

MICHAEL N. FEUER CTTY ATTORNEY

REPORT NO. #17-0057

REPORT RE:

DRAFT ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 12.04 OF THE LOS ANGELES MUNICIPAL CODE TO AMEND THE CRENSHAW CORRIDOR SPECIFIC PLAN

The Honorable City Council
of the City of Los Angeles
Room 395, City Hall
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Council File No. 16-0597 CPC-2006-5567-CPU; CPC-2006-5567-CPU-M1; CPC-2006-5567-CPU-M2

Honorable Members:

This Office has prepared and now transmits for your consideration, approved as to form and legality, the enclosed draft ordinance. The purpose of the draft ordinance is to amend the Crenshaw Corridor Specific Plan (Specific Plan).

Background and Summary of Ordinance

The proposed ordinance was prepared as part of the Council initiated West Adams-Baldwin Hills-Leimert Community Plan Update (WA Plan Update). The WA Plan Update included an update to the West Adams-Baldwin Hills-Leimert Community Plan, and adoption of several accompanying zoning implementation ordinances, including the proposed ordinance amending the Specific Plan, zone and height district changes, and the West Adams-Baldwin Hills-Leimert Community Plan Implementation Ordinance.

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The draft ordinance would make changes to the Specific Plan, adding use limitations, design guidelines, and design and development standards for pedestrian-oriented and transit-oriented development areas and streetscape plan requirements. The draft ordinance also refines development intensities and streamlines the approval process, including the use of administrative clearances for certain types of signage, minor façade repair and change of use permits. Finally, the draft ordinance eliminates confusing language and requirements redundant to the Los Angeles Municipal Code.

Charter Findings

Pursuant to Charter Section 559, the Director of Planning has approved the draft ordinance on behalf of the City Planning Commission. Should the City Council adopt this ordinance, it may comply with the provisions of Charter Section 558 by either adopting the findings of the Director of Planning as set forth in his transmittal to the City Council or by making your own findings.

CEQA Determination

The Department of City Planning is recommending the City Council determine the project was fully environmentally assessed in Final Environmental Impact Report No. ENV-2008-478-EIR, SCH No. 2008021013, certified by Council on June 29, 2016, prepared for the West Adams-Baldwin Hills-Leimert Community Plan Update. This determination is appropriate when the Council, having considered the whole administrative record, including the Final Environmental Impact Report, and exercising its independent judgment, determines based upon substantial evidence that: (1) the project the Council is approving is the same as the project described in Final Impact Report No. ENV-2008-478-EIR, SCH No. 2008021013; and (2) none of the conditions described in CEQA Guidelines Section 15162 calling for the preparation of a subsequent EIR have occurred. Specifically, this means there are no substantial changes to the project or to the circumstances under which the project will be undertaken, and no new information that was not available at the time the Final EIR was certified, that would require major revisions to the Final EIR or the preparation of a new EIR.

Council Rule 38 Referral

A copy of the draft ordinance was sent, pursuant to Council Rule 38, to the Department of Building and Safety, the Department of Transportation and the Bureau of Engineering with a request that all comments, if any, be presented directly to the City Council when this matter is considered.

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If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Deputy City Attorney Kathryn Phelan at (213) 978-8242. She or another member of this Office will be present when you consider this matter to answer any questions you may have.

Very truly yours,

MICHAEL N. FEUER, City Attorney

By

DAVID MICHAELSON
Chief Assistant City Attorney

DM:KCP:mh Transmittal