

Communication from Public

Name: Greg Goldin, President Miracle Mile Residential Association

Date Submitted: 02/21/2025 10:40 AM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: Dear City Council, Councilmembers Hutt and Yaroslavsky, and Mayor Karen Bass: The Miracle Mile Residential Association (MMRA), representing nearly 10,000 Angelenos, opposes this ordinance to remove all zoning regulations supposedly to expedite Olympics-related development and infrastructure that is both temporary and permanent. As Councilmember Eunisses Hernandez wrote to the PLUM committee just ten days ago, “We need to know the universe of projects that would be expedited under such a provision and the unintended short and long term consequences upon our communities that this might impose. We also would like clarity on how a project may potentially be reclassified as an Olympics related project seeking to bypass regulations meant to safeguard communities.” The Miracle Mile joins the councilwoman in her concerns. Simply, the ordinance is too broad and creates a blank check for projects that may carry with them significant negative impacts. It also opens the door for projects not truly related to the Olympic or Paralympics to proceed without required compliance. The ordinance lists temporary and permanent venues, training facilities, media centers, and transit infrastructure as possible examples of the type of building projects that should be exempt. It entirely lacks specificity, yet these undertakings are significant construction projects that may have long-term impacts on their neighborhoods and the city. They should never be exempt them from the regular planning processes. Unlike the recent, terrible fires, this is far from an emergency. The Olympics has been on the horizon for nearly a decade; there has never been a need to set aside environmental or other reviews in the name of speed or expediency. This ordinance is using the excuse of time pressure to give developers, speculators, AirBnB scammers, Wall Street investors, and every manner of sleight-of-hand artist, carte blanche. The potential for the abuse and exploitation of this proposed exemption is endless. Importantly, there is a very significant difference between temporary and permanent structures and it is inappropriate to allow facilities that will remain after the Olympics to skirt compliance with all land use review practices. A perfect example would be the McCourt LAART Gondola project, which might be able to bootstrap itself into approval via this vague and open-ended ordinance. Angelenos

were promised a “no build” Olympics, only using existing venues. Now City officials are doing an about-face, telling us that not only do we need to build, but that we need to exempt these buildings from our primary oversight mechanisms. This is nothing other than bait-and-switch. If the Olympics now need new venues to be built, the communities and neighborhoods that will host them should not have inappropriate projects imposed on them, by administrative fiat. Buildings that will outlive the events they might house should never be exempt from review. Public participation should not be barred from the process and specific plans and other land use policies that were the product of robust public participation cannot be ignored. The ordinance should not be adopted. It is overly broad and too easily abused with potentially significant, long-lasting negative impacts on our City's neighborhoods. Thank You, Greg Goldin President, MMRA

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POST OFFICE BOX 361295 LOS ANGELES CA 90036
WWW.MIRACLEMILELA.COM / INFO@MIRACLEMILELA.COM

February 21, 2025

Re: Council File 15-0989-S47, CEQA exemption and land use expedition for any and all 2028 Olympic Developments

Dear Los Angeles City Council, Mayor Karen Bass, Councilwoman Heather Hutt, Councilmember Katy Yaroslavsky:

The Miracle Mile Residential Association (MMRA), representing nearly 10,000 Angelenos, opposes this ordinance to remove all zoning regulations supposedly to expedite Olympics-related development and infrastructure that is both temporary and permanent. As Councilmember Eunisses Hernandez wrote to the PLUM committee just ten days ago, "We need to know the universe of projects that would be expedited under such a provision and the unintended short and long term consequences upon our communities that this might impose. We also would like clarity on how a project may potentially be reclassified as an Olympics related project seeking to bypass regulations meant to safeguard communities."

The Miracle Mile joins the councilwoman in her concerns. Simply, the ordinance is too broad and creates a blank check for projects that may carry with them significant negative impacts. It also opens the door for projects not truly related to the Olympic or Paralympics to proceed without required compliance. The ordinance lists temporary and permanent venues, training facilities, media centers, and transit infrastructure as possible examples of the type of building projects that should be exempt. It entirely lacks specificity, yet these undertakings are significant construction projects that may have long-term impacts on their neighborhoods and the city. They should never be exempt from the regular planning processes.

