

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 03:20 PM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: It is dangerous to exempt Olympic-type projects and to allow developers to avoid the necessary regulations that would ensure building projects with the safety of the citizens in mind. Please reconsider, as our most marginalized communities will be impacted the most, when it is their safety that should be at the forefront of everyone's minds.

Communication from Public

Name: Cynthia Hotta

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 03:46 PM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: As a resident of Ladera Heights, I am writing to express my strong opposition to LA City Council File 15-0989-S47. This motion, if passed, would create a massive loophole allowing virtually any development claiming an Olympic or Paralympic connection to bypass essential land use regulations, including CEQA review, specific plans, conditional use permits, height limits, and other critical community safeguards. As currently written, LA City Council File 15-0989-S47 grants unchecked authority to developers and the private LA28 Organizing Committee, allowing them to override zoning and land use regulations without public oversight. The City must balance the short-term benefits of the Olympic Games with the need to protect the community and ensure that land use policies are consistent with broader community goals. As such, I support the position of the Ladera Heights Civic Association in its letter dated February 26, 2025 opposing LA City Council File 15-0989-S47.

Communication from Public

Name: Norma Ibarra

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 03:56 PM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: LA's Olympics organizers promised a "no-build" Olympics. The idea that city officials are now turning around and saying that not only do we need to build, but that we need to exempt these building projects from our primary oversight mechanisms is a shameful bait-and-switch.

Communication from Public

Name: John Fry

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 04:58 PM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing AGAINST the proposal to exempt all Olympics-related development from city planning approval processes. That would be a really really dumb giveaway to corporate interests! Please don't do it.

Communication from Public

Name: Emma Christie

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 05:04 PM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: It is absurd that Olympics related development should be exempt. Why? What earthly rational reason could there be? The people of LA need support, not endless exemptions for a World's Fair jubilee while we continue to be commiserated. VOTE NO ON ITEM 5!

Communication from Public

Name: Encino Property Owners Association

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 05:18 PM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: The Encino Property Owners Association (EPOA) represents over 1,500 residents in Encino and since 1964 has been a strong advocate for the community on issues including Public Safety; Land Use and Development; Traffic and Transportation; and issues impacting our community. Our 15-Member Board has voted to OPPOSE this City Council Motion as written and asks that any exemptions for 2028 Olympic-related uses be the subject of another motion that includes specific venues, locations and uses. While we support the 2028 Olympic games and recognize the need to cut through time delays, local residents and businesses deserve transparency - deserve public notice - deserve specifics as to the proposed uses and locations that you want to exempt from all zoning regulations. As written, this motion would appear to allow a high density housing project in the middle of single-family residential neighborhood, without notice, without public hearings and which could result in substantial adverse impacts. The issues of neighborhood protections and cutting red tape for Olympic venues and uses are not mutually exclusive. The City can should have BOTH. Rob Glushon President

Communication from Public

Name: Clifford Campbell

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 06:36 PM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: As a resident of Ladera Heights, I am writing to express my strong opposition to LA City Council File 15-0989-S47. This motion, if passed, would create a massive loophole allowing virtually any development claiming an Olympic or Paralympic connection to bypass essential land use regulations, including CEQA review, specific plans, conditional use permits, height limits, and other critical community safeguards. As currently written, LA City Council File 15-0989-S47 grants unchecked authority to developers and the private LA28 Organizing Committee, allowing them to override zoning and land use regulations without public oversight. The City must balance the short-term benefits of the Olympic Games with the need to protect the community and ensure that land use policies are consistent with broader community goals. As such, I support the position of the Ladera Heights Civic Association in its letter dated February 26, 2025.

Communication from Public

Name: elena

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 08:45 PM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: as a resident of the city of los angeles, i strongly oppose this motion. we Angelenos should not pay the price for hastily designed projects. exempting “olympics-related” projects is a bait and switch and opens up significant room for abuse. this is a disastrous motion that must be rejected.

Communication from Public

Name: Jane Gilman

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 09:23 PM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: The measure is too broadly written and should be opposed. Council should request a report back from the Planning Department that will more clearly define the specific projects that would be expedited under such a measure and the unintended short and long-term consequences on communities. There are great concerns as to how a project might potentially be reclassified or classified as an Olympics-related project seeking to bypass regulations meant to safeguard communities.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 07:35 PM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: Encino residents should be frustrated, I know my family is. Have you traveled our boulevards lately? It can take anywhere from 15 to 30 minutes to travel 3 to 4 miles. There is no escaping the traffic, drivers are on edge doing all sorts of illegal maneuvers, with no police around to enforce the laws. Bringing any sort of high density housing will create total gridlock. The Olympic events will test our frustration levels further, but that's a short term issue. But then to have it turned possibly into homeless or low priced residence is a slap in the face of the taxpayers of Encino. The pride of being an Encino resident will die. New York City traffic here we come. Resident for 30 years now!

