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**GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA**



**MONDAY, July 16, 2018  
at 7:00 PM**

4024 Radford Ave., Editorial Bldg. 2, Room 6  
Studio City, CA 91604  
(818) 655-5400

[www.StudioCityNC.org](http://www.StudioCityNC.org)

The SCNC meetings are held on an active studio lot. Due to security issues, all stakeholders are required to park in the studios parking structure. There are a limited number of accessible parking spaces in front of the meeting room and while there is no direct path of travel to the meeting room via a sidewalk, the studio and NC want to assure that stakeholders with disabilities are able to access the meeting without difficulty. Stakeholders with disabilities who have a valid DMV placard, use a wheelchair, walker or cane, and/or those who have difficulties walking distances should contact (818) 655-5400 or [plewis@studiocitync.org](mailto:plewis@studiocitync.org) to request shuttle assistance at least 24 hours prior to the meeting in order for the studio to arrange services for the meeting. "Sign Language Interpreters, Communication, Access, Real-Time Transcription(CART), Assistive Listening Devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability, you are advised to make your request at least 72 hours prior to the meeting you wish to attend. Due to difficulties in securing Sign Language Interpreters, five or more business days notice is strongly recommended. For additional information, please contact: contact (818) 655-5400 or [plewis@studiocitync.org](mailto:plewis@studiocitync.org) or email of [office@studiocitync.org](mailto:office@studiocitync.org) The public is requested to fill out a "Comment Card" to address the Board on any item of the agenda prior to the Board taking action on an item. Comments from the public on Agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the Agenda that is within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. Public comment is limited to two minutes per speaker, unless directed otherwise by the presiding officer of the Board. The agenda is posted for public review at: Studio City Neighborhood Council website ([www.studiocitync.org](http://www.studiocitync.org)); as well as CBS Studio Center, Radford and Colfax gates. In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the Board in advance of a meeting, may be viewed at our website by clicking on the following link: [www.studiocitync.org](http://www.studiocitync.org) or, at the scheduled meeting.

Committee Members: Eric Preven (Board Member, Chair), Barry Johnson (Stakeholder, Vice Chair), Marsha Newman (Stakeholder), Lisa Karadjian (Board Member), Patrick Lewis (ex-officio).

1. Call to Order & Roll Call (1 min).
2. No Government Affairs Committee meeting minutes to approve (3 min).
3. Committee update by the Committee Chair (4 min).
4. Public Comments on non-agenda items within the Committee's jurisdiction (5 min).
5. Response(s) to public comments by Committee Members (5 min).
6. Presentation, discussion and possible motion (15 min).

**SCNC GAC MOTION -- CIS to City Council [18-1800-S2](#)**

**November 6, 2018 State General Election / Ballot Resolutions / Proposed Special Tax Proposition / Cannabis-Related Activities** Coming soon... **July 31, 2018**

Studio City residents understand that Cannabis has become legal in California and that regulation is in the public's interest.

On June 5, 2018 the council asked the City Attorney to prepare the documents necessary for a proposed ballot measure imposing special taxes and surcharges on various cannabis-related activities. The ballot resolutions and election ordinance necessary to place a special tax proposition on the ballot for the November 6, 2018 State General Election. This special tax will require two-thirds voter approval to become effective.

On July 3, 2018 the council approved a ballot measure on an 11-0 vote, but a unanimous vote of at least 12 members is needed for an ordinance to pass on first reading. A second vote will be taken after the council returns from a two-week-plus summer recess.

The proposed ballot measure would add a new tax in addition to the general gross receipts taxes of Proposition M. It would include a 2 percent reduction to the medical cannabis and recreational cannabis rates, to be restored in 0.5 percent increments over four years; a 0.75 percent reduction to the distribution and testing laboratory rate to be restored in 0.25 percent increments over three years; and a 1.5 percent reduction to the cultivation and manufacturing rate to be restored in 0.5 percent increments over three years.

**Where do we stand?**

**Motion A:** The Studio City Neighborhood Council supports the City's proposed Special Tax Proposition supported by our City Council.

