

Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to City Council and Committees.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at NCsupport@lacity.org.

This is an automated response, please do not reply to this email.

Contact Information

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(16) Nay(0) Abstain(1) Ineligible(1) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 03/08/2021

Type of NC Board Action: Against

Impact Information

Date: 03/13/2021

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 09-0969-S3

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary:

To whom it may concern,

We, the Wilshire Center-Koreatown Neighborhood Council, oppose and urge you to oppose any increase in non-applicant-initiated appeal fees as proposed in a December 2, 2020 [report](#) from the Department of City Planning detailing policy recommendations and revisions to Los Angeles Municipal Code Sections 19.00 through 19.12 as part of their 'Comprehensive Fee Update.'

When the item was first introduced at the Citywide PLUM Committee on February 4th, 2021, the item was not presented for comment until a stakeholder indicated the public may comment on a continued item if their comments are limited to the continuance itself, even in a special meeting. Despite the comment itself being restricted by the City Attorney's Office, it brought to light the proposed doubling of fees for non-applicant appellants and highlighted the disparity between the report's summary as listed on the agenda and the actual substantive recommendations being made in the report itself. Until this point, no Community Impact Statements had been submitted by any Neighborhood Council and only one has been submitted as of February 18th, 2021 from the Hollywood United Neighborhood Council.

This Council sees the proposed doubling of non-applicant appeal fees as unfairly burdening the average member of the public, whose opportunities for feedback, engagement, and recourse in the planning process seem increasingly limited. This undue financial burden would be especially felt in our diverse and uniquely vulnerable community, which has seen more than its fair share of development and urbanization. While our Neighborhood Council endeavors to work in our stakeholders' best interests, we are limited in our means as a volunteer organization. The appeals process for non-applicants is an essential facet of necessary public engagement in the planning process and keeping that process accessible through its current subsidized \$89 fee better allows stakeholders to address relevant concerns when all other avenues fail.

For the above reasons, we urge you to oppose the passage of [Council File 09-0969-S3](#), and instead pursue alternatives which do not recoup the costs from the average citizen and/or any vulnerable populations.