

Jeffrey Carter Ben Di Benedetto Joshua Gelfat Victor Helo Wayne Kartin Remy Kessler Michael McCue Ben Neumann Richard Niederberg Todd Royal Lisa Sarkin Lana Shackelford Gail Steinberg Ron Taylor Rita Villa John T. Walker



BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, September 22 , 2010, 7:00pm at

CBS Studio Center, Building 8, MPR-3, 4024 Radford, Studio City CA, 91604

PRESIDENT John T. Walker

VICE PRESIDENT TODD ROYAL

TREASURER Remy Kessler

SECRETARY Rita C. Villa

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY Lana Shackelford

4024 Radford Ave. Edit. Bldg. 2, Suite 6 Studio City, CA 91604 Phone (818) 655-5400 <u>www.scnc.info</u>

The public is requested to fill out a "**Speaker 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 (<u>www.scnc.info</u>); as well as CBS Studio Center, Radford and Colfax gates; the Studio City Library, 12511 Moorpark St.; the Studio City Recreation Center, 12621 Rye Ave. and at Carpenter Avenue Elementary School, 3909 Carpenter Avenue, Studio City, CA 91604 . 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, or 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 Neighborhood Council Project Coordinator (213) 473-5391 or by e-mail to Thomas.Soong@lacity.org. 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: <u>www.scnc.info</u> 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@scnc.info.

<u>Agenda</u>

- 1. Call to Order & Roll Call (2 min).
- 2. Approval of August 18, 2010 Minutes. (2 min).
- 3. Comments by the President. (10 min).
- 4. Introduction of **Assembly Member Mike Feuer**, 42nd District. (10 min).
- 5. Public Comments on non-agenda items within the Boards jurisdiction (2 min each speaker).
- 6. Responses to comments from the Board (10 min).
- 7. Report from Grievance Committee Stu Miller. (15 min).
- 8. Presentation by Kristina Hope about an Animal Welfare Committee (10 min).
- 9. Treasurer's Report: Remy Kessler (5 min).
- 10. Report from Land Use: Lisa Sarkin (15 min).
 - a. Motion: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council supports the application of Mare'ka, located at 12747 ¹/₂ Ventura Blvd., Studio City (ZA-2010-2328) as presented with the Proposed Conditions of Operations annexed hereto.

Proposed Conditions of Operations MARE'KA - 12747 ¹/₂ Ventura Blvd, Studio City CA. 91604

1. The authorized use shall be conducted at all times with due regard for the character of the surrounding district and the peaceful quiet enjoyment of the neighborhood, and/or users of the adjacent properties.

2. There shall be no more than one exterior sign posted that advertises the availability of beer or wine.

3. Any "door charge" collected for live entertainment shall be for the sole benefit and use of the entertainer.

4. All graffiti on the site shall be removed or painted over within 24 hours of its occurrence.

5. The use and development of the property shall be in substantial conformance with the floor plan submitted with these conditions and marked "Exhibit A".

6. All employees involved with direct sales to customers shall enroll annually in ABC or Los Angeles Police Department approved alcoholic service training to monitor and identify potentially intoxicated patrons in order to prevent the over consumption of such beverages.

7. A menu shall be available daily during hours of sale, service and consumption of beer and wine.

8. On-site sale, service and consumption of beer and wine shall cease at 10 p.m. on

Sunday. Closing times to be: Sunday through Thursday at midnight. Friday, Saturday and legal holidays at 2 a.m.

9. Beer and Wine sales shall not exceed 50% of the gross sales of food and nonalcoholic beverages during the same period.

10. Sale, service and consumption of beer and wine shall be allowed on the outdoor seating area during hours of operation.

11. The telephone number of a responsible party shall be available from staff in the event of a problem, disturbance or complaint regarding the operation of the subject facility.

12. Beer or wine coolers shall not be sold in single cans, nor wine in less than 750 ml bottles for off-site consumption.