**For: A)** The specified purposes of the Proposed Special Tax Proposition are worthy and include: public improvements, child and youth programs and City parks, libraries and recreation centers near licensed cannabis businesses; public education and outreach, equity programs, expungement clinics, illegal enforcement and other cannabis-related programming; cannabis youth prevention and child strengthening programs, including youth/child development activities for ages 0 to 24; and science technology, math and engineering (STEM) education programs. A temporary reduction in other taxes will ease some of the burden.

**Motion B:** The Studio City Neighborhood Council cannot support the City's proposed Special Tax Proposition supported by our City Council.

**Against: B)** This Proposed Special Tax Proposition is another money grab by the city council. The council should have directed the cannabis tax revenue from Measure M to the regulation and programs to be-

gin with instead of the general fund. Any further increase in costs to the cannabis industry is going to drive business to the already problematic black market and a new war on drugs.

Link: <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=cc fi.viewrecord&cfnumber=18-1800-S2>

#### 7. Presentation, discussion and possible motion (5 min).

SCNC GAC MOTION -- CIS to State Senate Appropriations Committee [AB 3168](#)

The Outdoor Advertising Act, AB 3168 **Coming soon... August 6, 2018**

Studio City residents understand Outdoor advertising displays are regulated on: publicly owned property. The Outdoor Advertising Act (existing State Law) provides that planting for the purpose of soil erosion control, traffic safety requirements, including light screening, reduction of fire hazards, or traffic noise abatement, does not change the character of a freeway to a landscaped freeway. This proposed bill by provides more flexibility to those rules, providing the outdoor advertising industry and local governments with more options for approving new advertising without the need for legislation.

This bill by State Assemblymember Blanca A. Rubio from the 48th district, loosens the existing regulations, provided that doing so does not result in a loss of federal highway funding, by a) Clarifying and limiting what can be considered as a landscaped highway. b) Making it easier to increase the height of a sign or replace an existing stationary sign with a digital display. c) Making it easier to relocate a sign by removing the existing restriction that signs may only be relocated within the jurisdiction of the city.

On May 21, 2018 the matter was read for the third time to the Assembly and it passed (Ayes 72. Noes 0).

On June 18, 2018 it was amended in the Senate and has entered the Committee Process.

There will be a Senate hearing on August 6, 2018 before the State Senate Appropriations Committee.

#### Where do we stand?

**Motion A:** The Studio City Neighborhood Council opposes AB 3168, as amended, Rubio.

Against: [Coalition to Ban Billboard Blight](#) <http://banbillboardblight.org/>

**Motion B:** The Studio City Neighborhood Council supports AB 3168, as amended, Rubio.

For: [California State Outdoor Advertising Association](#) <https://www.csoaa.com/>

Link: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billCompareClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB3168](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billCompareClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB3168)

#### 8. Adjournment (1 min).

**Background for Item 6 Turn Page.**

### **Background for Item 6:**

On March 7, 2017, the voters adopted Proposition M, an ordinance placed on the ballot by the City Council to enact a comprehensive regulatory, enforcement and taxation system for cannabis-related activity in the City of Los Angeles. The tax provisions of Proposition M included a new gross receipts tax regime of various rates on those who engage in the commercialization of medical and nonmedical cannabis. The taxes authorized in Proposition M were general taxes; proceeds from general taxes are placed in the General Fund and used to fund general municipal purposes throughout the City. The Recommendations proposed four new taxes and surcharges:

- 1) a 1 % special gross receipts tax on all commercial cannabis activity;
- 2) a 1% special gross receipts tax on licensed cannabis event organizers and registered cannabis management companies;
- 3) a \$5 special surcharge on any test of cannabis products by a licensed commercial cannabis testing laboratory; and
- 4) a \$5 special surcharge on any ticket sold for a temporary cannabis event.

The Recommendations also specified the purposes for which the proceeds from each of these new taxes must be allocated and spent.

These purposes, further detailed below, include: public improvements, child and youth programs and City parks, libraries and recreation centers near licensed cannabis businesses; public education and outreach, equity programs, expungement clinics, illegal enforcement and other cannabis-related programming; cannabis youth prevention and child strengthening programs, including youth/child development activities for ages 0 to 24; and science technology, math and engineering (STEM) education programs.

