

## Policy Motions July 14, 2020

**11.10 [POLICY][PLUM] CUB for 12701 Venice Blvd.** – Approval of CUB #ZA-2018-4776-CUN-ZV for on-site sale of beer and high-end sake for Tortoise and a zone variance to make non-conforming use (retail since the early-1940s) conforming.

Motion to approve (Shure/Hruska) Motion approved (9Y/2N/2Abstentions)

**11.11 [POLICY][SHURE] WRAC Foundational Platform** – Approval of the foundational platform for the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils.

Motion to approve (Shure/Kadota) Motion approved (8Y/2N/3 Abstentions)

**11.13 [POLICY][SHURE] Support of WRAC Land-Use Statement** – Action regarding recommendation of a postponement of action on the “Atkins Housing Package” of bills.

Motion to approve (Shure/Hruska) Motion approved without objection



**Mar Vista  
Community Council**

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Certified Neighborhood Council

**VIA EMAIL**

July 27, 2020

TO: Maryam Zar ([chair@westsidecouncils.com](mailto:chair@westsidecouncils.com))

CC: Larry Watts ([vicechair@westsidecouncils.com](mailto:vicechair@westsidecouncils.com)), Barbara Broide  
([secretary@westsidecouncils.com](mailto:secretary@westsidecouncils.com))

At its July 14, 2020 Board meeting, The Mar Vista Community Council approved a statement of support of the Westside Region Association of Councils' foundational platform which reads:

*WRAC is an alliance of Community and Neighborhood Councils which span the entire west side of the City of Los Angeles. Our regional concerns are brought up for discussion by our board members and our board is comprised of Community and Neighborhood Council leaders appointed to our board. Our positions are adopted only after a super-majority of member councils has affirmed the position in question.*

*WRAC holds to the following foundational principles in the areas that we have determined to be our alliance priorities: land use and zoning, housing and homelessness, mobility and transportation, public safety, education and environment. We hold that the LA Department of City Planning and its Planning & Zoning Department adhere strictly to existing planning and zoning codes and ordinances. We urge that regulations be upheld and that communities impacted by land use and development projects be allowed ample time to review and comment on any matter seeking discretionary action that is up for review. We always urge all governing agencies with jurisdiction over the approval, execution or enforcement of projects to scrupulously apply applicable codes and standards to all projects.*

*Similarly, on housing and homelessness, WRAC urges governing bodies to adhere to strict scrutiny of community plans, local character, zoning and building regulations as well as building and safety codes and zoning restrictions. We expect agencies and entities to conduct meaningful outreach to the communities represented at WRAC, through our member councils, and address housing and homelessness relief in a responsible way that is mindful of existing communities as well as the need for increased housing density.*

*With respect to mobility and transportation, WRAC is acutely aware of the need for new and creative solutions to gridlock and Westside mobility, as well as mass transportation. We expect research results on transit and mobility to be made available to communities impacted by pending infrastructure or mobility planning. We urge sufficient notification to all affected parties to allow them to comment on any proposed developments or transportation infrastructure proposals in areas that impact our member councils. Strict scrutiny of existing laws, regulations, ordinances and standards for infrastructure development and construction, particularly in hillside and coastal areas which disproportionately impact the Westside, be applied to transportation and the development of citywide or neighborhood mobility plans and infrastructure.*

*We exist to empower stakeholders, and encourage and support more transparency in City governance.*

Sincerely yours,

Elliot Hanna, Chairman  
Mar Vista Community Council



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**VIA EMAIL**

July 27, 2020

TO: Maryam Zar ([chair@westsidecouncils.com](mailto:chair@westsidecouncils.com))

CC: Larry Watts ([vicechair@westsidecouncils.com](mailto:vicechair@westsidecouncils.com)), Barbara Broide  
([secretary@westsidecouncils.com](mailto:secretary@westsidecouncils.com)), Sharon Commins ([smcommins@msn.com](mailto:smcommins@msn.com))

At its July 14, 2020 Board meeting, The Mar Vista Community Council approved - by unanimous consent – a statement of support for the Westside Region Association of Councils’ Land-Use Statement which reads:

*Whereas, the statewide COVID-19 emergency, or any other emergency, reduces the action calendar time frame of the California State Legislature, and thus greatly reduces the ability of California’s citizens and communities to demand greater accountability, fairness, transparency, and responsiveness from public officials in the area of land use planning;*

*Whereas the proposed “Atkins Housing Package” of bills has not been sufficiently vetted for integration with previously approved Regional Housing Needs Assessment legislation which modernized the methodology for anticipating growth in the State;*

*Whereas the proposed “Atkins Housing Package” of bills has not been sufficiently vetted for growth inducing impacts and hidden substantial state mandated costs upon:*

- i. Local General Plans and Community Plans*
- ii. Communities in environmentally sensitive areas such as Very High Fire Hazard zones, Coastal zones, Earthquake Fault Zones and others as listed in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)*
- iii. Critical local infrastructures for the public health, welfare and safety, and*
- iv. the impact upon underserved communities and the [e]ffect of displacement upon them.*

*WHEREAS, the Mar Vista Community Council recommends a postponement of action on this suite of housing bills until such time as the previously enacted 2018 and 2019 housing legislation has been given a chance to increase housing production as promised.*

Sincerely yours,

Elliot Hanna, Chairman  
Mar Vista Community Council



**VIA EMAIL**

July 27, 2020

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TO: Esther Serrato, Planning Associate, Los Angeles Department of  
City Planning ([esther.serrato@lacity.org](mailto:esther.serrato@lacity.org))

CC: Denise Scelsi, M.A.S., Paralegal, Blake & Ayaz, a Law Corporation  
([denisescelsi@gmail.com](mailto:denisescelsi@gmail.com))

RE: Tortoise Restaurant, 12701 Venice Blvd, CUB #ZA 2018-4776-CUN-ZV

Dear Ms. Serrato:

At its July 14, 2020 Board meeting, The Mar Vista Community Council approved – by a vote of nine ayes, two noes, and two abstentions - a motion in support of the above-referenced C.U.B.

Please consider this as you move forward with this application.

Sincerely yours,

Elliot Hanna, Chairman  
Mar Vista Community Council