

DEC 04 2007

MOTION

ARTS, PARKS, HEALTH & AGING

The El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument represents the original town created by forty-four settlers of Native American, African and European heritage who journeyed more than one-thousand miles across the desert from present-day northern Mexico to establish a farming community in September 1781. Since that time, Los Angeles has been under the flags of Spain, Mexico and the United States and has grown into one of the world's largest metropolitan areas.

Today, El Pueblo is a living museum which continues to fulfill its unique role as the historic and symbolic heart of the City, reflecting the Native American, African American, Spanish, Anglo, Mexican, Chinese, Italian and French cultures which contributed to the City's early history and current vitality.

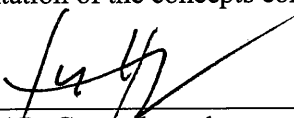
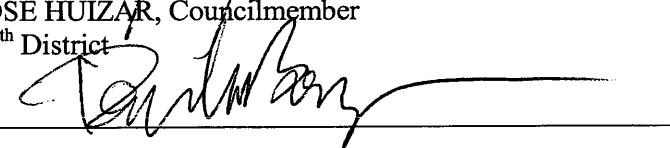
Recently, a planning concept was envisioned by members of the Board of Directors of the Historic Cultural Neighborhood Council (HCNC), including HCNC President Kim Benjamin and board member Mark Rothenberg of Rothenberg-Sawasy Architects, to create additional downtown destination points at El Pueblo, adjacent to historic Olvera Street, which could possibly include a hotel, restaurants and an innovative open-space park decked above the 101-Freeway.

Kim Benjamin and Mark Rothenberg desire no financial involvement in any project or projects related to these concepts, but generously offer the concepts as an in-kind donation to benefit the City.

Developing the area around El Pueblo into a vibrant focal point for business, travelers, hospitality and cultural entertainment with innovative open space adjacent to the thriving Olvera Street could bring revenue and cultural recognition to the City of Los Angeles and provide connectivity between El Pueblo and other parts of the City. It is in the best interest of the City of Los Angeles to examine whether these concepts would be feasible and whether partnerships between the City, other government agencies, and the private sector would be beneficial.

**I THEREFORE MOVE** that the City Council instruct the Chief Legislative Analyst, in coordination with El Pueblo, the Community Redevelopment Agency, the City Planning Department, the Department of Transportation, the City Attorney and other departments as necessary, to report to the Planning & Land Use Management Committee within 60-days on the feasibility of implementing all or portions of the El Pueblo Visioning Concept, including the potential for a Request for Information or Request for Qualifications from prospective participants which could finance and develop all or portions of the plan.

**I FURTHER MOVE** that the Chief Legislative Analyst communicate with the County of Los Angeles to solicit their cooperation and participation in determining the feasibility of a City / County partnership for the implementation of the concepts contained within the El Pueblo Visioning Plan.

Presented by:   
JOSE HUIZAR, Councilmember  
14<sup>th</sup> District  
Seconded by: 

DEC - 4 2007

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