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November 4, 2024

Los Angeles City Council
c/o Office of the City Clerk
City Hall, Room 395
Los Angeles, California 90012

Attention: PLUM Committee

Dear Honorable Members:

PLUM COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION ITEMS FOR THE DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY PLAN AND THE NEW ZONING CODE; CF 22-0617; CASE NO. CPC-2017-432-CPU; CPC-2014-1582-CA; ENV-2017-433-EIR

At its meeting on May 3, 2023, the Los Angeles City Council unanimously approved the Downtown Los Angeles Community Plan and the New Zoning Code ("Approved Project"). The City Council further requested the City Attorney to prepare and present several ordinances within the Approved Project during Form and Legality review.

On or after November 4th, 2024, the City Attorney transmitted the prepared ordinances to the Council File, as described in the City Attorney Transmittal Report for the draft ordinances. The Department of City Planning further prepared a Supplemental Report to the PLUM Committee, dated on or after November 4th, 2024, which provides a summary of the key changes that were incorporated into the Approved Project during Form and Legality review, and optional modifications for City Council consideration.

Below is a list of **recommended actions** on the Approved Project for the City Council to take action on:

- 1) **Find**, in the independent judgment of the decision maker, after review and consideration of the entire record, including EIR No. ENV-2017-433-EIR (Project EIR) and the Addendum, the Draft Ordinances for the Downtown Community Plan Update and the New Zoning Code were analyzed in the Project EIR and pursuant to Section 15162 and 15164 of the CEQA Guidelines, no supplemental or subsequent EIR is required; **Adopt** the MMP.

- 2) **Adopt** the Findings in the Staff Recommendation Report, located in Council File No. 22-0617, in the document dated October 18, 2022, and identified as, “Exhibit A - Staff Recommendation,” and the Findings located in the Council File document dated October 18, 2022, and identified as “Exhibit B - City Charter, LAMC, and General Plan Findings,” as the Council Findings, as well as the staff reports, memoranda, and report backs related to draft ordinance modifications.
- 3) **Adopt** the following draft ordinances, as amended to include some or all of City Planning’s Optional Modifications for Council Consideration from City Planning’s November 2024 Supplemental Report, prepared by the City Attorney and transmitted to the City Council file on or after November 1, 2024:
 - a) Chapter 1A Zoning Code Ordinance;
 - b) Chapter 1A Zoning Code Maps;
 - c) Downtown Community Plan Implementation Overlay (CPIO) District Ordinance;
 - d) Downtown Community Benefits Trust Fund Ordinance;
 - e) Downtown Community Benefits Fee Ordinance;
 - f) River Improvement Overlay (RIO) District Amendment Ordinance;
 - g) Amended Greater Downtown Housing Incentive Ordinance;
 - h) Ordinance to Rescind the Bunker Hill Specific Plan;
 - i) Ordinance to Rescind the Downtown Design Guide; and
 - j) Pipeline Parking Alignment Ordinance; and
 - k) Community Plan Consolidation Ordinance.
- 4) **Adopt** the draft Zone Change Map and Matrices ordinance transmitted by the Planning Department to the Council File on October 25, 2024.
- 5) **Instruct** the Director of City Planning to adopt the Existing Wireless Telecommunications Facilities Spectrum Act Compliance Handbook of the New Zoning Code pursuant to Sec. 4C.12.5. (Existing Wireless Telecommunications Facilities Spectrum Act Compliance Handbook), shown in the Council file as transmitted by the Planning Department on or after November 4, 2024.
- 6) **Request** that the City Attorney make the amendments previously requested in the proposed Process and Procedures Maintenance Ordinance (CF 12-0460-S8) without overriding the language adopted in Article 13 through CF 22-0617 and make any adjustments to the text to maintain the primacy of this version.

- 7) As the City is adopting an entire new Zoning Code (Chapter 1A of the LAMC), and as City Planning will be taking on a new role as publisher of Chapter 1A of the LAMC, **authorize** City Planning within a year of the operative date of this ordinance to update Chapter 1A of the LAMC as follows:
- a) As deemed necessary by the Director, City Planning may prepare technical corrections to this ordinance that would correct citations and typographical errors that do not result in substantive changes to the policies adopted by the City Council through Council File 22-0617 in their approval of this final ordinance, in consultation with the City Attorney. Such technical corrections may include:
 - i) Corrections to typographical errors and citations.
 - ii) Stylistic and formatting consistency edits
 - iii) Corrections to ensure consistency between provisions.
 - iv) Corrections to clarify the implementation of a provision.
 - v) Updates to illustrations or graphics to align with the text of Chapter 1A of the LAMC.
 - b) City Planning will bring those corrections to the City Council for final approval.
- 8) Recommend that the City Council **instruct** City Planning to prepare an amendment to the Zoning Code to allow for:
- a) Limited authority for City Planning to make minor nonsubstantive corrections and errors in the Zoning Code necessary to preserve the original meaning and in no case changing the effect of the original ordinance, and;
 - b) A streamlined technical correction process to Zone Change, Zoning Code Amendment and other similar sections of Article 13 to ensure errors in adopted ordinances and zoning maps are addressed in an efficient and timely manner.

Sincerely,

VINCENT P. BERTONI, AICP
Director of Planning



Craig Weber
Principal City Planner

VPB:SMMB:CW:EC:MS:en