Marina Del Rey Local Coastal Program Amendment to be Reviewed

The California Coastal Commission (CCC) will review changes to Marina Del Rey's Local Coastal Program (LCP) next Thursday, November 3rd, in Oceanside, CA. The LCP, prepared d and approved by LA County government, can be thought of as the Marina's Land Use Plan with additional sections relating to implementation, such as zoning rules.

The LCP changes (or amendment) are required to allow the County to develop several parcels, such as public parking lots, that cannot be developed under the current Land Use Plan. Seventeen projects in all are planned for development in the Marina.

The Venice Neighborhood Council has passed several resolutions since 2009 challenging the massive development planned for the MDR. One resolution asked the county to prepare a comprehensive EIR (or its equivalent) that would consider the cumulative impact of all 17 projects (the County declined). Another resolution asked the CCC to reject the LCP Amendment because the Traffic Study conducted by the County did not take into account impacts in the City of LA resulting from increased traffic (the Traffic Study has also been criticized as having numerous errors – see http://www.wearemdr.com/bm~doc/brohard-and-associates-report-on-la-county-2010-traffic-study.pdf). And a third resolution asked the CCC to reject the LCP due to reductions in public parking to be maintained in the Marina.

The fact that the hearing on the LCP Amendment will be held in Oceanside, almost 100 miles distant from the Marina, is highly unusual. Numerous people (including State Senator Ted Lieu, State Assemblywoman Betsy Butler, City Councilman Bill Rosendahl and several Neighborhood Councils) have written or called the CCC asking that the hearing be delayed until January, when it can take place at a meeting in ether LA County or Orange County, closer to Marina Del Rey stakeholders (a 2008 hearing on Marina development brought out well over 200 people at the Marina Hotel).

If you are interested in attending the hearing, or have additional questions, contact Marc Saltzberg at outreach@VeniceNC.org.