

BHNC PLUC/Board Joint Meeting – 2017.Dec/14 [Minutes]

**Location:** Benjamin Franklin Library [Community Room]

**Circa:** December 14th, 2017

**Begin:** 6.05pm

**End:** 7.55pm

**Attendance**

**Present [PLUC] (5):** Jason Gallegos, Dan Morales, Peter Kallstrom, Drew Brauer, Ernesto Hidalgo [6.08pm]

**Absent [PLUC]:** 0 – none

**Present [Board] (6):** Veronica Polanco, Carlos Montes, Sol Marquez, Jose Pelico, Patricia Moreno [7pm], Hector Huezo [7.19pm]

**Community [peak]:**  $x > 40$  (greater than 40)

**Format of Votes:** [ (abstain) – (nay) – (yes) ]

**[[Note]]**

- See attached Transcript for details of meeting.

**Item 1:** Welcome & Roll Call

- Chair takes Roll Call
- Introduces new PLUC member Peter Kallstrom

**Item 2 :** General Public Comment

**Speaker Cards (4):** Andy Griggs, Rafael Chagoya, Vivian Escalante, Teresa Marquez

- **Andy Griggs:** Introduction as Echo Park Neighborhood Council (EPNC) Board Member & Liaison to the Alliance of Rivers Communities (ARC). Invites the BHNC to be part of the the ARC. Shares that the EPNC has created an Immigrant Justice Committee and encourages the BHNC to create one as well.
- **Rafael Chagoya:** Introduces him self as the 53rd District delegate to California Assembly (1 of 3).
- **Vivian Escalante:** "Yes, hi. Vivian Escalante. Native Angelino.[...] I think that Boyle Heights [...] And that's my General Comment."
- **Teresa Marquez:** Introduces herself as the President of Mother's of East L.A., involved in the Excide contamination issue within Boyle Heights, and provides a brief summary on the efforts. As well as on the re-contamination of some properties. Also expands on the mental health issues involving children that the contamination results in. She also comments on the lack of BHNC presence at the Excide meetings, encouraging the Members to attend at least once a month at Resurrection Church.

**Item 3:** Discussion & Possible Action to Approve the Minutes for October 10th, 2017 & November 9th, 2017

- **Motion to Table** (Jason/Drew) the minutes for October 10th & November 9th
- **Vote:** 0 – 0 – 5 – 0, **passed**
- **Minutes Tabled**

**Item 4:** Discussion and Possible Action Regarding a KIPP K-4 Charter School [TIME SENSATIVE]

- **Applicants present & presenting**
  - Armen Ross (the Ross Group), Ms. Rodriguez, John Lopeman (Architect)
- **Public Comment (Speaker Cards – 10)**
  - **For = 0:** [null]
  - **Against = 8:** Lupe Torres, Eloisa Galindo, Carlos Cerdan, Marisol Grajabs-Arteaga, Noemi Galindo, Gloria Martinez, Gillian Russom, Teresa Marquez
    - **Lupe Torres** – Asks BHNC to support public education and reject the zone change.
    - **Eloisa Galindo** – Speaks against charter schools



- **Carlos Cerdan** – Speaks against corporate take over of public schools; expresses abundance of elementary schools; expresses abundance of charter schools.
  - **Marisol Grajabs-Arteaga** – Testifies on experiences in regards to charter schools and mental health issues.
  - **Noemi Galindo** – Asks that Charter schools work with the Public schools and not take resources from them.
  - **Gloria Martinez** – Testifies against zoning change, submits a report from “The Learning Policy Institute,” and states that there is no need for a charter school at this location.
  - **Gillian Russom** – Speaks against the rapid expansion of Charter Schools, loss of resource by public schools due to charter school expansion. Submits document: '*Spending Blind*,' released by '*In the Public Interest Research Policy Center*.'
  - **Teresa Marquez** – Speaks on learn disabilities and KIPP's inability to handle such students
- **Neutral/No Specified Position = 2:** *Consuelo Gomez, Ana Hernandez*
- **Consuelo Gomez** – Speaks on family values, education and the need to foster civility.
  - **Ana Hernandez** – Not called. Speaker Card submitted after Public Comment closed. Speaker card not marked for position.
- **Additional:**
- In addition to verbal testimony. Speakers presented the following physical documents:
    - News Article [The Washington Post]: "*NAACP sticks by its call for charter school moratorium, says they are 'not a substitute' for traditional public schools*"
    - Report [In the Public Interest]: "*Spending Blind: The Failure of Policy Planning in California Charter School Funding*" (April 2017)
    - Flier [ Bargaining for the Schools LA Students Deserve]: "*UTLA is Fighting for the Schools LA Students Deserve*"
- **PLUC/Board Comment:**
- **For = 1;**
    - **Peter Kallstrom** – Speaks in favor of the Charter school as an already established entity, and the vacancy of the building.
  - **Against = 4;**
    - **Carlos Montes** – Speaks against charter school, citing abundance of charter schools, public opposition, need for open space, new library, the removing of funds from public schools, discrimination (by charter schools) against English Learners, developmentally disabled students, overcrowding of public right of way, double parking along Breed St.
    - **Sol Marquez** – Speaks in favor of supporting the community testimony. Speaks in opposition to privatization of public schools.
    - **Jason Gallegos (Chair)** – Cites safety concerns regarding Soto Street's already high traffic volume, and upcoming increase in traffic due to upcoming construction/development.
    - **Dan Morales** – Speaks that charter schools do not require that their teachers hold a master's degree. Speaks on economics of charter schools. Speaks in favor of public schools and states opposition to rezoning.
- **Motion to [OPPOSE] the CUP zone change [Drew/Dan]**
- Public Comment on Motion to Oppose:
- **For = 5;**
    - **Rafael Chagoya** – Speaks in favor of motion
    - **[unnamed community member]** – Speaks against privatization
    - **Eloisa Galindo** – Speaks in favor of public schools. Against Monica Garcia
    - **Gillian Russom** – Speaks in favor of motion. Speaks on moratorium of charter schools by the NAACP & Huntington Park City Council.
    - **Lupe Torres** – Speaks in favor of motion. Refers to KIPP as a “prison program.”
  - **Against = 1;**
    - **Mayra Salazar** – Speaks that she grew up in public school and is proud to be working with KIPP Promesa. Testifies that re-zoning request is to house all its students currently operating in two different school locations.

- **Neutral/No Specified Position = 1;**
  - **Artie Sarogen** – Wishes to clarify that KIPP is a public school, open to all students, and that the re-zoning is to relocate/combine the other two schools.
- **Vote: 1 – 0 – 4 – 0, passed**
  - **Abstain:** Peter Kallstrom
  - **Opposed:** [null]
  - **In favor:** Jason Gallegos, Dan Morales, Drew Brauer, Ernesto Hidalgo
  - **Ineligible:** [null]

**Item 5: [starts @ 7pm] Discussion on the Boyle Heights Community Plan**

- BHCPU team gives brief review presentation of the BHCPU
  - **Presenters/Team:** Haydee Urita-Lopez, Kiran Rishi, Alex Heath, Lisette Covarrubias (Neighborhood Liaison for the City of Los Angeles)
- **PLUC/Board Comment/Questions:**
  - **Drew Bureau** – “With regard to kinda the more density along those major corridors, do you have numbers? Like how many units, or percentage increase? Or anything like that. What is the change going to be along those corridors, effectively?”
  - **Department of City Planning (DCP) Response** – Floor to Area ratio will increase from 1.5 to 1, to 3:1 or 4:1, increasing the height, focusing on the corridors.
  - **Peter Kallstrom** – Reminds people that this information is available online and expresses support for the Community Plan.
  - **Ernesto Hidalgo:** “So Measure JJJ requires that if there is a variance to increase density in an area, then a certain amount of affordability is provided. Or affordable unit. Right? Based on certain income levels. Right? And then what I think I'm hearing is that you're gonna make it so that in Boyle Heights, those income levels are better reflective of the people that live within the community. Which is a lower income limit. Essentially. So instead of being 80% of the LA Metropolitan area, median income. It's going to be 60% of the median income. So that it's a little easier to qualify for people that don't make as much. Is that what I'm hearing?”
  - **DCP Response** – Yes. Measure JJJ allows for customization in regards to the affordability incentives at a community/neighborhood level.
  - Jason Gallegos (Chair) – Asks for an explanation on the definition of the “Innovation District,” and about ARUS Ordinance implementation.
  - **DCP Response** –
    - “Innovation District” is a joint effort with Re:Code LA to encourage office, and research and development, commercial and new technologies.
    - ARUS – Reads part of the Ordinance aloud, DCP is working with City Planning on the guidelines. Does not apply to Boyle Heights at this time.
  - **Carlos Montes** – Asks for a more in depth explanation of the Innovation District and expresses concerns regarding displacement.
  - **Veronica Polanco** – Expresses that the online distribution of materials is not beneficial to a large portion of the community. Pop-up events (by the DCP) should not be limited to Area 1 in Boyle Heights. Boyle Heights is over saturated with liquor licenses/liquor license requests. Soto is too congested for bike lanes. The community is asking for a Community Garden. Parking is an issue.
  - **Peter Kallstrom** – Asks about what constitutes Open/Green Space in the Innovation District.
  - **DCP Response** – Many forms and has to be publicly accessible.
  - **Ernesto Hidalgo** – Asks is the Zoning in the Innovation District can include a “local hire threshold,” and if not a fee to assist in affordable housing
  - **DCP Response** –
    - Local hire can be explored, but would be easier to implement at a project level as one of the requirements.
    - The City has adopted the Affordable Housing Linkage Fee, to work in conjunction with development and assisting in affordable housing.
- **Public Comment (Speaker Cards – 1): Jorge Castaneda (Coalition to Preserve LA)**
  - **Jorge Castaneda** – Asks why the SCAG (Southern California Association of Governments) projection numbers are being used to determine population growth instead of the US Census Bureau numbers, as the SCAG numbers have

been declared not valid.

