

MOTION

The 2025-26 Proposed Budget adopted by the Los Angeles City Council includes the creation of a new Development Services Bureau ("Bureau") within the Department of City Planning (DCP), and the functional transfer of Zoning Review staff from the Department of Building and Safety (DBS) to DCP.

The stated goal of the Bureau is to guide major and complex projects through various city agency requirements during the design, planning, entitlement and permitting stages.

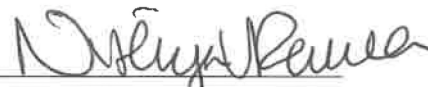
The Bureau, made up of current and new DCP and DBS staff, will review projects for conformance with applicable zoning and building code regulations, identify relevant expedited and/or streamlined entitlement and permitting pathways, and will assist in problem solving between departments as well as with applicants.

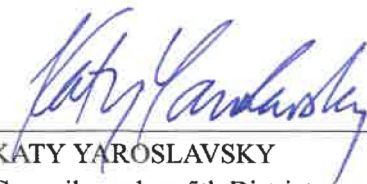
City leadership should ensure that the Bureau is set up for success in this first iteration of transfers, as well as moving forward in future iterations with potentially greater responsibilities to expedite the processing, approval, and permitting of much needed housing units in the City of Los Angeles.

WE THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council instruct the Los Angeles Department of City Planning (DCP) to report back within 30 days on the following tasks:

- Create an organizational chart of relevant DCP staff - including, but not limited to the Office of Zoning Administration, Development Service Center staff, the Performance and Management Unit, and any other relevant units or positions - and transferred Building and Safety (DBS) positions in order to form a new Development Services Bureau within DCP to:
 - Create direct authority for Zoning Administrative and other discretionary cases to be processed through the Bureau;
 - Provide an upfront development review function through a single intake to determine if a case is ministerial or discretionary;
 - Help route a case as necessary with a clear roadmap for permitting requirements;
 - Promptly ensure compliance with all applicable regulations in less than 10 days; and
 - Problem solve and reconcile building, zoning, and administrative code interpretations if there are departmental conflicts;
- Report back on position reclassifications or deletions that might achieve cost savings and further permit streamlining;
- Report back on other pre-entitlement work that could be shifted into the Bureau;
- Develop public facing dashboards, inclusive of information regarding project-type submittals, planning approvals, permit issuances, and average response and approval times for projects in the City; and
- Report back on achievable metrics of success based on the Bureau's stated objectives to ensure efficient and effective development citywide.

PRESENTED BY:


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SECOND BY:



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