

Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to City Council and Committees.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at NCsupport@lacity.org.

This is an automated response, please do not reply to this email.

Contact Information

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(16) Nay(0) Abstain(1) Ineligible(1) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 03/08/2021

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 03/13/2021

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 20-1106

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary:



WILSHIRE CENTER
KOREATOWN
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL



March 8th, 2021

Councilmember Mark Ridley-Thomas,
Councilmember Gibert Cedillo,
Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell,
Councilmember Nithya Raman,
Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson
Councilmember Bob Blumenfield
Councilmember John S. Lee
Los Angeles City Council,
200 N. Spring Street Los Angeles, California 90012

Re: Community Impact Statement for Council File: 20-1106 Establishment Affordable Equitable Housing Protection Overlay Program and Zone (AEPOZ) [20-1106 \(CFMS\) \(lacity.org\)](#)

Dear Honorable Members of the Planning and Land Use Management Committee,

We, the Wilshire Center-Koreatown Neighborhood Council (WCKNC), support CF 20-1106 if amended to include sensitive communities as identified by housing agencies such as the California department Housing and Community Development and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Creation of AEPOZ areas could protect at-risk communities, particularly those that were actively harmed under the racist practices of “redlining” and densely populated communities of color who have shouldered the brunt of new racist “urban infill” practices. “Urban infill” is the same racist, classist rhetoric of the past, it is no better than redlining, and no different than the urban renewal that forced tens of thousands from their homes. The city must protect low- and middle-income people of color and identify that forced, for-profit gentrification is not welcome in our city. Cities like Atlanta and Austin have found ways to reuse and revitalize naturally occurring affordable housing without displacing residents and while still providing a safe and often profitable investment for land trusts and investors.

WCKNC fully supports the goal of the proposed AEPOZ process to return local control to disenfranchised communities including specific and meaningful controls over development, such as expanded review of Ellis Act applications, demolition and permits at the locations of rent controlled housing sites, increased public noticing and participatory review tools. We believe a special commission or sub-commission with resident, non-profit, and other community stakeholders should be in charge of this review process and that the City Planning Commission and city PLUM committee be given explicit instructions that they can say no to new development if recommended by the AEPOZ commission.

WCKNC agrees with the motion’s call to mandate truly collaborative and open public processes that recognizes the community as a source of expertise in development of these tools is as crucial as the development of the tool themselves.

During this critical period in the COVID-19 pandemic, housing has become an issue of life and death. As our city faces an unprecedented wave of evictions, **WCKNC asks that this committee make this motion a priority and we implore you to do everything in your power to amend and pass CF 20- 1106** so it is inclusive of all sensitive communities such as WCKNC who have, and continue to bear the brunt of ongoing racist housing and land use policies.

Sincerely,

/s/ Elizabeth Isralowitz

Wilshire Center-Koreatown Neighborhood Council

wcknc.info@gmail.com