- **DCP Response** – States that they review many numbers/projections. Ask for numbers. States that the DCP has not released any numbers. States that they are working on the Draft EIR.
- **Public Comment (General/Hand Raise):**
  - **Gloria Martinez** –
    - States that the assumption cannot be made that everyone is online/has internet access.
    - Green/Open Space – States that Gardens are more aesthetic the aid in children ability to play.
    - Local Hire – Local hire thresholds may result in the inability to find the resources locally.
    - Privatization is hurting the Community.
  - **Dina Cruz** – Asks in regards to the *Commercial Cannabis Restrictive Ordinance* effect in the Innovation District. Also asks how Measure HHH will play out in Boyle Heights.
    - *“Has the Plan looked at the recent passed Commercial Cannabis Restrictive Ordinance, how to may set protective layers?”*
    - *“Have you looked at the triple-H candidates for the supportive services that our homeless neighbors, along with Permanent Supportive Housing, how that's going to play out in Boyle Heights?”*
  - **DCP Response** – Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) would apply to Boyle Heights. DCP was unable to answer the second question due to time constraints.
  - **Chair** – States that time is running out and requests for all questions to be asked and for the DCP to respond after all questions have been asked.
  - **Lupe Torres** – Asks about the housing application process.
  - **Unidentified Spanish Speaker** – Expresses concern regarding commercial development along the River, due to noise, marijuana dispensaries, alcohol sales and lack of housing for the homeless.
  - **Vivian Escalante** –
    - States that: *“the City came to the property, I just spoke to them today. Saying, the City came and said, to the home owners: ‘you have all these violations. If you can't afford to pay for all these violations, we can offer you cash for it.’ “*
    - *advocates for the history of Boyle Heights, and prioritizes sidewalk repair.*
  - Anna Masa – asks how low low income is. Expresses concern regarding the lack of parking. Concerns regarding high density in Boyle Heights.
  - **[Elysian Valley NC Member]** – Asks if the DCP is taking in to account the contaminated soil along the LA River when considering the Innovation District in Boyle Heights.
  - **Rafael Chagoya** – Asks that the information be made available in Spanish.
  - **Unidentified Spanish Speaker** – Asks that housing near the Bridge be built for people making less then 25,000
  - **DCP Response** –
    - States that re-zoning is taking place near transit junctions and that housing in the surrounding area will not be effected in terms of re-zoning.
    - States that “Extremely Low Income” is 30% of the Area Median Income.
  - Community collectively asks for a more specific number.
    - **DCP Response** – 30% of 50,000
  - Community collectively asks for if the DCP knows what the median income of Boyle Heights is.
    - **DCP Response** – 50,000
- **[Chair announces that the time allotted for the meeting has expired]**

**Item 6: Announcements**

- Not discussed

**Item 7: Adjournment**

- **Motion to Adjourn** (Jason/Drew)
- **Vote:** 0 – 0 – 5 – 0
- **Adjourn:** 7.55pm



**[Transcript Information]:** Transcription was created using an Audio recording taken by Jason Gallegos (Chair) [Primary Audio Recording], and Video recordings taken by Carlos Montes (Board Member) [FaceBook live stream], & Marisol Marquez (Board Member) [FaceBook live stream] and are available upon request.

- [...] or [...] indicate that a portion of the audio were missing from the recording
- words contained with the italicized [ / ] indicate a translation from Spanish to English
- words contained in non-italicized [ ] indicate commentary.
- Time stamps are taken from Primary Audio recording.

**[[Begin Transcript: 0:00:00]]**

**Item 1: Welcome & Roll Call**

- **Chair [Jason Gallegos]:** *"To address some confusion that this was actually a Board Meeting, this is not. We have quorum here now. We have four of our PLUC members here. Our newest member is Peter just came on a few weeks ago. We are strapped for time so I'm going to move this quickly. Let's just go ahead and get this started. The time is 6:05. When I call your name just say 'present.' I'm here, Dan?"*
- **Dan Morales:** *"Here."*
- **Chair:** *"Ernest. Not here yet. Peter."*
- **Peter Kallstrom:** *"Here. Present."*
- **Chair:** *"Drew"*
- **Drew Brauer:** *"Here."*
- **Chair:** *"Ok, That's four out of our five members. So we're just going to go straight to general public comment. Right now I have three for general public comments. Or four. The first one is Andy Griggs from the Echo Park Neighborhood Council."*

**Item 2 : General Public Comment**

**Speaker Cards (4):** *Andy Griggs, Rafael Chagoya, Vivian Escalante, Teresa Marquez*

- **Andy Griggs:** *"My name is Andy Griggs, I'm from the Echo Park Neighborhood Council and also the Echo Park Neighborhood Council representative to the Alliance of River Communities. We have some of our Alliance of River Communities members here today, and we want to encourage you guys to become part this. We're really thrilled to be here, on this first discussion on the Boyle Heights Community Plan.*  
  
*I also wanted to share this with you and to pass it on to the entire Board, that Echo Park has setup a Immigrant Justice Committee. And we would love to see something similar done here in Boyle Heights 'cause we're starting to gather groups together to work on these issues. Whether we become a Sanctuary City, whether the DACA information goes through or not. I'd just like to pass on that information."*
- **Chair:** *"All right, thank you. Just to clarify something real quick. Since we have a limited time, it's limited to one minute per speaker. Next we have Rafael Chagoya."*
- **Rafael Chagoya:** *"Hello everybody, my name is Rafael Chagoya. Former Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council Member, very proud of it, and I'm also now, 53rd District delegate to California Assembly. [...]any personal concerns, things that you think are going to help our community improve. We have been working on a lot of issues, but I [...] now and direct you to our communities. I will give our information to the PLUC Chair, and you can contact, so that my information will be able to have it. There are three of us. The other two are not able to [...] after a long time. And we wish you the best. Thank you."*
- **Chair:** *"Just to acknowledge our other Committee member Ernest has arrived. Carlos."*
- **Carlos Montes:** *"Yes, could you also please introduce the other Board Members and state that it is a joint Board meeting even though it is a PLUC meeting."*

- **Chair:** "Ok. Would you mind if I wait until after the General Public Comment?"
- **Carlos Montes:** "Yeah. Sure."
- **Chair:** "Next we have Vivian Escalante. Vivian."
- **Vivian Escalante:** "Yes, hi. Vivian Escalante. Native Angelino.[...] I think that Boyle Heights [...] And that's my General Comment."
- **Chair:** "Thanks you. Last we have in terms of Speaker Cards is Teresa Marquez."
- **Teresa Marquez:** "My name is Teresa Marquez, many of you know my. I'm president of Mother's of East L.A. I'm involved with the Excide contamination here in Boyle Heights. And I'm really concerned because it's been a lot of changes made. We've been fighting to no avail, going back and forth to Sacramento and there's been a lot of changes made in regards to laws and regulations. Including the City of LA and the planning. I hope that you guys have implemented the new, the new regulations as to if there's any development within the 1.7 miles of contamination. And has to go through a special study of the contamination. That they cannot be built."

*We have a 15 acre demolition on Pacific, Union Pacific, that contaminated all of the residents all over again. For about two weeks. Instead of imploding, they exploded the buildings and they were over a hundred years old. So you could imagine how much contamination that had. Huizar put in a motion to change the regulations on that, and to make sure in the future that you make sure that those regulations are implemented on any demolitions of buildings.*

*The other thing is that there's two studies coming out, and they will be coming. One of them just came out from Irvine USC, the university. The other is coming out from the Keck School here, at USC, and they have proven that our children here in Boyle Heights have 100 percent more lead in their system, then any other child in the United States. Now that, believe it or not, changes the way your mind works, your brain, your learning disabilities. Anger issues on children.*

*And we've been, for 8 years fighting this to prove, is now that the studies came out. And please, if you have children that live, or if you live in 1.7 miles from the City of Vernon, you are in a contaminated area for sure. I live 2 miles and my house is contaminated."*

- **Chair:** "thank you."
- **Teresa Marquez:** "One more thing that is really important, because i don't get to come here, and apparently no one's bringing back reports here. Quadrant 3 person, should be responsible in going to the meetings at least once a month. To the Resurrection Church. The other thing is that what we're fighting right now is that they're cleaning the houses, they're cleaning the land of the properties, but they're not cleaning the parkways. The sidewalks, which is 10 times contaminated then your yard. So they're spending 42 thousand dollars to clean your yard, but then they're gonna leave that contaminated. And we're fighting for that. So if you guys could send out a letter, or motion, to our Councilman, well he knows. He already sent that one. But assembly. Is that to please make sure that the parkways are clean. Thank you."
- **Chair:** "Thank you Teresa Again. I want to thank our Board members for showing up to this meeting. We have Veronica. I'm sorry i forgot your last name."
- **Veronica Polonco:** "Polanco"
- **Chair:** "Polonco, Jose Mata"
- **Jose Pelico:** "Jose Pelico."
- **Chair:** "Pelico. I'm sorry we have two Joses. Sol Marquez, and Carlos Montes. They are from our regular Board. They are not part of the actual PLUC though. Real quick, is that Committee Sign-in sheet over there? Could you pass it along."

**Item 3: Discussion & Possible Action to Approve the Minutes for October 10th, 2017 & November 9th, 2017**

- **Chair:** "Next up on the Agenda we have the Minutes. Because we are low on time i would like to **motion to table the Minutes.**"

- **Drew Brauer:** "I'll second."
- **Chair:** "Seconded by Drew. Do we have any Public Comments regarding the Minutes. No Public Comments. Moving on to Committee comments, or Board comments on the Minutes. Seeing no comments, let's just go ahead and take the votes."
- **Chair:** "Any abstentions." [none]
- **Chair:** "Any opposition." [none]
- **Chair:** "All in favor." [4]
- **Chair:** "Ernie?"
- **Ernesto Hidalgo:** "Yes."
- **Chair:** "Five 'ayes' so the motion passes."

**Item 4: Discussion and Possible Action Regarding a KIPP K-4 Charter School [TIME SENSATIVE]**

- **Chair:** "On the next item, regarding the discussion and possible Action Regarding a KIPP K-4 Charter School. Now, real quick, the Board has been invited here. They are allowed to partake in this discussion, but only the PLUC members will be voting on this item. Do we have the representative. I was informed that you would need about 6 minutes or so for the..."
- **Armen Ross:** "We still have like 20 minutes total?"
- **Chair:** "We have 20 minutes total. So about, then we'll have about 5 minutes of public comment, maybe ten and then we'll move it to the committee. It depends on how it goes. If someone could click the lights. Ernie?"
- **Carlos Montes:** "How many minutes is it?"
- **Chair:** "I've given them a total of 20 minutes for this."
- **Armen Ross[Begin: 0:09:50]:** "Leave the lights on for a second. Let me start off. My name is Armen Ross, and my company is the Ross Group. We are Land Use Planning consultants. We are here on behalf of Fifth and TA Acquisitions regarding a proposal charter school at 443 Soto. The school will be K t thru 4, and will house 625 children from the immediate Boyle Heights area. We have filed an entitlement action with the City of Los Angeles, asking for a vesting Zone change. To remove a Q condition, to change a Zoning from rd1.5-1, uh, R4-1-CUG to RD1.5-CUG. Which is in compliance with the new Boyle Heights Plan, that you are going to be listening to today. We worked with the Planning Department so that the Zoning will be consistent with the new Plan.

We are also asking for a Conditional Use Permit to operate the Chart School with 625 students and also a site plan review to build a 43,000 [...] 45 sq ft Charter School in place of the 40,000 sq ft hospital. We are here tonight asking for the positive recommendation from the Planning and Land Use Committee, to full Board to support this property. With that i will turn it over to [...]."

[End: 0:11:25]

- [...]**Rodriguez[Begin: 0:11:26]** "Good evening, my name is [...] Rodriguez [...] [...] [...] I am here today to share our plans to reunite our school on [...] a permanent facility in the Boyle Heights Community, and ask for your support. I am eager to show the history of KIPP LA in Boyle Heights since 2008, and [...] We are [...] extend our collaboration and partnership with [...]"

I would like to start by telling you about myself. Like many of our KIPP LA students i am the child of immigrant parents. My parents came to the US in pursuit of a promise [...] people like them. A promise that life would be better here, a promise things would be better. A promise that with hard work they could provide a better life for their children. It is because of that promise that i am here today.

My had been an Engineer in Mexico, but because he didn't speak the English language he had to get employeed in the one sector that is always looking for cheap labor. Field work. I remember understanding the value of hard work from early on. But i also [...]. [...] That all student be proud of who they are and where they come from. So [...] was very difficult and there were times that i felt like quitting. I made a promise to myself that i would finish.

In doing so [...] ask for. It is this promise that drives me for my students, families, our teachers, and our community members. My love of educations drove me to receive my MA, [...]"

