

FIX THE APPROVAL PROCESS FOR DEVELOPMENT IN L. A.

WHEREAS, the approval process for construction and development in Los Angeles has a number of problems that make it opaque, arcane and inconsistent; 1) inherent conflicts of interest in that developers hire their own consulting firms to do the Environmental Impact Study, 2) outdated Community Plans and General Plan For L.A., and 3) lack transparency in the approval process resulting in environmental impact, infrastructure stress, traffic congestion, and changing the nature of neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, Democrats believe in transparency, accountability, value quality of life and stakeholders input, it is important that certain procedures in the approval process be revised to require: 1) that developers shall pay for the Environmental Impact Study which shall be contracted through a blind system and managed independently from the developer, 2) that every effort must be made to speed up the Community Planning and General Plan For L.A. process so that a cohesive long-term Plan, with updated city zoning framework, with a long term plan that takes into account stakeholders, the environment, traffic, infrastructure impact, and neighborhood character, and 3) that an approval process be established and made public that is both clear in its requirements and its steps to approval, so that stakeholders, developers, the planning commission, and the city council are clear and transparent about what is being done and that all requirements are being met.

WHEREAS, there is a tremendous need to develop new housing while maintaining quality of life in our community;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Los Angeles County Democratic Party urges the Los Angeles City Council to conduct the approval process and city zoning with speed, transparency; and using independent EIR firms not hired by the developers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this resolution shall be sent to Mayor Eric Garcetti, all 15 City Council Members and Los Angeles City Planning Commission President David Ambroz.

Submitted by Valley Grassroots for Democracy

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Patricia Dexter