

STATUTORY AND CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION PURSUANT TO THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA), RELATED CEQA FINDINGS, MODIFIED NEGATIVE DECLARATION, PLANNING AND LAND USE MANAGEMENT (PLUM) COMMITTEE REPORT, ORDINANCE FIRST CONSIDERATION, and RESOLUTION relative to a Code Amendment to Article 6 of Chapter 1 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC), to provide regulatory relief from certain zoning and land use requirements during a local emergency.

Recommendations for Council action, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR:

1. FIND, based on the whole of the administrative record, that the draft Ordinance is exempt from CEQA pursuant to California Public Resources Code Section 21080.25 and CEQA Guidelines, Section 15301 (Class 1), and there is no substantial evidence demonstrating that an exception to a Categorical Exemption pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, Section 15300.2 applies; FIND, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15074(b), after consideration of the whole of the administrative record, including the Negative Declaration, No. ENV-2020-4927-ND, the modification to the Negative Declaration, dated May 13, 2021, including the Initial Study completed for this project and all comments received, there is no substantial evidence that the project will have a significant effect on the environment; FIND that the Negative Declaration reflects the independent judgement and analysis of the City; and, ADOPT the Negative Declaration.
2. ADOPT the Revised Findings of the PLUM Committee, attached to the Council file, as the Findings of Council.
3. ADOPT the accompanying ORDINANCE, dated May 13, 2021, amending Article 6 of Chapter I of the LAMC to provide regulatory relief from certain zoning and land use requirements during a local emergency; and, ADOPT the updated Fee Assessment included in the Attachment of the Department of City Planning (DCP) transmittal report, dated May 13, 2021, attached to the Council file, as part of the record for said Ordinance, and justification for the utilization of the fee as part of the adoption and implementation of said Ordinance.
4. ADOPT the Urgency Clause for said Ordinance pursuant to City Charter Section 253.
5. ADOPT the accompanying RESOLUTION activating the provisions of said Ordinance, in response to the Local Emergency declaration originally issued on March 4, 2020, and subsequently affirmed, amended, extended, and ongoing.
6. DIRECT the DCP, with the assistance of the Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety (LADBS), to report back on an Emergency Building Amnesty Program to allow small businesses with unpermitted construction or unpermitted commercial occupancies to apply for building permits for existing buildings, additions, and remodels; which Program should include financial incentives that waive or reduce investigative fees, fines, penalties, any other related permitting

costs; and, allow the approval of projects utilizing the building and zoning code in effect at the time of construction, with exemption from certain fire and life safety provisions.

Applicant: City of Los Angeles

Case No. CPC-2020-4926-CA

Environmental Nos. ENV-2020-4927-ND; ENV-2021-325-CE-SE

Fiscal Impact Statement: The Los Angeles City Planning Commission reports that there is no General Fund impact as administrative costs are recovered through fees.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

URGENCY CLAUSE – 10 VOTES REQUIRED ON SECOND READING

Summary:

At a regular meeting held on May 18, 2021, the PLUM Committee considered the DCP report dated May 13, 2021 with a Statutory and Categorical Exemption, modification to the Negative Declaration, Revised Findings, updated Fee Assessment, and Resolution; and, the City Attorney report and draft Ordinance relative to amending Article 6 of Chapter 1 of the LAMC to provide regulatory relief from certain zoning and land use requirements during a local emergency. The draft Ordinance reflects the amendments approved during the February 16, 2021 PLUM Committee Meeting that were requested from the City Attorney; and, includes an Urgency Clause pursuant to City Charter Section 253. After providing an opportunity for public comment, the Committee recommended to adopt the Categorical and Statutory Exemption, Negative Declaration, modification to the Negative Declaration, Revised Findings, draft Ordinance with an Urgency Clause and updated Fee Assessment, and Resolution activating the provisions of the draft Ordinance, including the direction to the DCP and LADBS approved during the February 16, 2021 PLUM Committee Meeting to report on an Emergency Building Amnesty Program. This matter is now submitted to the Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

PLANNING AND LAND USE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
HARRIS-DAWSON:	YES
CEDILLO:	YES
BLUMENFIELD:	YES
RIDLEY-THOMAS:	YES
LEE:	YES

AXB
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