13. The applicant shall consult with the Police Department and incorporate any feasible security measures recommended by that Department.

14. A copy of these conditions shall be maintained on the premises; the manager and all employees shall be made aware of the conditions.

15. No coverage of windows above three feet from the ground.

16. Trashcans and cigarette containers to e placed in front of location.

17. No music shall be audible beyond the property lines.

b. Motion: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council opposes the three home subdividion to be built on a 50 X 135 foot lot at 4379 Kraft Ave., Studio City. It is not in conformity with the neighborhood and is opposed by a majority of the neighbors whom we represent as the Studio City Neighborhood Council.

11. Report Government Affairs: Barbara Monahan Burke/Rita Villa (15 min).

a. Motion: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council authorizes the issuance of a letter substantially in the form attached hereto transmitting our comments on the Urban Design Guidelines to the City Planning Department, the City Planning Commission and to the City Council.

Los Angeles City Planning Department Attn: Michelle Sorkin (<u>michelle.sorkin@lacity.org</u>) Alan Bell (<u>Alan.Bell@lacity.org</u>) Michael J. Lo Grande (<u>michael.logrande@lacity.org</u>)

Los Angeles City Hall 200 N. Spring St., Room 621 Los Angeles, CA 90012

Subject: Comments on Citywide Urban Design Guidelines Negative Declaration-NG-10-280-PL: ENV-2010-715 Comment period ends September 27, 2010

The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council has reviewed the Urban Design Guidelines for (i) Multifamily Residential & Commercial Mixed Use Projects, (ii) Commercial Design Guidelines for Pedestrian-Oriented Mixed Use Projects and (iii) Industrial Design Guidelines for Heavy Industrial, Limited and Light Industrial, Hybrid Industrial and Commercial Manufacturing. Please place our comments below in your formal record on this matter:

General Comments

The Citywide Urban Design Guidelines are proposed for adoption as an Appendix to the General Plan Framework Element for Multifamily Residential, Mixed-Use, Commercial and Industrial land uses. The Design Guidelines implement the 10 Urban Design Principles, a part of the Framework Element. They establish design expectations for new development based on Citywide goals, policies and objectives. The Planning Department's objective is for the Design Guidelines to promote walkability, maintain neighborhood form and character, and promote creative infill developments. They apply to all new developments and substantial building alterations that require discretionary approvals from the Dept. of City Planning.

The Design Guidelines represent a significant change in the documentation of City policy. They are based upon assumptions that are based on urban areas. Those assumptions are not in accordance with the reality of the suburban lifestyle that exists in Studio City and do not adequately protect either the suburban or rural areas of the San Fernando Valley.

The Guidelines encourage locating high density residential housing on top of retail establishments purporting that such mixed use will reduce traffic congestion. In the Cahuenga Pass, an area adjacent to Studio City, such development has not been successful. Particularly on Ventura Boulevard in Studio City such development would not be in accordance with our specific plan. Additionally, such development has not reduced traffic congestion at all on Ventura Boulevard in the Encino, the area immediately to the west of our specific plan area.

The public, community associations and neighborhood councils should be provided with adequate time to review, analyze and comment on the proposed Guidelines. The Negative Declaration was released before the Guidelines and adequate time was not allowed for their review before the original comment period closed. Although the public comment period was extended to September 27, 2010, these changes are so fundamental that stakeholders have still not been given a sufficient opportunity for input. The stakeholders of this City must be given ample opportunity to fully review, analyze, and comment upon each of the proposed Guidelines. We recommend that City undertake additional outreach in the form of community meetings that are not held at the end of the summer when many people are on vacation and even the City Council was in recess.

With this ordinance, as with all ordinances, the most important issue is enforcement of the ordinance once it is passed. In this time of economic recession and the resulting extreme budgetary cutbacks, it is imperative that provision be made for adequate budgetary funding to insure enforcement of all existing ordinances. We have grave concern that these Guidelines will give zone code administrators and others in the Department of City Planning increased authority for discretionary approval of projects, as a cost cutting measure, at the expense of transparency and stakeholder input.

