



letter concerning Little Italy designation / Please read, edit and include in packet

From: james@centralsanpedro.org
To: "maria couch" <mctccouch@msn.com>
Cc: "Kristina Smith" <ksmith-mailroom@mail.com>
Date: Jul 7, 2018 11:02:14 AM

Dear councilman Joe Buscaino CD15

The Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council was surprised by the announcement and action of the LA City Council on the designation of a sizable portion of our district to be called "Little Italy". This action comes without any notification nor consultation with our council, the action did not comply with the "early warning" mandate on planning and is an affront to the other ethnic groups who also have had a long history in this part of our community.

While we do have a concentration of Italian related businesses on a few of the streets included in your new zone you also have included areas that have previously been named for Croatia, Ante Perkov Way and even the Croatian Cultural Center. We are sure that this other ethnic group may not appreciate being included under the "Little Italy" name plate. Furthermore, if we were only recognizing a special district by the number of ethnic eateries on a certain street South Pacific Avenue would by far qualify for its own designation because of the number of Mexican restaurants that surpasses Italian restaurant three to one.

While we are sure that your intention was to do something beneficial for the business district we believe the action taken and the size of the district does more to divide our community along ethnic lines than it does to bring the community together bridging ethnic and racial boundaries.

We ask for an immediate meeting with your staff to reconsider the borders of this new district and demand that any further actions of this type come before the appropriate Neighborhood Council before any City Council actions are taken that might affect zoning, planning or economic development.

Sincerely,

Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council