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 10:19 PM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: Council File 15-0989-S47 is bad policy. This does not serve the community and funds are misallocated for this project.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 10:22 PM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: Less than one year ago, Casey Wasserman, the President of the 2028 Los Angeles Olympic organizing committee vowed (4:27 mark) that no new permanent structures will be built for the 2028 Olympics. He said "We are not building a single permanent facility for the entire delivery of the Olympic games." However, tomorrow the Los Angeles City Council will be voting on a motion that not only permits permanent structures to be built, but in order to expedite their rapid deployment, will exempt them from the requirements of all building regulations including height restrictions and zoning regulations as well as the California Environmental Quality Act. And as a result there will be no opportunity for public comment on these projects. To qualify for the exemptions, projects need only be "associated" with the Olympics. But no guardrails are provided, which opens the door to serious abuse. Major, permanent, developments that would dramatically alter neighborhoods could be forced on us with no transparency or community engagement. If passed this would allow a high-density housing project for athletes to be built in a residential neighborhood; then after the Games it could be converted to an apartment building or homeless shelter. As the home of several very popular events, Encino is especially vulnerable. If the President of the Olympic organizing committee says new permanent facilities aren't needed, then this motion is unnecessary! And if these facilities are truly needed, they could have properly started them eight years ago instead of waiting until the last minute and creating a false sense of urgency. The Encino Neighborhood Council opposes this motion.

Communication from Public

Name: Kendall

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 09:04 AM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: Please do NOT allow unregulated development in Encino and other areas of Los Angeles whether related to the Olympics or not! It is a recipe for disaster as you should know. Thank you!

Communication from Public

Name: Shira Feinstein
Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 09:50 AM
Council File No: 15-0989-S47
Comments for Public Posting: Hi - as a homeowner, I oppose this motion.

Communication from Public

Name: Ellynne Citron-Greenbaum

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 09:55 AM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: I understand that the Los Angeles City Council will be voting tomorrow on motion Council File 15-0989-S47 that not only permits permanent structures to be built, for the 2028 Olympic Games, but in order to expedite their rapid deployment, will exempt them from the requirements of all building regulations including height restrictions and zoning regulations as well as the California Environmental Quality Act. As a result, there will be no opportunity for public comment on these projects. Since there are no guardrails provided, this opens the door to serious abuse. Major, permanent developments that would dramatically alter neighborhoods could be forced on us with no transparency or community engagement. If passed this would allow a high density housing project for athletes to be built in a residential neighborhood; then after the Games it could be converted to an apartment building or homeless shelter. As the home of several very popular events, Encino is especially vulnerable. Less than one year ago, Casey Wasserman, the President of the 2028 Los Angeles Olympic organizing committee vowed (4:27 mark) that no new permanent structures will be built for the 2028 Olympics. He said "We are not building a single permanent facility for the entire delivery of the Olympic games." Therefore, TOMORROW'S MOTION IS UNNECESSARY! And if these facilities are truly needed, they could have properly started them eight years ago instead of waiting until the last minute and creating a false sense of urgency. AS A RESIDENT OF ENCINO I OPPOSE THIS MOTION. In addition, this feels like a backhanded way for the city council to circumvent Encino neighbor's previous support for Draft #3 of the CHIP without "options" - CPC-2023-7068-CA -that was recommended by the LA Planning Dept on 9/16/24 and approved by the City Council on 12/10/24 that adds significant housing on our commercial corridors and meets the requirement of Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing for all our communities (much to the chagrin of council members Raman, Eunice, Jurado and Price who opposed this motion).

Communication from Public

Name: Kouros Sariri

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 10:16 AM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: This is a bad policy, and I am opposed to it. Unregulated development should not be allowed in Encino and beyond. City Council will serve the citizens when putting their effort on the tasks already on their list (from the prior years) and have not been completed or even started from years ago. Council would do a lot of good to address all the shortcomings as a result of the disastrous fires and continued vandalism.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 10:30 AM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: This measure should be opposed. Why is a measure being proposed to build for the Olympics? This was supposed to be a "no build" event. Regardless, this measure is written too broadly and does not have enough (or any!) definition to discourage developers to exploit it. The negative impact to local communities in the short-term and the long-term will be immense. This motion should be opposed.

