



Mar Vista Community Council



MAR VISTA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

PLUM Committee

August 23, 2017 6:30 p.m.

Mar Vista Public Library

Public Meeting Room

12006 Venice Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90066

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions and Public Comments for items not on agenda
3. Passing of Minutes
4. New Business

a) **Presentation by Matz properties on new drive-thru Starbucks at 3505 South Sepulveda.**

b) **Presentation of Policy for vote by committee to pass on to full board concerning city notification requirements before the construction of new cell phone towers :**

Policy Motion submitted by Damien Newton, Mar Vista Community Council Zone 2 Director for consideration to the Planning and Land Use Committee of the Mar Vista Community Council.

Recognizing : That there are various state and federal laws that restrict what cities can and cannot do when it comes to the permitting of the construction of telecommunications facilities;

Recognizing : That the process preceding and during construction of a cell phone vault and tower on East Blvd between Venice & Pacific left nearby residents angry, confused, and disenfranchised

Recognizing : That the behavior of the company installing the vault infuriated an already bad situation by blocking driveways for days on end, damaging existing infrastructure, and harassing neighbors

Recognizing : That the city issued a permit for this process in 2015, and that notices were mailed to as few as two houses near the site

Recognizing : That while this permit expired, an attachment that allowed the vault is automatically extended

Recognizing : That many long-term residents were unaware of the project and that newer residents would have had no chance to appeal the project

Therefor, let it be resolved that:

- 1) The City of Los Angeles review its automatic extension process for cell phone towers and vaults and make any changes allowed under state and federal law to allow residents more opportunities to learn about projects in their neighborhoods.
- 2) That if the city cannot substantially change its automatic extension process, that it require that notices on extended permits be mailed to all impacted residents
- 3) That the pool of impacted residents be included to include any residents who will be impacted by construction or installation of the vault, i.e. that people who have their driveways blocked get proper notice
- 4) That the appeal fee for appealing a permit granted for cell phone tower construction be reduced from \$100 to \$1
- 5) That a code of behavior for companies installing towers be created that includes notification and behavior of construction employees
- 6) That the city require "proof of deliver" for permit applications notifications.

c) **Presentation of Policy for vote by committee to pass on to full board concerning a proposal to increase fees to stakeholders and residents groups to appeal various permits from the Planning Department :**

Recognizing : That some City Councilmembers, City Planning Commissioners, and staff at various levels of city government feel there is a problem with “nuisance appeals” of approved permits and projects granted by the City of Los Angeles;

Recognizing : That oftentimes the appeals process provides the best chance for resident and neighborhood associations to appeal projects and permits when errors are made by city staff and planning commissioners;

Recognizing : That some of the fees being discussed to file an appeal of a project by a resident or Neighborhood Association;

Therefor Let It Be Resolved : That the Mar Vista Community Council opposes any proposal to raise fees on appeals for any project or permit that comes from City Planning or the Planning Commission or any other city department or board without first conducting a lengthy public review process that includes a presentation with opportunity to provide feedback to any and all neighborhood councils.

5. Old Business

a) **Update on 12444 Venice Boulevard Proposal** - hearing held the morning of 8/22

b) **Update on cell phone tower motions** from last meeting, WRAC motion and project on East Blvd between Venice & Pacific

c) **Special Public Comment on Mar Vista Great Streets** - *Public comment will be taken so stakeholders who cannot make another meeting can give testimony that will be shared with the appropriate committee chairs, Transportation and Infrastructure and Great Streets Ad-Hoc. No motions will be accepted or voted on.*

6. Future Agenda Items

7. Public Comment

8. Adjourn

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- * **PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS** – *The public is requested to fill out a “Speaker Card” to address the Board on any agenda item before the Board takes an action on an item. Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Board’s jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Board is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future Board meeting. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.*
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