In 2009, i joined a [...] a nation blue ribbon school in East LA. In 2016, i had the distinct honor of opening [Centro Mesa] as a founding school [...]. Opening a school in Boyle Heights is a dream come true. I feel so honored to have

*this opportunity to partnership with the community of Boyle Heights , to provide high quality education for our [...] residents.*

*Promesa means 'promise,' and as a school we are promising students, family and the community that quality education starting in elementary will provide a better future. We are promising to nurture students academically, socially, and educationally, so that become the leader of tomorrow. And we are promising that our students [...] college.*

*We believe that when school provide a excellent education, they provide the path for students and families to transform communities. At KIPP Promesa Prep, every student [...] in a rigorous academic program focused on [...], nurtures a strong sense of self in regards to development, and celebrates the enduring legacy of our community. Students will leave KIPP Promesa as proud and driven leaders who take risks, [...] for the earth, and [...] community and society to [...] in their actions. Our school's guiding values are love, grit, integrity and reflection. And we are [...]*

*KIPP LA Schools have a long history [...] in the Boyle Heights Community. KIPP LA Prep, one of 14 schools currently operated by KIPP LA Schools, most current location at 2810 Whittier Boulevard in Boyle Heights in 2008. [...] Is a vertical plaza [...]*

*KIPP Promesa joins KIPP LA staff in Boyle Heights. Serving elementary school students in temporary space at 207 South Dakota. Students at both Promesa and LA Prep come from the neighborhood near our school. 96% of KIPP Promesa students are Hispanic and 43% are English language learners. Reflecting the demographics of Boyle Heights. This map reveals the number of students who live in the community around our schools. As you can see, our students are concentrated in the Boyle Heights Community.*

*Today we are delivering on our promise to combine, Together we are delivering on our promise to provide a high quality education. In 2016 KIPP LA Prep received the national Blue Ribbon award and was recognized as a California distinguished school. On the 2017 [...] assessment, 70% of KIPP LA Prep students met or achieved the math standards and 70% met or achieved the standards for UCLA. Students from LA Prep are currently attending or have graduated from numerous Universities, including UCLA, Berkeley, [...], Boston College, MIT, the list goes on and on. But i certainly [...]*

*At KIPP Promesa we embrace the rich culture of Boyle Heights and we celebrate the values. In October we celebrated Latino Heritage month. And as you can see from these pictures, everyone having a good time. We had over 200 people in attendance and it was a memorable experience. KIPP Promesa is an active member of the already beautiful community. We partner with community to provide students and families with opportunities and choices. In October, over 100 Promesa students, families and team members participated in the Boyle Heights 5k.*

*Events organizer Juan Romero is the uncle of one of our students. Sam [...] who the Executive Director of the Boyle Heights YMCA is a KIPP parent, and his daughter Elizabeth [...] is teacher at KIPP LA Prep. The 'Y' provides PE instructions [...] to KIPP LA students and will be hosting a family day event for KIPP Promesa Prep and KIPP LA Prep. Inner City Struggles located on Whittier Blvd use space from KIPP LA prep.*

*KIPP has partnered with Inner City Struggles [...] education, organizing and [...] registration rights. KIPP LA has fortunate to secure a permanent housing for 8 of schools in South and East Los Angeles. We are seeking your recommendation today of support of the neighborhood Council meeting in collaboration of the realize our dream of permanent school for our KIPPsters in Boyle Heights [...] support. I am now handing over to you the Architect of this project, which will share the rendering. I'll be happy to answer any of your questions."*

**[End: 0:17:50]**

- **Chair:** "Thank you."
- **John Lopeman[Begin: 0:17:52]:** "My name is John Lopeman, i am the architect. I want to briefly walk you through the design. [...] site is, if everyone doesn't know. Fourth street is right up here. The market is right here. So that hospital right now, that is certainly not occupied, space is right here. This is Soto Street right here, this is Breed. Currently the site has access on both Breed and Soto. The building fronts on Soto. There is vehicular access, primary vehicular access off of Breed Street. So the cars during drop-off and pick-up of the students are going to come off of



*Breed, right in, circle around thru the parking lot, drop off near the lunch room and then they exit out on Breed, with a right turn.*

*Students walking to school will come in off of Soto Street. [...] coming in this way, and the main entrance to the school is right here. Right off the very front of Soto. There is also pedestrian access to the site over here, and there also a vehicular gate over here. That will be closed during drop off and pick up, just for control. So everybody is going to come this way. Again, this big blue thing, that's the building. So it's fronting right on to Soto. And it's three stories.*

*So on the lower level, we have the administrative offices and the lunch room. The lunchroom is back here, right next to the play area, and the KR classroom. And as you go up, there's classrooms on the second and third floor. So the older kids are on the top floor, and the younger kids are on the bottom floor. So again, three story building, and it's contemporary architecture. Kinda a fun color pallet here. Just to try to add some fun to the elevation, make it look like a school. The materials are [...], stucco, and some metal panel. Just for the contemporary look, for seeing splashes of color.*

*Those who ride their bikes to school, they can access off of Soto Street. The bike parking is in the front, and bike parking in the back. Kinda back where the [...] is. And again, we have easy access to that side. The site is landscaped, per code. Grass area in the playground. And we have existing trees on Soto Street. Those are in good condition so we intend on saving them."*

**[End: 0:20:34]**

- **Chair:** "Is that it?"
- **John Lopeman:** "That's it."
  
- **Chair:** "Ok. So, what I would like to do is go straight to public comment. So that we could get an idea of what type of motion we would like to make. And then we'll bring it to the Committee to make the motion, before we bring it to the Committee. You have a question about that Carlos?"
- **Carlos:** "My comment was gonna say, what type of motion that. I think that the motion should come from the PLUC members. You want to have good discussion from the community and then good discussion from the PLUC."
- **Chair:** "Right. And then we'll make the motion. As oppose to making the motion first. [...] Oh Right."
  
- **[Begin: 0:21:27]**
- **Chair:** "So, first we have up is Lupe Torres. And again, because we are short on time. Please keep it under a minute."
- **Lupe Torres:** "Hi, my name is Lupe Torres, I'm an LAUSD public school teacher. 20 years. I'm a LAUSD graduate, Roosevelt, Class of '91. And I have a daughter that I raise, she's at D[...] College, she also graduates from LAUSD. My parents, unfortunately, only had two second grade educations, but I also have a master degree. Was possible in public schools. I'd like to urge the Boyle Heights Council to please say no to this. Please reject this. Because in LAUSD public school system, we can boast that we have many choices. One of the things that Charters like to talk about is that they provide choice. We have choices. [...] And they're called magnet schools, and parents are open to apply and everyone gets accepted. My daughter went to Thirty-Second Performing Arts USC Magnet, Compton Middle School, and Hamilton Humanities Magnet. Parents also have choices in LAUSD to get permits for any school that you want. So it could be a political school, so if you wanted to go to Euclid [...]"
- **Chair:** "Time."
- **Lupe Torres:** "I just want to say one last thing."
- **Chair:** "I'm sorry, but we are really stuck on time. So my apologies. Eloisa Galindo."
  
- **[Translation needed +2minutes]**
- **Eloisa Galindo[translated]:** "Good night, my name is Eloisa Galindo. I'm a mother from a public school. Mariana Ave. I'm also part of the Community. I heard everything you said, but in reality. I've been going to tell Monica Garcia. What are you doing to the community. Why are you putting one school here and one school there? Why are you combining public with charter schools? Because we have problems with the kids getting together. The politicians and Monica Garcia, they don't know the problem exists. We had good schools, why not those billionaires and investing, Netflix, Gap. Any billionaires that invest, why don't they get together with Monica Garcia, and our

*Community in East Los Angeles, and can just build one school for the children. Because the public schools that they are taking money away. Nurses, Therapist, space, they don't have pencils. They don't even have towels to dry their hands. So why don't those rich people get together, and they build one community for the benefit of the children. I am only thinking that they are effecting only, the education of our children. The second district. That largest district in the United States. What's happening? What's happening politically? Monica Garcia. Get together, unified for the education of children. Go to Soto, Soto and Olympic. What's that [in the schools, on the ceiling? Hanging wires.]”*

- **Chair:** “Time.”
- **Eloisa Galindo:** [continues speaking. Inaudible
- **Chair:** “Excusame. Ya. Time. Next up we have Carlos Cerdan.”
- **Carlos Cerdan:** “Cerdan. Yes. I'm gonna read my statement. Carlos Cerdan, local school teacher from here, Breed Street. I've had the privilege of serving Boyle Heights for 18 years in the field of education. In that time we have made many strides and have continued to improve the educational prospect and opportunities of all children in this community. I am not in education to make a profit. I made a commitment to help inner city children have the opportunity to have a better life. I love this community.

*We have public school teachers who want every child to be able to succeed in a changing world and be college and career ready in whatever path that takes them For those reasons, corporate take overs of education need to stop. The education of our students should not be something we should be making a profit of. This notion that we are lacking quality schools is utterly false and has been dividing our communities and will continue to create a school system of winners and losers.*

*There is no need for another charter school in this area. There's already 5 elementary schools around this area. We have Breed Street Elementary, Sheridan, First Street, Second Street, Soto Street Elementary. We also have charter Schools already here. We have Extera School Number 1, Extera School Number 2, We have KIPP LA Prep, Puente Charter, CI Tech in Boyle Heights. And we have three private schools. We have Our Lady of Talpa, we have Saint Mary's, and we have Saint Isobel.*

- **Chair:** “Time.”
- **Carlos Cerdan:** “Time? So please vote against this motion.”
- **Chair:** “Next we have Marisol Grajabs-Arteaga.”
- **Marisol Grajabs-Arteaga:** “I am also product of LAUSD, I graduated from Roosevelt High School, class of '90, and I've been teaching for 20 years. And my experience with the new charter is that our public schools lose students. Yet in the middle of the year, half of those students return to our schools. We wonder why. Oh, some of them are eligible for special ed. Every school needs to provide all the services the children have.

*As our previous speakers have said. This charters coming in, are creating a division in socioeconomic, and they're creating a division within the schools. They're animosity, does our superintendent? Do all these people making decisions up on the top have any idea what 's going on at the schools? Oh! And if they come back and they are not special ed, they're what we call tier 3 behavior. They need therapist. They need a special people to work with them. We don't have that. Instead of creating more schools, we need to create and bring in the services that every child needs.*

*Mental Health is becoming a problem as a nation. Every day you watch something happen due to mental health. We need to provide all schools with the fully support to help those children, and their parents, with mental health. We don't need another charter. We need people to help support with the problems that already exist.”*

- **Chair:** “Thank you.”
- **Chair:** “Noemi Galindo.”
- **Noemi Galindo [Spanglish]:** “Hi my name is Noemi Galindo.”
- **Translator:** “Hola, yo soy Noemi Galindo. “
- **Noemi Galindo [Spanglish]:** “Just a couple, one question for KIPP Promesa.”
- **Translator:** “No vas en English or Espanol?”
- **Noemi Galindo [Spanglish]:** “I just have one questions for KIPP Promesa, but I want [them] to understand

everything. Do you want to help, really help East Los Angeles?”

- **Chair:** “This I just public comment, it's not a discussion.”
- **Noemi Galindo [translation]:** “If you really want to help East Los Angeles, Boyle Heights, all the communities with low income. Come to the public schools. Bring your resources. And bring up the schools. Bring programs. Bring robotics. Science, technologies. Change chairs, tables. That's love to the community. That's love to the students. If you really want the students. And you really want to help. Don't [fight against] the schools. [Fight] against the drugs, the violence. That's, that's loving them. Not to do business with rich people. Selling education. Maybe you don't even know what you're doing. What you are part of. You're being part of [privatization]. We're not against Charter schools. We are against privatizations [of] schools. [But you,] you won't see it. But they. They are ones that are going to suffer the consequences from the acts [by] charter schools, [by] Monica Garcia Everything they're doing is going to bring many consequences to all our communities...”
- **Chair:** “Time.”

