

February 10, 2015

To: City of Los Angeles Education and Neighborhood Committee
Honorable Council Chair Bernard Parks and Council Committee Members

From: Derrick Solomon, Applicant
"View Heights" Neighborhood Block Club

Subject: Community Impact Statement – Renaming Request from Hyde Park to "View Heights"

On May 28, 2014 an application was submitted by the View Heights Neighborhood Block Club to the Los Angeles' City Clerk's Office requesting to rename identified boundaries from Hyde Park to "View Heights". For decades residents (homeowners) have purchased their homes under the prelude that their neighborhood "View Heights" was already official. However, since re-establishing the View Heights Neighborhood Block Club, we discovered that the name "View Heights" was never formalized through the Los Angeles City Council. Therefore, based on the Los Angeles City Council's "Policy For Naming Or Renaming A Community" which was adopted on January 31, 2006, the View Heights Neighborhood Block Club followed the aforementioned Policy, to include obtaining the required signed petition of twenty percent of the residents. It is our request that the Education and Neighborhood Committee consider our petition to have our request placed on the City Council's calendar for its consideration to formalize "View Heights" as an official community name.

Background

The historical description of "View Heights" breathtaking rolling and scenic hills lined with large bungalow Spanish style and multi-level homes built in the early twenties, thirties and forties are referenced in two Los Angeles Times articles dated, January 2003, "Vistas and Vintage Homes in View Heights" and in February 2006, "View Heights." Further, the articles reference "View Heights" as a community that is sister to Ladera Heights, Baldwin Hills, Windsor Hills and View Park, which all share scenic, hilly and culturally diverse neighborhoods. These communities combined make up a large section of the Southwestern demographics of Los Angeles. Additionally, the LAPD, 77th division has informed the residents during Block Club meetings that officers assigned to our area refer to our identified boundaries as "Sleepy Hollow" because of its low crime rate and direct result of our neighborhood active involvement.

Our Block Club strives to keep our neighborhood peaceful and serene, along with efforts to maintain the beauty and property value of our homes. Between meetings we communicate via flyer distribution, emails, phone calls and post significant incidents on *Next Door* to insure neighborhood awareness. Every summer we host an annual Bar-B-Q and invite LAPD and others to celebrate our success in keeping our community safe. Our residents enjoy a sense of community but it also matters that residents feel a sense of neighborhood identity through an official name.

In conclusion, the overall "Community Impact Statement" to officially name the identified boundaries "View Heights" is one that will speak to a positive "model" that is committed to embracing the "View" and "Heights" of community ideals which support an environment that is safe, beautiful, simple and peaceful while we share these positive qualities with neighboring communities.

Date: 2-17-15
Submitted in: EN Committee
Council File No.: 14-0715
Item No.: 4
PUBUC