

# POLICY MOTION

## COMMITTEE: Planning and Land Use Management (PLUM)

**TITLE:** Letter to the Department of City Planning Re: Community Update Plan

**PURPOSE:** This motion is to express the Mar Vista Community Council's position concerning the Westside Community Plan Advisory Group (WCPAG), the Community Update plan process and lack of transparency on zoning capacity numbers, reasonably expected population change, the methodology which will be used to allocate RHNA growth numbers and the Regional Housing Needs Assessment ("RHNA") allocation of units in each community.

### **BACKGROUND:**

- The CA state Housing and Community Development Dept (HCD) in 2022, rejected the Los Angeles Dept of City Planning's (DCP) updated Housing Element.
- The reason for this rejection given by the state is the Housing Element's not producing enough housing across all income levels to meet its 6th Cycle RHNA requirement of 456,643 units between 2021 and 2029.
- In response to this, The Department of City Planning ("DCP") determined that it needs to generate an additional 255,432 units through zoning changes.
- DCP has instituted a city-wide Rezoning program designed to address this issue.
- The Re-Zoning program includes, in Chapter 4, Appendix 4.7 of the revised Housing Element, a spreadsheet titled Inventory of Candidate Sites for Rezoning that lists properties in Mar Vista: <https://planning.lacity.org/plans-policies/housing-element-update#adopted-plan>
- The maps included in the new Housing Element Are viewable here: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ugxV8jqp57tqDehho4WsQ13sgSnlBMMj/view?ts=63587e3>
- In 2020 MVCC's Community Plan Update sub-committee, requested that DPC increased the required Affordable units in Mar Vista from 10% to 60%.
- To date, the MVCC has not received a response from DCP.

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The Mar Vista Community Council insists, on behalf of the stakeholders it represents, that prior to the completion of Community Plan updates the city inform communities of the methodology by which they determine the allocation of RHNA numbers and the calculations that derive density housing goals in order to meet the aims of Housing Element.

These include, for each Community Plan and Community or Neighborhood Council area:

- A) Current zoning capacity (including existing density bonuses & commercial zones that allow residential uses) and reasonably expected population change.
- B) The methodology which will be used to allocate RHNA growth numbers.
- C) RHNA allocation of units in each community.

We also urge the Planning Department to thoughtfully consider the input (submitted by previous written comment) of Neighborhood and Community Councils as well as stakeholders that come together for the purpose of contributing to the community plan update process with informed and productive input, insight and/or suggestions. This essential input must be implemented by Planning staff, and the contributions reflected by being substantively included in the outcome/drafting of revised Community Plans. We urge that a report back mechanism be implemented by planning staff, in order to inform communities of where and how their input has been received and incorporated into the final drafting process.

We'd also like to understand the role of the Westside Community Plan Advisory Group (WCPAG) and to be assured that their voice will not outweigh that of local stakeholders.

## DIRECTED TO:

City of Los Angeles Department of City Planning

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## ACTION/VOTE COUNT:

MVCC PLUM Committee meeting, April XX, 2023

Motion of moved by Director **XXXX**, seconded by **XXXXX**

Motion approved by the PLUM COMMITTEE **XXY-XXN-XXA**