Communication from Public

Name: Tracie Tabor Lyons

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 10:52 AM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to express its strong opposition to LA City Council File 15-0989-S47 as currently written. This motion, if passed, would create a massive loophole allowing virtually any development claiming an Olympic or Paralympic connection to bypass essential land use regulations, including CEQA review, specific plans, conditional use permits, height limits, and other critical community safeguards. Instead of rushing to approve an ordinance with such sweeping implications, I urge the City Council to require that the Planning Department to report back with a detailed framework that: 1. Clearly defines which projects would qualify for expedited review under this measure. 2. Ensures full CEQA compliance, with no blanket exemptions for Olympic-related projects. 3. Assesses potential impacts on local communities, infrastructure, and public spaces. 4. Mandates the removal of temporary installations after the Games and clarifies financial responsibility.

Tracie Tabor Lyons
6703 Radlock Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90056

February 27, 2025

Mayor Karen Bass
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Councilwomen Traci Park
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councilmember.park@lacity.org

LA City Clerk
200 N Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012
<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/publiccomment/?cfnumber=15-0989-S47>

I am writing to express its strong opposition to LA City Council File 15-0989-S47 as currently written. This motion, if passed, would create a massive loophole allowing virtually any development claiming an Olympic or Paralympic connection to bypass essential land use regulations, including CEQA review, specific plans, conditional use permits, height limits, and other critical community safeguards.

While I support a well-organized Olympic Games, this measure is far too broad and lacks necessary safeguards. **It grants unchecked authority to developers and the private LA28 Organizing Committee, allowing them to override zoning and land use regulations without public oversight.** This could lead to irreversible environmental and infrastructural consequences, particularly if temporary structures transition into permanent developments without due process.

Instead of rushing to approve an ordinance with such sweeping implications, I urge the City Council to require that the Planning Department to report back with a detailed framework that:

1. Clearly defines which projects would qualify for expedited review under this measure.
2. Ensures full CEQA compliance, with no blanket exemptions for Olympic-related projects.
3. Assesses potential impacts on local communities, infrastructure, and public spaces.
4. Mandates the removal of temporary installations after the Games and clarifies financial responsibility.

Without the foregoing safeguards, this motion serves as an unchecked “Builder’s Remedy” that undermines long-standing environmental protections and hands over land use control to private interests. The City must uphold its commitment to responsible urban planning and community engagement—values that should not be sacrificed in the name of short-term Olympic development.

I urge you to oppose this measure in its current form and ensure that any future consideration of Olympic-related projects maintains full transparency, public oversight, and adherence to environmental laws.

Tracie Tabor Lyons

Cc: marian.ensley@lacity.org
trey.grogan@lacity.org

Communication from Public

Name: Robert Meer

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 10:56 AM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: Once again, the city council is forcing upon its citizens some rules and regulations without taking public comment into consideration. The rules you propose make it too easy to abuse the right to build permanent structures wherever some developer wants, regardless of its appropriateness to the area or the wants and needs of the local citizens. Stop pushing "urgent", last minute-type orders on the people you supposedly represent (when in actuality you are not representing the mass of people).

Communication from Public

Name: Lisa Cossettini

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 11:27 AM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: As a resident of Ladera Heights, I am writing to express my strong opposition to LA City Council File 15-0989-S47. This motion, if passed, would create a massive loophole allowing virtually any development claiming an Olympic or Paralympic connection to bypass essential land use regulations, including CEQA review, specific plans, conditional use permits, height limits, and other critical community safeguards. As currently written, LA City Council File 15-0989-S47 grants unchecked authority to developers and the private LA28 Organizing Committee, allowing them to override zoning and land use regulations without public oversight. The City must balance the short-term benefits of the Olympic Games with the need to protect the community and ensure that land use policies are consistent with broader community goals. As such, I support the position of the Ladera Heights Civic Association in its letter dated February 26, 2025 opposing LA City Council File 15-0989-S47.

Communication from Public

Name: Michael Janz

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 11:29 AM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: Los Angeles should be focusing on providing resources to those who lost their homes in the fires, to those living on the streets because of the cost of living, and those who are being left behind as the world around us becomes increasingly unstable and expensive. This is not the time to be giving exemptions for the Olympic Games construction. This is not the time to be hosting the games, period. LA needs to focus on its residents, and not just the wealth who will benefit from regulation-less development and the strained economy the games are sure to leave in their wake. It's time for the city council to do its job and serve the residents of Los Angeles. No Olympics in LA!

Communication from Public

Name: Gigi from NOlympics LA

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 11:30 AM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: This is ridiculous. We aren't supposed to be building ANYTHING for this Olympics, and now you're trying to give developers carte Blanche to do whatever they feel like? We shouldn't even have an Olympics, especially in the wake of the fires, we should be focusing on keeping people housed (with eviction/rent moratoriums and rent control) and getting more public housing in LA. don't pass this!

Communication from Public

Name: Bryne

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 11:31 AM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: This is the very last thing Los Angeles needs to recover from the disastrous fires. The greed of trying to fast track this exemption that will hurt working class citizens and line the pockets of corrupt politicians and developers is absolutely outrageous. Represent the people of your districts instead of selling us out constantly. Vote NO.

