

December XX, 2020

To: Vincent P. Bertoni, Director of City Planning; Shana M. M. Bonstin, Community Planning;
Paul Koretz, Council District 5 Representative

The Palms Neighborhood Council supports transparency in City Planning. The Palms-Mar Vista-Del Rey Community Plan is going through its approval process too quickly and we urge the Department of City Planning to include more opportunity for public comment. We will be living with this Community Plan for a long time and we want to make sure it is as good as it can be before it is approved.

The Palms Neighborhood Council requests a minimum 6-month delay in the process to allow the following activities to take place.

- The Department of City Planning published its Draft Concepts for public comment. We appreciate the opportunity to comment during the draft phase. The next planned public comment period is during the EIR review. There is a missing step. The public must have the opportunity to weigh in after the creation of the draft plan and before the start of the EIR process. If comment on a draft plan is not feasible, we would accept a comment period on updated Draft Concepts. Either way, it is improper to issue a Notice of Preparation or a Draft Environmental Impact Report for a draft plan that the stakeholders have not seen and reviewed.
- The Palms Neighborhood Council also requests the Department of City Planning to conduct an assessment of how the Covid-19 pandemic and possible future pandemics will impact current and future mobility, housing, design, environment, and health and safety needs.
- We would like to see current and future data projections that are relevant to updating our Community Plan so we can have greater insight into the factors driving the proposed plan.
- Finally, the process needs to include additional outreach to all stakeholders. Everybody impacted by the Community Plan needs to be made aware of the process and ability to participate in it. No stakeholders should be left uninformed.

We appreciate the excellent work being done by the people working on the Community Plan. Our goal now is to increase stakeholder participation and make sure we review the draft Community Plan that comes out of the Draft Concepts comment period.