

09-1533

JUN 23 2009

PLANNING & LAND USE MANAGEMENT


MOTION

Historic signs are an essential part of our City's cultural heritage. Historic signage such as rooftop signs, blade signs, and painted signs contribute greatly to the identity and vitality of the City's historic districts and monument buildings. Over time, some historic signs have been removed from their historic locations for various reasons, such as damage, material degradation, vandalism, or the preference and trends of previous decades which may not have properly recognized the historic value of such signs. In many instances, only historic photographs or surviving structural elements provide evidence that a sign ever existed on a historic building.

The proposed citywide sign ordinance currently pending review before the City Council's Planning and Land Use Management Committee (Council File: 08-2020) does not currently allow for the reconstruction, replacement, or re-creation of removed historic signs. The proposed ordinance should be amended to delineate a process by which historic signs which can be proven to have previously existed on historic monument buildings or on buildings within official historic districts may be restored, replaced or reconstructed to enhance the historic nature of a building and provide historical context for the benefit of our City's current and future residents.

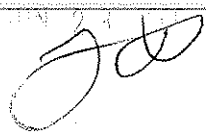
I THEREFORE MOVE that the Department of City Planning, in conjunction with the City Attorney and the Department of Building and Safety, develop a discretionary review process by which the reconstruction, replacement, or re-creation of historic signs may be permitted on historic buildings that are City designated Historic-Cultural Monuments or buildings listed in or formally determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or the California Register of Historical Resources. This discretionary process should involve review by the Department of City Planning Office of Historic Resources, and should apply to the reconstruction, replacement, or re-creation of historic signs for on-site purposes only when sufficient documentary proof is submitted that a historic sign once existed at that location and that the reconstructed, replaced, or re-created sign will enhance the historic nature of the building and / or historic district.

PRESENTED BY:


JOSE HUIZAR
Councilmember, 14th District

SECONDED BY:





ORIGINAL