**Background for item 7 Turn Page.**

**More**

**Item 7 Background:** proposed revisions

**SECTION 1.** Section 5216 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

**5216.** (a) “Landscaped freeway” means a section or sections of a freeway that is now, or hereafter may be, improved by the planting at least on one side or on the median of the freeway right-of-way of lawns, trees, shrubs, flowers, or other ornamental vegetation requiring reasonable maintenance.

(b) Planting for the purpose of soil erosion control, traffic safety requirements, including light screening, reduction of fire hazards, ~~or covering soundwalls or fences, or~~ traffic noise abatement, shall not change the character of a freeway to a landscaped freeway.

(c) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), if an agreement to relocate advertising displays from within one area of a city or county to an area adjacent to a freeway right-of-way has been entered into between a city or county and the owner of an advertising display, then a “landscaped freeway” shall not include the median of a freeway right-of-way.

**SEC. 2.** Section 5440 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

**5440.** Except as otherwise provided in this article, no advertising display may be placed or maintained on property adjacent to a section of a freeway that has been landscaped *with at least an average width of 20 feet of landscaping on department-owned property at the same or elevated grade of the main-traveled way* if the advertising display is designed to be viewed primarily by persons traveling on the main-traveled way of the landscaped freeway.

**SEC. 3.** Section 5443 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

**5443.** Nothing in this article prohibits either of the following:

(a) Any county from designating the districts or zones in which advertising displays may be placed or prohibited as part of a county land use or zoning ordinance.

(b) Any governmental entity from entering into a relocation agreement pursuant to Section 5412 or the department from allowing any legally permitted display to be increased in height at its permitted ~~location-~~ *location, converted to a message center,* or to be relocated ~~if a noise attenuation barrier is erected in front of the display or if a building, construction, or structure, including, but not limited to, a barrier, bridge, overpass, or underpass, has been or is then being erected by any governmental entity that obstructs the display's visibility within 500 feet of the display and that relocated display or that action of the department-~~ *provided the height increase, conversion, or relocation* would not cause a reduction in federal aid highway funds as provided in Section 131 of Title 23 of the United States Code or an increase in the number of displays within the ~~jurisdiction of a governmental entity-~~ *state* which does not conform to this article. Any increase in height permitted under this subdivision shall not be more than that necessary to restore the visibility of the display to the main-traveled way. An advertising display relocated pursuant to this subdivision shall comply with all of the provisions of Article 6 (commencing with Section 5350).

**The Studio City Neighborhood Council Agenda is posted for public review at the following locations below and is posted on the SCNC website [www.StudioCityNC.org](http://www.StudioCityNC.org), CBS Studio Center, Radford and Colfax gates.**

**PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS** – The public is requested to fill out a “Speaker Card” to address the Board on any item on the Agenda PRIOR to the Board taking action on an item. Comments from the public on Agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments on other matters, not appearing on the Agenda that are within the Board’s subject matter jurisdiction, will be heard during the Public Comments On Non-Agenda Items period.

**THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT** - As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices and other auxiliary aids and/or services, may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least three (3) business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting the Studio City Neighborhood Council (818) 655-5400 or by e-mail to [plewis@studiocitync.org](mailto:plewis@studiocitync.org).

**PUBLIC ACCESS OF RECORDS**

In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the Board in advance of a meeting, may be viewed at our website by clicking on the following link [www.StudioCityNC.org](http://www.StudioCityNC.org): or, at the scheduled meeting.

**RECONSIDERATION PROCESS** - Reconsideration of a vote by the Board may be called as a motion by the Board members that voted on the prevailing side of the decision.

**GRIEVANCE PROCESS** - A stakeholder or group of stakeholders may present a grievance concerning the legality of actions by the Board during public comment. Substantive grievances will be examined by a panel set by the Board and the decisions may be appealed to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment.

**PUBLIC ACCESS OF RECORDS** - In compliance with Government Code Section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the Board in advance of a meeting, may be viewed at our website by clicking on the following link - <http://studiocitync.org/> or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda please contact [office@studiocitync.org](mailto:office@studiocitync.org).

**SCNC BYLAWS** - Please be advised that the Bylaws of the Studio City Neighborhood Council provide a process for reconsideration of actions as well as a grievance procedure. For your convenience, the Bylaws are available during every meeting.