Attached are specific comments on each of the three Design Guidelines. Please note that although many of provisions in the Design Guidelines are good, failure to comment on any particular provision should not be deemed as approval of that provision by the SCNC.



URBAN DESIGN GUIDELINES EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Citywide Urban Design Guidelines are proposed for adoption as an Appendix to the General Plan Framework Element for Multifamily Residential, Mixed-Use, Commercial and Industrial land uses. The Design Guidelines implement the 10 Urban Design Principles, as part of the Framework Element. They establish design expectations for new development based on Citywide goals, policies and objectives. The Planning Department's objective is for the Design Guidelines to promote walkability, maintain neighborhood form and character, and promote creative infill developments. They apply to all new developments and substantial building alterations that require discretionary approvals from the Department of City Planning.

The Design Guidelines represent a significant change in the documentation of City policy. They are based upon assumptions that are based on urban areas. Those assumptions are not in accordance with the reality of the suburban lifestyle that exists in Studio City and do not adequately protect either the suburban or rural areas of the San Fernando Valley.

The Guidelines encourage locating high density residential housing on top of retail establishments purporting that such mixed use will reduce traffic congestion. In the Cahuenga Pass, an area adjacent to Studio City, such development has not been successful. Particularly on Ventura Boulevard in Studio City such development would not be in accordance with our Ventura-Cahuenga Boulevard Corridor Specific Plan ("Specific Plan"). Additionally, such development has not reduced traffic congestion at all on Ventura Boulevard in Encino, the area immediately to the west of the Specific Plan area.

The public, community associations and neighborhood councils should be provided with adequate time to review, analyze and comment on the proposed Guidelines. The Negative Declaration was released before the Guidelines and adequate time was not allowed for their review before the original comment period closed. Although the public comment period was extended to September 27, 2010, these changes are so fundamental that stakeholders have still not been given a sufficient opportunity for input. The stakeholders of this City must be given ample opportunity to fully review, analyze, and comment upon each of the proposed Guidelines. We recommend that City undertake additional outreach in the form of community meetings that are not held at the end of the summer when many people are on vacation and even the City Council was in recess.

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Attached are specific comments on each of the three Design Guidelines. Please note that although many of provisions in the Design Guidelines are good, failure to comment on any particular provision should not be deemed as approval of that provision by the Studio City Neighborhood Council.

Page Number	Statement in Guideline	Response to Statement
4 of 46	Preservation of Los Angeles's character and scale, including its traditional urban design form, shall be given the highest priority in consideration of future development.	Although we agree that preservation of character and scale through out Los Angeles is of paramount importance, we do not agree with the assumption that all of Los Angeles is urban. Many areas of Los Angeles including the majority of the San Fernando Valley are suburban. Other portions are rural.
4 of 46	Maintain neighborhood form and character while promoting design excellence and creative infill development solutions.	Design excellence is subjective and the infill development solutions that are appropriate for urban areas may not be appropriate for suburban and rural areas. It is imperative that distinct solutions are specifically developed for each of these areas.
7 of 46	In cases where the Citywide Design Guidelines conflict with a provision in a specific plan or a community plan, the community-specific requirements shall prevail.	We agree with this provision of the design guidelines.
11 of 46	Central Courtyards	Central courtyards should be encouraged even though they can add to the cost of a building. They create real open space that does not impinge on the privacy of adjacent properties. Balconies and rooftop open space should be allowed only if they do not adversely impact the privacy of neighboring properties.
12 of 46	Activate mid-block passageways or paseos so that they are safe and visually interesting spaces, using water features, pedestrian-level lighting, artwork, benches, landscaping or special paving	Through out the city mid-block passageways have historically been areas where safety is not easily maintained and often end up needing to be closed. It is important to incorporate specific safety procedures into the design.
13 of 46	Use a 50 percent lot coverage ratio as a good rule of thumb for low-rise housing developments and townhomes, especially in primarily residential, low and low medium-density areas.	We recommend that 50% be a maximum percent lot coverage ratio. Additionally, the language in this section should be more specific and state that this applies to (for example) RD1.5, R3, and R4 lots.
15 of 46	Entryways below street level should be avoided.	We agree that entryways below street level should be avoided. They are often not safe due to obstructed visibility.

