

February

Resolution supporting Mar Vista Schools

Whereas our schools are an integral part of our community, and

Whereas the Mar Vista Community Council, and the community it serves, strongly values our neighborhood schools and supports their efforts to enhance their students educational experience and attract students from our neighborhood to our schools; and

Whereas, as a result of district-wide austerity measures, LAUSD budgets do not adequately support many community-supported enhancements to our children’s educational experience—and even some basic needs—such as:

- A composting program to transform the compulsory “Breakfast in the Classroom” mandate from a classroom refuse problem into a composting program that teaches nutrition and ecology and supports the thriving learning garden program at Grand View Elementary;
- Dual language resources to support and grow a French dual language immersion program initiated by Richland Elementary School;
- Outdoor play equipment, such as functional basketball nets and refurbished backboards, as expressly addresses neighbors' concerns from the community surrounding Mark Twain Middle School;
- Robotics equipment to enable Webster Middle School to expand its popular robotics programs beyond a single classroom and reach more of the students eager to learn;
- Walgrove Elementary School’s annual Game Day that reaches out to the community to showcase its exciting Studio Lab program;
- Wheel-locking skateboard lockers at Venice High School that would provide safe storage for student’s boards and allowing them to focus on their studies, encourage “green” transportation mode that reduces vehicular congestion, and improve student attendance; and

Whereas, despite high poverty rates at many of our schools, parents have made significant contributions toward educational enhancements at their schools; and

Whereas identifying the most critical needs to present as a Neighborhood Purpose Grant or Community Improvement Project to MVCC requires an enormous time investment by school staff and community volunteers; and

Whereas MVCC needs to reserve funds for operational and outreach expenses as well as for unforeseen community needs and priorities, making it difficult to support NPG requests until near the end of its fiscal year; and

Whereas holding its mandated council election at the end of its fiscal year exacerbates this problem; and

Whereas schools need to receive NPG funding early in the school year in order to spend the grant money as intended by MVCC; and

Whereas community council funds do not carry over to the next fiscal year;

Let it be resolved that the Mar Vista Community Council requests a rule change to allow Neighborhood Purpose Grant and Community Improvement Project funding approved by a neighborhood council before the end of its fiscal year to be spent by schools in the next fiscal year.

Additionally, let it be resolved that MVCC encourages board, committee and community members to assist in finding alternative funding sources for these worthy projects.

Resolution supporting animal rights

The Mar Vista Community Council supports [Council File 15- 0843](#) (see Attachment A) by Councilmember Paul Koretz and Mitch O’Farrell and urges the City to -

1. INSTRUCT the Department of Animal Services (DAS) and the Housing and Community investment Department (HCID) to solicit input from stakeholders in the Los Angeles rental housing market in regard to approaches that could facilitate the expansion of animal adoptions by tenants in residential rental properties to include.

Programs to better inform tenants of their rights in regard to animal ownership while taking into consideration the welfare of the animals.

Concerns, in regard to both financial issues and physical property, that landlords and other tenants may have

2. INSTRUCT the DAS and HCID to review programs and concepts in other cities to determine if their provisions should be considered as a basis for developing approaches applicable in the City of Los Angeles.

98 percent of Denver properties accept cats and 93 percent accept small dogs. Yet 62 percent of Los Angeles rental properties refuse animals completely. This is considered to be a major obstacle to achieving no kill shelters. With a critical shortage of housing in Los Angeles, having to find housing that accepts pets makes it even more challenging. The MVCC applauds and thanks the Councilmembers for taking action on this issue.

