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President, Los Angeles City Council
COUNCIL DISTRICT 13



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CITY COUNCIL APPROVES REYES-WEISS-GARCETTI TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON NEW BILLBOARDS

***Three-month moratorium would stop new billboard construction,
oversized supergraphics, digital billboards while city crafts new billboard
ordinance***

The Los Angeles City Council today unanimously approved a proposal by Council President Eric Garcetti, Councilmember Ed Reyes, and Councilmember Jack Weiss to temporarily stop new billboard construction, oversized supergraphics, and digital billboards. The temporary moratorium, also known as an “interim control ordinance,” now goes to Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa to be signed into law.

“This ordinance will stop the proliferation of billboards while we work on new city laws that will govern where, when, and how they can be constructed. The billboard companies have spent millions of dollars trying to fight the city’s efforts to protect our neighborhoods from visual blight. Our goal is to give communities more control over where we put billboards in our neighborhoods,” said Council President Eric Garcetti.

“Enforcement of billboard regulations has been extremely frustrating, and neighborhoods have been inundated with advertising despite the City’s ban on new billboards. Today’s action will allow the City to take control of this issue immediately, stop new billboards right now, and fix the City’s laws for the long term,” said Councilmember Jack Weiss who cosponsored the ICO.

“The action taken today allows the City, residents, and interested stakeholders to evaluate in a comprehensive manner where we are as a City, and where we want to be in the future as a City in regards to billboards and billboard blight,” said Councilmember Ed P. Reyes who chairs the City Council’s Planning and Land Use Management Committee and cosponsored the ICO with Weiss.

The new ordinance will prevent new billboards for a three month period beginning after the mayor signs the ordinance into law. There is also an option for a three-month extension. During this time, the City Attorney, Planning Department, and Department of Building and Safety will continue to work with the City Council to revise the city’s billboard ordinance that governs the way in which billboards are located and permitted. The revised ordinance is expected to take into consideration the time, place, and manner in which billboards constructed as part of the approval process. This new ordinance is expected to be presented to the City Planning Commission at the end of January.

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