Comments on Residential Design Guidelines

15 of 46	Maximize a visual connection to the street by providing clear and unobstructed windows, free of reflective glass coatings and exterior mounted gates or grills.	When it is a matter of security grills should be designed in such a way that they add architectural interest to the building. Grill work may provide an important element of security for people living in multifamily properties.
18 of 46	 Relationship to Adjacent Buildings 1. Where a predominant, desirable architectural style or theme exists on the street, ensure that new buildings are compatible in scale, style, and architectural materials. In older neighborhoods respect the character of existing buildings. 2. For RD1.5, R3, R4 RAS 3 and RAS4 developments, apply additional setbacks in side and rear yards abutting single-family and R2 zoned lots. 3. Where multi-family projects are adjacent to single-family zones, maintain a height compatible with adjacent buildings and mitigate negative shade/shadow and privacy impacts by stepping back upper floors. 4. When a project is built over two or more lots, use vertical breaks, such as open space or architectural elements on the façade, to prevent monolithic "box-like" buildings. Designing large-scale developments with sufficient air space between buildings diminishes the scale and massing of a development, ensuring compatibility with surrounding buildings. 5. When designing small lot subdivisions provide sufficient space between buildings along the street frontage to diminish the scale and massing. 6. Plant trees, shrubs, and vines to screen walls between property lines. Use decorative walls that include a change in color, material, and texture. 	We agree with each of these design guidelines and we draw attention to the importance of adequate subterranean setbacks. Adequate subterranean setbacks ensure that the roots of canopy trees have room to grow without disturbance to adjacent sidewalks. They also increase the opportunity for permeable surfaces enabling replenishment of the water table when it rains.

20 of 46 to 23 of 46	Twelve objectives	Although we agree with the twelve objectives for building facades it is important to insure that balconies are not placed in such a way that they invade the privacy of their neighbors. Windows and all other openings such as doors and balconies should be staggered from
		building to building.
22 of 46	Create open rather than solid fences. Long expanses of fences should incorporate changes in materials, texture, and/or landscaping. Avoid materials such as chain link, wrought iron spears	Wrought iron fences are a part of the historic American style of residential, official, government and office building tradition. They should be incorporated in a way that adds architectural interest.
26 of 46 to 30 of 46	Special design guidelines for historic properties, building signage and lighting and utilities	We agree with the principles set forth in the design guidelines. However, it may be more appropriate to remove this section from the Design Guidelines and make it a stand alone document that is developed with the assistance of experts in the area of historic preservation of buildings and neighborhoods.
26 of 46 to 30 of 46 Continued	Special design guidelines for historic properties, building signage and lighting and utilities	Low energy green solutions should be encouraged specifically with respect to building signage and lighting. Permanent rental signs and ad banners are a blight and should be discouraged. All signage shall comply with the sign code ordinance.
33 of 46	Provide Pedestrian Connections Within and Around the Project	We agree with the design guidelines for sidewalks, however we do not recommend that newspaper racks and information kiosks should be used to create the buffer zone between pedestrians and traffic. Kiosks should be placed outside the buffer zones.
37 of 46 to 39 of 46	Minimize the Appearance of Driveways and Parking Areas	We agree with the design guidelines for minimizing the appearance of driveways and parking areas.
40 of 46	On-Site Landscaping	Although we agree with the design guidelines for on-site landscaping, drought tolerant plants should not be limited to native plants but should also include appropriate Mediterranean and California friendly plants.