• **[time stamp: 0:30:30]**

- **Chair:** “Thank you. Gloria Martinez.”
- **Gloria Martinez:** “Hi, my name is Gloria Martinez. I'm also teacher, and now here representing 33,000 teachers in LA Unified. I'm here to speak against this motion, but I am also here to stamp for public education across our City. Unfortunately, we are living in the Trump era. And Trump is bringing in this word of 'choice.' But please do not be fooled by 'choice.' Because just today, the Learning Policy Institute release a report on 'charter.' Saying that evidence shows that simply providing choice, does not automatically provide high quality options that are accessible to all students. Or improve student learning. In fact, the report goes on to say that if we really want to truly support high quality neighborhood schools. Policy makers can attend the community needs in planing new schools and existing schools.

Districts work to ensure that high quality choices are available, and continually seek to improve the schools they have, so that no students are left in low quality options. We cannot afford to open one more school where there is no need. We cannot afford for a system to hand select students. And we cannot sit and watch while our public schools are losing students to a system with little or no accountability. As a special education teacher,...

- **Chair:** “Time.”
- **Gloria Martinez [continues]:** “...I have concerns with the overwhelming discrepancy about the students being served.”

• **Chair:** “Gillian Russom.”

- **Gillian Russom:** “Hi, my name is Gilliam. I've been a high school history teacher in Boyle Heights for 17 years. Most of those years at Roosevelt High School, and I'm strongly opposed to this re-zoning request. As people have stated the rapid expansion of privately run charters has had a devastating impact on neighborhood public schools. The Economic impact report by NGT of America shows LAUSD losing 591 million dollars per year to the growth of charters. Who, because they require an application process in seeking out enrollment, tend to draw the higher achieving students. Which is why LAUSD serves double the proportion of students with moderate to severe special needs as charter schools do.

I want to direct your attention to another study. It's called 'Spending Blind,' released by 'In the Public Interest Research Policy Center.' It shows that the funding for charter facilities is almost completely disconnected from what is good for educational policy. Far too much of public funds is spent on schools that in neighborhoods that have no need for additional classroom space and offer no improvement in quality education available. You have to ask: How many schools are needed for the number of students...”

- **Chair:** “Time. Sorry.”
- **Gillian Russom:** “N double-A CP has called for a moratorium on charter schools...”

• **Chair:** “Consuela Gomez. And that will be our last person.”

- **Consuelo Gomez [translation]:** “Good evening. My name is Consuelo Gomez. Since, I came here to Boyle Heights in 1985. My education is completely from Mexico. And I came to share it, because I saw the need. The big necessity we had with the senior citizens. Not only that, the teenagers, the young people who have education, they don't know what it's like to love [...] because mother goes to work, and father goes too, [and they don't consider that the

*grandparents are a treasure, the heart of the family], and always willing to take care of his grand-children. [Who understand their needs.] They put them aside. They throw them in to homes, house for elders. [...] love, family love. They are really badly educated. They throw trash. They walk over [people]. They don't say excuse me. [...] They're negative.*

*It's necessary to work, it's very large, but we need more. We need to unify the families, to clean the streets, to put them to work. They don't work, the kids. They only eat french fries and watching television. [They don't change the schools, you can [...] the most beautiful schools..."]*

- **Chair:** “Tiempo”
  - **[Time Stamp: 0:35:54]**
  - **Chair:** “Sorry. We went a little long on that. Closing Public Comment.”
  - **Teresa Marquez:** “I have a public comment for this. Did I put in for the wrong one?”
  - **Chair:** “This is. It says for number 5.”
  - **Teresa Marquez:** “Oh. It's for this one right here. I put the wrong one.”
  - **Chair:** “Alright Teresa, I'll give you one minute.”
  - **Teresa Marquez:** “It's just going to be short.”
  - **Chair:** “Ok.”
  - **[Time Stamp: 0:36:20]**
  - **Teresa Marquez:** “This is going to be short. Basically, again, I'm gonna tell you that a lot of our children are suffering. From disabilities. Learning disabilities. A lot of times you can't tell. The parents can't tell. And LA Unified is equip to identify this children. KIPP is not. And even the public schools having a hard time keeping up with this students. Here in Boyle Heights, think about it. We have the worse contamination that is cause this on children. And this is permanent damage to their brain.
- So please look at the studies that are gonna come out. And start checking their children. Their temperament. Their failure to focus. Their disagreement constantly. It's part of that disability. And we think 'oh. It's just a child that's acting up.' No. it's a disability. It's actually damage to the brain. “*
- **Chair:** “Time.”
  - **Teresa:** “Thank you.”
- **Chair [0:37:27]:** “Alright. Now. Closing public Comment. Moving it to the Committee and the Board. We've got to do this quickly so I'm looking for a motion of some kind. Right now I'm seeing that the public here is against it.”
  - **Dan Morales:** “Are we gonna discuss it?”
  - **Chair:** “Yeah. We're gonna discuss it, but I'm looking for a motion. I only want to spend about five minutes on this plot. “
  - **Dan Morales:** “That's why I motion that the PLUC discuss it. Is that what you want?”
  - **Chair:** “No. We can. We'll discuss. Out ta this I want a motion. So discuss please.”
  - **Dan Morales:** “I'm not sure what motion you want. You wantta help me with this?”
  - **Chair:** “We're discussing right now.”
  - **Dan Morales:** “Do we need a motion to discuss?”
  - **Chair:** “We don't need a motion yet. We are discussing. Carlos.”
- **Carlos Montes:** “I lived in the community. First of all I went to Roosevelt, I graduated from Hollenbeck, my sister was actually born at that hospital, when it was called Lincoln Hospital. I totally agree that we don't need any more charter schools. Especially in this area. We already have Breed Street, has Extera on there. Also at Second Street school right. And you know we had Colegent Charter School try to go in to Roosevelt last year. The community was opposed to it. And they refused it. Same thing at Garfield High School. Green Dot tried to take over Garfield High School, and [we] had to fight against it.

*What we need in Boyle Heights is we need more open space, we need a park. We need a new library! [...]library there. [...] overcrowded library we have here. The fact is shown that we don't need another charter school. Also, my main concern is as a student grad, living I Boyle Heights, is that a private non-profit charter school will take money away from the public schools. Causing chaos and crisis in the public schools.*

*We need to protect and promote our public schools. That's what we need to do. Not more non-profit private schools that have board of directors, we don't even know who or where they are from. Right. And what their motivation is. Is it profit, or what?*

*And the other thing is discrimination. The charter schools do not accept English Learners, developmentally disabled students. And it's true. At Roosevelt and public schools, you get students that are expelled from charter schools and come back to the public schools. The public schools will take everyone, they won't discriminate. Charter schools like to select who they want even though they say they will take anybody. They have a method of only trying to get only the so-called best. So that's called, in my opinion, discrimination.*

*I would say oppose the rezoning of it. Especially that site. It's a chaotic traffic site. Even though it says they said they will come in through Breed. Well Breed street, you have Breed Street Elementary School. And Breed street is always crowded with double parking and... and anyway, I would ask for you all to make a motion to oppose the rezoning."*

- **Chair:** "Thank you Carlos. Sol you had your hand up next. Sol."
- **Sol Marquez:** "Yes. I'm Sol Marquez. That I wanted to thank, first of all, the public school teachers that are here. I know many of you and I am very happy to see many of you, and also the parents. Who are here, and the students who are from Mariana Elementary. You know that they just recently fought against KIPP Promesa being co-located at their school and they won. And they're here today because they are very dedicated to their children, to their school, and I am very happy to see a lot of you here. I love what you have to say, and I would say that PLUC should be listening to what the community wants. What they have been fighting for. And how dedicated they are. We should take all of that in to consideration.

*And, uhm, Carlos said it very well, but pretty much this is a privatized effort to try to take over public education. Take their funds away. Eli Broad already, you know, very publicly declared that he was out to get public education and privatize it, as much as possible. And that is something we should oppose. So I'm very glad that you all are here. Thank you again."*

- **Jason Gallegos (Chair):** "Uhm, I would like to make a comment. I'm of two minds in regards to charter school. But, my main concern is regarding the uh, Soto Street. The safety of the kids there. The reason why the zoning change is required, is because it's a high traffic zone. Soto is basically the Highway through Boyle Heights. That in itself overrides any idea I have regarding the Charter School.

*There's also regarding the construction of the site. Uhm. Roosevelt's gonna be doing it's redevelopment. We have Sixth Street Bridge development. We have a lot of development that's going to be going on on Soto street in regards to housing as well. It's just going to be, .. As these things come along. It's just gonna become a traffic zone nightmare; A safety hazard. A mess. And that's my concern on this issue."*

- **Chair:** "Do we have any other comments from the...?"
- **Peter Kallstrom:** "Uhm, I was just saying that while a lot of people are talking about Charter versus Public, it sees that this particular group is already in Boyle Heights. They have a charter school, they have two. So they had plan on relocating to this location . So if we said no, it wouldn't actually eliminate charter schools, or their charter school, in the community. So if that's the concern, I don't know that saying no would do that. Would help anyone's complaints about not using charter, and supporting public schools.

*It's more about the lot I think for this particular group, just because they're already here. And it's currently a vacant building. Nothing's being used for it. Nothing's being proposed for it. So based on the fact that they're already there, I would say, it's something to consider."*

- **Dan Morales:** "Chairman, just for clarification, So is this organization looking to relocate existing facilities on to this site?"
- **Peter Kallstrom:** "That's what they said in the presentation."
- **Chair:** "No."
- **Dan Morales:** "Is it an expansion or a relocation?"

