

Communication from Public

Name: Elise Swanson

Date Submitted: 10/02/2023 09:32 AM

Council File No: 23-0957

Comments for Public Posting: The San Pedro Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors strongly supports a JEDI Zone for Pacific Avenue in San Pedro from 1st to 14th Streets. This historic commercial corridor is a heavily traveled thoroughfare for residents and visitors, and is suffering from conditions of blight and neglect. The San Pedro Chamber, in conjunction with community partners, conducted a community walk to assess conditions on Pacific Avenue in February of 2023. We met with many business owners on Pacific. We believe that a JEDI Zone would also be an important tool to address the conditions we recorded, and will help the many small business owners on Pacific Avenue with façade programs, access to capital, and reduction of permit fees. We respectfully request that the LA City Council support the motion submitted by Councilmember McOsker to request Economic & Workforce Development (EWDD) to prepare an assessment of Pacific Avenue as a potential JEDI Zone. We believe that the Pacific Avenue will meet the criteria for underserved areas that experience persistent unemployment and underemployment, low and moderate household income earnings, and neighborhood instability. Thank you for consideration of our request.

Communication from Public

Name: Elise Swanson
Date Submitted: 10/02/2023 11:43 AM
Council File No: 23-0957
Comments for Public Posting: See attached letter.



August 16, 2023

Councilmember Tim McOsker
Council District 15
City of Los Angeles
638 S. Beacon Street
San Pedro, California 90731

RE: JEDI Zone for Pacific Avenue, San Pedro

Dear Councilmember McOsker,

The San Pedro Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors has prioritized Pacific Avenue in San Pedro as an area of focus and attention. This historic commercial corridor is a heavily traveled thoroughfare for residents and visitors, and an important component of the Port of LA's Connectivity Plan. It is vital that we address the conditions of blight and neglect as we move forward with the redevelopment of the waterfront.

The San Pedro Chamber, in conjunction with community partners, conducted a community walk to assess conditions on Pacific Avenue in February of 2023. We have supported an Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District to help address the needs on Pacific Avenue, but we know that a JEDI Zone would also be an important tool. On September 16, 2023, the San Pedro Chamber Board of Directors passed the following motion:

MOTION: Respectfully request that Councilmember McOsker submit a motion directing the City of Los Angeles Department of Economic & Workforce Development (EWDD) to prepare an assessment of Pacific Avenue as a potential JEDI Zone. The program provides economic development incentives for underserved areas that experience persistent unemployment and underemployment, low and moderate household income earnings, and neighborhood instability.

The Chamber's focus for the zone is Pacific Avenue from First Street to 22nd Street, however, we understand in speaking with your staff and EWDD that the zone should not exceed 200 businesses. Therefore, we ask that Pacific Avenue from 1st Street to 14th Street be initially assessed for a JEDI zone. This area contains some of the most blighted blocks and covers intersections that have important connections to the waterfront.

The Chamber Board of Directors is committed to working with your office to improve conditions on Pacific Avenue, including investing in the vacant Croatian Cultural Center and moving our offices to Pacific Avenue to help launch revitalization efforts. Please contact me at (310) 832 – 7272 if you have questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elise Swanson".

Elise Swanson
President/CEO
San Pedro Chamber of Commerce

Communication from Public

Name: San Pedro Property Owners Business Improvement District

Date Submitted: 10/02/2023 03:59 PM

Council File No: 23-0957

Comments for Public Posting: We would like to add our support for the creation of this JEDI Zone in San Pedro. The San Pedro PBID does encompass Pacific Ave from 3rd St to 9th St. Adding resources to the corridor could be pivotal in helping business owners, entrepreneurs and property owners to combat blight that has plagued the corridor for some time. At one time this was the most important commercial corridor in our community and we are working to return it to that stature. Resources can be used for beautification, security, job growth, among other tools.

Communication from Public

Name: Liz Schindler Johnson

Date Submitted: 10/02/2023 02:30 PM

Council File No: 23-0957

Comments for Public Posting: As a long-term business operator in downtown San Pedro, I strongly support the motion to evaluate Pacific Avenue, from 1st Street to 14th Street, in San Pedro as a Jobs and Economic Development Incentive (JEDI) Zone. San Pedro's Pacific Avenue was once a thriving and important part of the downtown business district in the 1950s and earlier. However, it has been long neglected. The JEDI zone designation will be an important economic development tool to jump-start the street's economic turnaround and improve community safety. Thank you for your consideration of this motion.