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Office of the City Clerk, City of Los Angeles

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**Council File Number**

[02-2813](#)

**Title**

Name Change to South Los Angeles (SOLA)

**Subject**

Motion - At the turn of the 20th Century, African-Americans migrated from various parts of the United States to the City of Los Angeles seeking employment opportunities and a better quality of life. There was a time period in which residential restrictions allowed people of color to live in only certain areas of the City. As a result, South Central Avenue evolved into a well known street that African-Americans congregated for various reasons. In this area of the City a large number of African-Americans lived and shopped. During this period in times, South Central Avenue became known as "South Central." At one point South Central Avenue was host to the African-American Experience. Many African-American men worked as blacksmiths, barbers, cooks, handymen, teamsters and pullman porters; the women labored as domestic servants or practical nurses. A few African-Americans owned and operated restaurants, barber and beauty shops, and night clubs on South Central Avenue. Also, there was an increase in the membership rolls of local churches. This gave rise to superior African-American choirs, which were known for singing great gospel music. In the period before and after World War I, musicians and bands spent their off-hours performing at hot spots on South Central Avenue. The term "South Central" has been used to describe almost every section of the City where there is a high concentration of African-Americans. After the 1950s, the African-American community began to drift westward towards Crenshaw Boulevard. Even though the area surrounding South Central Avenue is no longer predominantly an African-American community, the term "South Central" has followed the community westward and has a negative connotation following the 1965 and 1992 civil disturbances. Council District 9 and the Cultural Affairs Department have conducted public hearings on whether the area surrounding South Central Avenue should be referred to as "South Los Angeles." The general consensus from the public is that the South Central Avenue area should be referred to as "South Los Angeles." THEREFORE MOVE that all City departments BE REQUESTED to discontinue the use of the term "South Central Los Angeles" on all City documents and replace this phrase with the term "South Los Angeles" as documents are updated and printed.

**Last Change Date**

06/29/2015

**Expiration Date**

06/11/2017

**Council District**

9

**Mover**

JAN PERRY

**Second**

TOM LABONGE

**Mover/Second Comment**

Motion (Parks - Buscaino) - 04/13/2015

**Action History for Council File [02-2813](#)**

**Date**

**Activity**

06/29/2015 Council action final.

06/16/2015 Council adopted Motion 12A; Council referred Motion (Parks-Buscaino) back to the Education and Neighborhoods Committee.

06/16/2015 Education and Neighborhoods Committee submits report to Council without recommendation .

06/11/2015 City Clerk scheduled item for Council on June 16, 2015. Committee report to be submitted.

06/11/2015 Education and Neighborhoods Committee scheduled item for committee meeting on June 16, 2015.

04/23/2015 Council action final.

04/21/2015 Council referred item to Education and Neighborhoods Committee.

04/17/2015 City Clerk scheduled item for Council on April 21, 2015.

04/14/2015 Motion referred to Council (tentatively scheduled for April 21, 2015).

### **Archive History**

12-18-02 - This days Council session

12-18-02 - Ref to Education and Neighborhoods Committee

12-18-02 - File to Education and Neighborhoods Committee Clerk

4-9-03 - Education and Neighborhoods Committee report ADOPTED to REQUEST all City departments to discontinue the use of the term "South Central Los Angeles" on all City documents and replace this phrase with the term "South Los Angeles" as documents are updated and printed.

4-22-03 - File to Education and Neighborhoods Committee Clerk OK

4-22-03 - File in files