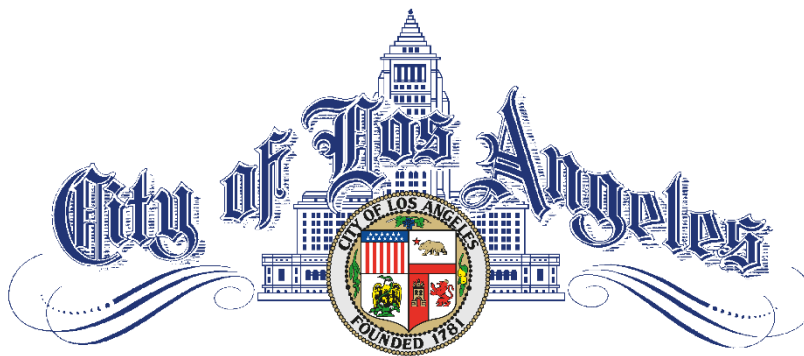




Office of the Los Angeles City Attorney
Hydee Feldstein Soto

REPORT NO. R26-0451
AUG 06 2026

REPORT RE:

**DRAFT ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER I AND ARTICLE 13 OF CHAPTER 1A
OF THE LOS ANGELES MUNICIPAL CODE TO ADDRESS TECHNICAL
CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS AND BRING CERTAIN PROVISIONS INTO
ALIGNMENT WITH STATE REGULATIONS AS A PART OF REGULAR ZONING
CODE MAINTENANCE, KNOWN AS THE PROCESSES AND PROCEDURES
MAINTENANCE ORDINANCE**

The Honorable City Council
of the City of Los Angeles
Room 395, City Hall
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Council File No. 12-0460-S8

Honorable Members:

This Office has prepared and now transmits for your consideration the enclosed draft ordinance, approved as to form and legality. The draft ordinance amends provisions in Chapter I and in Article 13 of Chapter 1A of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) to make technical corrections and clarifications in order to bring certain provisions into alignment with state regulations as a part of the regular maintenance of the Zoning Code.

Background

In 2022, the Processes and Procedures Ordinance (Ord, No. 187,712) amended Chapter I of the LAMC and established Chapter 1A of the LAMC, to comprehensively reorganize the administrative processes and procedures related to zoning and land use. (Council File No. 12-0460-S4.) It became operative on January 22, 2024.

This draft ordinance is intended to address technical, non-substantive changes, such as corrections and clarifications, and to ensure the Zoning Code is in alignment with state law.

The City Planning Commission (CPC) considered and recommended the proposed ordinance in its Letter of Determination dated August 13, 2024. On October 1, 2024, the Planning Land Use Management Committee (PLUM) recommended this Office transmit a final draft of the proposed ordinance approved as to form and legality. On October 15, 2024, City Council adopted PLUM's recommendation.

The enclosed draft ordinance responds to this request by the City Council.

Summary of Ordinance

The CPC's report to the City Council, dated October 13, 2024 (CPC Transmittal Report), and the Planning Department's staff report, dated July 25, 2024, provides a detailed description of the draft ordinance's provisions. The proposed amendments fall into the following three main categories:

- (1) Technical Corrections and Edits: Changes to correct typographical and grammatical errors, misplaced text, misnumbered section references, or other inadvertent errors with no impact on overall policy.
- (2) Clarifications and Readability Improvements: Changes to make the Zoning Code easier to understand and implement without changing the policy. For example, changing the title of Subsection H. of LAMC Section 13B.2.1. (draft ordinance Section 41) and the title of Subsection H of LAMC Section 13B.2.2. (draft ordinance Section 42) from "Modification of Entitlement" to "Modification Procedures" so as to avoid confusion with LAMC Section 13B.5.4. which is titled "Modification of Entitlement" and LAMC 13B.12.4. which is titled "Modification of Entitlement for a Redevelopment Plan Project."
- (3) Alignment with State Regulations: Changes to bring Zoning Code provisions into alignment with state regulations, in particular, the Subdivision Map Act (Gov't Code §§ 66410 et seq.).

During form and legality review this Office worked with the Planning Department to identify additional amendments that fell within the above three categories of technical amendments; and included those additional amendments in this draft ordinance to implement City Council's intent. Several changes were made, including aligning the procedures for approving Pet Shops in Chapter 1 with the procedures in Chapter 1A (draft ordinance Section 7) and aligning the hearing notice and timeline provisions for tentative maps and parcel maps with state law (i.e., draft ordinance Sections 63, 64, 71, 72). Additionally, a section has been added in order to allow the Planning Department

to make formatting and style corrections in consultation with this Office during the Planning Department's self-publishing process.

Charter Findings

Charter Section 558(b)(2) and (3) requires the City Council to find that adoption of the draft ordinance will be in conformity with public necessity, convenience, general welfare, and good zoning practice. Charter Section 556 also requires the City Council to find that the draft ordinance is in substantial conformance with the purposes, intent, and provisions of the General Plan. The City Council may either adopt the CPC's findings and recommendations in the CPC Transmittal Report or make its own.

CEQA Findings

The CPC determined, based on the whole of the administrative record, that the proposed draft ordinance is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, Section 15061(b)(3) (common sense exception) and Section 15378(b)(5) (not a project), and that there is no substantial evidence demonstrating that an exception applies pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, Section 15300.2. The draft ordinance does not change any discretionary actions into non-discretionary actions, it does not change the zoning of any properties, and the proposed changes are limited to technical corrections and clarifications of administrative procedures and has no effect on the physical environment. The draft ordinance, therefore, does not have the potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment and is not considered a "project" under CEQA. The City Council may adopt these CPC determinations or make its own.

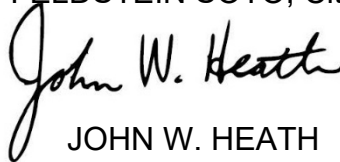
Council Rule 38 Referral

Copies of the draft ordinance were sent, pursuant to Council Rule 38, to the Department of Building and Safety, the Department of Transportation, and the Housing Department with a request that all comments, if any, be presented directly to the City Council at the time this matter is considered.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Deputy City Attorney Ernesto Velazquez at (213) 978-8188. A member of this Office will be available when you consider this matter to answer questions you may have.

Sincerely,

HYDEE FELDSTEIN SOTO, City Attorney

By 

JOHN W. HEATH
Chief Assistant City Attorney

JWH:EV:jr
Transmittal