

CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION and PUBLIC WORKS AND GANG REDUCTION COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the vacation of Vermont Avenue and 85th Street Vacation District (Airspace and Street Vacation). California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) analysis and recommendations (1) that project be determined to be statutorily exempt under Public Resources Code Sections 21155 and 21155.1, and (2) that the transit priority development project and the associated street and alley vacation meets all of the requirements of Section 21151.1 subdivisions (a) and (b) and a requirement of subdivision (c) as set forth in the Notice of Exemption, Transmittal No. 2 of the Bureau of Engineering (BOE) Recommendation report (VAC-E1401352).

Recommendations for Council action:

1. FIND that the street vacation proceedings pursuant to the Public Streets, Highways and Service Easements Vacation law be instituted for the vacation of the public right-of-way indicated below, shown colored blue on Exhibit B of the City Engineer's report dated July 23, 2020 attached to the Council file, and that the exact limits of the vacation areas be permitted to be adjusted based on the final approved design of the adjoining street improvements:
  - a. An approximately 30.5 feet wide portion of the easterly side of Vermont Avenue between 84th Street and Manchester Avenue.
  - b. 85th Street from Vermont Avenue to approximately 137 feet easterly thereof.
  - c. The alley easterly of Vermont Avenue between 84th Street and 85th Street.
  - d. The alley southerly of 84th Street from the alley easterly of Vermont Street to approximately 27 feet easterly thereof.
  - e. The limited airspace of the corner of Vermont Avenue and 84th Street, above a lower limit of 15 feet above the sidewalk surface.
2. REVIEW and CONSIDER the Vermont Avenue and 85th Street Vacation District Notice of Exemption (NOE), which was prepared by the BOE with supporting documentation provided by the County of Los Angeles (Transmittal No. 2).
3. FIND that the vacation, which is a component of the Vermont and Manchester Transit priority Project previously adopted by the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors on December 5, 2017, is statutorily exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to California Public Resource Code Sections 21155 and 21155.1. The transit priority development project and the associated street and alley vacation meet all the requirements of sections 21151.1 subdivisions (a) and (b) and a requirement of subdivision (c) as detailed in the NOE attachments. As such, this project is declared to be a sustainable communities project.
4. SPECIFY that the Engineering's Permit Case Management Division, located at 201 North Figueroa Street, Suite 290, Los Angeles, CA 90012, is the custodian of the documents or

other relevant material which constitute the record of the proceedings upon which the Council's decision is based .

5. FIND that there is a public benefit to this street vacation. Upon vacation of the street, the City is relieved of its ongoing obligation to maintain the street. In addition, the City is relieved of any potential liability that might result from continued ownership of the involved street easements.
6. FIND that, in conformance with Section 556 of the Los Angeles City Charter, the vacation is in substantial conformance with the purposes, intent and provisions of the General Plan.
7. DETERMINE that, in conformance with Section 892 of the California Streets and Highways Code, the vacation area is not necessary for non-motorized transportation facilities.
8. DETERMINE that, in conformance with Section 8324 of the California Streets and Highways Code, the vacation area is not necessary for present or prospective public use.
9. ADOPT the City Engineer's report with the conditions contained therein.
10. DENY the vacation of the area, shown colored orange on Exhibit B of the City Engineer's report dated July 23, 2020, attached to the Council file.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The City Engineer reports that the petitioner has paid a deposit of \$64,200 for the investigation of this request pursuant to Section 7.42 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code (LAAC). Any deficit to the deposit will be required of the petitioner to recover the cost pursuant to Section 7.44 of the LAAC.

Maintenance of the public easement by City forces will be eliminated.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

SUMMARY:

At a regular meeting held on August 5, 2020 the Public Works and Gang Reduction Committee telephonically considered City Engineer's reports relative to the vacation of Vermont Avenue and 85th Street Vacation District (Airspace and Street Vacation). California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) analysis and recommendations (1) that project be determined to be statutorily exempt under Public Resources Code Sections 21155 and 21155.1, and (2) that the transit priority development project and the associated street and alley vacation meets all of the requirements of Section 21151.1 subdivisions (a) and (b) and a requirement of subdivision (c) as set forth in the Notice of Exemption, Transmittal No. 2 of the Bureau of Engineering (BOE) Recommendation report. After providing an opportunity for public comment, the Committee approved the recommendations in the report dated, July 23, 2020, as detailed above. This matter is now transmitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

PUBLIC WORKS AND GANG REDUCTION COMMITTEE

<b><u>MEMBER</u></b>	<b><u>VOTE</u></b>
BLUMENFIELD:	YES
RYU:	YES
BUSCAINO:	YES
O'FARRELL:	YES
LEE:	YES

KK 8/5/20

**-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-**