

WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

December 13, 2017

Agenda Item #7

PROPOSED RESTAURANT DEFINITION FOR THE AMENDMENT OF THE WESTWOOD SPECIFIC PLAN

WHEREAS,

The current definition of Fast Food and Restaurants in the Westwood Village Specific Plan is outdated and makes a hurdle for innovative restaurants to enter the village.

WHEREAS,

It is essential for the village to have cutting-edge and popular restaurants that alone are a destination for consumers to enter the Westwood Village and then shop at retail options.

WHEREAS,

Other popular dining areas in the Los Angeles Area, which include but are not limited to, Century City North, and Old Town Pasadena, do not have such a strict definition between Fast Food and Restaurants but additionally have a strong, healthy and sustainable number of sit down restaurants as well as a fecund environment for profitable retail destinations.

WHEREAS,

The benefits of allowing a greater number of innovative restaurants and other businesses to the Westwood Village and the political realities which likely include a six year time frame to update the entirety of the Specific Plan as well as the infeasibility of receiving city funding to update the plan in two years is far greater than the issue of establishing a "piecemeal approach" to altering the Restaurant definition in the Specific Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE,

The Westwood Neighborhood Council recommends that Council District 5 and the City of Los Angeles Planning Department amend the Westwood Village Specific Plan to redefine a Restaurant as meeting any THREE of the current FIVE characteristics in the plan.

The five characteristics of a Restaurant in the current Specific Plan are:

- “Prepares cooked-to-order meals, and
- Has table and seats for consumption on the premises; and
- Provides waitering/waitressing table service, where order takes place at the table and food is delivered to the table; and
- Payment occurs after eating; and
- Utilizes non-disposable dishware, flatware and glassware (Sewerage Facilities Fee required by the Department of Public Works).”