

APR 11 2014

PLANNING & LAND USE MANAGEMENT

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14-0465

MOTION

FOR PLACEMENT ON NEXT
AGENDA TO BE POSTED

#55

Prostitution continues to plague several communities in the San Fernando Valley, exposing vulnerable children to unlawful, lewd, and lascivious conduct and activities, harming the overall quality of life for area residents. Furthermore, the trafficking of individuals victimizes women and minors forced into prostitution. These situations are completely unacceptable - children, families, parents, and businesses should not be exposed to any such activity.

In February 2014, it was announced that additional Los Angeles Police Department patrols would be added to target prostitution activities along corridors in the Sun Valley and Van Nuys communities, and the City Attorney would be taking a stronger approach to enforcing existing laws as well as partnering with other organizations to reduce repeat offenses. This comes after years of reports of prostitutes, pimps, and johns, and increasing frustration by area residents and business owners of witnessing illicit activities, even finding condoms in the streets.

Many areas where prostitution activity occurs have or are in proximity to a mix of residential uses, community commercial centers, and job creating industrial uses. In addition, these areas are within Transit Oriented Districts, with Metro Rapid and Local routes taking residents to public hospitals, family entertainment centers, or transit stops for the Metro Red Line and the Metro Orange Line. Adult oriented activities are not consistent with the community needs and uses of these corridors. Zoning regulations in Sun Valley and Van Nuys should be examined to identify and implement appropriate land use controls that preserve the quality of life for area residents and strengthen opportunities for the use of appropriately located commercial, industrial, and manufacturing land to support and grow key industries for Los Angeles, and the quality jobs they bring.

While traditional law enforcement and prosecution are critical components to addressing prostitution, these efforts, as well as the quality of life for residents, businesses, and industries, are often undermined by ill-located adult-oriented land uses such as strip clubs, topless bars, massage parlors, dancehalls, and liquor stores. Sun Valley and Van Nuys neighborhoods have long awaited land uses beyond those oriented towards adult entertainment. As such, the Planning Department must explore the necessary land use regulatory controls to prevent any concentration of adult entertainment and adult oriented uses as described above.


I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council instruct the Planning Department, in consultation with the City Attorney, to prepare and process an Interim Control Ordinance (ICO), to prohibit the issuance of demolition, building, grading, and any other applicable permits to prevent any future adult entertainment or adult oriented uses including strip clubs, topless bars, massage parlors, dancehalls, and liquor stores, for the properties fronting or abutting:

- Sun Valley - Lankershim Boulevard, from Roscoe/Tuxford to San Fernando Road
- Sun Valley - San Fernando Road, from Sunland Boulevard to Branford Street
- Van Nuys - Sepulveda Boulevard, from Oxnard Street to Rayen Street

I FURTHER MOVE that the ICO include an Urgency Clause making it effective upon publication, and consistent with California Government Code § 65858, the ICO shall run for 45 days, with a 10 month and 15 days extension by Council Resolution, and can be further extended for an additional 1 year, or until the adoption of the appropriate land use regulatory controls have been prepared by the Planning Department, adopted by the Council and become effective, whichever occurs first.

I FURTHER MOVE that upon adoption of this motion, the Planning Department and the Department of Building and Safety establish a Zoning Information File so that all City staff and any member of the public can be made aware of this proposed action.


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PRESENTED BY: 
NURY MARTINEZ
Councilwoman, 6th District

SECONDED BY: 

ORIGINAL