PLANNING & LAND USE MANAGEMENT

MOTION

In the City and Southern California region one of the most fundamental engines of economic growth and implementation of new safety measures is construction, whether for commercial uses or housing. Construction is important because it is the City that oversees the issuance of the needed permits and provides the inspection services to ensure that the project development applicants are abiding by the building and zoning codes. Sometimes, new construction follows demolition of buildings for which building permits were issued more than 45 years ago.

On November 21, 2017, the Council approved Ordinance No. 185270 (Council File Nos.13-1104 and 16-0988). The purpose of this Ordinance was to amend certain sections of the Municipal Code to increase the notification requirements when a demolition permit is requested 45 years after issuance of the original building permit for a building or structure.

Subsequently, it has come to our attention that minor modifications to this same Ordinance are necessary to make the notification process more efficient. Specifically, there is no need to require that protection devices such as fences and/or pedestrian protection canopies be installed and approved by the Department of Building and Safety 30 days before demolition begins, nor is it practical to require the posted placard giving notice of demolition, to contain letters three inches (3") high on a 11" x 17" placard, when most computers cannot fit such lettering onto the required placard in a presentable format.

Instead, protective devices need to be installed a shorter amount of days rather than 30 days before demolition begins and that requires 11" x 17" posted placards giving notice of demolition to contain letters two and half inches (2 ½") high rather than three inches (3") as currently prescribed in the Municipal Code.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council instruct the Department of Building and Safety, with the assistance of the City Attorney, to prepare and present an ordinance to amend Municipal Code Section 91.106.4.5.1 (Notification of Demolition) and any other pertaining section in the Municipal Code, to require protection devices such as fences and/or pedestrian protection canopies to be installed and approved by the Department of Building and Safety a shorter amount of days before demolition begins rather than 30 days before demolition begins as currently prescribed in the Municipal Code, and that requires 11" x 17" posted placards giving notice of demolition to contain letters two and half inches (2 ½") high rather than three inches (3") as currently prescribed in the Municipal Code.

PRESENTED BY

BOB BLUMENFIEL

Councilmember, 3rd District

SECONDED BY:

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