Unlike the recent, terrible fires, this is far from an emergency. The Olympics has been on the horizon for nearly a decade; there has never been a need to set aside environmental or other reviews in the name of speed or expediency. This ordinance is using the excuse of time pressure to give developers, speculators, AirBnB scammers, Wall Street investors, and every manner of sleight-of-hand artist, carte blanche. The potential for the abuse and exploitation of this proposed exemption is endless.

Importantly, there is a very significant difference between temporary and permanent structures and it is inappropriate to allow facilities that will remain after the Olympics to skirt compliance with all land use review practices. A perfect example would be the McCourt LAART Gondola project, which might be able to bootstrap itself into approval via this vague and open-ended ordinance.



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Angelenos were promised a “no build” Olympics, only using existing venues. Now City officials are doing an about-face, telling us that not only do we need to build, but that we need to exempt these buildings from our primary oversight mechanisms. This is nothing other than bait-and-switch. If the Olympics now need new venues to be built, the communities and neighborhoods that will host them should not have inappropriate projects imposed on them, by administrative fiat. Buildings that will outlive the events they might house should never be exempt from review. Public participation should not be barred from the process and specific plans and other land use policies that were the product of robust public participation cannot be ignored.

The ordinance should not be adopted. It is overly broad and too easily abused with potentially significant, long-lasting negative impacts on our City's neighborhoods.

Thank You,

Greg Goldin
President, MMRA

Miracle Mile Residential Association

Post Office Box 361295, Los Angeles CA 90036

www.MiracleMileLA.com info@MiracleMileLA.com



@MIRACLEMILELA



@MIRACLEMILERA



@MIRACLEMILEMMRA



Communication from Public

Name: Federico figus

Date Submitted: 02/21/2025 12:01 PM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: I AM STRONGLY OPPOSED TO THIS MOTION! THE OLYMPICS SHOULD NOT BE AN EXCUSE FOR DEVELOPERS TO BYPASS ALL LOCAL CHECKS AND ORDINANCES WITHOUT ANY REVIEW! AN EXPEDITED PROCESS NEEDS TO STILL BE IN PLACE TO ENSURE THAT THE CITIZENS OF LOS ANGELES STILL HAVE A VOICE ON WHAT HAPPENS IN OUR CITY!

Communication from Public

Name: Friends of Historic Miracle Mile

Date Submitted: 02/21/2025 01:01 PM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: Friends of Historic Miracle Mile (FOHMM) strongly opposes CF 15-0989-S47CF 15-0989-S47, a motion to allow any so-called Olympic and Paralympic projects to be constructed without regard to CEQA, any existing specific plans, CUPS, Site Plan Review requirements, height limits, setbacks, etc. This motion calls for nothing less than a blank check to build anything anywhere that developers and special interests loosely label related to the Olympics without a shred of protection against the longterm impacts on the public. That any councilmember -- let alone Adrin Nazarian who has a history of showing concern the corporate real estate industry robbing the community of vast supplies of starter houses to artificially jack up the price of home ownership for the common person searching for an affordable home to raise a family -- that any councilmember including Adrin would advance this motion is a grievous assault on the community and defies any reasonable purpose. For with this motion in place, ANYTHING can be labeled as Olympic/Paralympic related. Any luxury housing development anywhere in the City can be labeled as Olympic related -- and the public would have no recourse because CM Nazarian and his special interest allies propose to take away the community's right to weigh in not to mention the abject abuse of the public's rights under CEQA. This motion REEKS of payoffs and back door deals and secret handshakes about future campaign donations -- oh there are SO MANY ways for builders to bypass the prohibition on direct contributions to officials -- I sincerely hope that someone right now has the Feds on speed dial to start the investigation into what would possess any city official to put this outrage of a motion forward. And let's be real: Los Angeles was selected to host the 2028 Olympics many years ago. Why, barely 3 years from the proposed games, is the City suddenly realizing it's not ready -- and likely will never be -- to host the kind of well organized Olympics that other cities have done, without nightmarish impacts on our city. Shame, shame, shame!!!