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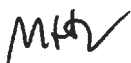
In January of this year, Assembly Member Carillo introduced AB 1950, which involves the 1959 eminent domain actions of the City of Los Angeles in the neighborhoods of Palo Verde, Bishop and La Loma - collectively known as Chavez Ravine. The initial action was reportedly taken to produce public housing, but that project did not materialize. Ultimately, the City engaged in a land swap that resulted in the land being transferred to a private entity to construct Dodger Stadium.

Among other things, AB 1950 would require the City to create a task force for the purpose of providing compensation to former residents and landowners displaced from Chavez Ravine, as defined, between 1950 to 1961, inclusive, and their descendants. The bill would set forth the composition of the task force, consisting of 9 members. Among other duties, the task force would be required to oversee the city's administration process pursuant to these provisions and to create specified reports addressing various matters related to compensation for former residents and landowners of Chavez Ravine and their descendants.

The bill would also require the City to decide on one of several forms of compensation, including conveying city-owned real property for housing, use, and enjoyment equal to the square footage area of land acquired by the City or monetary compensation for the taking of the former landowners' property equal to the fair market value at the time of sale or taking, adjusted for inflation. The bill would provide that the compensation would be exempt from taxation and the real property tax.

Staff analysis of this bill indicates that the City will incur "significant" costs in providing this compensation to eligible parties. It is not clear in the bill language what costs will be borne by the City and which costs will be reimbursable from the State General Fund. Further, even if such costs were fully reimbursed, under basic principles of home rule and local control, the state legislature lacks the authority to instruct a charter city such as Los Angeles in issues of municipal affairs or expenditure of municipal funds.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council instruct the Chief Legislative Analyst, in conjunction with the City Administrative Officer and the Office of the City Attorney, to report back within 15 days on:



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- A. The potential costs of the programs called out in the proposed bill, including those associated with creating and operating a new task force and any associated legal and court fees; and
- B. A strategy to pursue eligible sources of compensation for the actions proposed by this bill, including seeking reimbursement from the State General Fund through the Commission on State Mandates, or other sources of state funds that might be available to pay for the costs that may be mandated by AB 1950.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Council request an opinion from the City Attorney within 30 days on the applicability of "home rule" principles under the State Constitution and the common law as it pertains to this bill and the State's ability, or inability, to mandate this action upon a charter city.

PRESENTED BY: _____



PAUL KREKORIAN
Councilmember, 2nd District

SECONDED BY: _____



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