



**ERIC GARCETTI**  
COUNCILMEMBER

PRESIDENT, LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

October 17, 2011

Bud Ovrom, General Manager  
Department of Building and Safety  
201 N. Figueroa Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Mr. Ovrom:

Multiple constituents of mine within zip codes 90004 and 90029 have recently been cited by Department of Building and Safety inspectors for having fences in violation of LAMC Section 12.22 C 20 (f). These citations have generated a robust discussion among the community, my office and relevant City departments, including yours. As a result, I introduced a motion (Council File 11-1735) that would direct the Planning Department, in consultation with the City Attorney, to report with *recommendations regarding a fence height district, variance, or other such planning tool as may be appropriate to address the community's desire for higher than normally permitted fences for public safety purposes.*

Specifically, the motion addresses the area within these boundaries: Fountain Avenue on the north, Normandie Avenue on the east, Melrose Avenue on the south, Wilton Place on the west to Santa Monica Boulevard and then running west on Santa Monica Boulevard to Bronson Avenue and then north on Bronson Avenue back to Fountain Avenue, but excluding the Melrose Hill Historic Preservation Overlay Zone.

The motion also directs the Planning Department, with the assistance of the Department of Building and Safety, and in consultation with the City Attorney to report with recommendations regarding the *feasibility of waiving the collection of fees levied and unpaid for over height fences within the boundaries set forth above.*

Accordingly, I ask that your department hold any cases related to LAMC Section 12.22 C 20 (f) within the boundaries above in abeyance until the Council takes final action in regard to this issue. This would preclude the opening of any new cases or additional action in regard to pending cases including, but not limited to, additional fines, the charging of interest, collections activities or liens.

I appreciate your Department's assistance in resolving this matter.

Sincerely,

ERIC GARCETTI  
President, Los Angeles City Council  
Councilmember, 13th District

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