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H C N C
Historic Cultural Neighborhood Council



HISTORIC CULTURAL
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
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General Board Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, January 22, 2008, 6:00 p.m.
RSA, 953 E Third St, LA CA 90013

Parking on Street and behind security gate – someone will be there to let board members in.

Comments from the public on Agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters within the Board's jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless waived by the presiding officer of the Board. Members of the public who wish to speak are requested to fill out a Speaker's Card and submit it to the Secretary. The Agenda is posted for public review at HCNC 305 E 1st St; Bloom's General Store 716 Traction Ave; Chinatown Public Library 639 N Hill St; La Luz del Dia 107 Paseo de la Plaza; Little Tokyo Koban 307 E 1st Street; Solano Elementary School 615 Solano Ave; and Eastside Market 1013 Alpine St. As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting the Neighborhood Council Project Coordinator, Gabriela Quintana at 323 224 2317.

1. Call to Order & Roll Call – Kim Benjamin
2. Public Comments for youths and seniors: 5 minutes
3. Approval of Minutes December 11, 2007 – Jose Luis Sedano
4. Vacant Board Seats – Discussion and Action
 - 4a. At-Large Youth
 - 4b. Little Tokyo Resident
5. President's Report & Action Items, Kim Benjamin
 - 5a. City Wide M-Zoning: HCNC Support for motions to allow for proper public input on matter. 2 attachments.
 - 5b. CRA North Chinatown Industrial Specific Plan: Mike Fong
 - 5c. River Plan City Approval: Mike Fong
 - 5d. Misc: Development Project updates and HCNC Sponsored Community Project updates and action items for Arts District, Chinatown: 924 N Spring St, El Pueblo, Little Tokyo, Solano Canyon, and Victor Heights CALL FOR PROJECTS.
6. Action Committee: Discussion and action items on neighborhood projects and expenditures, Brian Kito
 - 6a. Arts District Projects and Action Items.
 - 6b. Chinatown Projects and Action Items.
 - 6b1. Chinatown Signage Project.
 - 6c. El Pueblo Projects and Action Items.
 - 6d. Little Tokyo Projects and Actions Items.
 - 6e. Solano Canyon Projects and Action Items.
 - 6f. Victor Heights Projects and Action Items.
 - 6g. At-Large Projects and Action Items.
 - 6g1. Youth Outreach
 - 6g2. At-Large contingent community programs that cover whole HCNC.
 - 6g3. LA City's Alameda & 1st RFP: Tim Keating. Recommendations on proposals.
 - 6g4. Visual Communication's Beta tape clean and transfer project and presentation.
7. Election Committee Report and Action Items: Alan Kumamoto
8. Treasurer's Report: David Nagano

9. Public Comments
10. Next Meeting & Announcements, change in meetings dates/times, posting locations and process, action items, possible bylaw change.
Meeting dates for first half of 2008:
Tues, February 12, 2008
Tues, March 11, 2008
Tues, May 13, 2008
Tues, June 10, 2008
11. New Business
12. Old Business
13. Adjournment

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MOTION

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PLANNING & LAND USE MANAGEMENT

The Planning Department and the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) have developed an *Industrial Land Use Policy Project*. Preliminary recommendations for the proposed policy were introduced to the City Council in 2006. It is stated intention that the proposed policy would be brought to City Council for consideration after a full community process. The proposed policy has now been revised and is to be presented to the City Planning Commission and CRA Board in January 2008. However, it has lacked considerable public input, and the Planning Department and CRA now describe the proposed policy as an "administrative guideline" which need not be brought to City Council.

The proposed policy is intended to direct staff on the processing of entitlements in industrial districts in the greater Downtown area, Boyle Heights, Southeast Los Angeles, West Los Angeles and Hollywood/Wilshire. It is also meant to guide short and long-term decisions made by City staff developing new Community Plans, Specific Plans, Overlay Districts, and other long range efforts.

While the Planning Department and CRA's proposed policy directive to staff does not, by itself, change current land use designations with respect to industrial land, it does not simply instruct staff to implement current zoning without making policy decisions. To the contrary, it would instruct staff to approve or deny applications for parcel-by-parcel zone changes and other entitlements based not on current zoning, but on what the Planning Department and CRA feel the zoning will be after future decisions are made by Council when long-range plans are revised. It also instructs staff of goals to revise zoning in various districts to achieve certain objectives.

