

DRAFT LETTER NOT YET APPROVED FOR DISTRIBUTION

To be sent to:

Kevin DeLeon, Councilmember District 14
Curren Price, Councilmember District 9
Gil Cedillo, Councilmember District 1
Mike Feuer, City Attorney
Eric Garcetti, Mayor
Marqueece Harris Dawson, Councilmember, PLUM Committee
Bob Blumenfield, Councilmember, PLUM Committee
Mark Ridley-Thomas, Councilmember, PLUM Committee
John Lee, Councilmember, PLUM Committee

At our regularly held board meeting on February 9, 2021 the Board of Directors of the Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council (DLANC) voted to support this letter.

In light of the recently uncovered malfeasance between developers and members of City Government, most notably as it relates to quid pro quo dealings whereby projects were approved in exchange for cash donations, we the Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council propose the City adopt a law invalidating any entitlements proved to have been obtained with help from illegal activity. We propose this apply retroactively and to the entire City. Notably, we would like to see this applied to projects recently discovered to have been implicated in the CD14 federal probe.

We urge you to not be satisfied with the results obtained by the federal government and to put forward clear plans for how you will take decisive and forceful action at a local level. We urge all our elected officials, especially our city council, the most powerful municipal body in the United States, to exercise the power you have been given and work with the affected communities to bring every individual and organization who participated in or failed to report and stop these corrupt actions to account. We look to you to create an inclusive process that leads to full acknowledgement and responsibility for the harms perpetrated, a complete evaluation of those harms, and ultimately remedies that are guided not by a desire for punishment but by a desire to make our exploited communities whole, using this crisis to address their most urgent needs and provide confidence that they will not be abused in the future.

We encourage you to think creatively and boldly about the actions you will take and the unique opportunities and leverage that this moment provides. We look forward to working with you as you take those actions. Most of all, we hope to be able to look back on this moment as the start of a more accountable, transparent, ethical, and equitable chapter in our City's history.