City Planning Commission Recommends Approval of the Proposed South and Southeast Los Angeles Community Plans

Los Angeles – The City of Los Angeles achieved a major milestone in finalizing Plans for the South Los Angeles and Southeast Los Angeles communities. On Thursday, June 22nd, the City Planning Commission (CPC) unanimously recommended approval of the Community Plans which will guide and shape future development for years to come. In particular, the Plans will foster thriving transit centers, promote revitalized commercial corridors, and preserve residential neighborhoods.

The CPC’s action is an affirmation of the goals, policies, and zoning tools proposed by the Department of City Planning following an extensive multi-year collaboration with stakeholders across the 30-square miles of South Los Angeles. More than 200 outreach meetings were held in the communities in English and Spanish. The proposed Community Plans aim to incentivize affordable and mixed-income housing around the area’s 30 bus and rail transit stations and enable community-serving investment along miles of underserved commercial corridors. The Plans also seek to eliminate long-standing public health issues associated with noxious land uses and to preserve countless culturally and historically significant places.

“Our Planning Commission’s decision to approve Plans for South LA and Southeast LA Communities represents a watershed moment,” said CPC Commissioner John Mack. “This decision was particularly important given the tremendous needs facing South LA and Southeast LA on one hand; and their great assets and opportunities on the other hand. These plans were updated with foresight and a comprehensive vision and our Planning staff have done tremendous community outreach. The input from the wide range of stakeholders helps move our great City forward. What we are doing is planning in the right way for these communities and our City.”

To make commercial corridors more inviting, the Plans limit or prohibit new over-concentrated uses that are detrimental to the health and welfare of the community.

They will also ensure new projects are a high-quality design and provide better transitions to residential neighborhoods through new development standards.
South and Southeast Los Angeles have rich histories. The Plans will minimize overcrowding in residential areas and preserve the character and scale of lower density neighborhoods by directing new growth around transit centers and establish development standards which protect historic properties.

Another key element to the plans is establishing Community Plan Implementation Overlays (CPIOs). This zoning tool creates subareas that tailor regulations to meet neighborhood specific needs and allows for over-the-counter approval of projects that comply with CPIO standards.

The City Council will consider adopting the Community Plans in early fall.

To learn more about the proposed Community Plans, please visit the South LA plan website and the Southeast LA plan website.

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The Department of City Planning’s Community Plans
The City of Los Angeles is organized into 35 Community Plans, which incorporate and balance a variety of priorities, including maintaining the integrity and stability of existing neighborhoods, providing the ability for increased housing opportunities to address current and future demands, protecting our natural and open space resources, maintaining economic vitality by preserving vibrant commercial areas with businesses of all sizes and preserving industrial areas that provide high-quality, good-paying jobs.