

Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to City Council and Committees.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at NCsupport@lacity.org.

This is an automated response, please do not reply to this email.

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Atwater Village Neighborhood Council

Name: Karen Barnett

Phone Number: (818) 468-1738

Email: karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(16) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 07/12/2018

Type of NC Board Action: Against

Impact Information

Date: 06/25/2019

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 14-1349-S4

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: Recently, the City Council considered an Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District (EIFD) that includes the communities along the Los Angeles River. As a riverfront community, it is important that the Atwater Village community be informed and aware. As such, it is imperative that a City-sponsored community workshop be held at in a riverfront location (such as Friendship Hall at the corner of Los Feliz Boulevard and Riverside Drive) to explain to stakeholders what an EIFD is, how it works, benefits, possible drawbacks and proposed projects prior to implementation. This workshop should include possible additional funding mechanisms available to the Public Financing Authority (PFA) of the EIFD that may impact residents beyond the incremental tax, such as bonds, "benefit" assessments and etc. In addition, it is critical that the City outline its plan for funding operations and maintenance (O&M) for EIFD projects, since EIFD rules prohibit funds toward O&M. Atwater Village, a riverfront community, should be informed of and able to comment on plans for EIFD district outlines and proposed projects. The process should be transparent and open for public comment in the planning process - prior to a public hearing and implementation. For example, currently Atwater Village residents are looking at a proposed Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) affecting a large percentage of the community (SFHA will affect approximately 3,000 parcels overall). EIFD funding could be used for levee repair and other flood mitigation measures lessening the financial burden and increasing the safety of affected residents. Atwater Village and other riverfront communities are entitled to a direct benefit, such as addressing this SFHA issue, from the use of tax dollars collected in a River Revitalization EIFD.



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AVNC Officers Co-Chairs: Courtney Morris, Edward Morrissey • Treasurer: Andrew MacKay • Secretary: Karen Knapp

Community Impact Statement(CIS): Against

Council Files:

- 14-1349-S4 Los Angeles River Improvements / Financing / River Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District (EIFD) Feasibility Study
05/23/2018
- 14-1349-S1 Economic Development Initiatives / Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District (EIFD) / Venice 04/13/2018
- 14-1349 Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District (EIFD) / Creation / Los Angeles River / Support Restoration and Maintenance
12/15/2016
- 14-1349-S3 Northeast Los Angeles River Collaborative Project / River Revitalization Enhanced Infrastructure Financing Districts
(EIFD) 11/04/2015

July 12, 2018

Dear Honorable Councilmembers,

Recently, the City Council considered an Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District (EIFD) that includes the communities along the Los Angeles River. As a riverfront community, it is important that the Atwater Village community be informed and aware.

As such, it is imperative that a City-sponsored community workshop be held at in a riverfront location (such as Friendship Hall at the corner of Los Feliz Boulevard and Riverside Drive) to explain to stakeholders what an EIFD is, how it works, benefits, possible drawbacks and proposed projects prior to implementation. This workshop should include possible additional funding mechanisms available to the Public Financing Authority (PFA) of the EIFD that may impact residents beyond the incremental tax, such as bonds, “benefit” assessments and etc. In addition, it is critical that the City outline its plan for funding operations and maintenance (O&M) for EIFD projects, since EIFD rules prohibit funds toward O&M.

Atwater Village, a riverfront community, should be informed of and able to comment on plans for EIFD district outlines and proposed projects. The process should be transparent and open for public comment in the planning process - prior to a public hearing and implementation.

For example, currently Atwater Village residents are looking at a proposed Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) affecting a large percentage of the community (SFHA will affect approximately 3,000 parcels overall). EIFD funding could be used for levee repair and other flood mitigation measures lessening the financial burden and increasing the safety of affected residents. Atwater Village and other riverfront communities are entitled to a direct benefit, such as addressing this SFHA issue, from the use of tax dollars collected in a River Revitalization EIFD.

In addition to flood risk reduction, funds can be used for the watershed, green streets and additional water infiltration and retention systems that would have a direct and positive local impact for stakeholders while contributing to the overall health

of the River.

Funding used for these purposes support the LA River Revitalization Master Plan, A.R.B.O.R. Study and local use of tax contributions of Atwater Village stakeholders.

Thank you,

Courtney Morris
Co-Chair

Edward Morrissey
Co-Chair

(Note: Courtney Morris arrived at 8:15pm.)

VOTE
14-0-2
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Edward Morrissey
Karen Knapp
Karen Barnett
Matthew Weil
Monica Waggoner
Larry Hafetz

Josh Hertz

Michael Batistick
Grace Santillano
Teresa Prindle
Niki Smart
Jeff Yana
Anthony Forester

Jeff Marvan

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

Andrew MacKay
Courtney Morris

d. Discussion and possible action: Approve two Community Impact Statements regarding Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District, including a connection to flood risk management and potential remapping of the Special Flood Hazard Area (River)

Karen Barnett made the motion. Larry Hafetz seconded.

Barnett explained that this was approved in 2015 but was never submitted. Morrissey said that he isn't sure if re-approval is necessary. Barnett said that she wants the city to hold a community meeting to explain what it is so that people can understand it prior to a public hearing and implementation. It can be used for levy repair and dams, which we'd like to have happen here.

Tom Williams said that there is a process through the Department of Public Works to do floodplain designations. This is reviewed about every 2-3 years. Kevin James is the President and key contact. (Cc to him)

VOTE
16-0-0
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Edward Morrissey
Courtney Morris
Karen Knapp
Andrew MacKay
Karen Barnett
Matthew Weil
Monica Waggoner
Larry Hafetz

Josh Hertz

Michael Batistick
Grace Santillano
Teresa Prindle
Niki Smart
Jeff Yana
Anthony Forester

Jeff Marvan

No Votes:
None

Abstentions:
None

e. Discussion and possible action: Approve a letter writing campaign for a pedestrian underpass to the Glendale/Hyperion Bridge Project (River)

Barnett amended her motion:

“To create a digital campaign for the Glendale-Hyperion pedestrian underpass comprised of a letter with pictures of the sight, letter template download with visual options.” Hertz seconded.

Monica Waggoner noted that previously we asked if you’d gotten in touch with the entity? Why wasn’t this included before? Barnett said we discussed access on the West. Now we are looking at Northern access. I went to the Los Angeles River cooperation meeting on Monday. It was on the agenda again.