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PETTY F. SANTOS
EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Council and Public Services Division
200 N. Spring Street, Room 395
Los Angeles, CA 90012
General Information - (213) 978-1133
FAX: (213) 978-1079

PATRICE Y. LATTIMORE
DIVISION MANAGER

clerk.lacity.org

KAREN BASS
MAYOR

November 20, 2023

Honorable Hydee Feldstein Soto
City Attorney

Vince Bertoni
Director of Planning

Matthew W. Szabo
City Administrative Officer
Attn: Ben Ceja,
Assistant City Administrative Officer

At its meeting held on November 7, 2023, the Planning and Land Use Management (PLUM) Committee considered previously certified Environmental Impact Report (EIR) No. ENV-2022-5286-EIR (State Clearinghouse No. 2022040363), pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines Sections 15162 and 15164, Addendum, Mitigation Monitoring Reporting Program, report from the Los Angeles City Planning Commission (LACPC), Report from the Department of City Planning (DCP) and draft Ordinance to permit the establishment of a contiguous and non-contiguous Supplemental Use District (SUD), called the Transportation Communication Network (TCN), on property owned by Metro, as revised by the LACPC to include: a) a minimum distance requirement between signs resulting in the removal of one sign; b) removal of two signs due to proximity to a State Park; c) a public art requirement for specific single-faced TCN structures; and d) changes in the takedown provisions, building permit requirement and the number of signs to be removed prior to the approval of Freeway Facing sign structures; and a proposed Metro TCN Ordinance that would establish a new TCN Supplemental Use District (SUD) permitting 46 TCN Structures and 80 digital display off-site signs on specific Metro-owned properties Citywide (Council file No. 22-0392).

During the meeting, the Committee requested the following:

1. Request the City Attorney to prepare the ordinance for the Supplemental Use District as recommended by the LACPC on September 14, 2023 and as amended by Council Districts 1, 2, 5, and 13; and that the Council adopt the Zone Change Ordinance to permit the establishment of a contiguous and non-contiguous SUD, called the TCN, on property owned by Metro, as revised by the LACPC to remove Signs FF-13 and FF-14; and adopt the environmental clearance as reflected in the

Previously certified EIR, Addendum; Mitigation Monitoring Program; and adopt the amended findings, all as reflected in the November 2, 2023 Department of City Planning (DCP) report and amendments submitted by Council Districts 1, 2, 5, and 13 which have been uploaded to Council File No. 22-0392.

2. Adopt the following amendments submitted by Council District 1:
 - a. Remove Sign FF-04 from the City's list of TCN site locations.
 - b. The revenue produced by the TCN structures be prioritized to be invested in the communities that bear the brunt of the impact of this use in order to advance environmental justice objectives.
 - c. Consider a half mile buffer surrounding each site for prioritization of all funding generated from TCN structures.
3. Adopt the following amendments submitted by Council Districts 2:
 - a. The distance between signs on the same side of highways should be 1,500 feet, a 50 percent increase from the State and CalTrans mandate of 1,000 feet, resulting in the reinstatement of FF-03 that was removed by the LACPC.
 - b. The process of removing static billboards should be modified to require that, for freeway-facing TCN structure, Metro must remove 50 existing offsite signs within the City boundary before the first TCN building permit is issued. Thereafter, Metro should remove a minimum of four existing offsite signs within the City boundary for each new TCN structure to be installed.

For non-freeway TCN structures, Metro should remove three square feet of static signage for each square foot of TCN structure. The signs to be removed should be those standing within a half-mile radius of the new TCN structure. This radius could be expanded to a full mile if MTA determines there is not enough existing static sign inventory to meet the half-mile requirement, or if owners of these static signs refuse to remove them.
 - c. The hours of TCN operation of freeway-facing signs should begin no earlier than one hour after Metro begins rail service, and should end no later than one hour before Metro ceases rail service.
 - d. The ordinance should sunset when the Memorandum of Agreement between the City and Metro regarding the TCN is terminated by either party or expires.
4. Adopt the following amendments submitted by Council Districts 5:
 - a. Remove Sign NFF-0-7 and remove signs requested by other offices.
 - b. Require vertical louvers on all TCN signs recommended in the DCP's November 1, 2023 report, which includes Signs FF 26 [Expo/405 Eastside] and FF 28

[Expo/Canfield] and excludes Sign NFF-1 which has been removed by Council District 13.

- c. Regarding removal of existing signs, for Freeway Facing Signs require an initial removal of 50 static Off-Site Sign Faces before the issuance of any approval for a Freeway Facing Sign then, remove a minimum of four existing offsite signs within the City boundary for each new TCN structure. Prioritize these spatially in the same way as they are prioritized for Non Freeway Facing signs.
5. Adopt the following amendments submitted by Council Districts 13:
- a. Remove Sign FF-13.
 - b. Remove Signs NFF-01 and NFF-20.

Please transmit the ordinance requested by the PLUM Committee to the City Clerk's Office. In addition, please reference Council file No. 22-0392. If you have questions, feel free to contact me at (213) 978-1078.

Sincerely,

Candy Rosales, Committee Clerk
Planning and Land Use Management Committee
(213) 978-1078