COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR, EDUCATION AND NEIGHBORHOODS COMMITTEE relative to an application to name a community Koreatown.

Recommendations for Council action:

1. APPROVE the application relative to naming a community Koreatown, bounded roughly by Olympic Boulevard from Western Avenue to Vermont Avenue on the south, Vermont Avenue from Olympic Boulevard to Third Street on the east, Third Street from Vermont Avenue to Western Avenue on the north, Western Avenue from Third Street to Olympic Boulevard, including a business corridor along Western Avenue from Third Street to Rosewood Avenue situated inside the East Hollywood area on the west. The proposed boundaries include both sides of the street.

2. INSTRUCT all relevant departments to perform the necessary requirements to effectuate the naming of this community, including, but not limited to, the installation of signs.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the Chief Legislative Analyst nor the City Administrative Officer have completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None

SUMMARY

In the application submitted on February 10, 2009, the community boundaries were listed as Melrose Avenue on the north, Pico Boulevard on the south, Vermont Avenue and Hoover Street on the east, and Crenshaw Boulevard and Wilton Place on the west. In a transmittal dated May 18, 2009, the Bureau of Engineering stated that the area described in the application is a part of Country Club Park, Koreatown, Pico Union, Wilshire Center, Hancock Park and Melrose community areas. The Bureau also noted that the proposed area extends into the Olympic Park Neighborhood Council (NC), Pico Union NC, MacArthur Park NC, Greater Wilshire NC, Olympic Park NC, and Wilshire Center - Koreatown NC areas.

On April 13, 2010, this matter was considered by the Committee. Members of the community were opposed to the community naming request. The Committee continued this matter in order to give the various parties an opportunity to discuss their concerns and to develop a resolution.

At a regular meeting held on August 11, 2010, the Education and Neighborhood Committee revisited the application request. Members from the community and the applicant informed the Committee that after extensive discussions, a compromise was reached, and requested that the Committee approve the revised boundaries for the Koreatown community to be as follows: Olympic Boulevard from Western Avenue to Vermont Avenue on the south, Vermont Avenue from Olympic Boulevard to Third Street on the east, Third Street from Vermont Avenue to Western Avenue on the north, Western Avenue from Third Street to Olympic Boulevard,
including a business corridor along Western Avenue from Third Street to Rosewood Avenue situated inside the East Hollywood area on the west.

An opportunity for public comment was held. The Chief Legislative Analyst provided background information for the Committee. After the discussion, the Committee recommended Council approve the application with the amended boundaries. This matter is now forwarded to the Council for its consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

PAUL KREKORIAN, CHAIR
EDUCATION AND NEIGHBORHOODS COMMITTEE

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Not Official Until Council Acts