The proposed policy categorizes industrial lands into four types for entitlement processing purposes:

- *Employment Protection Districts*: industrial zoning should be maintained as zoned. A long-term goal for "Employment Protection Districts" is to revise zoning to prohibit non-industrial uses and uses that compromise job-producing potential.
- *Industrial Mixed Use Districts*: should remain industrial, but may support residential not currently allowed by the zone, with community benefits such business relocation, job training, affordable housing, open space, and infrastructure improvements. A long-term goal of "Industrial Mixed-Use Districts" is to revise zoning to identify and encourage industrial and employment uses that complement one another;
- *Transition Districts*: the viability of industrial use is compromised and other uses should be allowed, despite current zoning to the contrary;
- *Correction Areas*: current zoning should be changed to correct previous errors and inappropriate patterns.

Policy decisions of this magnitude should not be made by staff citywide without due consideration by the City's elected policy-making body- the City Council, and after a public process.

The proposed policy is laudably motivated by the goal to preserve jobs, and it also proposes a long-needed revision to antiquated zoning codes, and the development of comprehensive economic investment strategies. However, the Planning Department and CRA should receive direction from the Council as to its intentions for future changes to Community Plans, Specific Plans, Overlay Districts, and other long range planning efforts before giving instructions to City staff about which current industrial lands should be considered Protection Districts, Industrial Mixed-Use Districts, Transition Districts and Correction Districts.

Once adopted by the Council, this policy will help our City, our Planning Department, and our City Planning Commission and the CRA avoid numerous appeals and repeated Charter jurisdictional actions, and will allow us all to offer more efficiency and predictability in the entitlement process, because decisions made by City staff under the direction of the policy will represent Council's intentions for long-term planning in industrial areas of our City.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the recommendations of the Planning Department and CRA's *Industrial Land Use Policy Project*, along with ideas and proposals which may be introduced by the Council, members of the public, the City Planning Commission and CRA Board, be considered by the Planning & Land Use Management Committee and Council within 30 days and before this or any related policy is implemented.

PRESENTED BY Jose Huizar
Jose Huizar
Councilmember, 14th District

SECONDED BY Jane
07-0486-SI

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MOTION

On January 3, 2008 the Community Redevelopment Agency and the Planning Department issued what purports to be an Industrial Land Use Policy for Los Angeles with directions to staff to implement the policy.

This action was taken in the face of and with complete disregard to three related motions currently pending before the City Council on the purported Industrial Land Use Policy. The first Motion (CF 07-0486) was approved by the Planning and Land Use Management (PLUM) Committee and spoke to the need for formal public review of the policy by community stakeholders. The second motion (CF 07-0486) spoke to the need for the City Council to review and legislate this policy and hold public hearings. And the third motion (CF 07-0486 S-1) again directly addressed the need for the elected legislative body of the City to consider this policy before it is implemented.

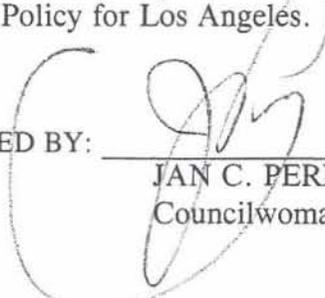
The January 3 document is not being voted on by the Planning Commission or the CRA Board and its attempted promulgation is designed to circumvent the normal review and approval processes for new policies. Although the policy will not initiate zone changes and is supposed to serve as a guide for future land use and community benefit decisions, any document that will determine land use and community benefit decisions needs to be reviewed through the established public process of City Planning Commission, PLUM committee, Council, and the Mayor. In addition, there has been inadequate public outreach regarding the purported Industrial Land Use Policy. Although City Planning and the CRA held a public meeting on January 3rd the 'policy' was not available for public review prior to the meeting. Therefore the January 3, 2008 Industrial Land Use Policy should be transmitted to Council for review and approval.

Most significantly the thrust of the purported Industrial Land Use Policy raises serious public policy issues and concerns which must be resolved not administratively but by the City's legislative body. Although maintaining industrial land in the City of Los Angeles is part of our General Plan Framework element the purported Industrial Land Use Policy attempts to make this 'policy' more important than any other element within the General Plan Framework without proper review. Neither the City Planning department nor the CRA have the legal authority to establish what is effectively a new policy.

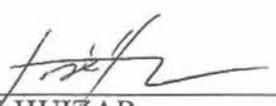
The importance of industrial land to the City of Los Angeles is unquestioned and it is especially for this reason that any attempt to establish a policy governing it should be implemented properly through the legislative process that includes community input and Council review.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Attorney be directed to prepare and present within 30 days an ordinance to prohibit the implementation of the January 3, 2008 Community Redevelopment Agency and Planning Department document purporting to be an Industrial Land Use Policy for Los Angeles.

PRESENTED BY:



JAN C. PERRY
Councilwoman, 9th District



JOSE HUIZAR
Councilmember, 14th District

SECONDED BY:



January 11, 2008
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