

BUDGET & FINANCE

MOTION

The Federal Government is currently planning to sell off portions of the Veterans Administration (VA) – West Los Angeles Campus to the highest private developer bidder. This sale is part of the Federal Government's desire to divest itself of Federal land on the Westside of Los Angeles.

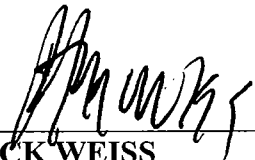
The 10 acres in question are part of the land originally deeded for the Old Soldiers Home. When the Army began publicly exploring selling parcels of the VA land for commercial use, County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky had part of the property re-zoned as Institutional to give more local control over land use at this location.

Unfortunately this sale is on a fast track for approval without the consent of local government or locally elected Federal representatives. This fast track process circumvents appropriate environmental review, does not require notice to public and elected officials, and provides confidentiality of bidders.

Such a process shows little respect for local residents and brave soldiers who have, are, or will soon defend the freedom of our nation. This swap raises concerns not only relating to increased traffic on the Westside but also about the ability of the Westside VA facility to provide for the well-being of veterans for generations to come.

WE THEREFORE MOVE that the City Attorney Report on the steps needed for the City of Los Angeles to join in the litigation brought by Los Angeles County relative to the sale and/or development of property at the Veterans Administration-West Los Angeles Campus and the lack of transparency in this process.

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