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DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY IMPACT COMMITTEE

Wednesday, October 22, 2014, 6:30 P.M.

MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to order and roll call.
 - Chairman: Eric Garcia (EG) - Present
 - Co-Chairman: Robert Newman (RN) – Present
 - Committee Member: Patti Berman (PB) – Not Present
 - Committee Member: Michael Eisman (ME) – Present
 - Committee Member: James Todd (JT) – Not Present
 - Committee Member: Ashley Stracke (AS) –Present
2. First Public comment opportunity on Non-Agenda Items within the board’s subject matter. No public comment.
3. Matters for Committee Discussion [See Appendix A for a Summary of Motions Passed by the Committee]
 - 3.1 Council File 14-0223: Imposing Living Wage / Hotel Employees / Hotels with 100 Rooms or more / Citywide Economic Impacts / Study and Public Input. Update on status of CF 14-0223. Review, discuss, and revise draft CIS.

MOTION TO POSTPONE THIS MATTER UNTIL THE NEXT CIC MEETING.

Presented by EG; Seconded by RN

Y = Yes; N = No; A = Abstain

Eric Garcia (EG)	Y
Robert Newman (RN)	Y
Michael Eisman (ME)	Y
Ashley Stracke (AS)	Y

Yes = 4; No = 0; Abstain = 0

OUTCOME: Motion PASSES

- 3.2 Council File 14-1062: Vending and Camping in Public Parks / Prohibitions / Penalties for Violation / Ordinance Amendment. Review, discuss, and revise draft CIS in support of the amendment of Subdivision 3 of Subsection B of Los Angeles Municipal Code, which regulates commercial sales and services in parks, to prohibit unpermitted commercial vending.

MOTION TO POSTPONE THIS MATTER UNTIL THE NEXT CIC MEETING.

Presented by EG; Seconded by RN

Y = Yes; N = No; A = Abstain

Eric Garcia (EG)	Y
Robert Newman (RN)	Y
Michael Eisman (ME)	Y
Ashley Stracke (AS)	Y

Yes = 4; No = 0; Abstain = 0

OUTCOME: Motion PASSES

- 3.3 Review and analyze Sidewalk Survey results.
MOTION: The CIC shall prepare a response to the Sidewalk Survey for submission.

Based on survey results, the sidewalk repair should be prioritized as follows: Sidewalks on main streets, sidewalks near businesses, and sidewalks near public transportation. The Committee agreed that sidewalk repair should be funded by an Assessment District model. [See Appendix B for survey results]

Presented by EG; Seconded by RN

Y = Yes; N = No; A = Abstain

Eric Garcia (EG)	Y
Robert Newman (RN)	Y
Michael Eisman (ME)	Y
Ashley Stracke (AS)	Y

Yes = 4; No = 0; Abstain = 0

OUTCOME: Motion PASSES

- 3.4 Council File 14-0163-S4: Comprehensive City Sidewalk Repair Program / Regular Program for Improvements (Identify, Prioritize and Budget). Review, discuss, and revise draft CIS.

MOTION: The CIC shall approve the draft Letter concerning Council File 14-0163-S4.

Presented by EG; Seconded by RN

Y = Yes; N = No; A = Abstain

Eric Garcia (EG)	Y
Robert Newman (RN)	Y
Michael Eisman (ME)	Y
Ashley Stracke (AS)	Y

Yes = 4; No = 0; Abstain = 0

OUTCOME: Motion PASSES [See Appendix B for Approved CIS Statement]

- 3.5 Council File 14-0593: Sharing Economy / Comprehensive Study Report / Working Group. Discuss whether the CIC should take any action. ME agreed to take this issue on.

- 3.6 Fifth and Broadway: Update on status of Fifth and Broadway concerns.

Committee agreed to draft a letter to police department to address crime, loitering of drug dealers, and to ask how the community can help. In addition, the Committee will arrange for a meeting. RN to coordinate with police for a meeting in early December.

- 3.7 Disabled Placard Abuse: Discuss whether the CIC should take any action.

PB will take lead on this issue.

4. Member comment: Comments from Committee members on subject matters within the Committee's jurisdiction. No member comment.
5. Second Public comment opportunity on Non-Agenda Items within the board's subject matter. No public comment.
6. Chair's report
 - 6.1 Update on Outreach efforts: Neighboring NCs and CD 14
 - 6.2 Jaywalking enforcement: Will be raising issue at meeting with police.
 - 6.3 Metro safety: Goal is to increase safety via more lighting, etc.

7. **MOTION: The CIC shall approve the CIC's Meeting Minutes from the August 27, 2014 and October 1, 2014, meetings.**

Postponed to next meeting.

