

Motion Requesting Pilot Project Transferring Responsibility for Enforcement of the Zoning Code and Zoning Administrator Determinations and Community Specific Plans from the Department of Building and Safety to the Department of City Planning.

WHEREAS, The Brentwood Community Council (BCC) believes that current City building and zoning enforcement is inadequate to protect the ambiance of our community. Changes the City has made to be “more developer friendly” and to mandate a fee-supported inspection regime in the Building and Safety Department appear to be a major reason for the current situation.

WHEREAS, The department is rewarded for expediting construction and covering the cost of its inspection and plan checking operations. Zoning code enforcement is not viewed as fee supported and is a low priority. Decisions of Zoning Administrators are routinely ignored and not enforced. Clearly, spec builders, developers and some homeowners are “gaming” the system to encroach on setbacks and violate height limits. The BCC has been informed of over height fences erected and hedges planted after Certificates of Occupancy were issued. The City inspectors have refused to issue citations after complaints were made to the City.

RESOLVED: That the BCC requests that the City of Los Angeles transfer responsibility for enforcement of the Zoning Code and Zoning Administrator determinations and Community Specific Plans from the Department of Building and Safety to the Department of City Planning. As an interim step, and to verify the validity of this concept, a two-year pilot project should be initiated in the Brentwood-Pacific Palisades Community Plan area. A committee should be established to include residents and property owners in the area, appointed by the Member of the City Council for the 11th Council District. This committee should be charged with evaluating this pilot program and reporting back to the City no later than 18 months after initiation of the program.