Martin Expo Town Center Project, 12101 W. Olympic Blvd., Case Nos. TT-72298-MU; ENV-2012-3063-EIR; CPC-2013-2567-GPA-VZC-HD- CU-MCUB-CUX-ZV-ZAD-SPR; CPC-2015-4455-DA

WHEREAS, traffic in West Los Angeles surrounding the Martin Expo Town Center Project is in gridlock at every major nearby intersection, especially during "rush hours"; and WHEREAS, it is unknown but anticipated that traffic will become even more impacted once Phase 2 of the Metro Expo Line begins operation, especially as a result of a number of "at grade" crossings, including the nearby crossing on Barrington Ave.; and

WHEREAS, it is unknown but anticipated that, in order to avoid "at grade" crossings, commuters will divert their traffic patterns to "above grade" crossing streets, including Bundy Dr. where the Martin Town Center Project is located; and

WHEREAS, it is unknown but anticipated that, once Phase 2 of the Metro Expo Line begins operation, streets surrounding the Project, including side and residential streets, will be impacted as riders commute by car and bike to and from the adjacent Expo/Bundy station:

NOW, THEREFORE, the Mar Vista Community Council strongly recommends that the City Planning Department put any approvals relating to the Martin Expo Town Center Project on hold, pending a new traffic study after Phase 2 of the Metro Expo Line starts operation, as this will allow the City to better determine the Project's full impact on traffic.

WRAC Motion RE: Conditional Use Beverage (CUB) Permits for Alcohol Authority of City Zoning Administrators to Impose Conditions of Approval to Mitigate Potential Land Use Impacts Arising from the Sale or Service of Alcoholic Beverages That Are Adverse to Public Health, Safety and Welfare

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles has imposed land use conditions in Conditional Use Beverage (CUB) permits for decades to protect public health, safety and welfare by mitigating potential impacts due to the sale or service of alcohol, as recommended by the LAPD, Council Offices, neighborhood councils, community councils, and local residents; and

WHEREAS, the Department of City Planning suddenly reversed this decades-long practice in 2012, on the advice of the City Attorney's Office, with no public notice, no public process, no public hearings, and no direction from the City Council, which is charged with policy-making authority; and

WHEREAS, Zoning Administrators now unilaterally and without notice use the Plan Approval Process to remove previously-imposed conditions designed to avoid or mitigate actual or potential land use impacts adverse to public health, safety and welfare; and

WHEREAS, municipalities throughout the State of California have and continue to impose land use conditions to mitigate adverse impacts that may otherwise arise from the sale or service of alcohol, including the Cities of Santa Monica, West Hollywood, Palmdale, Lancaster, Huntington Park, Montebello, Orange, San Bernardino, Pinole, Ventura, San Buenaventura, Santa Cruz, Hayward, Walnut Creek, Watsonville, and the County of Los Angeles, among others; and

WHEREAS, the City's current practice undermines the ability of the City and local communities to protect against potential land use impacts that are adverse to public

health, safety and welfare, including but not limited to potential nuisances, by restricting the imposition of conditions on, among other things, hours of sale of alcohol, happy hours, container sizes, types of alcohol sold, and other similar rules and regulations, despite the efficacy of such conditions in avoiding or mitigating potential adverse impacts arising from the sale or service of alcohol; and

WHEREAS, California courts have repeatedly affirmed that municipalities have broad police powers to impose land use conditions that protect against potentially adverse impacts on public health, safety and welfare arising from the sale or service of alcohol; and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) has not advised the City that the imposition of such land use conditions interferes with ABC's enforcement of State law; and

WHEREAS, implementation of this new policy not only impairs the ability of the LAPD, Council Offices, and communities to protect public health, safety and welfare, but also interferes with the ability of CUB applicants to garner support for their projects by negotiating for the imposition of mutually agreed-upon conditions, as had been done for decades before the current practice was imposed, which forces communities to oppose projects they could otherwise support with proper conditions:

NOW, THEREFORE, be it Resolved that the Mar Vista Community Council calls upon the City Council to ~~adopt~~ evaluate a policy to: (1) Authorize the imposition of land use conditions that protect public health, safety and welfare by mitigating potential adverse impacts from the sale or service of alcohol, consistent with the practice of other jurisdictions statewide as well as the City's decades-long practice prior to 2012; (2) Maintain and enforce previously-imposed CUB conditions on the sale or service of alcohol; and (3) Prohibit the removal of previously-imposed conditions outside the public processes mandated under the City Charter and Zoning Code.