



PACIFIC PALISADES COMMUNITY COUNCIL

September 14, 2015

Hon. Councilmember Mike Bonin, mike.bonin@lacity.org
Hon. Councilmember Paul Koretz, paul.koretz@lacity.org
Mr. Michael LoGrande, Department of City Planning, Michael.logrande@lacity.org
Mr. Tom Rothmann, Department of City Planning, tom.rothman@lacity.org
Ms. Phyllis Nathanson, Department of City Planning, Phyllis.nathanson@lacity.org
Los Angeles City Hall
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Via Email

Re: CF 11-1705, 08-2020, 08-3386-S1; CITYWIDE Sign Ordinance; PPCC Seeks Delay in CPC Hearing Date to Allow for Public Participation

Hon. Councilmembers and City Planning Department Officials:

Pacific Palisades Community Council (PPCC) is the most broadly-based community organization and the voice of the Palisades since 1973. At its regular meeting on September 10, 2015 PPCC's board discussed the expected release of the staff report on the above referenced matter (on or about September 17, 2015) and the scheduling of the related CPC hearing only one week later. The board of PPCC passed the following motion:

"A. Background. The CPC's standing rules with respect to responses to a staff report substantially limit responses to no more than ten pages, twenty copies of which must be delivered to the Commission no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting (see "City Planning Commission Policy for Submittal of Written Materials on Agendized Items" paragraph (b)). Under the currently proposed schedule, if the community is fortunate enough to have the staff report by September 17, community members will have only two working days to file their written responses, or will be limited to two-page letters. There is simply insufficient time for community members to review and address the many complexities contained within the ordinance and express those views to the CPC under the CPC's rules and the net result will undoubtedly be that community input on the ordinance will be substantially burdened.

B. Motion. PPCC hereby requests that more time be provided between issuance of the staff report and the CPC hearing, i.e., were the Planning Department to release its staff report on or about September 17 as currently anticipated, then the ordinance should be scheduled for public hearing before the CPC on October 8, but in no event earlier than two weeks following eventual release of the report."

PPCC remains concerned with the substance of the yet-to-be-released staff report relative to: (1) advertising in city parks and recreational facilities, (2) negative impacts on private and public school campuses, (3) spillover effects, traffic safety, energy use, and aggregate impacts of new digital displays, (4) negative impacts on scenic ridgelines and open space, (5) negative impacts on county beaches and the California coastline, (6) exceptions from regulation in specific plan areas, (7) allowances for adjustments permitted without a public hearing and appeals process, (8) exemption of signs in public rights of way (PROW), (9) the ability of property owners to retain their right of private action.

This complex ordinance has been in the legislative process for over 6 years and PPCC, along with residents and city leaders particularly from CD11 and CD5, have spent thousands of hours on this matter. There is no reason to not allow NCs, CCs and stakeholders a reasonable time period (something more than a week and 60 days) to review the staff report and engage in a meaningful public discussion.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Christina Spitz
President,
Pacific Palisades Community Council

cc:

Debbie Dyner-Harris, District Director, CD11, debbie.dynerharris@lacity.org
Sharon Dickinson, Legislative Assistant, PLUM Committee, sharon.dickinson@lacity.org, **with n
request for filing in CF 11-170**