

Communication from Public

Name: Westwood Village Improvement Association

Date Submitted: 05/13/2022 03:26 PM

Council File No: 18-1101

Comments for Public Posting: Honorable Councilmembers; The Westwood Village Improvement Association (WVIA) is asking the Planning and Land Use Management Committee to support the draft amendments to the Westwood Village Specific Plan recommended by the Planning Department and the Los Angeles City Planning Commission in response to Councilmember Koretz's motion introduced in 2018. These Specific Plan amendments are crucial to the revitalization of Westwood Village. Relief from unique and burdensome regulations will help our community overcome crippling retail vacancy rates. Westwood Village retail vacancy is 39.6% and the availability rate, which includes sublease and known move-outs, is 51.6%. In comparison, the Los Angeles's retail vacancy rate is 21.3% and the availability rate is 26.7%. Since Councilmember Koretz introduced CF: 18-1101 in November 2018 the Village's vacancy rate has increased 240%! Westwood stakeholders have rallied to support the Planning Department's draft ordinance. To date, over 800 letters and counting have been submitted to Planning Staff and City Council members in support of the amendments to the Specific Plan. The North Westwood Neighborhood Council also supports the amendments. The Village availability rate has climbed to over 50% during the WVSP amendment process and vacancies will continue to increase until we have regulatory relief. We urge you to support CF: 18-1101 and expedite the approval process so that Westwood Village can begin to recover. Sincerely, Andrew Thomas Executive Director, WVIA



May 13, 2022

Councilmember Harris-Dawson
Councilmember Cedillo
Councilmember Blumenfield
Councilmember Lee
Councilmember Rodriguez

CF: 18-1101 - Westwood Village Specific Plan Amendments

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Sincerely,

Andrew Thomas
Executive Director, WVIA