

MOTION

Metro is currently constructing its Westside Purple Line Extension Section 3 Project, including several new subway stations in Council District 5, with the goal of completing it in time for the 2028 Summer Olympic games in Los Angeles. When complete, the Purple Line will continuously service subway stations from the Veterans Administration hospital complex on the west side of the San Diego Freeway (405) to Union Station in Downtown Los Angeles, with transit connections throughout Los Angeles County and beyond. Part of the project includes constructing a new subway station to serve UCLA and the surrounding Westwood community near the intersection of Wilshire Boulevard and Gayley Avenue (Westwood/UCLA Station).

Wilshire/Gayley, LLC seeks to develop a high-rise residential apartment at 10951-10955 Wilshire Boulevard known as the "WG Project". The WG Project is planned to be constructed on property that directly abuts the under-construction subway station. WG has sought building, grading, shoring, and other permits from the Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety.

The Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety (LADBS) has the duty and authority to protect the health and safety of City residents and visitors by ensuring that all buildings permitted in the City meet essential safety standards. LADBS needs further data to conclusively determine that the WG Project can be safely constructed given the directly adjacent Westwood/UCLA Station, which is currently under construction.

LADBS has traditionally exercised its own police power and statutory authority to protect health and human safety by requiring permit seekers to coordinate with Metro to ensure that projects adjacent to Metro facilities can be safely constructed. LADBS has thus required that permit seekers receive clearance from Metro to ensure that their projects can be safely built before LADBS issues relevant permits. Metro is uniquely situated to evaluate the risks posed by intended development near its projects. Both the City and Metro recognize the need for coordination between them to ensure the safety of the public, of property, and of Metro's transit facilities, which in this case is funded in part by the City.

On or about October 19, 2021, and on or about September 6, 2022, the City Council adopted two motions, each presented by then Councilman Paul Koretz representing Council District 5.

The October 19, 2021 Motion called for the Los Angeles Bureau of Engineering to consider whether LADBS should be made to issue building permits for the WG Project.

The September 6, 2022 Motion called for LADBS to remove the requirement that Metro issue clearances for the WG Project's permits and refrain from imposing any additional requirements related to the WG Project's proximity to the planned UCLA Metro station.


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Since that time, Metro has constructed a significant portion of its planned station, unalterably changing the status quo on the ground. LADBS cannot now be sure whether the WG Project can be safely constructed as originally designed without further information, which it has requested from both WG and Metro.

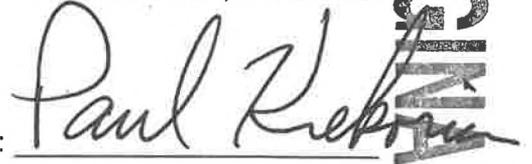
The City's primary duty is to protect the health and safety of its residents.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council rescind the above referenced October 19, 2021 (Council File 20-0789-S1) and September 6, 2022 Motions (Council File 20-0789-S2) in their entirety and that they have no force or effect.

PRESENTED BY:


KATY YAROSLAVSKY
Councilwoman, 5th District

SECONDED BY:



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