



Westside  
Regional  
Alliance of  
Councils

westsidecouncils.com

Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council  
Brentwood Community Council  
Del Rey Neighborhood Council  
Mar Vista Community Council  
Neighborhood Council of Westchester-Playa  
North Westwood Neighborhood Council  
Pacific Palisades Community Council

Palms Neighborhood Council  
South Robertson Neighborhoods Council  
Venice Neighborhood Council  
West LA-Sawtelle Neighborhood Council  
Westside Neighborhood Council  
Westwood Community Council  
Westwood Neighborhood Council

June 30, 2023

Hon. Karen Bass, Mayor, City of Los Angeles  
Hon. Traci Park, Councilwoman, CD 11  
Hon. Katy Yaroslavsky, Councilwoman, CD 5  
Hon. Nithya Raman, Councilmember, CD 4  
Hon. Heather Hutt, Councilwoman, CD 10  
Vincent P. Bertoni, Director, Dept. of City Planning  
Shana Bonstin, Deputy Director, Community Planning, Dept. of City Planning

*Via email to all addressees*

Re: **Community Plan Updates Requests**

Honorable City officials:

The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) is a coalition of all fourteen neighborhood and community councils on the Westside of Los Angeles, located in CDs 5 and 11 and portions of CDs 4 and 10.

In connection with the Community Plan updates process, WRAC's member councils have long expressed concern about zoning capacity and the methodology used in allocation of RHNA growth numbers, as well as the need for the Planning Dept. to thoughtfully consider input from WRAC member councils and stakeholders in the process.

As a result, a super-majority of WRAC member councils (*10 councils – unanimous among all councils that have considered the motion*) have adopted the following motion (or modified versions in keeping with its spirit), which is an adopted position of WRAC:

*“The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils insists, on behalf of the stakeholders it represents, that prior to the completion of Community Plan updates, the City inform communities of the methodology by which it determines the allocation of RHNA numbers and the calculations that derive density housing goals in order to meet the aims of the Housing Element.*

*“These include, for each Community Plan and Community or Neighborhood Council area:*

- A) Current zoning capacity (including existing density bonuses & commercial zones that allow residential uses) and reasonably expected population change.*
- B) The methodology which will be used to allocate RHNA growth numbers.*
- C) RHNA allocation of units in each community.*

*“We also urge the Planning Department to thoughtfully consider the input (submitted by previous written comment or imparted in real time) of Neighborhood and Community Councils as well as stakeholders that come together for the purpose of contributing to the Community Plan update process with informed and productive input, insight and/or suggestions. This essential input must be implemented by Planning staff, and the contributions reflected by being substantively included in the outcome/drafting of revised Community Plans. We urge that a report back mechanism be implemented by Planning staff, in order to inform communities of where and how their input has been received and incorporated into the final drafting process.*

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*“We would like to understand the role of the Westside Community Plan Advisory Group (WCPAG) and be assured that the WCPAG’s voice will not outweigh that of local stakeholders.”*

The language of the above motion has been approved by the following WRAC member councils: Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council, Brentwood Community Council, Neighborhood Council Westchester-Playa, Mar Vista Community Council, Pacific Palisades Community Council, South Robertson Neighborhoods Council,\* Venice Neighborhood Council, West LA-Sawtelle Neighborhood Council, Westside Neighborhood Council and Westwood Neighborhood Council (*\*modified version maintaining the spirit of the motion*).

No member councils have opposed the WRAC motion or submitted a minority letter to accompany this position.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge that in connection with the Community Plan updates, the City cooperate with WRAC member councils in providing the information and taking the actions requested above. We further request an explanation of the role of the WCPAG and assurances that the WCPAG’s voice will not outweigh that of local stakeholders.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*Robin Greenberg*

Robin Greenberg  
Chair  
Westside Regional Alliance of Councils

cc (via email):

Jared Rivera, Deputy Mayor of Community Engagement  
Diego Janacua, City Planner, Dept. of City Planning  
Jeff Khau, Planning Deputy, CD 11  
Dylan Sittig, Sr. Planning Deputy, CD 5