Communication from Public

Name: Westside Regional Alliance of Councils
Date Submitted: 02/05/2021 06:16 AM
Council File No: 20-1536
Comments for Public Posting: The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) supports the motion by Councilmembers Blumenfield and Bonin in CF 20-1536 and makes additional requests with respect to WRAC member councils' concerns about preservation of community character, protection of Specific Plans and residential neighborhoods, and public safety and privacy concerns related to the proposal to install digital signs in bus benches, as outlined in the attached position letter. See the complete WRAC position in the attached letter.
February 4, 2021

Hon. Eric Garcetti, Mayor
Hon. Mike Bonin, Councilmember CD11
Hon. Paul Koretz, Councilmember CD5
Hon. Bob Blumenfield, Chair, Public Works Committee
Adel H. Hagekhalil, Executive Director & General Manager, StreetsLA
Greg Goode, President, Board of Public Works Commissioners

Re: CF 20-1536 (Bonin-Blumenfield) – SUPPORT for motion/additional requests

Dear City Officials,

Many Westside Councils have expressed ongoing concerns about the City’s STAP program, including concerns about preservation of community character, protection of Specific Plans and residential neighborhoods, and public safety and privacy concerns related to the proposal to install digital signs in bus benches.

Therefore, the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils has passed, by a majority of voting councils in our Alliance, the following motion:

The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils supports the Bonin/Blumenfield motion in CF 20-1536, and further requests that:

- prior to contract finalization, the City conduct an extensive and open public process, in which detailed information about STAP, the RFP and the contract negotiation process is made widely available and members of the public, community leaders and neighborhood/community councils are invited to provide ongoing input on community impacts, problems and ridership needs with respect to STAP;
- in connection with any contract that is eventually negotiated, the City 1) respect and abide by Community Plan, Specific Plan, Scenic Highway and Coastal Zone protections and requirements, including in the public right of
way, and 2) address constituents’ concerns about preservation of community character, protection of residential neighborhoods, public safety, environmental impacts and privacy infringement;

- all protections for scenic corridors, for local street furniture preferences and for neighborhoods with Specific Plans and codified prohibitions against off-site advertising that were negotiated and included in the JCDecaux contract be carried forward in any new contract that is negotiated; and
- the City restrict any new digital signs in or near bus shelters to sign districts in the 22 areas already zoned as Regional Commercial for high-intensity commercial use.

This language has been approved by the following Councils: Brentwood CC; Del Rey NC; NC Westchester-Playa; West LA-Sawtelle NC; Westside NC; the Westwood CC; and Westwood NC. Modified versions that maintain the spirit of the above motion have been passed by Bel Air-Beverly Crest NC; and Pacific Palisades CC.

No member Councils have opposed this measure or submitted a minority letter to accompany this position.

Please contact me with any questions regarding the above motion.

Sincerely,

Matt Wersinger
Chair
Westside Regional Alliance of Councils
c 310.721.2980