

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Venice Neighborhood Council

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Date of NC Board Action: 02/17/2015

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 06/06/2015

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Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 15-0026

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Brief Summary: Be It Resolved that the Department of the Planning, the Department of Building & Safety, the Information Technology Agency, and other agencies as appropriate, determine what steps and resources would be necessary to create, and maintain a publicly accessible and searchable Development Conditions Database.

Additional Information:



# Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / [www.VeniceNC.org](http://www.VeniceNC.org)  
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February 27, 2015

## COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT

COUNCIL FILE 15-0026

TO: The Honorable City Council of Los Angeles and Committees in c/o the Office of the City Clerk at the Los Angeles City Hall 200 North Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

The Venice Neighborhood Council requests that the following Community Impact Statement be attached to Council File 15-0026.

On February 17, 2015, the Venice Neighborhood Council (VNC) Board of Governors held a Brown Act noticed, regular meeting with a quorum of 17; and, with a vote of 16 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention, the VNC adopted the motion in support of Council File Motion 15-0026 which supports the creation of a Development Conditions Database.

Whereas, recent reports in the Los Angeles Times ("In L.A., Conditions Placed on Developers Go Unheeded," January 6, 2015) illustrate the tremendous challenge the City of Los Angeles has in enforcing conditions placed upon development proposals as a requirement of discretionary approval.

In many cases, those conditions are secured after prolonged negotiations involving neighborhood residents, business interests, city officials, and others. They represent a good faith agreement between differing interests to shape projects so that they are more friendly and compatible with communities.

Too often, by the time a project is built or a new venture opens for business, city officials have retired, neighborhood leaders have moved on, and business owners and operators may have changed hands. Too often, no one even remembers the required conditions that need to be monitored and enforced.

Fortunately, technology gives us the tools to fix that problem. No longer must development conditions be unearthed after an exhaustive search of dusty files in storage cabinets at Piper Tech. Software, searchable databases, and online tools could make it simple for the City of Los Angeles to create, update and maintain a Development Conditions Database.

Whereas, a Development Conditions Database could be an online, searchable public portal for information on approved projects and developments. The database could have a separate entry for each address or project, with separate



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hyperlinks for each condition or requirement, providing details on the condition, contact information for the agency or employee responsible for monitoring compliance, dates of inspections, and .pdf files of all certified compliance reports. Such a database would give the public an easy way to discover and track conditions, would create transparency, and would make it easier for city departments to track and record their compliance reviews.

Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Department of the Planning, the Department of Building & Safety, the Information Technology Agency, and other agencies as appropriate, determine what steps and resources would be necessary to create, and maintain a publicly accessible and searchable Development Conditions Database.

Be It Resolved, that the VNC supports Councilmember Paul Koretz' motion 15-0026 of January 9, 2015.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike R. Newhouse".

Mike Newhouse  
President,  
Venice Neighborhood Council