

MOTION

Historic Central Los Angeles is a 2.25 square mile area in the City of Los Angeles. It is bound by Washington Boulevard on the north, Central Avenue on the east, Slauson Avenue on the south and the Harbor Freeway on the west. The City should formally designate this area as the "Central Avenue Historic Corridor," which consists of approximately 13,000 households.

In the early 1900's, Central Avenue was inhabited by African-Americans, Asians, Europeans, and Latinos. By the first decade of the 20th century, the population of African-Americans in South Los Angeles grew rapidly. During this period, African-Americans established organizations and institutions that defined and defended the community. Though African-Americans lived throughout Los Angeles, this historic area held the concentration of African-American families.

In the 1940's, South Los Angeles was home to African-American owned businesses and service providers, and a thriving jazz, music theatre and R&B music scene. During World War II and its aftermath, African-Americans flooded the employment ranks of the local defense industry. Many citizens found jobs in nearby factories owned by Goodyear, Firestone, Chrysler and Ford. With the closing of these factories, the slowing of the defense industry, the encroachment of the Los Angeles freeway system, abolishment of restrictive housing covenants, and changing demographics, the landscape of South Los Angeles has undergone remarkable changes over the years.

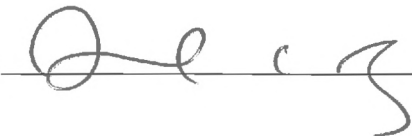
I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council designate Central Avenue from Washington Boulevard to Slauson Avenue as the "Central Avenue Historic Corridor" and that the Department of Transportation be directed to fabricate and install appropriate ceremonial signs to this effect at this location.

PRESENTED BY:


CURREN D. PRICE, JR.

Councilmember, 9th District

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL

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