

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND JOBS COMMITTEE REPORT relative to establishment of Jobs and Economic Development Incentive (JEDI) Zones at the Watts Site location on Wilmington Avenue between 103rd Street on the north and 114th Street on the south; and the Wilmington Site, on Avalon Boulevard between C Street and Opp Street.

Recommendations for Council action, as initiated by Motion (Buscaino – Huizar):

1. DESIGNATE the:

- a. Watts site on Wilmington Avenue between 103rd Street to 114th Street in Council District 15 as a City of Los Angeles JEDI Zone (Watts Site on Wilmington Avenue JEDI Zone), for a period of five years.
- b. Wilmington site on Avalon Boulevard between C Street and Opp Street in Council District 15 as a City of Los Angeles JEDI Zone (Wilmington Site on Avalon Blvd. JEDI Zone), for a period of five years.

2. AUTHORIZE the Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD) to:

- a. Implement a Business Incentive Plan for Wilmington Site, as detailed in the February 16, 2022 EWDD report, attached to the Council File, consistent with the adopted JEDI Zone Establishment Policy, including providing permit subsidies of up to \$10,000 for up to 15 businesses within the Wilmington site on Avalon Blvd JEDI Zone, with a total allocation of up to \$150,000 from previously appropriated JEDI Program funds.
- b. Implement a Business Incentive Plan for Watts Site, as detailed in the February 16, 2022 EWDD report, attached to the Council File, consistent with the adopted JEDI Zone Establishment Policy, including providing permit subsidies of up to \$10,000 for up to 15 businesses within the Watts site on Wilmington Avenue JEDI Zone, with a total allocation of up to \$150,000 from previously appropriated JEDI Program funds.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The EWDD reports that there is no impact to the General Fund. During the establishment of the JEDI Zone program, Council and Mayor authorized the use of \$1,000,000 of former Urban Development Action Grant (UDAG) funds to provide permit fee reductions for businesses located in designated JEDI Zones (Council File No. 13-0934-S2).

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On March 8, 2022, your Committee considered a February 16, 2022 EWDD report relative to the establishment of two JEDI Zones: the Wilmington Site located on Avalon Boulevard from C Street to Opp Street; and the Watts Site located on Wilmington Avenue from 103rd Street to 114th Street. According to the EWDD, approval of this action will establish two City JEDI Zones in the neighborhoods of Watts and Wilmington. The establishment of the Watts site, on Wilmington Avenue between 103rd Street on the north and 114th Street on the south, and the Wilmington site, on Avalon Boulevard between C Street and Opp Street, is consistent with the approved JEDI Zones Establishment Policy and Incentive Plan, (JEDI Establishment Policy”), as adopted on March 6, 2020, and revised on November 3, 2021 (Council File No. 13-0934-S2).

JEDI Zones are defined areas where local economic incentives will be used to enhance existing businesses and attract new businesses and industries that will result in increased economic development and growth in the City of Los Angeles, particularly in communities that have been historically underinvested. The EWDD is responding to a Council Motion directing the EWDD to evaluate three potential JEDI Zones located in Council District 15 (CD15). The EWDD conducted a baseline evaluation of the proposed JEDI Zones in order to provide a description and analysis of the proposed JEDI Zone, assessment of area’s economic distress level, and recommendations for the establishment of the JEDI Zone and provision of business incentives to enhance economic development in the corridor through a Business Incentive Plan. The EWDD conducted a baseline evaluation of the proposed JEDI Zones, hereinafter named:

- Wilmington Site, on Avalon from C Street to Opp Street
- Watts Site, on Wilmington Avenue from 103rd Street to 114th Street
- San Pedro Site, on 6th Street from Harbor Boulevard to Pacific Avenue

After consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to recommend the Wilmington and Watts JEDI Zones as detailed in the above recommendations. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Economic Development and Jobs Committee

COUNCILMEMBER	VOTE
PRICE:	YES
KREKORIAN:	YES
BLUMENFIELD:	YES
RAMAN:	YES
HARRIS-DAWSON:	YES

COUNCILMEMBER	VOTE
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-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-