the application and ensure that the following required documentation is included prior to submitting the application to the Department:

- Demand Warrant Form (DW) – completely *filled out by NC*
- NPG Application – completely *filled out by Grantee for SORO inc.*
- W9 Form – completely *filled out by Grantee SORO inc*
- Business Tax Registration Certificate (BTRC) - *from Grantee GOLDMAN*
- IRS Determination Letter – if 501(c)(3) organization *SORO INC*

-or-

- Official Letterhead - *from Public School*
- Project budget - *from Grantee*
- Signed Board Resolution (including Public Benefit Statement) on NC Letterhead - *from NC*



Motion to request the immediate beginning of the public process to update the Century City Specific Plan

Agenda Item: GB041714-6
Date: 17 April 2014
Proposed By: Doug Fitzsimmons

Full Proposal

First passed in 1981, the Century City North Specific Plan (CCNSP) established parameters and limits on the development of residential and commercial properties. A copy of that plan may be found online at <http://cityplanning.lacity.org/complan/specplan/pdf/cencityn.pdf>

Specific Plans, like LA's larger-area Community Plans, are dynamic documents. Their purpose, as described in the Governor's Office of Planning and Research's "Planner's Guide to Specific Plans," is to establish "a link between implementing policies of the general plan and the individual development proposals in a defined area...A specific plan may be developed in response to a single policy issue, or to address each applicable policy of the general plan."

The general recommendation is to revisit them every 10 years; by that measure, the 33 year-old CCNSP is critically overdue for revision. Given the acute traffic and development issues on the Westside, creating an up-to-date CCNSP is particularly important and pressing.

Indeed, JMB Realty's proposed Century City Center project throws the CCNSP's declining relevancy into high relief. JMB argues that the trip limits assigned to each parcel are no longer accurate, and their own traffic analysis shows that today a commercial office building generates roughly 1/3 of the car trips the Plan thinks it should. They are therefore proposing to use this lower trip generation factor for their particular project.

The concern is that if JMB's argument is accepted by the City, it may serve as a template for future developers and so render a key part of the old Plan effectively useless.

The planned Westside Subway extension will certainly again change the transportation makeup of Century City, and is often used as an argument for delaying changes to the CCNSP. However, even Metro's optimistic projections don't call for the Century City stop to be completed for another twelve years—right at the time when the CCNSP should be looked at again.

Changes to the Plans that guide our City's development should be made via processes that are open and solicit public input, rather than through ad hoc rulings. It is therefore critical that the City's Planning Department begin the public process of revising the CCNSP immediately, before JMB's argument becomes precedent.

Proposed Motion

- I. That in response to acute community and developer dissatisfaction with the 1981 Century City North Specific Plan (CCNSP), SORO NC officially requests that the City Council direct the Department of City Planning to immediately

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begin a public review and amendment of said Plan, and provide funds to complete the process in a reasonable and timely manner;

- II. That during the public process of reviewing and amending the CCNSP, the City places a moratorium on the use of alternative calculations of trip generation factors, as described in Section 6 of the current Plan.

Considerations

Committee review: Votes For: 0 Against: 0

Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget: n/a

Arguments for:

With modern working and shopping patterns, the assumptions that underlie the CCNSP are 23 years out of date.

The traffic on the Westside has become a nightmare. Responsive specific plans are a great tool for managing growth in a way that protects residents.

Providing clear, up-to-date rules for developers minimizes costly and divisive battles with residents.

A review process would be open and include public input

Arguments against:

We'll have to revisit the plan once the Purple line opens in 12 or so years.

It's difficult to balance the needs of developers and residents.

Savvy organized groups can leverage developers' requests for variances to get them to fund pet projects.

Revising specific plans can be costly