42 of 46	Provide balconies to augment, rather than substitute for, actively used common open spaces and recreational areas	Although we are in general agreement with the design guidelines for Open Space and Recreation Activities, placement of balconies should be done in such a way that they do not infringe on the privacy of neighboring properties. The use of opaque building materials for balconies must be encouraged. The use of barbeques and fire pits on balconies shall be prohibited.
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Page Number	Statement in Guideline	Response to Statement
4 of 51	The design program for the City is intended to embrace the variety of urban forms that exist within the city, from the most urban, concentrated centers to our suburban neighborhoods.	Many areas of Los Angeles including the majority of the San Fernando Valley are suburban while other portions of the City are rural. It is of paramount importance that the design guidelines clearly recognize and preserve the unique character of each such area.
7 of 51	However, in cases where the Citywide Design Guidelines conflict with a provision in a specific plan or a community plan, the community-specific requirements shall prevail.	We agree that specific plans, community plans and community-specific requirements should prevail over the provisions of the Commercial Design Guidelines.
11 of 51	Activate mid-block passageways, pedestrian walkways, or paseos using water features, pedestrian-level lighting, murals or artwork, benches, landscaping or special paving so that they are safe and visually interesting spaces.	Through out the city mid-block passageways have historically been areas where safety is not easily maintained and often end up needing to be closed. It is important to incorporate specific safety procedures into the design.
18 of 51 and 23 of 51	Be sensitive in transitioning between commercial districts and immediately surrounding residential neighborhoods with respect to building height, massing, and negative impacts of light and noise.	These two provisions of the commercial design guidelines are extremely important. Consideration should also be given to the placement of window and balconies in such a way that they do not infringe on the privacy of neighbors.

Comments on Commercial Design Guidelines

18 of 51 and 23 of 51 continued	Where commercial or multi-family projects are adjacent to single-family zones, maintain a height compatible with adjacent residential buildings and mitigate negative shade/shadow and privacy impacts by stepping back upper floors.	Windows and all other openings such as doors and balconies should be staggered from building to building.The use of opaque building materials for balconies shall be encouraged.
31 of 51	Create a buffer zone between pedestrians, moving vehicles, and other transit modes by the use of landscaping and street furniture.	We agree with the design guidelines for sidewalks, however we do not recommend that newspaper racks and information kiosks should be used to create the buffer zone between pedestrians and traffic. Kiosks should be placed outside the buffer zones.
39 of 51	Select drought tolerant, native landscaping whenever possible.	Although we agree with the design guidelines for on-site landscaping, drought tolerant plants should not be limited to native plants but should also include appropriate Mediterranean and California friendly plants.
42 of 51	Shops and outdoor dining areas adjacent to pedestrian flow	The photo on this page shows tables and chairs for outdoor dining at the curb directly adjacent to on street parking. This is not safe for either those dining or passengers needing to exit their cars. Tables and chairs should not be located in the pedestrian areas. Wheel chairs must still be able to get past without interference.

Page Number	Statement in Guideline	Response to Statement
7 of 46	However, in cases where the Citywide Design Guidelines conflict with a provision in a specific plan or a community plan, the community-specific requirements shall prevail.	We agree that specific plans, community plans and community-specific requirements should prevail over the provisions of the Commercial Design Guidelines.
27 of 46	Create a buffer zone between pedestrians, moving vehicles, and other transit modes by the use of landscaping and street furniture.	We agree with the design guidelines for sidewalks, however we do not recommend that newspaper racks and information kiosks should be used to create the buffer zone between pedestrians and traffic. Kiosks should be placed outside the buffer zones.
35 of 46	Select drought tolerant, native landscaping whenever possible.	Although we agree with the design guidelines for on-site landscaping, drought tolerant plants should not be limited to native plants but should also include appropriate Mediterranean and California friendly plants.

Comments on Industrial Design Guidelines

b. Motion: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council supports the issuance of the following Community Impact Statement to Council File # 08-1967-S2.

