

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

Neighborhood Council: Wilmington Neighborhood Council

Name: Gina Martinez

Phone Number:

Email: wnc.gina@gmail.com

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(9) Nay(1) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 03/23/2021

Type of NC Board Action: Against

Impact Information

Date: 03/24/2021

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 09-0969-S3

Agenda Date: 03/23/2021

Item Number: 8.e

Summary: On March 23, 2020, the Wilmington Neighborhood Council held a Brown Act meeting and took official action by overwhelmingly voting to oppose Council File 09-0969-S3 for the reasons outlined in the attached document.

COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT CF #09-0969-S3

The Department of Planning, at the request of the Mayor, did a cost analysis report regarding recommendations for fee increases to shift burden from the General Fund to a cost capture calculation that would cover the costs of the services provided. In that report, the Department of Planning recommended a fee increase from \$89 to \$158, which would be a small percentage of the cost of processing an appeal. Costs for appeals are currently paid from the General Fund which is taxpayer funded. "One of the most heavily subsidized areas is the non-applicant-initiated appeal fee. The current appeal fee is \$89, and City Planning has proposed an increase to \$158, which is pegged to 1% of the total cost of appeal. The City Council and specifically the PLUM Committee, has disregarded the recommended increase by the planning department from \$89.00 to 158.00 and has recommended and proposed that the fee be increased to approximately \$16,000. This is an assault on public discussion, public participation and denies the average stakeholder access to the planning process. An increase of this magnitude would have devastating effects on communities such as Wilmington. Our community has already been marginalized for decades from decisions made by planning and land use due to our natural resources (Port of Los Angeles and the 3rd largest oil field in the nation). We already are in the most polluted and contaminated community in the nation. A decision such as this basically puts our environment and our community for sale to the party with the deepest pockets. The proposal to raise the fee from \$89 to more than \$16,000 was not noticed to any Neighborhood Councils or to members of the public, but rather 3 notices were given: 2 published in the Daily Journal (not a publication read by most community members outside of the business or legal community) and a letter sent to the Builders Association of America. This fee increase represents a massive gift to developers, land use lawyers, lobbyists, and special interests in City Hall as evidenced by the lack of public notice and specific special interest notices. Further there has been no outreach on this issue. Local community groups, environmental groups and the average stakeholder have all been left out of the process and should this proposal pass will be permanently silenced. For all the reasons above, and the policy of attempting to silence the community and those whose rights would be lost in the land use planning process, The Wilmington Neighborhood Council OPPOSES any fee increase which is already subsidized by the taxpayers through the General Fund.