Communication from Public

Name: Lena Sullivan

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 11:35 AM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly oppose the motion to exempt Olympics-related development from city approval processes. Those processes are there for a reason, it's preposterous to exempt all of this unnecessary construction for a party for the elite. Megaevents like the Olympics exacerbate gentrification, displacement, and homelessness by creating new financial incentives for landlords to evict long standing tenants paying below market-rate rents—and now, potentially, for developers to fast-track hastily-designed projects without properly vetting their social and environmental impacts. In tandem, special security designations that invite federal immigration authorities and related procedural exemptions provide cover for local leaders and law enforcement to increase criminalization of the homeless, further worsening already intersecting crises. For decades, communities across the city have been asking for permanent investments in Los Angeles' infrastructure that actually serve Angelenos—public housing, better streets and sidewalks, more reliable public transportation, and more green space. This ain't it. But, as LA28 Chairman Casey Wasserman has said point blank, "We're not responsible for solving homelessness. We're responsible for delivering the Olympic Games as a private enterprise in 2028." Do not let this private enterprise harm Angelenos more than it already has! Vote NO on the motion to exempt Olympics development from approval processes.

Communication from Public

Name: Elizabeth Hamilton

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 11:36 AM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly appose the motion to exempt Olympics related projects from city planning processes. The motion creates a vague exemption for Olympics-related infrastructure and “associated structures” that might be easily exploited by anyone seeking to advance development projects by bypassing our standard planning approval processes. The exemption could be used by hotel developers, by landlords looking to deplete our rental stock by converting units into short-term rentals, by corporate sponsors looking to turn public space into “activation sites,” and by so many other opportunistic actors. This current motion doesn’t even clarify what makes a project “Olympics-related” in the first place. Council should reject this motion.

Communication from Public

Name: Brendan Coates

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 11:47 AM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: Hi there, I'm a CD13 resident and I want to encourage the City Council to vote no on this motion. We need building standards! How is this even a question?! First of all, this was pitched to voters as a "no-build" Olympics. So, is that no longer the case? Is anyone going to be held accountable for that? The answer is: yes, the taxpayers. Regular people are on the hook for any cost overruns for this Olympics, which average 25% over their projected budgets over the last few decades. So this "no-build" Olympics now, apparently, requires building, which working-class Angelenos will have to pay for (I'm counting tax breaks here). Secondly, why do we have building codes? They keep people safe. Literally, most building codes in this city are the result of organizing in the wake of significant and avoidable disasters which caused the loss of human life. And so, now, when it matters a lot that buildings are built to a minimum standard of safety (we don't want athletes dying, say), introducing a motion to do away with those minimum standards is ludicrous. It's like saying that the lives of the people inhabiting these buildings (again, athletes, media, tourists), don't need the minimum level of protection that our government can offer. Putting it all together, this motion is setting up a scenario where working-class Angelenos will pay for the construction of unsafe housing. What a trash idea. This is in addition to obvious loopholes such a policy creates for gifting, for corruption, for fraud, for displacement. If you all could feel shame, I would wish "shame on you" but most of you are corrupt, gifting frauds who won't be in office when voters are left holding the bag (or body bag(s), in the case of relaxing building standards), so I guess we just have to take this as a moment to recognize that we all see you and your avarice, we see your corruption and lies; and, if this policy is implemented, and when people die as a result of it, we'll all know who is responsible.

Communication from Public

Name: Lori Marple Pereslete

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 11:50 AM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: As a resident of Ladera Heights, I am writing to express my strong opposition to LA City Council File 15-0989-S47. This motion, if passed, would create a massive loophole allowing virtually any development claiming an Olympic or Paralympic connection to bypass essential land use regulations, including CEQA review, specific plans, conditional use permits, height limits, and other critical community safeguards. As currently written, LA City Council File 15-0989-S47 grants unchecked authority to developers and the private LA28 Organizing Committee, allowing them to override zoning and land use regulations without public oversight. The City must balance the short-term benefits of the Olympic Games with the need to protect the community and ensure that land use policies are consistent with broader community goals. As such, I support the position of the Ladera Heights Civic Association in its letter dated February 26, 2025 opposing LA City Council File 15-0989-S47.

Communication from Public

Name: Sherry

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 11:56 AM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: I don not want any permanent structures to be built that has anything remotely to do with the upcoming Olympic Games

Communication from Public

Name: Harper

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 11:59 AM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: I do not support the Olympics in LA and do not support the fast tracking of development for the Olympics.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 12:26 PM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: As a resident of Encino I am opposed to the building in or near Encino of any permanent structures in association with the 2028 Olympics. I urge council members to oppose the upcoming motion to permit the building of permanent structures in association with the 2028 Olympics (to the extent such structures will be in areas within or near Encino, or in areas that will have any possible negative impact on the residents of Encino). I also object to, and urge you to oppose, any motion to relax building codes and other regulations in order to allow the building of permanent structures in association with the 2028 Olympics.

