



Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning

Planning for the Challenges Ahead



Richard J. Bruckner
Director

September 23, 2014

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

HEARING ON EAST LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY STANDARDS DISTRICT UPDATE

**PROJECT NO. R2014-00878-(1)
ADVANCE PLANNING NO. 201400002-(1)
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NO. 201400077-(1)
(FIRST SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT) (3-VOTES)**

SUBJECT

This action is to amend the East Los Angeles Community Standards District (CSD) which was adopted by your Board on April 28, 1988.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD, AFTER THE PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Consider the attached Negative Declaration, find on the basis of the whole record before your Board that there is no substantial evidence that the project will have a significant effect on the environment, find that the Negative Declaration reflects the independent judgment and analysis of your Board, and adopt the Negative Declaration.
2. Approve the recommendation of the Regional Planning Commission (RPC) to amend the County Code to update the East Los Angeles CSD as reflected in the draft ordinance.
3. Indicate the Board's intent to approve the CSD update (Advance Planning No. 201400002) along with the Negative Declaration (Environmental Assessment No. 201400077).
4. Instruct County Counsel to prepare the final ordinance amending the County Code as recommended by the RPC and submit to the Board for its consideration.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Section 22.44.090 of the Los Angeles County Zoning Ordinance establishes a CSD “to provide a means to implement special development standards contained in adopted neighborhood, community, area, specific and local coastal plans within the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County, or to provide a means of addressing special land use issues that are unique to certain geographic areas within the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County.” Your Board has established CSDs for numerous unincorporated areas, and they have been an effective tool for enhancing the environment and quality of life in unique and diverse communities throughout the County.

The project is an update to the East Los Angeles CSD to revise and establish new development standards for future development in residential, commercial and industrial zones to enhance the aesthetics of the community; encourage pedestrian oriented development as well as reinvestment in existing older buildings; and streamline the process for modification of CSD development standards. No property-specific zone or land use changes are proposed as part of the CSD update.

The CSD update is consistent with the policies of the currently adopted Countywide General Plan and East Los Angeles Community Plan.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The CSD update promotes Goal 1 of the County’s Strategic Plan (Operational Effectiveness/Fiscal Sustainability), Goal 2 (Community Support and Responsiveness), and Goal 3 (Integrated Service Delivery). The proposed CSD update provides an efficient process for development by establishing standards appropriate for the unique conditions of the East Los Angeles community. Moreover, it would ensure that development would undergo review procedures that will preserve the community’s unique character.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Implementation of the proposed ordinance will have no impact on County review or result in significant new costs to the Department of Regional Planning or other County departments. Adoption of this ordinance will not result in the need for additional departmental staffing. Therefore, a request for financing is not being made at this time.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

A public hearing is required pursuant to Section 22.16.200 of the County Code and Section 65856 of the Government Code. Required notice must be given pursuant to the procedures and requirements set forth in Section 22.60.174 of the County Code. These procedures exceed the minimum standards of Section 6061, 65090, and 65856 of the Government Code relating to notice of public hearing.

On July 23, 2014, the RPC conducted a public hearing and it was continued to August 6, 2014 to receive testimony in response to the CSD and its associated California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Negative Declaration. Staff gave a summary presentation of the proposed project and requested a continuance in conjunction with the East Los Angeles 3rd Street Plan Project. There were no testifiers present.

On August 6, 2014, the RPC held a public hearing. There were no testifiers present. The RPC closed the public hearing and adopted a motion instructing staff to prepare the CSD and Negative Declaration and forward it to the Board of Supervisors for adoption. The Commission also adopted a resolution recommending that the Board of Supervisors amend Title 22 to update the East Los Angeles CSD and associated boundary map.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The attached Initial Study shows that there is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before your Board, that the adoption of the proposed ordinance will have a significant effect on the environment. Therefore, a Negative Declaration (SCH No. 2014061098) was prepared in accordance with Section 15070 of CEQA guidelines.

Based on the attached Negative Declaration, adoption of the proposed ordinance will not have a significant effect on the environment.

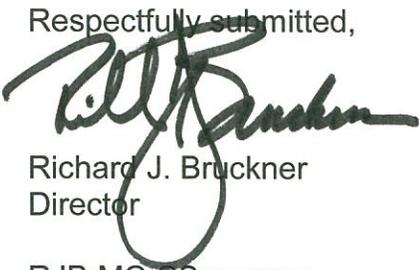
IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Approval of the proposed ordinance will not significantly impact County Services.

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Should you have any questions, please contact Carmen Sainz at (213) 974-6425 or via email at csainz@planning.lacounty.gov.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard J. Bruckner
Director

RJB:MC:CS:cs:ems

Attachments:

1. Regional Planning Commission Project Summary
2. Summary of Regional Planning Commission Proceedings
3. Regional Planning Commission Hearing Packages
4. Regional Planning Commission Resolution
5. Draft Ordinance
6. Environmental Document (Negative Declaration and Initial Study)
7. CSD Boundary Map

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
Chief Executive Office
County Counsel