The SCNC supports the establishment of the Office of the Ratepayers Advocate which will be responsible to review and analyze the operations, finances and management, of the Department of Water and Power as well as other matters not explicitly excluded from its role in accordance with the provisions on the Ratepayers Advocate Term Sheet attached hereto.

Ratepayers Advocate Term Sheet

Role

The Office of the Ratepayers Advocate (the "Ratepayers Advocate") will review and analyze the operations, finances, and management, of the Department of Water and Power as well as other matters not explicitly excluded from its role.

Such review and analysis will be done on a timely and continuous basis.

In addition to all matters relating to rates and the reliability and quality of service, the Ratepayers Advocate would have the right to review and analyze, among other matters, DWP's credit rating; its long term strategy; the Integrated Resources Plan; the Urban Water Management Plan; the Recycled Water Master Plan; the state of its

infrastructure and information technology systems; its Customer Relation Management systems; the implementation of the recommendations of the IEA Survey and Independent Fiscal Review; the efficiency of its operations; its procurement, contracting, and inventory policies; its relationship with the City and its departments; and all material contracts, including those with the Metropolitan Water District and its unions.

The Ratepayers Advocate will not set rates or policy, will not select the General Manager or any Commissioner, and will not determine the Transfer to the City, but may review, analyze, and comment on such matters. The Ratepayers Advocate will not make management decisions. The Ratepayers Advocate is not required to review individual customer complaints, but may so at its discretion.

The Ratepayers Advocate will not have the subpoena and prosecutor powers of an Inspector General; provided, however, that DWP provides the Ratepayers Advocate with all requested information on a timely basis.

The Ratepayers Advocate will have a "seat at the table" at any meeting of the Board of Commissioners or any of its committee and at any City Council meeting or any of its committees when the DWP is being discussed. The Ratepayers Advocate will be given equal time.

The DWP will cooperate fully with and assist as necessary the Ratepayers Advocate.

The Ratepayers Advocate will be a source of objective information for Ratepayers, the City Council, the Mayor, and other City officials and stakeholders.

Funding

The DWP will provide funding equal to 0.1% of annual revenues, payable quarterly in advance. Funds not used may be accumulated, but shall not exceed 0.3% of annual revenues.

Additional funds may be required based upon extraordinary requests by DWP or elected officials or their representatives. Such additional funds must be approved in advance by DWP.

Reporting

The Ratepayers Advocate will not report to any elected official or body consisting of elected officials or appointed by elected officials. The Controller, the City Council, the Mayor and the Mayor's office, the City Administrative Officer, the Chief Legislative Analyst, the DWP Board of Commissioners, and Neighborhood Councils are therefore not eligible.

The Ratepayers Advocate will report to the Ratepayers Advocate Board of Commissioners on a frequent basis.

The Ratepayers Advocate Board of Commissioners will consist of five independent members: two homeowners, two from the business community, and one from the rental community.

Commissioners may not be a city, county, or state employee, consultant, lobbyist, or contractor, or any of their employees or union members; any elected politician (or candidate) who has been in office during the last 10 years; and any officer, past or present, of any political party.

Commissioners will be residents of Los Angeles and DWP customers whose obligations are current.

Commissioners will be chosen by the Mayor from a pool of qualified candidates determined by the Neighborhood Councils, the business community, and the multifamily community, subject to the approval of the City Council. There will be three candidates for each position.

Qualified candidates must demonstrate a level of knowledge and/or experience of large organizations, finance, management, and/or engineering.

The Commissioners will serve five year staggered terms. However, the initial commissioners will serve terms of one, two, three, four and five year terms. Commissioners may not be removed unless the removal is approved by the mayor and at least 11 Council Members.

SCNC Board Agenda (cont.)

The Commissioners will approve the selection of the Executive Director of the Ratepayers Advocate.

Commissioners will be consulted on the hiring of staff and any consultants.

