

# CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



## SHERMAN OAKS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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## Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council

April 23, 2012

**TO:** Planning and Land Use Management Committee  
Councilmember Ed Reyes, Chair  
Councilmember Jose Huizar  
Councilmember Mitchell Englander

**RE:** Council File# 12-0460  
Revision of City's Zoning Code

Councilmembers:

The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council (SONC) has just found out about this item to be discussed at the PLUM Committee, April 24, 2012. This proposal would have far-reaching and dramatic impact on single-family neighborhoods in the City of Los Angeles.

We have great concern about this proposal because it has NOT been properly publicized nor vetted by the community. Here is a list of our concerns:

- 1) There was not adequate notice to allow the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council (SONC) or the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC) time to examine, discuss and make a judgment on the issue. Notification went out Friday that PLUM would hear this issue on the following Tuesday.
- 2) Although the funding request calls for \$990,000, this is ONLY for the first year. There is a five year commitment to the project. The project calls for \$11 million: \$5 million for consultants and \$6 million for the Planning department. (There is no added Planning staff, they will just be re-assigned). This is at a time when the City doesn't have \$11 million. We are already \$400 million short on the city budget.

3) The Mayor and the Planning Department have talked with the *NY Times* and *The Wall Street Journal*, but have not publicly proposed the project to the Los Angeles Neighborhood Councils or other segments of the community.

4) There is plenty of time to discuss the project and its funding with the public BEFORE making a decision on the proposal.

There is no need to rush on this matter. There has been no public outcry asking for zoning changes. It is appalling that the Council would bring this item, which would “completely revise the City’s Zoning Code”, to committee without sufficient time for public input.

We hope that you will give consideration to our concerns. We ask that you publicize the details of this project and allow for ample time for the people of Los Angeles to have their voices heard.

Sincerely,

**Jill Banks Barad**  
President SONC