

Title: Request to Planning Department for Improved SEARCH in Planning Case Files Database
Item No. 8
Meeting date: 04-16-2019
Agendized by: Patricia Lyon, PLUC Chair
Contact person: Patricia Lyon, PLUC Chair Phone number:
Committee Vote (if appropriate): 6-0-0 in Support
Does this item have a fiscal impact on the Neighborhood Council? ___ Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Additional documents attached? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes ___ No

RECOMMENDATION: Update the Planning Case File database by adding a SEARCH option to look up cases by Council District Number – a field of data attached to every file record and readily available in the database today.

BACKGROUND: First discussion at PLUC. Currently search interface requires that someone looking for a pending Planning file *already knows* the file #. The system offers no other more user-intuitive way to do research, restricting public access by functionality short fall. Proposal: add search tab option to review files by Council District #.

DISCUSSION: Planning Department goes part of the way to public transparency through improvements to database access, but still requires someone doing research already know what the case # is, in advance of search. And this thwarts community stakeholders from doing research that gives them a bigger picture of what’s happening in their geography.

This is a simple change and would have significant positive impact for community members doing Planning File Case research.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

N/A

ATTACHMENTS: Example of SEARCH tab interface change proposed.

MOTION: Motion to request the LA Department of Planning improve its stakeholder SEARCH functionality by adding the ability to search for cases by Council District number to the Planning Department Case Summary and Documents database.

[end]