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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

January 27, 2024

Hon. Karen Bass, Mayor, City of Los Angeles
Hon. Heather Hutt, Councilwoman, CD 10 and Chair, City Council Transportation Committee (CTC)
Hon. Traci Park, Councilwoman, CD 11 and Vice-Chair, CTC
Hon. Katy Yaroslavsky, Councilwoman, CD 5, Member, CTC and Member, Metro Board
Hon. Nithya Raman, Councilmember, CD 4 and Member, CTC

Via email to all addressees and submission to the City Clerk online filing portal in CF 23-0360

Re: Council File 23-0360 – Request to Further Amend the Administrative Code regarding Parking Space Replacement Policy

Dear Mayor Bass and Councilmembers Hutt, Park, Yaroslavsky and Raman:

The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) is a cooperative coalition, founded in 2009, 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. Together, WRAC's Member Councils represent over 500,000 Los Angeles stakeholders.

WRAC Member Councils are concerned that the change in the parking space replacement policy resulting from the passage of CF 23-0360 does not adequately address the needs of small businesses on the Westside, including the need for parking for their customers. As a result, a majority (8) of WRAC Member Councils have passed the following motion, which is an adopted position of WRAC:

"The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) is concerned about the passage of CF 23-0360, which nullifies Sections 22.482(a) and 22.602 of the Administrative Code and changes the parking space replacement policy when LADOT parking facilities with spaces greater than 25 are transferred to the Housing Department for redevelopment as affordable or supportive housing.

"WRAC is sensitive to how difficult it can be to develop affordable and supportive housing in Los Angeles. We recognize there is a shortage of affordable and supportive housing and believe that Los Angeles would benefit from making it easier to build such housing.

"Until now, when LADOT-managed parking facilities have been redeveloped, all the parking spaces had to be replaced, increasing the cost of the development. With the passage of CF 23-0360, the spaces will no longer be required to be replaced.

"However, we believe that the needs of small businesses, including the need for parking for their customers, have not been adequately considered with the nullification of Administrative Code Sections 22.482(a) and 22.602 and establishment of the new parking space replacement policy.

"Therefore, we respectfully request that Councilmembers representing WRAC member councils who are also members of the City Council Transportation Committee – Councilmembers Park, Yaroslavsky, Raman and/or Hutt – bring a motion in Los Angeles City Council forthwith to further amend the Administrative Code to include concessions for small businesses by replacing the new parking space development footprint. The City should determine how much parking to replace by using a sliding scale for parking replacement based on prior utilization, as well as the availability of nearby public parking, rather than never requiring any replacement."

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The following WRAC Member Councils have advised that they have adopted the above motion: Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council, Brentwood Community Council, Mar Vista Community Council, Neighborhood Council Westchester-Playa, Venice Neighborhood Council, West LA-Sawtelle Neighborhood Council, Westside Neighborhood Council and Westwood Neighborhood Council.

No Member Council has advised that it has voted to oppose this motion.

We respectfully request that the members of the CTC who represent WRAC Member Councils (CMs Park, Yaroslavsky, Raman and Hutt) bring a motion in Council to further amend the Administrative Code to address the needs of small businesses in connection with parking space replacement, as described above.

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation and consideration.

Sincerely,

Robin Greenberg and Christina Spitz

Robin Greenberg, Chair
Christina Spitz, Vice-Chair
Westside Regional Alliance of Councils

cc (via email):
Key staff for the Mayor and above Councilmembers