



THE NEIGHBORHOOD INTEGRITY INITIATIVE:

Fights Traffic, Overdevelopment and Strengthens Residents' Control Over Our Communities

Los Angeles is being overwhelmed by irresponsible building projects and their resulting traffic congestion. Overdevelopment destroys neighborhoods, displacing longtime residents and working-class families. It threatens our green spaces with concrete and tiny building setbacks. The potholes, bursting water mains and slower emergency response times – all are symptoms of an infrastructure cracking under stresses caused in large part by overdevelopment in communities that simply can't take it.

This crisis is the result of a City Hall building approval system that is dysfunctional and rigged. This system is controlled by developers who wield undue influence over our City Council and mayor. They use campaign contributions, donations to politicians' pet projects and armies of full-time lobbyists to smooth the way to sweetheart deals behind closed doors. The greediest reap huge profits when our elected leaders allow them to super-size their projects by approving zone and height district changes and General Plan amendments. City Hall actually lets developers hire the consultants who write the EIRs, making developers the judges of how much impact their own projects have on our environment, our health and our traffic.

In this system, the Los Angeles public is at a huge disadvantage.

The Neighborhood Integrity Initiative proposes to level the playing field at City Hall. Its approval by voters in March 2017 will give residents a serious say in what their communities become. The initiative:

- 1) Imposes a two-year time-out on more traffic and the worst overdevelopment. This temporary pause will stop City Hall politicians from approving zone changes, height district changes or General Plan amendments that grossly intensify development and make our lives and our congestion worse. L.A. deserves a breather, and the temporary moratorium gives us that. Exempted will be 100% affordable housing developments. And all construction that obeys zoning can go forward during the two years.
- 2) Requires City Hall to begin a systematic review of our General Plan to ensure it provides a road map for a sustainable L.A. That review must begin within 3 months of this measure's passage. City Hall will be required to embrace public meetings held on weekends or nights across the city so that real residents, not lobbyists, can fill the room. Our initiative also requires that the Plan be reviewed and updated – if necessary – at least every five years to ensure that development is not outpacing our infrastructure.
- 3) Permanently ends one of City Hall's worst planning abuses. Now, the politicians hand out General Plan amendments like candy to their developer pals so they can super-size their projects. Our initiative will block the worst, special-interest efforts to amend the General Plan in the future, a permanent fix.
- 4) Ends the crazy system where developers analyze and judge the impacts of their own projects on our quality of life, our environment and our traffic. Our measure will make professional city planners accountable for impartially analyzing the impacts detailed in Environmental Impact Reports.

neighborhoodintegrity@gmail.com / [Facebook.com/PreserveLA](https://www.facebook.com/PreserveLA) / 2PreserveLA.org

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