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June 29, 2015

Re: CF 11-1705 Revisions to the Citywide Sign Ordinance Opposition

Dear PLUM Committee Members:

The Federation of Hillside and Canyon Associations, Inc., representing 44 resident and homeowner associations with their 200,000 constituents spanning the Santa Monica Mountains urges you to vote NO on the proposed billboard amnesty and Conditional Use Permit process for new digital billboards.

The Federation has consistently opposed any billboards outside of designated Sign Districts. The courts have consistently upheld the City's ban on billboards and the City Attorney has stated that the code is enforceable and has offered to enforce the code.

Granting amnesty to sign companies who violated the code sends the wrong message. It will only encourage others to ignore the City codes. You will be setting a very disturbing precedent. Furthermore the sign companies will then be able to count those unpermitted signs for takedown requirements.

The Sign Districts were established in heavily used commercial districts as a compromise to keep digital billboards out of sight of residential areas throughout the city. Establishing a CUP process for billboards outside of Sign Districts makes a mockery of the entire process.

The Federation urges you to vote no on these ill-advised amendments that have been proposed to benefit the sign industry.

Sincerely,

Marian Dodge Marian Dodge