- **Chair:** *“It is not a...”*
- **[[jumbled chatter]]**
- **Dan Morales:** *“Are they closing the other location and relocating here? Is that... I just want to be clear on what it is.”*
- **Dan Morales:** *“Ok, fine. Well now that I've interrupted everyone. My name is Dan Morales and since everyone is saying that they're Roosevelt. I'm a Cathedral High School graduate. And uh...”*
- **Teresa Marquez:** *“I'm a '66!”*
- **Dan Morales:** *“All right, go for it. Speaking of High Schools, I think Salesian High School does a great job of engaging the community. That high school's full. The people there. They're vibrant, and that is a private school, Salesian High School.*

*I have three sisters. They're all teachers. LA Unified, Montebello Unified, and up somewhere in Berkeley. And I've had this discussion with them, on occasion. So I take from them. My comments are largely based on their experiences and their information.*

*My understanding is that charter schools don't require that their teachers have a masters degree and that sorta blows me away. Where in the other districts they do require a masters. Substitute teachers don't require a masters. So there's a, you know, on one side it's not a level playing field with respect to the quality of the individuals that are teaching to begin with. That's just one thing that bothers me.*

*The other things is. I'm in real estate and I understand some of the economics of these, what drives these deals. And any broker would be excited to do a deal with a charter school, because they are going to pay top dollar. So there's money behind that. And, you know, as much as I would love a charter deal and get a nice pay day. I feel the conflict in here, because I hear from my sisters the charter school issues. The community. And they are taking dollars away from the school district. And the schools losing students, losing money, losing resources.*

*My children are public school graduates, and I have one ivy league daughter. I'm proud to say. She went outta Sher High School and she went Ivy League, and the other children are doing just fine. I believe in the public school system, and I don't think I can support this project, and I am oppose to the rezoning of this site.”*

- **[time stamp: 0:46:26]**
- **Chair:** *“All right. Do we have any more committee, board, comment?”*
- **Drew Brauer:** *“I would like to make a motion.”*
- **Chair:** *“Are you going to make a motion?”*
- **Drew Brauer:** *“I would like to make a **motion to oppose the conditional use permit to rezone this lot.**”*
- **Chair:** *“Do we have a Second? It has to be from the PLUC.”*
- **Dan Morales:** *“**I Second.**”*
- **Chair:** *“Seconded by Dan. So the motion is to Oppose. I forget if we have to go to public comment on this motion.”*
- **Drew Brauer:** *“Yes.”*
- **Chair:** *“All right. So. Public comment on the motion to Oppose.”*
- **Drew Brauer:** *“And we'll limit it to 30 seconds?”*
- **Chair:** *“Now it's specifically to the motion to Oppose. You're limited to 30 seconds.”*
- **Drew Brauer:** *“And it has to be related to the motion its self, no additional information.”*
- **Chair:** *“For this, just raise your hand, and I'll call you. Rafael.”*
- **Rafael Chagoya:** *“I am so in agreement with this motion. We don't need any more of these projects, and we should be putting back in to the community and our public schools, with the money that's available.”*
- **Chair:** *“Anybody else? I'll go left to right. Lady...? Please... Nombre?”*
- **[community member] [translation]:** *“[...] So are you close to the motion? We don't need a new school. We have enough. Everyday we [they're privatizing] education. We have to push, so that we have better public schools. And all the programs will become better, our children academically. During the time of the school, and after school. [For] 20 years ago [we've] been working [in] Boyle Heights, because we really wanted to implement and [control] within*

*Boyle Heights, for our children. No privatization organization. No more privatization [othra cosas]. But I agree, we don't want any more private schools.]”*

- **Chair:** “Time. Next.”
- **Chair :** “Su Nombre.”
- **Eloisa Galindo [translation]:** “I believe in public education. I believe in the capacity of the [teachers]. And I would like to send a message to Monica Garcia. [She does not represent us in] East Los Angeles. She doesn't want to face the parents of Mariana. She only sends a picture of 20 dollars. Why would we want a picture of her? We want her to come. [But, yes] we do need the project [at] Mariana Ave in East Los Angeles. [It's necessary]”
- **Chair:** “Thank you. Sorry, I forgot your name.”
- **Gillian Russom:** “I strongly support this motion. I think it puts the Land Use Commission in Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council on record with the movement to support public education and not privatization and competition. Just to repeat that the N double A CP has take a strong position for a moratorium on expansion of charter schools until we fully see the impact on neighborhood public schools, and to deal with some of the corruption. As well as the Huntington Park City Council that has called a moratorium based on a number of concerns including over-saturation...”
- **Chair:** “Time. Who was next? Her, and then you, and you and then that's it.”
- **Mayra Salazar:** “Hi everyone, my name is Mayra Salazar. Proud resident in East Los Angeles, graduated Franco High School, grew up public school system. Also very proud to be working in Boyle Heights with KIPP Promesa, KIPP LA Public Schools, and I would ask the Committee to Reconsider the decision. We are asking re-zoning of the hospital so that it can be turned in to a school to house all of our students. Currently we're at two different sites. We'll continue to operate in Boyle Heights, with Promesa. We're just asking for a rezoning...”
- **Chair:** “Time. Time.”
- **Chair:** “You're next.”
- **Lupe Torres:** “Hi, my name is Lupe Torres. Thank you very much for your motion. I just want to add to what I said earlier. Is one of the things I saw when I looked up KIPP is, KIPP's a prison program. And I researched that for a while, because they like to hold their children hostage until they're ready to release them. Maybe 5, 6 o'clock, and later. And that is just something we are opposed to in LAUSD. We have a lot of programs like Mind Set, Yoga, um, using other programs to give kids choices with behavior programs. And not creating this cookie cutter effect that some of the charters create. Where the kids must wear uniformed, must stay until 5 o'clock, etc.”
- **Chair:** “Time. Time.”
- **[Artie Sarogen]:** “Hi my name is [Artie Sarogen]. I'm proud to say I've been working with KIPP Promesa. I want to clarify a couple of things. There were some generalities and misconceptions that were stated about charter schools. I want to be up clear and say that KIPP is a public school and it is open to all students, all Adriana mentioned students come from the surrounding Boyle Heights area. These are all public information that you can look up. The campus that Myra S... Adriana mentioned will be the new re-location two existing schools...”
- **Chair:** “Time. Time. Time. Thank you. So public comment on this is closed. Moving it to the Board, or Committee. Do we have any comments on the motion. Seeing no comments. Closing Committee comment. Going to the Vote.”
- **[Time Stamp: 0:52:14]**
- **Chair:** “Do we have any abstentions?” [none]
- **Chair:** “Any opposition to our motion?” [interrupt]
- **Peter Kallstrom:** “I think I will abstain.”
- **Chair:** “You're gonna abstain?”
- **Peter Kallstrom:** “I think so, yeah.”
- **Chair:** “All right. One Abstention.”
- **Peter Kallstrom:** “I'm not pro-charter, but - “
- **Chair:** “You don't need to explain.”
- **Chair:** “Any Opposition to our motion to Oppose.” [none]
- **Chair:** “Seeing no opposition, all in favor of our motion to Oppose. I see three. Ernie? Four: **Motion to Oppose passes.**”
- **[End: 0:52:52]**
- **[Time Stamp: 52:56]**
- **Chair:** “Alright. Moving on to Item 5. Discussion on the Boyle Heights Community Plan. This is the original reason why

*we set up this meeting. In December, we were supposed to have it off. But, we are discussion the Community Plan. I would appreciate it if everybody stayed.”*

- *[Community Members, uninterested in the Community Plan are exiting the room. 53:20 – 55:59]*

**Item 5: [starts @ 7pm] Discussion on the Boyle Heights Community Plan**

- **Haydee Urita-Lopez:** *“Good-evening everybody, my name is Haydee Urita-Lopez. I'm here with my colleges from the LA City Planning Department. This is our Senior [...] Kiran.”*
- **Kiran Rishi:** *“Hi. Kiran Rishi.”*
- **Alex Heath:** *“I'm Alex Heath.”*
- **Haydee Urita-Lopez:** *“We also have...”*
- **Lisette Covarrubias:** *“Lisette Covarrubias, neighborhood liaison.”*
- **[unknown]:** *“Oh shit.”*
- **Haydee Urita-Lopez:** *“So Lisette is liaison is to all the neighbor councils in the City to the Planning Department.”*
- **Chair:** *“So real quick, we have copies of the Boyle Heights Community Plan on the table over there. We also have copies of their presentations that they have been handing out at the various outreach meetings that they have gone to or that they've have, had.”*
- **Haydee Urita-Lopez:** *“Thank you for that Jason. So at the front of the table, we have that hand out here. It basically lays out what is the community plan do, why do we need one. And then in the back, we put a summary of some of the high level topics, and some of the comments that we've been hearing from people so far regarding some these topics. So, I just really want to thank you all for being here today. We need you through out the entire process. This is a public participatory process. So we want to make sure we reach out to as many of you as possible.*

*And obviously maybe some of you are new to this process. Maybe this is the first time you're hearing about the community plan, so we welcome you. Some of you have been with us since 2006, some have come to all of our meetings. So thank you for your patience. So just so that everybody is on the same playing field, I'm just going talk for about five minutes. And then we're gonna hand it over to questions. The last time we were here in September, we did present for about 20 minutes, but the Committee wasn't able to ask all their questions. That's why we're back here again. So thank you for that opportunity.*

*I think as everybody knows, every State, every County, and City in the State of California is mandated to have a General Plan. So the City of Los Angeles has the General Plan. And in that General Plan, we have something called the Land Use Element. Since the City of LA is so big, we have 35 Community Plans. So Boyle Heights is one of those Community Plans. And every so often we go back and revisit what we call our 'Goals and Policies' of that Plan. So Jason mentioned that we have a copy the Draft Plan. Those are the Goals and Policies. And then on the other hand, we also have to look at the zoning of the Area. So what does the Zoning mean. The Zoning are the rules that guide what kind of uses, what kind of Development is permitted on a site.*

*So, our job as planners is to balance a lot of needs. Of the Needs of today, with the needs of tomorrow, as we are planning for like the next 20 years. Our job, obviously, also to consider everybody's point of view throughout this process. So as you can imagine that, that's challenging. But, nevertheless, we love our jobs, right.*

*So with that, I wanted to be able to highlight some of the things that we're doing with the Community Plan. A lot of people have asked us “what are you doing about housing.” Housing as you know, I don't need to [...] here, but just to emphasize the big issue, right. You have over 75, or 70% renters in the area, and about 30% home owners. So housing is key. If you have had a chance to go to any of our open houses, or look at the maps that we have online. We are trying to incentivize new housing with affordable levels, to be incentivized along our corridors, away from the established neighborhoods. And the Zonings that we're proposing, mimic the existing patterns of development that we see in the area today.*

*So what do I mean by “mimic the existing patterns of development.” With the new Zoning [...] We're able to plug in standards that really mimic what we see today. So for example, along Cesar Chavez, which is known as the Brooklyn Corridor. We have a certain [...] on each store front. There is a certain pedestrian wall that [...]. Our new Zoning mimics that. We want to make sure that the Character of these areas, remains the same. So if there is a new project that comes in, they have to comply with that existing [...] of the [...]. Did you want to add...?”*

- **Lisette Covarrubias:** *“I would just say. Balancing. Obviously, neighborhood preservation is very important. But also*



accommodating growth. We could talk in more detail during question and answer, but the goal of doing Community Plan Update [...] is to accommodate [selective] growth. And the way we look at that in an area like Boyle Heights, is focusing on the Metro Goldline Stations, [...], and the [...] Corridor. To [...], encourage [...] rules, that when a project [...] affordable housing, they are allowed to have more development rising, in order to do the more affordable housing along the major corridors.

So this recent strategy, and which we can talk more, about the various strategies for housing and encouraging the retention of housing that exists today that is affordable and the inclusion of, and addition of new housing [stock].”

- **Haydee Urita-Lopez:** “So I know that we have a lot of topics in play, and I mean that we can talk forever, but we are here to hear you out. So we have a poster board here, and we're going to be taking down notes as well. So hopefully you'll help add to what we have heard so far. Right. And before I hand it over, there is a blue flier that says 'Save the Date.' So on January 30th, of next year, we're gonna be at that Pico Aliso. I think it's the Rec Center.

So save the date for that date. We are gonna be having another informational open house. Just again, make sure that everyone is understanding what is proposed, and you're able to give us more comments [...].”

- **Lisette Covarrubias:** “I just want to add one more thing before we start the question and answer stuff. So. If [...] for everyone in the room to know. That we can. .. in the process. [...] updating this Plan for some time. We've had a number of [...] meetings large and small, to understand what the community. What things are important to the community and how the Plan can respond to those things.

We had two large open housing in October of this year. Hopefully many of you were able to attend those. [...]. Where we present the Plan, and the idea behind the Plan. All that information is available on the project website. [...] website is on many of the material. It's bhplan.org. Really, what we are trying to... we're approaching more of the end of this process. The Plan is in developing, the Plan for some time. We're trying to see if some of the ideas we're proposing are consistent with what the community, you know, again, keep at on those Plans, uh, the Plan.

