

CIS – Comprehensive Fee Appeal Increase

Park Mesa Heights Community Council submitting In Opposition to CF 09-0969S3

As residents (Homeowners, Renters and Stakeholders) of Hyde Park, Angeles Mesa and View Heights we have serious concern as to why the City Planning Department would consider making a recommendation to raise appeal fees payable by any homeowner, business or stakeholder other than the developer from the current fee of \$89 to a new fee of \$16,000. This recommendation is more than questionable due to the privilege developers gain by having little or no restraint placed against their projects.

The Park Mesa Heights community is a Transit Oriented Community, and an Opportunity Fund Zone. Therefore, we are being inundated with Market Rate Housing developments offering a miniscule percentage of very low and low rent units with no economic benefit accruing to the existing community. These projects are specifically eroding the viability of our Crenshaw Economic Corridor by failing to allocate any commercial space within the proposed developments.

This proposed fee increase is ludicrous and amounts to an intentional disenfranchisement of the citizenry of Los Angeles. The Impact on Communities of Color is obvious and feels intentional. Park Mesa Heights Community Council (PMHCC) representing the largest Black population in the City of Los Angeles is especially grieved and offended by this proposed fee increase which **amounts to an assault** against our ability to defend against projects harmful and/or offering no benefit to increase our quality of life.

We hold the City of Los Angeles accountable to its declaration of being committed to intentional implementation of Anti-racist and Racial Equity actions across all City Departments (Mayor's Executive Directive No. 27, June 19, 2020).

This requested fee increase would be a Developer's Dream come true. Consequently, we ask Councilmember Marqueece-Harris Dawson as Chair of the PLUM Committee to oppose the requested fee increase and advocate for the actualization of Anti-racist and Racial Equity in one of the most powerful departments of city government --- The City Planning Department, itself!