

This e-mail is being sent to you on behalf of the Citizens Coalition Los Angeles (CC-LA) and Hollywoodians Encouraging Logical Planning (H.E.L.P.)

Under Gov't Code, § 54954.5, the meeting notice has to describe the purpose for the closed section, and then Gov't Code, § 54954.5 sets forth a long list of possible reasons for the closed session. The crucial words after the last sentence, i.e., "Substantial compliance is satisfied by including the information provided below, irrespective of its format."

The meeting notice for the 11-04-2014 Planning and Land Use Management Committee Meeting does not contain the information but alludes to the code section which a member of the public has to consult in order to know the reason for the closed session. While this allusion to the subsection of the Government Code may work well for attorneys, the purpose is to provide notice to the general public, few if any carry around a copy of the Government Code.

Gov't Code, § 54954.5. states that "For purposes of describing closed session items pursuant to Section 54954.2, the agenda may describe closed sessions as provided below. No legislative body or elected official shall be in violation of Section 54954.2 or 54956 if the closed session items were described in substantial compliance with this section. **Substantial compliance is satisfied by including the information provided below, irrespective of its format.**

(a) With respect to a closed session held pursuant to Section 54956.7 [bold added]"

The 11-04-2014 Brown Act Meeting Notice refers to Gov't Code, § 54956(d)(2), which states:

(d) For purposes of this section, litigation shall be considered pending when any of the following circumstances exist:

(2) A point has been reached where, in the opinion of the legislative body of the local agency on the advice of its legal counsel, based on existing facts and circumstances, there is a significant exposure to litigation against the local agency.

Whoever reads the subsection citation has no more information about the reason for the closed session than if the notice were completely silent. Thus, the **meeting notice is defective** as to the closed session.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ziggy Kruse

(Authorized Spokesperson for

H.E.L.P. and CC-LA)