So just want to make sure that you understand that we are approaching a time when we will be taking this plan to the City [...]. You have,... so this is an important time to [...] back.”

- **Chair [1:03:15]:** “So basically, I scheduled the meeting until 7:50 so we get out of here without the Librarian killing us. Uhm, So this a continuation from our September meeting. I would like start out with the discussion and questions coming from up here. If you guys had any questions at that time that you would like to ask. Then we'll move to the one comment that we have from the public., and then we'll do a raise your hand situation. Where, you raise your hand, wait to be acknowledge to ask your question. Does that sound good?

Dan. Do you recall any questions from September?”

- **Dan Morales:** “uhm.. not from September. ... No. I'll pass right now.”

- **Chair:** “Alright, I'll go with you guys and I'll get last.”

- **Drew Brauer:** “I do have a question. With regard to kinda the more density along those major corridors, do you have numbers? Like how many units, or percentage increase? Or anything like that. What is the change going to be along those corridors, effectively?”
- **Response:** “OK. Are you asking more about how much is allowed, how much is...?”
- **Drew Brauer:** “Yeah, like, basically what would have been allowed on the old plan, and how much is allowed under the new plan? Like, what's the change in total possible.”
- **Response:** “So we'll tag team on this. Currently, now just so that everybody understands. Along all our corridors, and I'm sure that you're referring to like Soto, Whittier, First, Fourth. Along all those corridors, we currently right now have these zones called C2- [...]. So C2-1 means Commercial. Right. And Commercial uses are allowed. Mixed use is allowed. And the dash 1 usually refers to the height district, where right now it is a 1.5 FAR.

So right now what that means is that, if you have a lot that's 5,000 square feet. The build-able area is 1.5 times that 5,000. So you're normally gonna get a building like the ones that you see right now along the corridor. So right now the zoning allows for that. The zoning that we're proposing is going to have these new features. It's called a 'Form and Frontage standard.' So that when someone comes in to building anything, they're now Form and Frontage standards design.

*To make sure that if somebody builds, they're consistent with the street wall. So along the whole corridor every building is built to the property line. That they follow the same pattern. That there's transparency. So that there's windows. And we see things that we want see. In addition, we're also making sure that...So let me back track a little bit. Does everybody know about the Transit Oriented Communities. So do you want to [..]"*

- **Lisette Covarrubias:** *"I think, basically, the development that we see on the corridors today. That is very low scale. The zoning today would allow buildings that are more substantial than the buildings that exist on the corridor today. However, mixed use is something that the City, you know, in general, that the City General Plan is trying to promote. To create substantial neighborhoods. To create more housing, but also to create access to neighborhood [certain] uses. People can walk to more of the things they need day to day.*

*In order to do that pattern of development, you need actually need greater Floor-Area-Ratio than what exists today. What Haydee explained about this 1 and a half to 1. Alright, obviously don't even journey, technical, complex. But that level of development is actually quiet low, and does not facilitate development of mixed use. Mixed use development.*

*Which is the traditional model of mixed use is [..] shops on the ground floor, and residences above. In order encourage that pattern, and to encourage that pattern along on corridors and near transit. The Plan is proposing greater floor-area ratios. Uhm. The base, the base [..], is also creating a system where there is a base level of development heights, and then there are bonuses for doing affordable housing.*

*The TOC that uhm, that Haydee mentioned. This was a... the voters of the City of Los Angeles voted on something called JJJ. Measure JJJ. And the rationale of Measure JJJ, is to try to increase affordable housing by giving density bonus incentives. Now, we already have State Laws requirements every city provide density bonuses for projects that are including affordable housing. JJJ took that sorta a notch up. And it basically says: 'We're going to increase the affordability requirements, but we are also gonna give greater incentives.'*

*So THAT is a City wide and a, and I think we released in the end of November, we released a Citywide guideline, because that voter initiative actually mandated that the City do this within 90 days. So it is required that we do it very quickly. And there is a set of rules now that exist Citywide that any properties that are within half mile of transit. Of fixed transit like light rail. That you, that developments can be eligible for these incentives if they do affordable housing at these greater affordability levels.*

*What we are doing through the Community Plan is building on JJJ and trying to tailor all of those affordability requirements and the incentives for Boyle Heights."*

- **Carlos Montes:** *"[..] the density part, though."*
- **Lisette Covarrubias:** *"Pardon."*
- **Carlos Montes:** *"Can you expand on the density part."*
- **Lisette Covarrubias:** *"So, right now, just to give you numbers since we've thrown out the numbers. [..] allowable FAR (floor-area ratio) is one and a half to one. We're talking ultimately floor-area ratios that can be anywhere that can be 3 to 4 with the incentives. So 3-to-1 to 4-to-1. So this is [..] significant increase."*
- **Drew Brauer:** *"And that's just in the half mile?"*
- **Lisette Covarrubias:** *"So this is with largely focused on major corridors. [..] So I thi..."*
- **Haydee Urita-Lopez:** *"We have a map that shows all these things, so , that Citywide TOC are general. So the opportunities that we have for the Community Plan Update is to look at that TOC map at a Citywide level, and then look at Boyle Heights and say: 'Does that make sense for the Mariachi Plaza?' 'Does that makes sense for First and Soto.'*

*You know. Where do we expand, and where do we contract. So I think some of you that did go to the fall open houses, you saw these blocks. Right. You saw First and Soto with the big squares. You saw the Indiana Station with their triangle. So what we're able to do is look at the Citywide tiers, the third one is a little bit bigger, and we're able to either expand or contract on that. And decide: 'here the FAR or the development increases are maybe not gonna be 80% like the Citywide TOC is. Maybe like 60%.'*

*But all these things are up for comment. This is kinda what we are trying to gauge from people. If you look at that map, you'll see that. Like, we talk about Mariachi Plaza. The Mariachi Plaza does not have that designation. Because we heard from people that that could be more of a 'Neighborhood District Area.' So what you will see is the Pico Aliso Station, you'll see First and Soto, and you'll see Indiana, that has more of that Transit Village Orientedness-Community*

*Center designation. And the Mariachi Plaza was left as 'Neighborhood District Area.' Again. All of this is up for comment."*

- **Chair:** *"So real quick. If you look at the Community Packets, the ones in the manila envelopes. They'll have a map that has it in move detail regarding the information."*
- **Ernesto Hidalgo:** *"Jason. Those are for the public?"*
- **Chair (Jason Gallegos):** *"Those are for the public. They're also three up here."*
- **[Time Stamp: 1:11:32 – 1:12:10 public gathering public documents]**
- **Chair [1:12:10]:** *"Real Quick. Hold on. We're all talking over each other. That was why I said the way we were gonna do it. We're going first and then we are moving it to the public with raising your hands and being acknowledged. Otherwise, we're just gonna get this confusion. So Drew asked your question. Ahm. You weren't here at the September meeting. Do you want to wait, or do you have a question right now?"*
- **[unknown/DCP]:** *"So can I just briefly, Carlos. Carlos is asking a very excellent question about the Community Center, because, these are general plan designations. Cause we have 'Community Center,' 'Neighborhood District,' so on and so forth. But then with the zoning, we're able to really tailor.*

*For example, even though we have this big square right here. Not all of these parcels are going to have the same zoning. The parcels on Soto are going to have a different form, than the parcels behind Soto. Because we know there's other apartments or duplexes behind there. So [...] 30th, hopefully you visit us, and you'll be able to see those details that matter. Because right now you see the big square and you're like 'oh my gosh, like, what are they doing there.' That's just the designation. That's the General Plan designation. So..."* **[Interrupted]**

- **Jorge Castaneda:** *"That, that seems like a misdirection, I'm sorry."*
- **Drew Brauer:** *"Please. Wait."*
- **Chair:** *"Jorge. Wait."*
- **[unknown/DCP] [continues]:** *"...When you look at the details on the zoning map that's available online. Publicly accessible. You'll see the details. You'll see the zoning that is being proposed. So that parcels that are fronting Soto, are, have a different form district than the parcels that are behind there. Because we know that there are apartments and other things there. So we're happy to continue to explain this. At the open houses, we did have a interaction station to walk people through the zoning and we're happy to, you know, dial up or dial down. Whatever the Community wants."*
- **Lisette Covarrubias[?]:** *"The purposes of these maps is to try to communicate broad concepts..."*
- **Chair:** *"Thank you. Peter?"*
- **Peter Kallstrom:** *"I just wanted to say that it's all online if you guys are worried about, concerned about the specifics of every parcel or anything like that."*
- **Chair:** *"Alright."*
- **Lisette Covarrubias[?]:** *"You can look parcel by parcel. Lot by lot."*
- **Chair:** *"Alright."*
- **Peter Kallstrom:** *"And to me, it does seem like a very considerate Plan. I went through the open house and I went through each section of the Plan. And I mean, these aren't things that they just through together. They really did ask the community."*
- **Chair:** *"Ok. Thank you. Ernie."*
- **Ernesto Hidalgo:** *"So I just want to make sure that I understand correctly. So Measure JJJ requires that if there is a variance to increase density in an area, then a certain amount of affordability is provided. Or affordable unit. Right? Based on certain income levels. Right? And then what I think I'm hearing is that you're gonna make it so that in Boyle Heights, those income levels are better reflective of the people that live within the community. Which is a lower income limit. Essentially. So instead of being 80% of the LA Metropolitan area, median income. It's going to be 60% of the median income. So that it's a little easier to qualify for people that don't make as much. Is that what I'm hearing?"*
- **Lisette Covarrubias[?]:** *"We were able to tailor those affordability levels. One of the things that JJJ did, was allow individual plans to tailor the affordability levels and the [...]. So we both tailored the affordability levels and made it [...] a greater percentage than city wide is required for example for extremely low, extremely low category. Affordable housing. We also been able to tailor the incentives to be more sensitive to the concept, and what development actually exists there. So as Haydee mentioned. The Citywide one more, is more, you know, it's like a blanket over the whole City. And it might say that the zoning has to be a certain percentage. And we may say 'you know what. It shouldn't be quite as high in this area. Because the feel of this area is lower. So we able to tailor and you again can see all the details."*
- **Haydee Urita-Lopez[?]:** *"For example, the Citywide one. If you look at this later on. It's also available online. You're gonna see the Citywide TOC is all this [hatched] area. So it's all of this, all of this, and all of this. So it pretty much covers*

80% of Boyle Heights. And when you look at our zoning, you're gonna see that we didn't do things by circles. We tailored it a little more, and we're hear to listen to it more. If you feel that it should be expanded or contracted, we're hear to listen to you.”

- **Jason Gallegos (Chair) [1:16:42]:** “Alright. It's my turn now. Uhm. I had, ... I went to all these things. I'm familiar with the TOC and TOD. My, what I haven't been hearing about, is mostly about the 'Innovation District.' Like 'what does it mean,' 'what is changing from it being a lite industrial area,' and what can, and these changes mean 'what type of development can be there?'

I also had a question regarding the, I asked you guys about the ARUS, the Alcohol Restrictive Use Sub-district, and how that could possibly be implemented in certain areas in regards to the Community Plan. So I'm wondering if you have any feed back on that as well.”

- **[Response]Lisette Covarrubias[?]:** “So you're gonna see there's a turquoise blue next to the River. The proposal for this area is taking the area that right now has a heavy industrial zoning and create [...] many of you may have heard of the fact that the City is also undertaking a project to re-write the zoning code. All of those rules that govern how we do plans. And again create a zoning system that's about to be more contextual. To the varying different kind of [...] that they would have [...].