Communication from Public

Name: edna monroy

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 12:26 PM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: The Olympics are NOT essential. There is no valid reason to exempt Olympics-related projects from our city's standard review processes. We have planning approval processes for a reason! The 2028 Olympics were forced on LA back in 2017 — an unprecedented 11 years before the Olympics. The idea that we have now allegedly run out of time to go through standard approval processes for Olympics projects is only a reflection of the LA28 organizers' incompetence. Angelenos shouldn't have to pay the price for this incompetence with hastily designed projects with unvetted environmental and social impacts. LA's Olympics organizers promised a "no-build" Olympics. The idea that city officials are now turning around and saying that not only do we need to build, but that we need to exempt these building projects from our primary oversight mechanisms is a shameful bait-and-switch. The motion 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. These projects are significant construction projects that may have long-term impacts on their neighborhoods and the city. It is unacceptable to exempt them from regular planning processes. The potential for the abuse and exploitation of this proposed exemption is endless. The motion will create a vague exemption for Olympics-related infrastructure and "associated structures" that will be easily exploited by anyone seeking to advance their development projects by bypassing our standard planning approval processes. This exemption could be used by hotel developers, by landlords looking to deplete our rental stock by converting units into AirBnBs, by corporate sponsors looking to turn public space into "activation sites," and so many other opportunistic actors. The full motion also calls for LA's Department of Building and Safety to establish a dedicated unit to manage Olympic and Paralympic projects. DBS — like all other city and county agencies — needs to prioritize recovery and rebuilding from the recent disastrous fires, not planning a five-week party for the rich. The Olympics are an unacceptable drain on our resources. They're wasting our time and money right now as we debate this topic. You should cancel the Olympics outright, but at the very least, do not approve this outrageous exemption and loophole for unnecessary Olympics-related

projects.

Communication from Public

Name: Adrienne Walden

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 12:47 PM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: SUBJECT: LA City Council File 15-0989-S47 - Add to Public Record As a resident of Ladera Heights, I am writing to express my strong opposition to LA City Council File 15-0989-S47. This motion, if passed, would create a massive loophole allowing virtually any development claiming an Olympic or Paralympic connection to bypass essential land use regulations, including CEQA review, specific plans, conditional use permits, height limits, and other critical community safeguards. As currently written, LA City Council File 15-0989-S47 grants unchecked authority to developers and the private LA28 Organizing Committee, allowing them to override zoning and land use regulations without public oversight. The City must balance the short-term benefits of the Olympic Games with the need to protect the community and ensure that land use policies are consistent with broader community goals. As such, I support the position of the Ladera Heights Civic Association in its letter dated February 26, 2025 opposing LA City Council File 15-0989-S47.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 01:28 PM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: As a homeowner in Ladera Heights, I am writing to express my strong opposition to LA City Council File 15-0989-S47. This motion, if passed, would create a massive loophole allowing virtually any development claiming an Olympic or Paralympic connection to bypass essential land use regulations, including CEQA review, specific plans, conditional use permits, height limits, and other critical community safeguards. As currently written, LA City Council File 15-0989-S47 grants unchecked authority to developers and the private LA28 Organizing Committee, allowing them to override zoning and land use regulations without public oversight. The City must balance the short-term benefits of the Olympic Games with the need to protect the community and ensure that land use policies are consistent with broader community goals. As such, I support the position of the Ladera Heights Civic Association in its letter dated February 26, 2025 opposing LA City Council File 15-0989-S47.

Communication from Public

Name: Amy Huynh

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 01:36 PM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: This motion sounds like a recipe for more homelessness, displacement, and gentrification. It's disturbing how many LA City Council members have had a track record of refusing to properly serve and care about the people who elected them. Please reject this dangerous motion.

Communication from Public

Name: Sarah Mesle

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 01:44 PM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to strongly urge the council to REJECT the motion to exempt Olympic related projects from the public approval process. I am honestly shocked that this has even been proposed. Clearly LA building should go through planning processes that protect the people who live in this city in the long-term — that's why we have those processes. To exempt Olympic projects puts four short weeks over and above the everyday lives of LA citizens — and to be clear, supporting the everyday lives of LA citizens is *the council's job.* Passing this motion would thus make your own jobs harder— and risk making LA lives worse. I love the Olympics but literally nothing about them is "essential;" giving free rein to anyone who claims they have an "olympic essential" project quite obviously is an invitation for disaster and systemic abuse. Again, the only reasonable option is to REJECT this measure.