The Executive Director may be removed if approved by four of the Commissioners and confirmed by the Mayor and a majority of the City Council

Ratepayers Advocate

The Executive Director of the Ratepayers Advocate will have the necessary expertise and experience to lead an organization charged with fulfilling the role of the Ratepayers Advocate.

The City will retain a qualified executive recruiter to assist the City in finding a qualified candidate.

Outreach

The office of the Ratepayers Advocate will maintain a fully functional website where it will post its findings on a timely basis.

The Ratepayers Advocate will meet at least six times a year with the Neighborhood Councils and other ratepayers in an effort to keep them fully informed about past, current, and future policies of the DWP, especially as it relates to rates and quality and reliability of service.

Location

The location of the Ratepayers Advocate will be determined by the Executive Director in consultation with the Commissioners.

Budget

The Executive Director will prepare an annual budget to be approved by the Board of Commissioners.

The Executive Director will also prepare a multiyear budget.

The compensation of the Executive Director and her/his staff will need to be adequate to attract personnel from the private sector that have the requisite skills.

The Ratepayers Advocate will be required to fund only the normal costs related to pensions and medical benefits.

Charter

The Ratepayers Advocate will part of the City Charter if approved by a majority of the voters in the March 2011 election.

There will be no sunset provisions.

The Ratepayers Advocate will not be subject to the competitive bidding policies of the City.

- 12. Report Transportation Committee: **Ben Di Benedetto** (15 min).
 - a. Motion: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council opposes, in the form of a Community Impact Statement attached to CF#10-0139-51, the City Council's proposal to offer/sell any leases to private firms allowing them to run any cityowned parking garages.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MOTION – COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT Council File # 10-0139-51

Other Cities such as Chicago have sold or leased in whole or in part their parking facilities which have resulted in increased parking fees. Additionally, we don't see the wisdom of selling long term revenue producing assets to cover short term obligations. The City should balance its budget without selling assets.

b. Motion: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council supports, in the form of a Community Impact Statement attached to CF#10-1366 Councilmember Cardenas' motion instructing the City Administrative Officer (CAO) in coordination with the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) to report on the feasibility of implementing a program that would share a percentage of parking meter revenues with local communities for neighborhood public improvements.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MOTION – COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT Council File # 10-1366

Since 2007, the Department of Transportation has been replacing and upgrading parking meter technology throughout the City. As part of this effort, demand-based parking pricing will be implemented through a pilot program. The right price for curb parking is the lowest price that keeps a few spaces available to allow convenient access. The Department of Transportation is looking at various programs to "right price" on- and off-street parking.

Residents and businesses, however, are suffering from the current difficult economic times and many are concerned that parking meter rates are discouraging customers from patronizing their businesses. Using parking revenue to improve the surrounding community can attract customers, such as cleaning sidewalks, planting street trees, improving store facades and ensuring security. Dedicated parking meter revenue to finance public improvements in "Old Pasadena" played a major part in its revival. As the City of Los Angeles moves forward in re-examining parking pricing, it is important to offset the impacts to businesses by providing them with more resources to encourage customers to continue to patronize their businesses.

- 13. Report Cultural Affairs: **Christine From** (10 min).
- 14. Report Outreach: Lisa Cahan Davis (10 min).
- 11. Report Crime & Safety: Wayne Kartin (5 min).
- 12. Report ByLaws & Procedures: Ron Taylor (10 min).
- 13. Comments from Board Members on subject matters within the Board's jurisdiction (15 min).
- 14. Adjournment (1 min).



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- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call. (1 min).
- 2. Approval of Minutes. (none).
- 3. Public Comment on non-agenda items within the Committee's jurisdiction.
- 4. Member's Responses to Public Comments.

5. MOTION: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council has reviewed the September 2010 financial statement and the June and August bank statements and hereby accepts and approves them. (Remy Kessler – Treasurer). (5 min).

6. Adjournment (1 min).