

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

Neighborhood Council: Empowerment Congress West Area Neighborhood Development Council

Name: Kathy Guyton

Phone Number:

Email: kguyton@ecwandc.org

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(11) Nay(0) Abstain(2) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 01/19/2021

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 02/02/2021

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 21-0002-S18

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary:



February 2, 2021

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

Re: CF 21-0002-S18 and CF 21-0002-S21

Honorable members of the Los Angeles City Council:

Empowerment Congress West Area NDC (ECWA) supports Koretz motion in opposition of Senate Bill (SB 9, Atkins) and Senate Bill 10 (SB 10, Wiener). The goal of these two bills are to increase market rate development with the assumption that the housing produced will be available to those at risk of displacement. We have found this premise to be false. Not only does market rate housing often go to those outside the community while current residents suffer from poor affordability and overcrowded condition, but market rate development also becomes a catalyst for development induced displacement. We are also firmly against redevelopment of existing residential stock in our community. There are less than a dozen of parcels of (vacant) residentially zoned land that can be “upzoned” utilizing SB 10 without prompting redevelopment. We gladly facilitate discussion to ease development of our numerous vacant city-owned dirt parcels or underutilized commercial zones that have been battered by COVID-19. In addition, our neighborhood’s zoned capacity is, without these bills, already much greater than the existing housing stock thus we are concerned about increased density’s effect on the existing lack of investment in our schools, parks, and utility infrastructure. This has become a particularly precarious situation with the onset of COVID-19 and the need to social distance.

SB 9 would allow our low-density neighborhoods to become a target for speculation thus accelerating gentrification. SB 9 also lacks any affordability requirement thus is contrary to the goals of the longtime local grassroot organizations seeking subsidies to fund affordable and social housing. Finally, we are very concerned about maintaining the historic character of the neighborhood, parking impacts, and the lack of a community input process.

Finally, we feel the state is wrong to attempt to impose a top down one size fits all zoning code. Especially at a time of suppressed public engagement due to the COVID-19 pandemic. These proposals are significant bills that would have extremely impactful effects on the way we live and travel thus we would like to see increased outreach on behalf of the legislature and a full committee process with full deliberation. Furthermore, unlike some bad actor cities, Los Angeles has made an honest effort at accommodating market rate housing growth with efforts such as TOC, Small Lot Subdivision, & ADU law and we would like to continue to plan for growth as appropriate for each neighborhood’s environment, demography, and economy.

Sincerely,

Empowerment Congress West Area NDC