

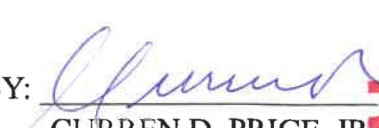
MOTION

The Lincoln Theater, which opened its doors in October 1927, stands as one of the most significant cultural landmarks along historic Central Avenue in Council District 9. During the early to mid-20th century, Central Avenue served as the epicenter of African American culture in Los Angeles, and the Lincoln Theater emerged as a vital space where working-class African Americans—often excluded from other venues due to segregation and discrimination—could gather, find respite, and celebrate arts and culture.

At the height of its prominence, the Lincoln Theater earned the distinction of being known as the “West Coast Apollo,” hosting legendary performers such as Duke Ellington, Billie Holiday, Etta James, and many others whose influence shaped American music and cultural history. The theater attracted diverse audiences and played a defining role in elevating Central Avenue as a national hub for jazz, entertainment, and Black cultural expression.

Today, the Lincoln Theater remains a crown jewel of historic Central Avenue, with ongoing efforts to preserve its legacy while supporting community-serving uses and future revitalization. Recognizing this site through a ceremonial designation will honor its historic significance, celebrate the cultural contributions rooted in the surrounding neighborhood, and affirm the City’s commitment to preserving the stories and places that define Los Angeles.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the intersection of 23rd Street and Central Avenue in Council District 9 be designated as “**Lincoln Theater Square**,” and that the Department of Transportation be directed to install permanent ceremonial signs to this effect at this location.

PRESENTED BY: 

CURREN D. PRICE, JR.

Councilmember, 9th District

SECONDED BY: 
FEB 06 2026

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