From: Venice Neighborhood Council

To:

Mike Bonin, City Councilmember

200 N. Spring St., Room 475

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Mike Feuer, City Attorney

200 N. Main Street, Room 800

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Raymond S. Chan, Interim General Manager

Department of Building and Safety

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Gentlemen:

In 2012, the Department of Building and Safety released a database containing results of the department's Off-Site Sign Periodic Inspection Program (OSSPIP). According to those results, a number of billboards in the city either had no valid permits on file or were out of compliance with their existing permits. A number of billboards were also cited as having maintenance violations, such as rusted structures and unremoved graffiti, among others.

According to the database, a total of nine billboards in the community of Venice were out of compliance with their permits, and another five had maintenance violations. Of the billboards out of compliance, six had second faces added without permits, and three were significantly higher or wider than specified in their permits.

Most people living and working in Venice are affected by these billboards, since they are located on Lincoln Blvd. and Venice Blvd., two of the community's most heavily traveled commercial streets.

The addition of second faces to seven billboards, for example, has the virtual effect of adding seven billboards to those streets, which already have a high concentration of billboards. The enlargement of billboards makes them more visible from longer distances, thus creating a greater impact on the visual environment.

The Venice community wants all building codes enforced, including billboard regulations. We do not know why these billboards have apparently existed for a number of years in violation of their permits, but as elected representatives of the community we ask that immediate action be taken to bring them into compliance. If for any reason this is not possible, we would request a detailed explanation of the reasons why these violating signs should be allowed to continue operating and affecting our community in a negative way.

A list of the aforementioned billboards follows:

Billboards Out of Compliance with Permits

328 Lincoln Blvd. - Clear Channel - second face added without permit

436 Lincoln Blvd. - Lamar - second face added without permit

800 Lincoln Blvd. - CBS - second sign added without permit

1720 Lincoln Blvd. - CBS - second face 14 ft. wider than specified by permit

2005 Lincoln Blvd. - Clear Channel - 10 ft. higher than specified by permit

2454 Lincoln Blvd. - Clear Channel - second face added without permit

4070 Lincoln Blvd. - Summit Media - 18 ft. higher than specified by permit

4060 Lincoln Blvd. - Lamar - second face added without permit

1000 Venice Blvd - Clear Channel - second face added without permit

Billboards with maintenance violations - Unremoved Graffiti, Rusted structure, Detached copy, etc.

248 Main St. - Clear Channel

821 Pacific Ave. - Clear Channel

2922 Washington Blvd.- Lamar

100 Venice Way - Clear Channel

421 Rose Ave. - Lamar