AD HOC COMMITTEE ON FILM,
ENTERTAINMENT, AND CREATIVE INDUSTRY

MOTION

BUDGET & FINANCE

Filming in the City of Los Angeles remains the economic and cultural foundation of the region's identity. The Keep Hollywood Home initiative has made meaningful progress: streamlining permitting, reducing fees at City facilities, establishing the micro-shoot permit and LA Creator Pass, creating the Keep Hollywood Home Seed Fund, and directing modernization of the Municipal Code. These reforms reduce cost and improve the process. They do not yet resolve the challenge of neighborhood-level unpredictability — the condition most consistently cited by location managers, independent producers, and commercial directors as a reason to choose a competing jurisdiction over Los Angeles.

Business Improvement Districts, Promise Zones, and Opportunity Zones have demonstrated that geographically-bounded designations can resolve this problem by pre-negotiating conditions, concentrating resources, and signaling clearly to the private sector that a defined area is open for investment. The City can apply the same model to production by establishing a pilot Film Friendly Zone program. Under the proposed program, each Council District would be able to designate one or more geographic areas, sized and scoped at the Councilmember's discretion, where City-controlled filming fees are waived or reduced, standard conditions are pre-negotiated with affected neighborhood councils, and permit turnaround is guaranteed. The proposed East Valley Creative Opportunity Zone pilot within Council District 2 can serve as a model for the program.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council instruct the Chief Legislative Analyst, in coordination the Board of Public Works, Police Department, Fire Department, Department of Transportation, Department of Recreation and Parks, and any other other departments involved in City film permitting, in consultation with the City Attorney and FilmLA, to prepare a report with recommendations within 90 days for a proposed Film Friendly Zone structure that includes the following potential elements:

- **Zone Designation:** Each Council District may designate one or more Film Friendly Zones within its boundaries following consultation with affected neighborhood councils, business improvement districts, and community stakeholders, and subject to full Council approval;
    - Zones may vary in size, scope, and benefit levels at the designating Councilmember's discretion;
    - Designated zones will be formally established by ordinance, remaining active for one year from passage unless renewed through subsequent legislative action.
- **Permit Fee Waivers:** All City filming fees shall be fully waived for creative activity that does not require exclusive use of the public right-of-way, traffic control, pyrotechnics, drone activity requiring a type 107 license waiver, simulated weapons, hazardous effects, amplified sound during restricted hours, or dedicated public-safety staffing;
    - For productions that do require street closures, traffic control, or departmental staffing, all applicable City fees shall be reduced by no less than 50 percent, unless a greater reduction is feasible, as determined by the City Department;
    - A guaranteed permit issuance timeline of no more than five business days administered through FilmLA without creation of new permit categories.
- **Council District Coordination:** A single liaison per designating Council District — within the district office, FilmLA, or the Board of Public Works Film Liaison, at the Councilmember's discretion — to coordinate interdepartmental issues within the zone without duplicating FilmLA's permitting function or altering departmental safety authority.
- **Equity Component:** Ensuring Film Friendly Zones are available to and actively encouraged in lower-income communities and communities of color that have historically received less

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economic benefit from production activity, including identification of tools and support for Council Districts seeking to establish zones in underserved neighborhoods

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council request the City Controller, in coordination with the Board of Public Works and FilmLA, to evaluate outcomes and metrics of any established zones on an annual basis.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council request FilmLA to ensure its current workflow and prioritization of production requests remain undisrupted by the establishment of any Zone under the proposed Film Friendly Zone structure.

I FURTHER MOVE that for any production entity that receives any benefit through this motion, that entity shall, as a condition of receiving said benefit, be obligated to participate in an Employer sponsored Health Insurance plan that meets standards established in the Motion Picture and Television industry for each employee employed on any such production. Said Health Plan shall be portable for the employee in that the contributions made by the employer on behalf of the employee shall be such a manner that the employee is enabled to carry said contribution from employer to employer.

PRESENTED BY: _____
ADRIN NAZARIAN
Councilmember, 2nd District

SECONDED BY: _____

ORIGINAL