

# CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA  
MAYOR

JUNE LAGMAY  
City Clerk

HOLLY L. WOLCOTT  
Executive Officer

When making inquiries relative to  
this matter, please refer to the  
Council File No.

Office of the  
CITY CLERK

Council and Public Services  
Room 395, City Hall  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
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SHANNON HOPPES  
Council and Public Services  
Division

[www.cityclerk.lacity.org](http://www.cityclerk.lacity.org)

June 18, 2013

To All Interested Parties:

The City Council adopted the action(s), as attached, under Council File No. 13-0002-S57, at its meeting held June 4, 2013. The Mayor failed to act by June 17, 2013, DEEMED APPROVED and EFFECTIVE June 18, 2013.



City Clerk  
srb

TO THE COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

Your **RULES, ELECTIONS AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS** Committee

reports as follows:

RULES, ELECTIONS AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT and RESOLUTION relative to the City's position to support any legislation and/or administrative action by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors for the preservation of Mount Zion Jewish Cemetery.

Recommendation for Council action, pursuant to Resolution (Perry – Parks), SUBJECT TO THE CONCURRENCE OF THE MAYOR:

ADOPT the accompanying RESOLUTION to include in the City's 2013-14 State Legislative Program, SUPPORT for any legislation and/or administrative action by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to adopt a suitable historic/cultural designation for the Mount Zion Jewish Cemetery as a first step in preserving this important landmark in our common heritage.

Fiscal Impact Statement: None submitted by the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA). The City Administrative Officer has not completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

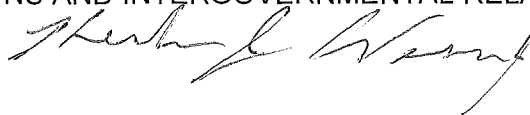
Summary:

At its meeting of May 17, 2013, the Rules, Elections and Intergovernmental Relations Committee considered Resolution (Perry – Parks) relative to the City's position to support any legislation and/or administrative action by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to adopt a suitable historic/cultural designation for the Mount Zion Jewish Cemetery as a first step in preserving this important landmark in our common heritage. The CLA report, attached to Council File No. 13-0002-S57, provides a summary of the Resolution and additional background information.

After providing an opportunity for public comment, the Committee recommended that Council adopt the accompanying Resolution. This matter is now forwarded to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

RULES, ELECTIONS AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE



**ADOPTED**

JUN - 4 2013

**LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL**

MEMBER            VOTE  
WESSON:        YES  
LABONGE:       ABSENT  
HUIZAR:        YES

REW  
5/24/13  
13-0002-S57\_rpt\_reir\_5-17-13

Not Official Until Council Acts

**MAYOR WITH FILE**

13-0002-557

APR 10 2013

RULES, REGULATIONS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, recent media reports have brought to light the perilous condition of the Mount Zion Jewish Cemetery in East Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, the black gates of Mount Zion are chained shut; a sign stamped on a wall asks visitors to call a neighboring graveyard if they want to go in but the phone number no longer exists; and

WHEREAS, a recent visit to this historic site showed a state of disrepair with headstones knocked down, a 'carpet' of dried cypress leaves, hundreds of tombstones fallen on the ground, and some vandalized and covered with graffiti; and

WHEREAS, this cemetery is the final resting place of many prominent members in the history of the Jewish Community of Southern California; and

WHEREAS, Mount Zion was opened in 1916 by a burial society dedicated to provide free burials for poor Jews; where other cemeteries featured vast expanses of trimmed grass, handsome columns and statuary, Mount Zion was mostly concrete and dirt; and

WHEREAS, Mount Zion hasn't been an active cemetery in years; the last burial there was about six years ago and it is currently under the nominal care of the Home of Peace Cemetery and the Jewish Federation but neither organization knows who actually owns the property, and county records are inconclusive, listing the name of the apparently defunct burial society; and

WHEREAS, in June 1969, the Jewish Federation was notified by the burial society that founded Mount Zion stating that the organization would no longer continue operating the cemetery; and

WHEREAS, some would say that this is a cemetery that no longer really belongs to anyone, however it is a vital part of our history and therefore it belongs to all of us; and

WHEREAS, although funding and other issues still need to be addressed one step that can be taken immediately is to give a historic-cultural designation to this cemetery so that it can be preserved as part of our history; and

WHEREAS, this cemetery is located not in the City of Los Angeles but in unincorporated Los Angeles County territory;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2013-2014 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for legislation and/or administrative action by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to adopt a suitable historic / cultural designation for the Mount Zion Jewish Cemetery as a first step in preserving this important landmark of our common heritage.

*AK*  
APR 10 2013

**ADOPTED**  
JUN 4 2013  
LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

PRESENTED BY:

*JAN C. PERRY*  
Councilwoman, 9<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY:

*Donald C. ...*

ORIGINAL

Mayor's Time Stamp  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
RECEIVED  
2013 JUN -7 PM 1:33  
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

City Clerk's Time Stamp  
RECEIVED  
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE  
2013 JUN -7 PM 1:25  
CITY CLERK  
BY \_\_\_\_\_  
DEPUTY

SUBJECT TO THE CONCURRENCE OF THE MAYOR

COUNCIL FILE NO. 13-0002-S57

COUNCIL DISTRICT \_\_\_\_\_

COUNCIL APPROVAL DATE JUNE 4, 2013

RE: CITY'S POSITION TO SUPPORT ANY LEGISLATION AND/OR ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION BY THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE PRESERVATION OF MOUNT ZION JEWISH CEMETERY

LAST DAY FOR MAYOR TO ACT JUN 17 2013  
[10 Day Charter requirement as per Charter Section 231(h)]

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**DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE - FOR MAYOR USE ONLY**

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APPROVED  
\_\_\_\_\_

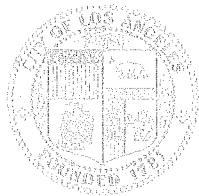
\*DISAPPROVED  
\_\_\_\_\_

\*Transmit objections in writing pursuant to Charter Section 231(h)

DATE OF MAYOR APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

RECEIVED  
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE  
2013 JUN 18 PM 4:28  
CITY CLERK  
DEPUTY



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA

MEMORANDUM

To: City Clerk

From: Gaye Williams, Chief of Staff *Gaye Williams*

Date: June 18, 2013

RE: CF 13-0002-S57

The City's Position to Support any Legislation and/or Administrative Action by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors for the Preservation of Mount Zion Jewish Cemetery

MEMO TO FILE

The Mayor supports the policy position reflected in the resolution approved by your Honorable Body on June 4, 2013. However, in the spirit of upholding the City Charter – approved by the voters of Los Angeles – which delegates intergovernmental relations authority to the Executive Branch with the sole exception of positions on “legislation proposed to or pending before the state or federal government,” the Mayor is returning this file without signature, with the understanding that this item will be considered deemed approved.

BY \_\_\_\_\_  
DEPUTY

CITY CLERK

2013 JUN 18 PM 4:28

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CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

