

08-2020

Terry M. Speth
4325 Victoria Park Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90019

May 24, 2009

Honorable City Council
City Hall, Room 395
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90019

RE: Council File 08-2020, CPC-2009-0008-CA
& CPC-2008-6814

I urge you to remove the unbuilt Midtown Crossing Shopping Center from the list of sign districts proposed for addition to the list recommended by the City Planning Commission.

Overriding the City Planning Commission regarding the criteria for sign districts will set a precedent for future overrides at sites designated Community Commercial in other community plan areas. In the case of the Midtown Crossing, the property is not only designated Community Commercial on the Wilshire Community Plan, but it is entitled and under a single owner. The owner has the option of obtaining exactly the same result requested in his sign district application through a Conditional Use Plan Approval process available in LAMC 12.24-M. Taking this course would not fly in the face of recent Planning Commission action.

The developer can argue that filing for the Midtown Crossing Sign District was done in keeping with City Planning Department policy in effect at the time. However, a relatively minor financial hardship, while painful, should not trump "good planning practice" in this instance. Please delete the Midtown Crossing and recommend refunding their filing fees.

Sincerely,

Terry M. Speth

Cc: Hon. Herb J. Wesson
City Planning Commission
Patricia Diefenderfer, Commission
Hearing Officer
Steve Portigiani, Victoria Park
Neighborhood Association