Communication from Public

Name: Chris Tyler

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 02:08 PM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly oppose the motion to exempt "Olympics-related" construction projects from standard approval processes. I am especially concerned about the potential for abuse that this proposed exemption makes ample space for—abuse by hotel developers, abuse by landlords, abuse by corporate sponsors, and abuse by so many other opportunists. The current motion doesn't even clarify what makes a project "Olympics-related" in the first place, and no report-back or set of recommendations will prevent bad actors all over the city from having a field day with this one. For decades, communities across L.A. have been asking for permanent investments in Los Angeles' infrastructure that actually serve Angelenos—public housing, better streets and sidewalks, more reliable public transportation, and more green space. This is not it.

Communication from Public

Name: Laura Velkei

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 02:32 PM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: February 27, 2025 Los Angeles City Council Re: OPPOSE - Agenda Item 12: Motion 15-0989-S47 (Parks – Nazarian) Draft Ordinance re CEQA exemption for 2024 Olympics Dear Council President Harris-Dawson and Honorable City Councilmembers: People may debate whether it is wise to adopt an ordinance exempting temporary and permanent Olympic and Paralympic venues, training facilities, broadcast and media centers, transit infrastructure, and other associated structures from the City's ordinary approval process and all planning and zoning regulations. But there can be no debate that the motion's proposal to unlawfully rely on CEQA Guidelines section 15272 to exempt its action from environmental review is entirely misplaced. Councilmember Park's motion selectively quotes Guideline section 15272 to suggest that such projects are exempt from review, omitting from the motion a clear exception disallowing the use of Guidelines section 15272 to achieve the City's purpose. The entirety of section 15272, including the exception (in bold), follows: CEQA does not apply to activities or approvals necessary to the bidding for, hosting or staging of, and funding or carrying out of, Olympic Games under the authority of the International Olympic Committee, except for the construction of facilities necessary for such Olympic Games. If the facilities are required by the International Olympic Committee as a condition of being awarded the Olympic Games, the lead agency need not discuss the "no project" alternative in an EIR with respect to those facilities. The adoption of a land use and planning ordinance such as the one under consideration is itself a project under CEQA. Adoption of the ordinance to exempt from environmental review an unknown number of projects ordinarily subject to CEQA based on Guideline section 15272 despite its clear exception to the exemption of construction of facilities such as those described in the motion would be a clear violation of CEQA. The City should not waste the time and resources of the Planning Department, Department of Building and Safety, the City Attorney's Office, and other valuable City resources on the drafting of this ordinance, the adoption of which would constitute an obvious violation of California environmental law. Sincerely, Laura Velkei Cc: City Council, City Attorney, Mayor of Los Angeles

LAURA VELKEI

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February 27, 2025

Los Angeles City Council

Re: OPPOSE - Agenda Item 12: Motion 15-0989-S47 (Parks – Nazarian)
Draft Ordinance re CEQA exemption for 2024 Olympics

Dear Council President Harris-Dawson and Honorable City Councilmembers:

People may debate whether it is wise to adopt an ordinance exempting temporary and permanent Olympic and Paralympic venues, training facilities, broadcast and media centers, transit infrastructure, and other associated structures from the City's ordinary approval process and all planning and zoning regulations.

But there can be no debate that the motion's proposal to unlawfully rely on CEQA Guidelines section 15272 to exempt its action from environmental review is entirely misplaced. Councilmember Park's motion selectively quotes Guideline section 15272 to suggest that such projects are exempt from review, omitting from the motion a clear exception disallowing the use of Guidelines section 15272 to achieve the City's purpose.

The entirety of section 15272, including the exception (in **bold**), follows:

CEQA does not apply to activities or approvals necessary to the bidding for, hosting or staging of, and funding or carrying out of, Olympic Games under the authority of the International Olympic Committee, **except for the construction of facilities necessary for such Olympic Games**. If the facilities are required by the International Olympic Committee as a condition of being awarded the Olympic Games, the lead agency need not discuss the "no project" alternative in an EIR with respect to those facilities.

The adoption of a land use and planning ordinance such as the one under consideration is itself a project under CEQA. Adoption of the ordinance to exempt from environmental review an unknown number of projects ordinarily subject to CEQA based on Guideline section 15272 despite its clear exception to the exemption of construction of facilities such as those described in the motion would be a clear violation of CEQA.

The City should not waste the time and resources of the Planning Department, Department of Building and Safety, the City Attorney's Office, and other valuable City resources on the drafting of this ordinance, the adoption of which would constitute an obvious violation of California environmental law.

