

**Public Comment-Public Communication: Against/In Opposition Motion
March 8, 2019 Council File No. 18-0612**

Councilman Marqueece Harris-Dawson moved to expedite the permitting process for the *Destination Crenshaw Project*. It was originally presented to the City Council September 5, 2018 (**Council File No. 18-0612**) and the following action, where \$328,100 was secured from General City Purpose Fund per Council's adoption of the Second Financial Status (FSR) Report on December 18, 2018 (**Council File No. 18-0600-161**) to fund *Destination Crenshaw*.

The Park Mesa Heights Community Council is submitting this Community Impact Statement (CIS) on behalf of the Hyde Park Organization Partnership for Empowerment (HOPE).

The *Destination Crenshaw Project* is presented in the original motion as "community inspired". That comment is at best misleading, and at worst a deliberate stretch of the truth. A substantial portion of the Hyde Park residents/stakeholders have been excluded from the opportunity to give constructive and necessary input on this project. This is particularly important because the major part of the 1.3-mile for the project is in Hyde Park.

The project proposes to "help transform the Crenshaw community into an economically vibrant community that serves residents." Yet no land has been designated for commercial growth. Instead commercial land has been designated for the installation of art and landscaped parking lots (termed pocket parks). Little effort seems to be focused on economic growth, which is key to the project actually being of any benefit to the community. What the community expects and deserves is an economic program which entrenches our roots into the soil of this district.

Our additional concern is the inadequate funding for the project. This is evidenced by the solicitation of community members at meetings and the request for donations on the *Destination Crenshaw* website.

Concurrently, *Destination Crenshaw* faces the challenge of establishing a viable Endowment Fund. The Hyde Park community must be guaranteed preservation of this "Open-Air Museum." Specific monies for its' management and maintenance must be designated NOW. We must not have to rely on the City or County budget for future allocations in order to avoid the possibility of future blight due to insufficient funding.

We ask that these concerns be addressed in a meeting with Councilman Marqueece Harris-Dawson before ---expediting-- "all permits for review and issuance."

We therefore urgently request that the City Council instruct all city departments/entities to refrain from and cease in the issuance of all permits and the disbursement of all funds related to the *Destination Crenshaw Project*