

10-0019

JAN 05 2010

PLANNING & LAND USE MANAGEMENT

MOTION

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

The Department of Recreation and Parks has been planning and attempting to implement many park/facility shade structures and maintenance equipment covers/carports. Unfortunately, the Department has recently reached an impasse in the City building permit process because these projects, by definition, create "floor area" based on both the zoning and building code and as such, these structures/buildings require dedicated parking and restroom facilities.

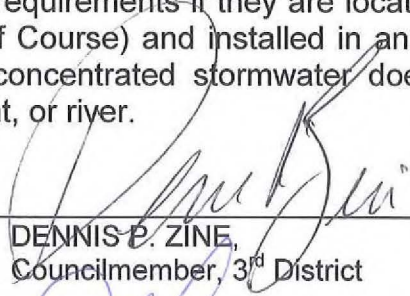
Shade structures are essential to protecting park patrons from the harmful effects of the sun. Substantially more than 1 million cases of skin cancer are diagnosed in the United States each year. Shade structures do not increase the square footage of the facility and does not change the use of that area. The shade structures are providing a public health service in sheltering our residents from the sun who enjoy using facilities such as picnic areas, swimming pools and playgrounds. They are also used to protect expensive maintenance equipment such as the fire fighting trucks located in Griffith Park. Loss of open recreational space and/or added expense of providing or creating additional parking or pursuing a City Planning variance, make it infeasible to implement shade structures in most parks where parking or restrooms may not even exist.

As these structures/buildings are accessory in nature, and typically would be installed within an existing park or facility, the provision of these amenities does not in itself, create additional trips by patrons and the need for additional parking or necessarily restroom facilities.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Planning Department and the Department of Building and Safety be directed to take the necessary actions to allow shade structures and maintenance equipment covers/carports and any other similar accessory buildings/structures, to be constructed by the Department of Recreation and Parks without the requirement of additional parking or restroom facilities.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Bureau of Sanitation be directed to exempt Recreation and Parks projects involving shade structures and maintenance equipment covers/carports and any other similar accessory buildings/structures from the Standard Urban Stormwater Mitigation Plan (SUSMP) requirements if they are located within an existing park or recreational facility (e.g. Golf Course) and installed in an area that is surrounded by permeable surfaces where concentrated stormwater does not drain directly to the street, other public improvement, or river.


PRESENTED BY:


DENNIS P. ZINE,
Councilmember, 3rd District

JAN - 5 2010



SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL