

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: As the Director of Government & Public Affairs for the Los Angeles Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, I am writing to support LASAN's efforts to update the Low Impact Development Ordinance with the explicit goal of making housing development less encumbered with the complexity and added-time of obtaining a LID clearance. Originally, back in 2021 when we approached LASAN we advocated to have the LID clearance 'sunsetting' for all housing development until we were able to collectively resolve our ongoing housing affordability crisis. In addition, with new regional stormwater strategies in place with funding sources from both Measure A and Measure W, the LID ordinance is often at cross-purposes with those more comprehensive and resilient regional strategies to collect, absorb, and clean stormwater. Therefore, we're pleased to see that progress is being made to address this issue in the current draft ordinance and 100% applaud LASAN's leadership in advancing this initiative. However, a few questions remain: I. Does a mixed-use housing residential project over 5,000 square feet that includes within it a 'parking lot, a.k.a. parking garage' now become subject to the LID clearance? II. What about a mixed-use housing residential project over 5,000 square feet that includes within it a 'restaurant'? III. Which begs the question: Why would a 9,999 square foot commercial mall or Industrial Park NOT be subject to LID but yet a 5,001 foot mixed-use residential project (with a parking garage or restaurant within it) be subject to LID? We think it will be helpful to ensure that the ordinance is made more clear by stating the objective that is summarized in the June 27th City Attorney's Report -- but is not made explicit within the ordinance: "With the proposed changes in the LID ordinance, a majority of residential land use projects - Small Scale projects - would no longer be subject to LID requirements." We request to have that sentence added to the ordinance to clarify intent and to reduce any unintended ambiguity that the ordinance as currently written may accidentally deliver. Additionally, it will be helpful to define "Small Scale Projects" in the LID ordinance, as well. Thank you for your leadership on this initiative. AIA LA Looks forward to working with City Council to identify and 'sunset' additional departmental clearances that are either no longer necessary and/or creating undue complexity as it relates to the

timely and cost-effective delivery of housing. Please do not
hesitate to reach out to me with any questions or comments. Truly
Yours, Will Wright Director, Government & Public Affairs AIA
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