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# MOTION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has announced a second round of the Promise Zone initiative. The public comment on this announcement is due by Monday, June 16, 2014.

A minimum of five and up to fifteen designations are to be made in this second round. By the end of 2016, 20 Promise Zone designations are expected.

The Promise Zone Initiative is part of a plan to partner with and invest in communities to create jobs, increase economic security, expand educational opportunities, increase access to quality, affordable housing and improve public safety. The first round of awards, announced in January, 2014, are located: San Antonio, Texas; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Los Angeles, California; Southeastern Kentucky; and the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. The Promise Zone designation is for a term of 10 years.

The Promise Zones designation enables the Federal government to partner with local leaders who are addressing multiple community revitalization challenges in a collaborative way and have demonstrated a commitment to results. Specifically, Federal staff will be stationed in each designated community to help navigate the array of Federal assistance which Promise Zones can access, subject to the availability of appropriations and Federal agency rules and statutes. This level of engagement will help communities make the most of funding that is already available to them. In addition, organizations contributing to Promise Zone strategies will receive preference for certain competitive Federal programs, as permissible under the rules and statutes of the individual programs and agencies, and subject to appropriations. Organizations contributing to Promise Zone strategies will also receive technical assistance and other non-competitive support, again subject to available funding and as permissible under individual program and Federal agency rules and statutes. Businesses investing in Promise Zones or hiring residents of Promise Zones will also be eligible to receive tax incentives for these activities, if the tax incentives are enacted by Congress. Altogether, this package of assistance will help local leaders accelerate efforts to revitalize their communities.

Although Los Angeles was selected in the first round, the area of coverage of our promise zone is somewhat limited and has raised concerns over the needs of other worthy areas in the City. We should act quickly to obtain maximum benefit for additional Promise Zones designations for deserving areas in the City of Los Angeles by submitting appropriate comments to HUD to enable us to participate in this second round.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Housing Department and the Economic Development department be directed to prepare comments relative to the second round of Promise Zone designations, including the standard Resolution for inclusion of such comments in the City's Federal Legislative Program, and to submit these within 30 days to Council for approval prior to submission to HUD.

PRESENTED BY *Herb J. Wesson, Jr.* *Curren D. Price, Jr.* *Joe Buscaino*  
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SECONDED BY *Bernard C. Park*