



CITY OF LOS ANGELES
GRANADA HILLS SOUTH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
Planning and Land Use Management Committee



Chair: **Jerry Askew**
Members: **Dave Beauvais** (Ex-Officio)
Maria Fisk
Bob Luszczak
Eric Mansker
Ross Turmell
Dan Wall
Cindy Wu-Freedman

July 9, 2013

Via Email:
Honorable Herb Wesson, City Council President
All Los Angeles City Council Members
June Lagmay, City Clerk

Re: Art Murals Citywide Program/Mural Ordinance
Council File No. 11-0923

On June 26, 2013, the Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council (GHCNS) Planning and Land Use Management (PLUM) Committee held a Regular Meeting of the Committee Members. Said meeting was noticed in accordance with the Brown Act and held according to the bylaws of the organization. At this meeting, the following motion was approved unanimously for presentation to the GHSNC Board:

The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council supports the Pacific Palisades Community Council's position statement in regards to the proposed Art Murals Citywide Program/Mural Ordinance [see attached]

We are forwarding this action by the GHSNC PLUM Committee so that our pending position may be considered. The next general GHSNC board meeting is scheduled for August 1, which we realize may be too late for consideration in your proceedings.

Sincerely,

Jerry Askew
Director - Business Representation, Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council
Chair, Planning and Land Use Management Committee



PACIFIC PALISADES COMMUNITY COUNCIL

June 20, 2013

Los Angeles City Council
City Hall
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Attn: Hon. Herb Wesson, Council President
Ms. June Lagmay, City Clerk, Rm. 360

**Re: CF 11-0923 - Mural Ordinance
Request Ordinance Return to Committee for Further Consideration (Review/Input)**

Dear President Wesson and all Los Angeles City Council Members:

Pacific Palisades Community Council (PPCC) has been the voice of the Pacific Palisades for more than 40 years. The Pacific Palisades community supports the arts and is proud of existing murals which have long graced several of our public spaces. PPCC has been generally supportive of the concept of an ordinance which would allow murals under certain circumstances. We have previously expressed concerns to the Planning Department about some aspects of earlier versions of the proposed Mural Ordinance.

We have now learned that the Director of Planning has disapproved the revised Ordinance as directed by PLUM and the City Attorney has expressed concerns about the revised Ordinance and submitted two versions, Version A and Version B, for consideration by the Council.

In light of these developments, we believe strongly that the Mural Ordinance should be referred back to committee and reconsidered for further review and community input. PPCC and other community and neighborhood councils have had insufficient time to thoroughly review and consider the proposed revisions. However, based on an initial review we have numerous concerns about the revised Mural Ordinance, including without limitation the following eleven (11) concerns:

1. Whether murals should be prohibited in R1, on single-family homes or any other dwellings, and/or in all other residential zones;
2. Whether murals on any dwellings in residential zones should be limited to areas that are not visible from the public right of way (e.g., back yard fences, rear walls no higher than one-story);
3. Whether communities that wish to have murals should be required to enact specific plans to *allow* murals on single-family homes (Version B) or on other dwellings in residential zones, and not the other way around (Version A);

4. Whether a 90-day waiting period before the Ordinance becomes operative would be sufficient time for enactment of specific plans either to allow or disallow murals on single-family homes or other dwellings in residential zones;
5. Whether illumination of murals should be allowed at all and in particular on any dwellings in or near residential zones;
6. Whether the ordinance's definition of a "commercial message" is clear, adequate and/or sufficient;
7. Whether the ordinance's definition of "digitally printed image" is clear, adequate and/or sufficient, and whether the definition of "Original Art Mural" should include "digitally printed" images;
8. Whether the "administrative rules" governing the "Neighborhood Involvement Requirement" should be adopted and set forth in the Ordinance prior to its enactment, and whether the provisions for notice and community involvement are adequate;
9. Whether existing murals are or should be clearly grandfathered under the Ordinance, and under what circumstances;
10. Whether any aspects of the Ordinance may impact public safety and/or quiet enjoyment of residential property, including the height and illumination provisions;
11. Whether there will be sufficient enforcement of the Ordinance provisions.

PPCC submits that there is no need for the Council to enact this Ordinance without thorough consideration and input by all affected constituencies. A measured and deliberate approach going forward is especially appropriate due to the Planning Director's disapproval and the City Attorney's expression of concerns and submittal of two alternative versions of the Ordinance.

PPCC urges the City Council to return the Mural Ordinance to committee for further input and consideration. PPCC requests that our letter be included in the record and filed in CF 11-0923.

Sincerely,

Barbara Kohn
President, PPCC

cc:

Michael J. Logrande, Director of Planning
Hon. Ed P. Reyes, President Pro Tempore
Hon. Tom LaBonge, Assistant President Pro Tempore
Hon. Bill Rosendahl
Hon. Richard Alarcon
Hon. Joe Buscaino
Hon. Mitchell Englander
Hon. Eric Garcetti
Hon. Jose Huizar
Hon. Hon. Paul Koretz
Hon. Bernard Parks
Hon. Jan Perry
Hon. Dennis Zine

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