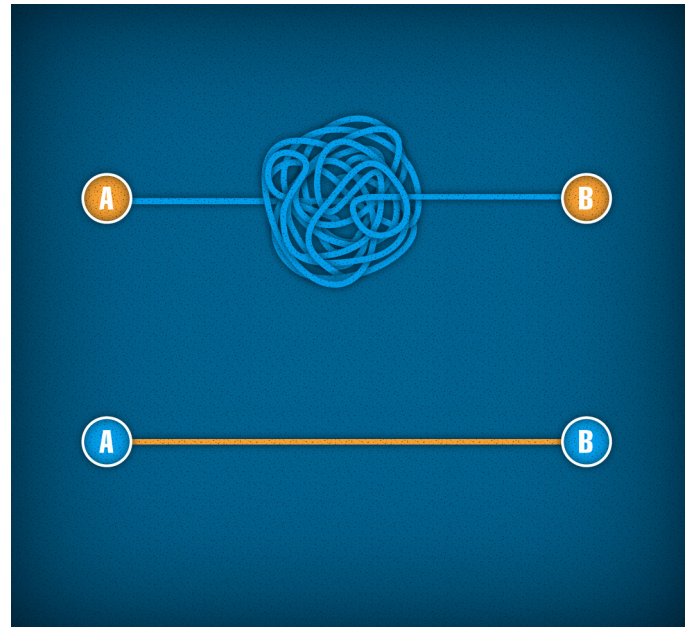


4. **E**ELIMINATE department bottlenecks.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Completed a significant reorganization of the Department of City Planning to “do more with less” and implemented the principle of “one project, one planner” to avoid duplicate reviews and ensure continuity. One planner now manages the review and analysis of all cases connected to a single project for improved quality and enhanced service to the public by providing a single point of contact.
- Played a leadership role in the City’s Development Reform Strategic Plan Task Force, led by the Mayor’s Office.
- Completed reorganization of staffing for the Historic Preservation Overlay Zones (HPOZ) and integrated disjointed and scattered HPOZ Planning staff into the Office of Historic Resources.
- At a single City Planning Commission meeting in December 2010, adopted 16 new HPOZ Preservation Plans developed through a unified work program with plans including detailed design guidelines, ensuring that all HPOZs have adopted plans to provide up-front guidance to applicants, and a streamlined review process for applicants proposing minor projects or maintenance and repair.
- Standardized the Department’s adherence to the Permit Streamlining Act, regardless of the case type. Cases are reviewed for completeness within 30 days from the time of filing, with a 75-day period to advance project to the initial decisionmaker for consideration.
- Initiated effort to transform Planning Case Tracking System (PCTS) from a case-tracking to a case management tool that can be used to centralize the Department’s scheduling systems, measure various processing times, monitor staff workloads and assignments, and give a snapshot in time of caseloads to better manage staff resources and predict crunch times.



- Approved the Core Findings Ordinance that eliminates redundancy and updates findings to provide a better framework for analyzing the merits of proposed development projects.
- Approved an ordinance expanding the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for Floor Area Ratio averaging to include the transfer of residential density in addition to commercial density.
- Approved the Multiple Approvals Ordinance to synchronize the expiration periods and appeal routes for projects with two or more discretionary land use approvals and extend the life of projects approved during the recession.
- Initiated the creation of a new zoning code. This is a multiple year project to update, standardize and enhance the zoning code resulting in standardization of processes, design requirements and new zones.

“The volume of permit applications, our caseloads, and processing time have risen exponentially. Yes, these increases have occurred during years of hiring freezes and unaddressed attrition. But, this Mayor and City Council have pledged to **strengthen our numbers**. We must respond by **ferreting out our systemic slowdowns**. Our delayed responses abet inferior projects and kill quality development.”

Do Real Planning (2007)
As Originally Issued by Los Angeles City Planning Commission

SIMPLIFIED PROCESSES



As Los Angeles continues to grow, so does our need for smart, forward-thinking, community-based planning. Sound plans and effective implementation of those plans are essential for shaping neighborhoods that improve the quality of life of our City's residents.

But recent budget shortfalls and early retirements have led to a smaller Planning Department with fewer resources. In the face of this challenge, the Department's new leadership recognizes that bold steps are needed. The result is Blueprint 2010-11: eight strategic changes that will enable us to do more with less.

EIGHT STRATEGIC CHANGES

- Increase community involvement
- Create a new Neighborhood Liaison
- Implement "One Project, One Planner" application review
- Expand the services offered at our public counters
- Organize long-range planners into one section
- Establish ten Geographic Coordination Teams
- Create a specialized unit of Historic Preservation Overlay Zone (HPOZ) planners
- Assemble a major projects section to focus on the City's most complex, regionally significant projects