

**Westwood South of Santa Monica Blvd.**  
**Homeowners Association**  
*Incorporated November 8, 1971*  
**P. O. Box 64213, Los Angeles, CA 90064-0213**  
[www.westwoodsouth.org](http://www.westwoodsouth.org)

April 24, 2010

LA City Planning and Land Use Management Committee  
Councilmember Ed Reyes, Chair  
Councilmembers Paul Krekorian, Jose Huizar  
ATTN: Patrice Lattimore, Committee Staff

**RE: CF 09-0969-S1 (Developer Fees)**

Dear Councilmembers,

We write today on behalf of our community and the taxpayers of Los Angeles in support of Councilmember Paul Koretz's motion: CF 09-0969-S1.

We believe that this motion is a fair and equitable way to maintain needed City services in this time of fiscal instability, by seeking cost recovery for services rendered by the City. In many ways, this measure is a "win win" approach to helping to solve the City's budget crisis and is an approach that should, after careful consideration, garner support from the development community --- not opposition.

The saying, "time is money" can be applied to many disciplines but is especially applicable in the field of real estate development. Should the City be forced to continue with layoff and furlough plans, it is inevitable that the time needed to process development building permits and entitlement applications will increase. If CF 09-0969-S1 were to pass, the fees that developers would be paying to process their paperwork would allow the experienced staff to process their work within a reasonable time frame. Without those resources, the timeframe will only increase, delays will increase, funding opportunities may be lost, mortgage expenses will mount, etc. While a change in the culture of how the City does business, this measure will most likely SAVE developers both time and money.

We do not know whether it is possible at this time to project the kinds of impacts that the recent staff cutbacks will have on the workload and pace of permit application processing. With such knowledge, it may be possible to seek support for this measure not only from residents and taxpayers, but from the developer community as well.

We urge the PLUM Committee to favorably consider this motion, particularly in light of the extraordinary budget challenges the City faces. We understand that the costs of the permits will ultimately be born by the businesses or residents who come to occupy the projects. This is a cost of development and of doing business in Los Angeles and at this point in time, there do not seem to be any better alternatives. Our parks, libraries and other city departments have already been cut to the bone.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Broide".

Barbara Broide  
President

Cc: Councilmember Paul Koretz, [chris.koontz@lacity.org](mailto:chris.koontz@lacity.org),  
[rebecca.valdez@lacity.org](mailto:rebecca.valdez@lacity.org), [karo.torossian@lacity.org](mailto:karo.torossian@lacity.org), [Tara.Devine@lacity.org](mailto:Tara.Devine@lacity.org)

CF [09-0969-S1](#)