Los Angeles County
Department of Regional Planning

Planning for the Challenges Ahead

Richard J. Bruckner
Director

December 20, 2012

TO: Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

FROM: Richard J. Bruckner
Director

RESPONSE TO BOARD MOTION TO PREPARE A MILLS ACT ORDINANCE AND TO STUDY AND DEVELOP A HISTORIC PRESERVATION ORDINANCE (SEPTEMBER 18, 2012, ITEM NO. 14)

On September 18, 2012, your Board adopted a motion directing the Director of Regional Planning and County Counsel, in consultation with the Historical Landmarks and Records Commission, to prepare amendments to the Los Angeles County Code to implement the Mills Act, and to study and develop a recommendation for a historic preservation ordinance, and report back to your Board within 90 days.

Staff presented a draft ordinance implementing the Mills Act to the Regional Planning Commission on December 12, 2012, and to the Historical Landmarks and Records Commission on December 14, 2012. Both Commissions provided recommendations that require additional research and evaluation by staff. Therefore, I request an additional 60 days from the date of this memorandum to report back to your Board concerning the proposed Mills Act Ordinance.

Staff has also begun to study recommendations for a historic preservation ordinance. However, due to the complexity of such an ordinance and the expected stakeholder interest, staff will require an additional nine to twelve months to conduct further study and outreach to stakeholders before submitting a recommendation to your Board. Staff will continue to keep your Board informed as to the status of the historic preservation ordinance.

RJB:JS:CS:PE:ems

K_AP_122012_MBS_MILLS ACT

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STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES HELD IN ROOM 381B

OF THE KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION

500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

Tuesday, September 18, 2012

9:30 AM

14. Recommendation as submitted by Supervisor Ridley-Thomas: Instruct the Director of Planning and County Counsel, in consultation with the Historical Landmarks and Records Commission, to prepare amendments to the County Code to implement the Mills Act, which will provide a significant and fundamental economic incentive for property owners of historic resources to participate in the rehabilitation, restoration, preservation and maintenance of their property; and

1. Establish policies or procedures for a Mills Act Program in the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County that includes the following elements:

    a. Identification and establishment of criteria for eligible properties;
    b. Draft Mills Act contract;
    c. Authorization protocol to enter into Mills Act contracts; and
    d. Recommended limitation on the number of contracts to be considered annually by the Board;

2. Study and develop a recommendation for the development of a historic preservation ordinance for the unincorporated areas of the County, including the following elements:

    a. Protocol for the preparation of community surveys to identify potential cultural and historic landmarks and districts;
    b. Nominating procedures and criteria to designate local cultural and historic landmarks and districts; and
    c. Review procedures to authorize improvements or modifications to buildings/sites designated as cultural and historic landmarks or to buildings/sites located in historic districts.

3. Report back to the Board within 90 days at a future meeting for the final adoption of the Mills Act Program and historic preservation

ordinance. (12-4314)

Richard Bruckner, Director of Planning and John F. Krattli, County Counsel, responded to questions posed by the Board.

Supervisor Knabe made a friendly amendment requesting that the ordinance and the Mills Act Program be reviewed and vetted through the Regional Planning Commission prior to being submitted to the Board for consideration.

Supervisor Ridley-Thomas accepted Supervisor Knabe's friendly amendment.

After discussion, on motion of Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, seconded by Supervisor Knabe, this item was approved as amended.

Ayes: 4 - Supervisor Molina, Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, Supervisor Knabe and Supervisor Antonovich

Absent: 1 - Supervisor Yaroslavsky

Attachments: Motion by Supervisor Ridley-Thomas
Video
Audio

The foregoing is a fair statement of the proceedings of the meeting held September 18, 2012, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles and ex officio the governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, agencies and authorities for which said Board so acts.

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer
Executive Officer-Clerk
of the Board of Supervisors

By Sachi A. Hamai