

JAN 29 2008

MOTION TRANSPORTATION

In July 2007, the City Council authorized funding for the Department of City Planning to begin the evaluation of the West Los Angeles Community Plan, the Land Use Element of the City's General Plan, last updated in 1999. The West Los Angeles Community Plan is currently under review pursuant to the Department of City Planning's New Community Plan work program and will include an Environmental Impact Report. Since the adoption of the West Los Angeles Community Plan in 1999, market conditions have changed in the area creating an increased demand for the construction of residential and commercial development. Existing land uses and traffic patterns have contributed to a rise in traffic congestion which has impacted the quality of life of residents in the West Los Angeles area, accelerating the need to improve roads, enhance local transit service, and promote multi-modal transit options.

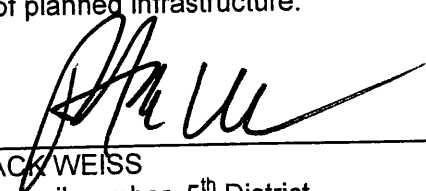
As part of the West Los Angeles Community Plan, the Department of Planning should link land uses to new capital improvements, including traffic infrastructure improvements. Incorporating a Nexus Study as part of the new Community Plan for West Los Angeles would link land uses to new capital improvements in the area, and assign a fair share of the cost of infrastructure improvements and programs required by new development projects.

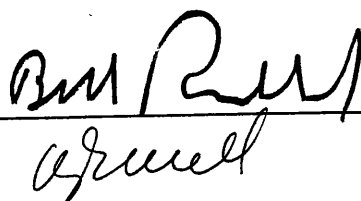
As an immediate measure, while the Department of Planning updates the West Los Angeles Community Plan, the Department of Transportation should review and update the West Los Angeles Transportation Improvement Mitigation Specific Plan (WLA TIMP Specific Plan). The WLA TIMP was established on March 8, 1997 to provide a mechanism to fund specific transportation improvements generated by new development within the Westside region. The list of transportation improvement projects is out-dated. Section 5.E.2 of the West LA TIMP Specific Plan ordinance includes a provision allowing the transportation improvements listed in Appendix "C" of the Ordinance to be revised every two years by providing substitute or additional improvements to the list. Such revisions require the City Council to determine that, upon recommendation by DOT, the substitute or additional improvements are consistent with the Ordinance and that substitute improvements fulfill the transportation objectives of the improvement which it is to replace. To facilitate and inform the WLA TIMP update process, an independent study of Westside regional traffic has been commissioned to identify current needs and opportunities for infrastructure improvements. DOT should review and include the results of this study as the WLA TIMP improvement list is updated.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council authorize the Department of City Planning to expend an amount not to exceed \$250,000 from the WLA TIMP Fund for costs incurred related to the planning and environmental analysis required for preparation of a Nexus Study.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Department of City Planning (DCP) be directed to retain a consultant to prepare a Nexus Study to evaluate the proportional impacts of new development on the need for additional infrastructure in conjunction with the Environmental Impact Report for the West Los Angeles Community Plan.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Departments of Transportation, City Planning and the City Attorney work cooperatively to amend the West Los Angeles Transportation Improvement Mitigation Specific Plan to reflect an up-to-date list of planned infrastructure.

PRESENTED BY: 
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SECONDED BY: 
Bill Russell

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