COUNCILWOMAN MONICA RODRIGUEZ
SEVENTH DISTRICT

RE: CD7 Requests for Council File 25-0096

Honorable Members of the Planning & Land Use Committee and City Planning Staff:

I am writing to express my excitement for the proposed updates in our equestrian land use policy that will enable continued horse keeping and support local ranches. I am also requesting that the committee consider adding another recommendation to those proposed in the report, as detailed below.

Since taking office in 2017, I have been committed to supporting the equestrians in my district, as well as working with city partners to guarantee that this tradition is able to be stewarded by the future generations. Constituents invest so much time in their properties and their beloved horses, but face issues that come from decades of planning, code changes, and updates in technology, while equine keeping policies have not kept up. In keeping our community safe and able to adjust to changing land uses, it's crucial to remove unintended limitations to safe and responsible horse keeping facility development that have been created through other changes inland use policy.I appreciate the work of the Planning Department, which has produced a report that outlines a thoughtful approach for balancing a need to abide by existing state housing laws, without precluding current and future horsekeeping uses of the surrounding properties.

The report touches on the challenges created by the unique practice of tying land use permits to an Animal Services permit in the equestrian context. Typically, a land use permit of this type would run with the land, and not with the life of the user. I am proposing removal of those unusual limits to land use rights based on the status of stabling horses. Any lapse in having a horse on one's property should not preclude future horse keeping ability.

I respectfully request that the PLUM Committee include the following additional instruction:

- Uncouple and remove Equestrian Licensing Requirements from equine land use permit requirements throughout the code.

Should you have any questions, please contact William Dahlin from my staff at 213-473-7007, he can also be reached at william.dahlin@lacity.org.

Sincerely,

MONICA RODRIGUEZ
Los Angeles City Councilwoman, District 7

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