So one of the things we are doing through, in partnership with that project, is creating a new zone that we're calling 'Innovation District.' And the idea behind that Innovations District is point to still have a jobs focus. But the kinds of uses that are going to be allowed there are the cleaner. There will not be the heavy production allowed there. There'll be cleaner usage. They'll encourage office, and research and development, and [...] and new technologies and other kinds of uses.”

- **[Response]Haydee Urita-Lopez[?]:** “It also allows for Commercial, and we know that that's controversial obviously in this area, but a lot of residents have also told us that they want their [...] stores here. They want their laundromats there. So even though we are opening this to the world of limited Commercial, There's some good commercial uses that people do want in this area, and than obviously there's other ones that [...] controversial that are not wanted here.”
- **Jorge Castaneda:** “I'm sorry, who wants that here. Who wants that?”
- **Chair:** “Jorge. Wait.”
- **[DCP]Haydee Urita-Lopez[?]:** “I'm going to defer to Jason.”
- **Chair:** “I'm sorry, what are you deferring to me?”
- **Drew Brauer:** “The management.”
- **Chair:** “Well, yeah, I was asking...Were you done?”
- **[Response]Lisette Covarrubias[?]:** “So let's get, OK.. So that's the idea behind Innovation. It's trying to encourage and also it would have some form, some rules about the building that require open space. And that open space be oriented toward the river. Because the idea is with the new park, and the changes that are happening along the River, t we want to have the neighborhood to have continue to sorta have access to the River and more open spaces.”
- **Jason Gallegos (Chair)[1:20:00]:** “Right, and on to the second part of my question. Regarding the Alcohol Restrictive Use Sub-district Ordinance that's in the City Council.”
- **[Response]Lisette Covarrubias[?]:** “So that is a very new motion. I'm trying to... This is a motion that was approved, oh, in January. Of this year. Uhm. And Basically, The Council has asked the City to Planning Department with in consultation with the City Attorney. To look at establishing sub-districts, Alcohol Restrictive Use Sub-districts, that would allow for us to look more closely at whether there is a concentration of establishments that sell alcohol in certain neighborhoods and whether there is a way to regulate that. Regulate places that sell alcohol.

This, I don't know the status of this specifically. But I do know that it is not. There are not. These restrictions have not been established. The Department, The City Planning Department in consultation with the City Attorney's Office is, I believe, looking in to this. The Community Plan is, probably has limitations in terms of what it can do to effect this subject. But what ever effort comes out of this study. If an Ordinance is developed as a result of this study. Than it will apply to the Area, if this geography is one the geographies that becomes a sub-district. So there is always an opportunity for that, those Ordinances, and those rules to apply. We [...] plan adoption.”

- **Jason Gallegos (Chair):** “So our Neighborhood Council did support this Ordinance back in August, so there are certain areas that we already have an idea of where to implement it.”
- **[Response]Lisette Covarrubias[?]:** “That's great. And I imagine [...]. I'm not sure if you shared it with... who you shared it with. But we will definitely take it back. This is a separate, more Citywide effort. It is good for us to have that information and I'm sure that the Department will continue to work on it.”
- **Jason Gallegos (Chair):** “Alright.”

- **Peter Kallstrom[1:22:28]:** *“[Can I speak next?] In regards to the Frontage, the Open Space.”*
- **Chair:** *“I didn't say yes.”*
- **Peter Kallstrom:** *“Oh, you didn't say 'yes.' Ok, sorry.”*
- **Chair:** *“Carlos. You've had a question for a while.”*
- **Carlos Montes:** *“He can go first. You know. You're going down the line.”*
- **Chair:** *“Oh. It was gonna be you, then Veronica, then him.”*
- **Carlos Montes:** *“Well then. Thanks for the. Maybe a more in dept on this Innovative District. Because we had a proposal for, what I would consider, a restaurant be put there. And we voted it down. There was concern from the community that it was near there [home], it was a few blocks away. We were gonna get more commercial businesses that were upscale that would exclude our community. Or working class communities, [...] who also want affordable.”*

*So to me it looks a little like, more in depth, I guess you can't determine who's gonna move in there. You're just say Innovation District, Commercial. And I like the idea of jobs. But I'm also, my concern is protecting the housing, [...], in that area. Protecting the Public Housing in that area. And any new housing that does come, you know, I emphasize that it really be affordable and it be for Boyle Heights resident.*

*Most of these so-called affordable housings that have been built in the last 5 years, 60% have been from outside of Boyle Heights. And many of us in Boyle Heights can't even afford to get in there because they do an income to debt ratio. They do a credit check. They want a criminal background check. All your debts, all your income, and most of us don't qualify.”*

- **Chair:** *“Veronica.”*
- **Veronica Polanco[1:24:11]:** *“Yeah, I have a few comments. So there have been more, there's a lot [...] online. I think it would be [...]. General Plan coming, and the website, because a lot of community is a [...]. A lot of it is still paper. We've had a lot more recent pop-ups, but they are all based in Area 1. So Boyle Heights is big, we have four districts, and they're all be Mariachi Plaza, by First Street, so we need to spread that. In terms of the liquor, to be specific. We have a group, many groups who come every time there is a liquor license [request] because there are about 11 for every 10,000 residents. The average is usually about 3. So because the General Plan is [...] we should include that in that.”*

*Another thing that seems to be absent, is a Community Garden. So in your feed back, in your survey from 2013, it came up a lot. [...] things have been lost. But even in the planing, like the Sixth Street Bridge, there's two dog parks instead of a Community Garden and a Dog Park. So we need to start assigning where we could put that in. The last one I had was bike lanes. So when I went to the Open House, I brought up the bike lanes, because they are trying to be north/south with the bikes. And the idea was down Soto. I said: 'That's already very congested. There is a lot of develop going on there. Boyle is under used.' The response was: 'There's a safety issue there.' For who?*

*So I think that needs to be addressed, I think that needs to be. I don't think the surveys are reflected in your plan. So [...] came up a lot. In the survey 2-6-13, 2-12-13, 3-1-13. There were housing, mobility, environment. It came up in every [...]. In June 4th of 2014, a three page memo was sent that the Council had a Survey. The Plan [...] reduced it, They're still talking about it. We're having big structures built. I live in the center city part of it. Next to, close to the first Metro. People are now parking on the side street. Where parking is already an issue, to use the Metro. So we're have high density increases and no parking is only causing more issues.*

*The last problem I have is the corridors, north and south, are being [...] commercial, but they're really residential. They do have commercial where the intersect with the [...] west-east ones, but I think that is being overlooked.”*

- **Chair:** *“Peter.”*
- **Peter Kallstrom[1:26:57]:** *“I kinda of [...] get in to that too. The open space that you guys are proposing, the green space. In the Innovative District. Is that more like a park of garden or is that just a visual thing? Landscaping?”*
- **[Response]Haydee Urita-Lopez[?]:** *“It can take many different forms. The idea is that it is a fairly high percentage of the total site that has to [...] some kind of open space. And it can take a variety of forms. They'll be parts of the regulations that will encourage the provision that that open space as publicly accessible open space. So obviously [to be] Community public accessible, it's gonna have to be on the ground floor. [...] has to be, you know, something that everyone has access.”*
- **Chair:** *“Alright, I think we went through everybody. Ernie.”*
- **Ernesto Hidalgo:** *“Yeap, so for this, for some of the zone changes that are involved in this Innovation Zone, [...]. Is it possible that it require that it have a local hire threshold for business that are coming in? And if they're not gonna do the local hire threshold because they're some other type of business that requires people from other areas. Than maybe they*

*provide some sorta fee, or fees, and to help affordable housing in the community or whatnot. So either give us jobs, or help us with affordable housing. Is there a way to do that within this code?"*

- **[Response]Haydee Urita-Lopez[?]:** *"I think that's something that can be explored, and I think within the goals and policies of the Community Plan. With the comments that we're getting, we could probably put a general rule or policy in there. But that's some thing we would have to further look in to. I know that other cities do this, I don't know what our City Attorney would say about that. But it something we can back and [..]"*
- **[Response]Lisette Covarrubias[?]:** *"Let me just add quickly to that. First of all, the City just I think yesterday adopted the Linkage Fee, and that's really huge. I've been with the City for 17 years, and some kind of [..] or Linkage Fee has been an idea that people have had that now has finally come to fruition. That assessment of certain [..] per square for of new development. So every new development of every kind, will contribute a plan that will be a source of, for building affordable housing."*

*The issue that you raise d about local hire. That's something we have to explore a little bit more. And that's much harder to do at a plan level. That's something that's, uhm, I think easier to do at a project level. There's a large project that's under some kind of review. It's possible to make that as part of the conditions of the request for a project. So we're gonna note that. That's [not] something I can answer on the spot right here. So we're gonna look in to that."*

- **Chair [1:30:05]:** *"So I have one public comment card on this item. So I'm gonna give Jorge Castaneda one minute to pose his question. Jorge."*
- **Jorge Castaneda:** *"Only one minute?"*
- **Chair:** *"Everyone gets one minutes who puts in a public comment."*
- **Jorge Castaneda:** *"So in the draft plan, that is available online. Updating at the Plan includes setting trends and projections for population growth. Informational [Drastics Plain] Development growth projection trends for Boyle Heights. Capacity for these projected levels of populations. These are the things that are driving this Community Plan."*

*Why, my question. Why is it in the Plan, it's in there, which was released in October, are the S.C.A.G. numbers, the 'scag' population projection numbers being used, when they have been proven incorrect since May. By the US Department Census Bureau. This has been over-written. This has been a fact that's been real for five months, and has been real for five months. And then in October. This Draft Plan for Boyle Heights is still using incorrect, inaccurate population growth numbers to pop up reason-ability for up zoning, and changing zoning in different neighborhoods.*

*Why is, maybe the question is, when will the City Planning Department, take in to consideration, reality, science and actual facts that are up to date. So that we can reasonably, as a City, create plans that actually make sense. That are based in realty. Because right now they are not. So long as everything is based on SCAG and it, please I beg you to look in to the bhplan.org website. Everything is based on SCAG numbers. Those numbers are incorrect. Please. When will the DCP acknowledge the reality is the census number. Which is not 50,000 growth, but 25,000 population growth. That's 50% of a difference. So.*

*In order to justify up zoning, [..]"*

- **Chair:** *"Thank you Jorge."*
- **Jorge Castaneda:** *"[..] these grossly overstated SCAG numbers are being used. This is not science. This is not reality. I am a proponent of science, whether it be climate, or anything else. ..."*
- **Chair:** *"Alright, thank..."*
- **Jorge Castaneda:** *"...numbers mater..."*
- **Chair:** *"Thank you Jorge."*
- **Jorge Castaneda:** *"..Facts matter. So I just wanted..."*
- **Chair:** *"Thank you Jorge."*
- **Jorge Castaneda:** *"...ask, when will we stop using SCAG and start using Census down the line. Accurate data."*
- **Lisette Covarrubias:** *"First of all, I think it'd be helpful to share these exact numbers that you're referring to, because it's kinda hard to talk about numbers abstractly, but. SCAG is a source of data that all cities use in the region. So, uhm, the Census is another source of data that's provided by the Federal Government. There are many different sources of data and the Planning Department consults all of these sources of data when we're working on a Plan trying to understand existing demographics of a community, and adjusting for a community. For a rise in the [..]. For in the Case of Boyle Heights, is 20-40."*