8. Adjournment.

Presented by EG; Seconded by RN

Y = Yes; N = No; A = Abstain

Eric Garcia (EG)	Y
Robert Newman (RN)	Y
Michael Eisman (ME)	Y
Ashley Stracke (AS)	Y

Yes = 4; No = 0; Abstain = 0
OUTCOME: Meeting Adjourned.

APPENDIX A

**SUMMARY OF MOTIONS PASSED BY THE
COMMUNITY IMPACT COMMITTEE ON
OCTOBER 22, 2014**

3.4 Council File 14-0163-S4: Comprehensive City Sidewalk Repair Program / Regular Program for Improvements (Identify, Prioritize and Budget). Review, discuss, and revise draft CIS.

Motion: “The Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council respectfully requests the City Council to consider the following in drafting the “Citywide Sidewalk Repair Program”: Implementation of a mandated assessment district to fund sidewalk repair; availability of a hardship exemption and low or no-interest loans; flexibility to retain licensed general contractors; and shared liability for slip and falls.”

APPENDIX B

Committee Approved Community Impact Statement



November 11, 2014

Council File 14-0163-S4

Honorable City Council
c/o Office of the City Clerk
Los Angeles City Hall
200 North Spring Street, Room 395
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Honorable Members,

The Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council requests that the following Community Impact Statement be added to Council File 14-0163-S4, regarding the creation of a “Citywide Sidewalk Repair Program.”

COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council (“DLANC”) respectfully requests the City Council to consider the following in drafting the “Citywide Sidewalk Repair Program”:

- Funding for sidewalk repair should be solely funded by a mandated assessment district model where property owners of a predefined district are assessed a fee for repairing property-adjacent sidewalks;
- Property owners shall have the option to pay their respective assessed fees with low or no interest loans over a predefined period of time;
- There should be a hardship exemption available for property owners with assets below a predefined level. The hardship exemption shall be funded by funds set aside from assessed fees (*e.g.*, 5% of each assessed fee);
- The City should not issue bonds to finance any sidewalk repair;
- The City should not raise taxes to finance any sidewalk repair;
- Sidewalks should be repaired for any damage regardless of the cause;
- Property Owners and the City may retain licensed general contractors and managers;
- The City should develop a mapping and prioritization system to identify and coordinate repairs to sidewalks most dangerous to pedestrians;
- The Sidewalk Repair Trust Fund should be funded by assessed fees to help pay for future sidewalk repairs and those qualifying for hardship exemptions; and
- In exchange for funding the repair of damaged sidewalks, liability associated with slip and falls should be shared 50/50 between the property owner and the City.

Further, in response to the Bureau of Street Services’ sidewalk survey questionnaire (“Neighborhood Council Questionnaire”),¹ the Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council

¹ Available at <http://empowerla.org/sidewalk-repair-priorities-and-funding-options/>

submits the following responses:

1) PRIORITY OF THE THREE MOST IMPORTANT PLACES TO HAVE GOOD SIDEWALKS IN THE DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL AREA:

	Most Important	2nd Most Important	3rd Most Important
The existing sidewalks are acceptable in their current condition			
On existing sidewalks damaged by trees			
On residential streets			
On streets near schools			
On streets near government facilities			
On main streets or arterial streets	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		
On commercial/business district streets		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
On Streets with public transportation			<input checked="" type="radio"/>
All streets in the City			

2) WHAT IS YOUR PREFERRED WAY TO FUND A SIDEWALK REPAIR PROGRAM (SELECT ONE)?

	Citywide Bond	Citywide Bond - The City incurs debt to pay for the sidewalk repairs, bond financing charges and bond oversight costs. The repayments will limit the City's ability to fund other programs and services for the duration of the loan.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Assessment District	Assessment District - Sidewalk repair costs are prorated to all property owners with the option to spread the payments over a number of years.
	Point of Service	Point of Service - Each time utility services are requested, any necessary sidewalk repairs must be completed by the property owner.
	Point of Permit	Point of Permit - Each time a permit is obtained over a designated amount, any necessary sidewalk repairs must be completed by the property owner.
	Point of Sale	Point of Sale - Each time a house or property is sold, any necessary sidewalk repairs must be made or guaranteed prior to the close of escrow.
	City's Existing Revenue	City's Existing Revenue - The City's General Fund should be Primary (or only) source for funding sidewalk repairs.

This Community Impact Statement is based on the action taken at the regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting on November 11, 2014, when the Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council adopted the following motion by a vote of ___ yes, ___ no, ___ abstaining and directed that a Community Impact Statement be filed reflecting its position.

Motion: “The Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council respectfully requests the City Council to consider the following in drafting the “Citywide Sidewalk Repair Program”: Implementation of a mandated assessment district to fund sidewalk repair; availability of a hardship exemption and low or no-interest loans; flexibility to retain licensed general contractors; and shared liability for slip and falls.”

Sincerely,

Patricia Berman
DLANC President

Sincerely,

Eric R. Garcia
DLANC Community Impact Committee Chair