Sincerely,



Laura Velkei

Cc: City Council, City Attorney, Mayor of Los Angeles

Communication from Public

Name: Linda Schwartz-Wright

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 02:32 PM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: Opposed to this ... Council File 15-0989-S47 is bad policy.

Communication from Public

Name: Kyung Min Lee

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 02:39 PM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: The Olympics are NOT essential. What's essential is affordable housing and relief for residents who lost their homes, workplaces, schools, livelihoods to the wildfires. There is no valid reason to exempt Olympics-related projects from our city's standard review processes. LA's Olympics organizers promised a "no-build" Olympics. The idea that city officials are now turning around and saying that not only do we need to build, but that we need to exempt these building projects from our primary oversight mechanisms is a shameful bait and switch. We don't NEED temporary or permanent venues, training facilities, media centers, and transit infrastructure for an event that will last last than 2 months. We need permanent affordable housing for people who're already facing or experiencing homelessness.

Communication from Public

Name: JULIE A.

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 04:16 PM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: I am a professional who has spent 10 years working in the architecture/engineering/construction industry in Los Angeles, and I am also a 3-gen Angeleno. I am AGAINST this motion due to the negative social and environmental ramifications for Angelenos. As someone familiar with building policies, I know that city planning approvals, zoning regulations, permits, site plan review, height restrictions, setback requirements and all of the other requirements Traci Park is seeking to eliminate for "Olympic-related" development, exist for a reason. They exist to keep us safe, to keep our communities intact, healthy, and to carefully consider the long-term environmental, social and economic impacts to the existing and future community members. This motion is a thinly disguised attempt to open the floodgates to predatory development, and it is shameful that the City Council would rather protect the interests of developers and profiteers over its own constituents that put them in office. For too long, I've seen elected officials parcel off the place I call home to the highest bidder. Its devastating to see businesses that have no interest or investment in LA other than financial gain get to own property before the people born here, who work hard here and raise their children here. Its devastating to have to explain to visitors why the city sold two blocks of downtown to a foreign developer, just to have it turn into a hollowed out graffiti skyscraper. Its devastating to have my kids step over a homeless person sleeping on the street. Its devastating that instead of focusing on the recovery effort for our Angelenos that lost their homes, the City Council is focused on development for games. Get your priorities straight. Focus on your citizens, they need HELP.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 04:23 PM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: Any new tires goes against previously stated policies and should NOT be allowed!! We oppose ANY NEW STRUCTURES!
Leslie and Steven Rouff

Communication from Public

Name: Joseph Young

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 04:25 PM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: The measure is broadly written and should be opposed. Instead of authorizing an ordinance to be written, the Council should request a report back from the Planning Dept. that will more clearly define the specific projects that would be expedited under such a measure and the unintended short and long-term consequences on communities. There are great concerns as to how a project might potentially be reclassified or classified as an Olympics-related project seeking to bypass regulations meant to safeguard communities. This measure creates a giant loophole that would allow a wide range of projects to be presented as “Olympics-related” and expedited without public scrutiny. It is a blank check for new construction with zero planning

Communication from Public

Name: Grace Hut

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 04:26 PM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to voice my strong disagreement with the motion to streamline projects for a purportedly “no-build Olympics.” The proposed motion is highly likely to be abused by developers who will capitalize on how vaguely Olympics-related infrastructure and “associated structures” is being defined. The exemption could be used by hotel developers, by landlords looking to deplete our rental stock by converting units into short-term rentals, by corporate sponsors looking to turn public space into “activation sites,” and by many other opportunistic actors. Megaevents like the Olympics exacerbate gentrification, displacement, and homelessness by creating new financial incentives for landlords to evict long standing tenants paying below market-rate rents. This motion threatens to worsen this issue by providing developers with an opportunity to fast-track hastily-designed projects without properly vetting their social and environmental impacts. Additionally, special security designations that invite federal immigration authorities and related procedural exemptions provide cover for local leaders and law enforcement to increase criminalization of the homeless, further worsening already intersecting crises. We need permanent investments in Los Angeles’ infrastructure that actually serve Angelenos, not more opportunities for developers to build whatever they please and circumvent important planning and environmental regulations.

Communication from Public

Name: Steven

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 04:26 PM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: Leslie and Steven Rouff oppose any new construction for Olympic venues

Communication from Public

Name: Glafira Lopez

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 04:43 PM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: I am against Park's motion to expedite developments made for the Olympics and Paralympic Games. This motion will cause more gentrification and displacement of low-income communities in Los Angeles. The motion creates a vague exemption for Olympics-related infrastructure and “associated structures” that might be easily exploited by anyone seeking to advance development projects by bypassing our standard planning approval processes. The exemption could be used by hotel developers, by landlords looking to deplete our rental stock by converting units into short-term rentals, by corporate sponsors looking to turn public space into “activation sites,” and by so many other opportunistic actors. This current motion doesn’t even clarify what makes a project “Olympics-related” in the first place. Stop this motion and focus instead on building permanent, affordable housing for community residents.