*SCAG is the Southern California Association of Governments. They are a regional metropolitan [..] organization. They are the demographers for the entire region. Every city in the five counties that SCAG covers, uses SCAG as their, uhm, for*

*their production, to understand what kind of growth that they're anticipating, and, it is the policy of the City [...] to try to accommodate the projections of SCAG at the Community level and the Citywide level.*

*So if you have [...] numbers that you would like us to look at, if you have received. Send those to Haydee and myself, and we'll be happy to look at them. We have absolutely not pro-, not,.. We're working on a Draft EIR currently. And so we have not put out any numbers about what the capacity of this plan is yet. Because that is still being developed. What we have shared publicly thus far, which is, you know, [...]. What is the existing population of the area and what the SCAG productions are. And what SCAG does is , they give us numbers. They give the City numbers for [...].*

*[...] and 20-40 [...] and that's any Plan that the department is working on now. Use that [...] all operating on [...]."*

- **Chair:** "Alright, .."
- **Jorge Castaneda:** "Are you saying that..."
- **Chair:** "Ok."
- **Jorge Castaneda:** "...Census Bureau numbers are..."
- **Chair:** "Jorge."
- **Jorge Castaneda:** "...incorrect."
- **Chair:** "Jorge. Jorge. Jorge. We need to move on to the public."
- **Jorge Castaneda:** "Are the SCAG number incorrect?"
- **Chair:** "Jorge, Jorge we need to move on to the public."
- **Jorge Castaneda:** "Are the Census Bureau numbers correct? Are the SCAG number incorrect?"
- **Chair:** "Remember."
- **Drew Brauer:** "Sir, please."
- **Chair:** "Jorge. This is Boyle Heights."
- **Dan Morales:** "Maybe next time we don't acknowledge him."
- **Chair:** "Jorge."
- **Chair [1:36:04]:** "Uhm, Ma'am."
- **Gloria Martinez:** "Hi. My name is Gloria Martinez. I spoke earlier. I just want, just trying to a little public service announcement. I think knowing your audience is more important. So making the assumption that all of us are connected to digital, or have the capacity to be internet savvy. I think it's like a privilege kinda [...]. But that's just my own opinion.

*As a teacher I believe that green space is crucial in Los Angeles. Los Angeles students have the lowest per square footage access to green space. And we all know how this helps development. So I'm like talking more then like a garden that looks, is more aesthetic then actually serves a purpose for play and interaction among [...].*

*I also just wanted point out your question for the jobs. I know that when they were building the stadium. One of the reports that came back which had like a threshold of how many local jobs had to be offered. But then there was like this thing that the jobs forced, what was existing in that community. So they couldn't find like find the resources to build all these jobs, so I want to [...].*

*And in an area of privatization, which I about on earlier. Private equity is what is really hurting our community. But looking at the developers and their history. On how they are effecting the community, especially community of colors, is crucial for us to [...]."*

- **Chair:** "Thank you. Dina, you had your hand up."
- **Dina Cruz:** "I had a question about this Innovative area. It seems like it would be a ideal location for certain businesses that [...] cannabis, to target this area. Has the Plan looked at the recent passed Commercial Cannabis Restrictive Ordinance, how to may set protective layers? Especially if you are going to incentivize green spaces, if I'm correctly. For the City meetings, there's an incentive to add green open spaces along those businesses, that business corridors along the River.

*And then the second question is. Have you looked at the triple-H candidates for the supportive services that our homeless neighbors, along with Permanent Supportive Housing, how that's going to play out in Boyle Heights? And are planning [...] and make sure that our homeless neighbors are taken care of?"*

- **Lisette Covarrubias[?]:** "I'm gonna start with Permanent Supportive Housing. There's actually a Citywide Ordinance that is making it's way through the adoption process that is trying to facilitate the development of Permanent Supportive

*Housing in any zone where [general] housing is allowed today. That would apply to Boyle Heights, and would apply to [..]*

*The cannabis issue, you know. Cannabis, for example, i'm not sure if you are concerned more about the agriculture or the retail scale?"*

- **Dina Cruz:** *"You said that that's 'innovative research,' and I know that there's a component to that research. Testing and all that. [...] how would on..."*
- **Chair [Interrupts @ 1:39:19]:** *"Alright, we have about 5 minutes left scheduled. So what I would like to do is, just ask your question. We'll get all the questions first and see if we can answer them with the remaining time. Lupe."*
- **Lupe Torres:** *"...a question. [...] I am wondering how many parents or families are qualified for your housing? Are you requiring them to be documented with immigration status? What are they required to provide as far as income requirements? Is it documentation? A lot of our parents get paid cash, or don't work. So what are those requirements? What do go back and tell my parents in the classroom? What they're concerned about."*
- **Chair:** *"Let me see the hands again. Vivian. Oh, I'm sorry."*
- **[Spanish-Speaking Stakeholder] [translation]:** *"What concerns us the most, is because we live close to the River. And we're concerned about all the businesses that are coming there. Because on the weekends, there is a lot of noise. We have the marijuana dispensaries and we also have restaurants that sell alcohol beverages. We don't want any more alcohol [...]. No more galleries also. [We aren't opposed to Art.] [It's not] the art of Boyle Heights. We have different needs in Boyle Heights. We need housing with low income for the people who don't have any documents. [For the homeless.] And we need small business, but .."*
- **Chair:** *"Thank you. Time. Vivian."*
- **Vivian Escalante:** *"In regards to the project that you have on Cesar Chavez and Soto St. I'm not understanding the height of all that, and I do know that people are already being displaced. And that information is coming to people that live there. People have already been kicked out of their home. Because the City came to the property, I just spoke to them today. Saying, the City came and said, to the home owners: 'you have all these violations. If you can't afford to pay for all these violations, we can offer you cash for it.'*

*So people are [...] right now. Letters have already gone out. I've went door-to-door, that's what I've been doing all week. With some other friends of mine. Thank you Jorge. And hearing the stories of our community.*

*Our community is a historic community and we'd like to keep it like that. That thing is your not recognizing the history here. It's a culture of treasure here. You want to come in and change everything. But you have to remember, the Brooklyn Theater has no, is no longer there. That was [...] family. We want that back. We don't want this condense hive which you've already done to First and Soto. That is so out of place.*

*But more importantly, before you start this development. We need to fix all our sidewalks in our community. You want to go ahead and fix only these areas that..."*

- **Chair:** *"Time."*
- **Vivian Escalante:** *"...planning, could you please focus more on that..."*
- **Chair:** *"Time. Time Vivian."*
- **Vivian Escalante:** *"Thank you."*
- **Chair:** *"Anna, you're next. One minute."*
- **Anna Masa:** *"I have a question. Can you say exactly low, and how much will it be then? Because that is much confusion. They're asking in this area, 15,000, and a lot of people don't make 15,000. And this is my personal opinion about the infrastructure in Los Angeles is more than 100 years old. It is very very irresponsible for the City of Los Angeles, to change zoning for high density. We have an example of Santa Cecilia, First and Boyle. Has 84 units. How many families in each unit? There is not enough parking. We have a lot of problems with parking by the Mariachi Plaza. Is that also going to do high density? We don't need high density. They're using our water supply for Boyle Heights. Our electricity. The [...] is really bad. We need to change that first and then we'll talk about high density."*
- **Chair:** *"Just keep your question to 30 second, make sure it's a question please."*
- **[Elysian Valley NC Member]:** *"Correct. So on the planning along the River, in your industrial. Are you guys taking in to effect that it's contaminated soil? And also to along the River. You have high levels of contaminates that have been publicized. A lot of times when I look at the City, when you guys are planning. You're also required to keep in mind that the public's 'health, safety and welfare' which you fail to do a lot of times.*

*In a project in Elysian Valley, the City also allowed the City developer to pay an expedited fee. So we have a project in our*



*neighborhood that has 56 units...*

- **Chair:** “Time.”
- **[Elysian Valley NC Member]:** “...and they're only gonna give use 5 of what they consider affordable housing and they don't have to do the environmental impact report. That is a tragedy and that's what is coming down this way.”
- **Chair:** “Time. Thank you. Thank you. Ernie.”
- **Ernesto Hidalgo:** “Yeah really quickly. We talked about up-zoning and down-zoning. If you could just quickly show him the map what area you're up-zoning and what area you're down-zoning. I think it would be informative.”
- **Chair:** “Alright, Rafa.”
- **Rafael Chagoya:** “[...]questions. [...] I basically particularly ask questions. I don't know if you have this, all this information in Spanish. But it would be very helpful if you don't have it, you put it up. Ok. It would save you a lot of time. For you.”
- **Chair:** “Alright, thank you. This is going to be the last one. Last one and then you can respond.”
- **[Spanish Stakeholder] [translation]:** “I have a question for you. [...]developing. [...] close to the Bridge [...] all of those business that are going to be developed there. I consider that you should be focusing on housing for people with low income, because Boyle Heights, what we need is housing for people with low income. People that only make less than 25,000 per year.”
- **Chair:** “Time.”
- **[Spanish Stakeholder] [translation]:** “...and the housing you're proposing is not for people of low income. It's for people of middle class or higher.”
- **Chair:** “Time. Alright. They're about to kick us out, so if you go.”
- **Lisette Covarrubias:** “[inaudible] . Basically stays the same. The density would stay the same. The amount of housing you build, the intensity you build, would be the same. If the areas that are not in color that are [...] than you can see that that represents and relatively small part of the overall plan area. Because, and these are the areas that are closet around the transit. Around the Transit and the corridors. So if there is one message that we can leave with you that you could really sorta [...]. that's one thing we we hope you can understand.”

*So the residential areas, the idea is that they're multi-family, lower density, multi-family areas and the goal is that they stay that way. That the little corner stores. The little stores that exists in those neighborhoods, that still will be able to exist there. And that's kinda one of the main messages that we want to share. There's other types of [...] that there's so much in them. That I don't know that we can... I don't know if there's any,... One thing that the extremely low. The percentage is basically 30% of the area median income. That is the lowest level of affordability that t here exists. 30% of of area median income.”*

- **Jorge Castaneda:** “What, I'm sorry. What's 30%? What is 30%?”
- **Haydee Urita-Lopez[?]:** “So, I think that, I think we're running out of time. But...”
- **Chair:** “Can you answer any questions right now?”
- **[unknown speaker]:** “What is that 30%? Like 10 thousand? Give us a number.”
- **[Response DCP]:** “Area median income is about 50. 30% of that.”
- **Chair:** “Wait wait wait. Real quick. What was that? 30% of what?”
- **[Response DCP]:** “30% of 50,000.”
- **Chair:** “As the median income of L.A.?”
- **[Response DCP]:** “That is affordable to someone who makes 30% of the area median income. That is what the 'extremely low income' is.”
- **Dan Morales:** “And do you know what the median area income here for Boyle Heights is?”
- **[Response DCP]:** “About 50,000.”
- **[1:49:14] [indistinguishable audio]:** “That's not true! That's not even true!” “it's 18,000.” “No! But that's fake!” “it's the whole city.” “it's 18,000.” “so 1500 a month its nothing.” “To some people.” “No. I understand, but that's very low income.” “So that's what we want to hear,...” “1500 a month is not very low income.” “what about the people on [...] They only get 10,000 a year.”
- **Chair[1:49:58]:** “My apologies. This is the situation we're in. We have five minutes to get out of here. Not five minutes left. So we do need to end this meeting for right now. My apologies. If you're gonna have a discussion, please take it outside the library property.”
- **[unknown shout]:** “When is the next presentation?”
- **Chair:** “I'll be in discussion with them about coming back.”