Communication from Public

Name: Douglas Hileman

Date Submitted: 02/27/2025 04:44 PM

Council File No: 15-0989-S47

Comments for Public Posting: Item #15-0989-S47; Proposed Exemption for Olympics/ Paralympics-related construction. I oppose the proposal as written, for two reasons. First, the proposal acknowledges that the current system is broken. High-profile, moneyed interests get exemptions, while all remaining project proponents and residents must continue to wade through the existing muddle. DOGE exemplifies the appetite for improving efficiencies and effectiveness for everybody. Many object to their current approach (as I do); this simply highlights that it is essential to seize high-profile opportunities and do this right. Second, exemptions for permanent construction will leave LA with imposing structures, permanent eyestores that erode the quality of life. "Temporary" structures have a way of becoming permanent, in no small part because there is no requirement to set aside money or post bond to dismantle them. For every Eiffel Tower (intended as a temporary structure), there are many sad relics, such as the site of the World's Fair in Knoxville, and the site of Expo 67 in Montreal. Temporary structures should enjoy no special treatment unless (non-taxpayer) funding is provided to dismantle them. Suggestions for improvements to both are in the attached letter.

13630 Crewe Street
Valley Glen, CA 91405
February 27, 2025
Submitted via Office of the City Clerk Public Comment Form

Los Angeles City Council
City of Los Angeles

Attention: City Clerk, and
Adrin Nazarian, CD 2

SUBJECT: Comments for Item #15-0989-S47
Proposed Exemptions for Olympics/ Paralympics-related Construction
Opposition and Suggestions

Item Number 12; Code Item 15-0989-S47; “Continued Consideration of Planning and Land Use Management Committee Report relative to drafting an ordinance to exempt Olympic and Paralympic temporary and permanent venues From the requirements of City Planning approvals, zoning regulations.... Site Plan Review requirements, height restrictions, setback requirements ...“

I oppose the measure as written, for two reasons. First, all other project proponents remain saddled with the current system – which this proposal tacitly acknowledges is broken. Second, it will result in many structures and “improvements” in the built environment that are inconsistent with city plans and codes. I oppose the measure for two reasons; I outline each below, *with suggested improvements*.

1. MISSED OPPORTUNITY FOR SYSTEMIC CHANGE

This bypasses an opportunity for systemic change, and creates and rewards a moneyed special interest group. This opportunity is being willfully bypassed for construction efforts following January’s fires. It has also been bypassed for other high-visibility projects, all of which have been financed by groups with ample financial resources.

The need for exemptions is a candid acknowledgement that the applicable governing laws and procedures are unwieldy, cumbersome, and inefficient. These projects must bypass the system because the system is broken. Every other business or resident is left to navigate the muddle, at considerable cost of time and money – and these “remainders” are those who can least afford it. This is precisely what drove the sentiment to elect the current Administration in Washington, DC.

Suggestions:

- Commit to prioritizing the permitting, plan review, inspections, and all other aspects of the current laws and regulations that would be subject to this exemption.
- Create a multi-stakeholder Blue Ribbon panel to work in parallel, with the objective of identifying duplicate and unnecessary efforts, opportunities for consolidation, improvement, efficiencies, and effectiveness.
 - The panel should include stakeholders from business, environmental, construction, and other specialist groups (fire safety, seismic protection, etc.).
 - The panel should submit recommendations that simplify the permitting and zoning processes, with a target of reducing time and cost by at least 40%.

DOGE is in the headlines continuously. While many quibble with the strategy and approach (as I do), it nonetheless taps into a prevailing sentiment, as well as a valid need. The City of Los Angeles has an opportunity to be a model for how to do this right – don't waste it.

2. THE MEASURE AT FACE VALUE

Permanent Structures: After those with financial stakes in the Olympics and Paralympics and the tourists have left, Los Angeles will be stuck with permanent, imposing structures abutting sidewalks and not pedestrian- or neighbor-friendly. Exemptions from the review or permitting process should not be allowed for permanent structures under any circumstances.

Temporary Structures: The Eiffel Tower was intended as a temporary structure. The world lucked out on that one, but other "temporary" structures have saddled cities with idle structures with no obvious purpose, and no money to dismantle them. If exemptions are to be offered for temporary structures, they should be with conditions:

- the structure may remain only if it was constructed in accordance with relevant and applicable city codes, and enhances the neighborhood;
- the project proponent must fund a bond to cover the costs of dismantling after it has served its purpose for the 2026 Olympic and Paralympic games.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas Hileman