



Candy Rosales <candy.rosales@lacity.org>

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## 11-0262Fwd: Cancellation of PLUM Committee Hearing (REYES)

1 message

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Sharon Gin <sharon.gin@lacity.org>  
To: Candy Rosales <candy.rosales@lacity.org>

Tue, Apr 24, 2012 at 11:57 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Shannon Hill <shill@gblaw.net>

Date: Tue, Apr 24, 2012 at 11:44 AM

Subject: Cancellation of PLUM Committee Hearing (REYES)

To: "councilmember.reyes@lacity.org" <councilmember.reyes@lacity.org>, "paul.koretz@lacity.org" <paul.koretz@lacity.org>, Congressman Brad Sherman <brad.sherman@congressnewsletter.net>, "Bill.Rosendahl@lacity.org" (Bill.Rosendahl@lacity.org) <Bill.Rosendahl@lacity.org>, "councilmember.english@lacity.org" <councilmember.english@lacity.org>, "councilmember.zine@lacity.org" <councilmember.zine@lacity.org>, "chris.koontz@lacity.org" <chris.koontz@lacity.org>, "councilmember.Krekorian@lacity.org" <councilmember.Krekorian@lacity.org>, "councilmember.Labonge@lacity.org" <councilmember.Labonge@lacity.org>, "councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org" <councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org>, "councilmember.buscaino@lacity.org" <councilmember.buscaino@lacity.org>, "councilmember.huizar@lacity.org" <councilmember.huizar@lacity.org>, "councilman.rosendahl@lacity.org" <councilman.rosendahl@lacity.org>, "Dennis.Zine@lacity.org" (Dennis.Zine@lacity.org) <Dennis.Zine@lacity.org>, "dan.rosales@lacity.org" <dan.rosales@lacity.org>, "daniel.skolnick@lacity.org" <daniel.skolnick@lacity.org>, "doane.liu@lacity.org" <doane.liu@lacity.org>, "deron.williams@lacity.org" <deron.williams@lacity.org>, "Eric.Garcetti@lacity.org" (Eric.Garcetti@lacity.org) <Eric.Garcetti@lacity.org>, "eduardo.martinez@lacity.org" <eduardo.martinez@lacity.org>, "paul.krekorian@lacity.org" <paul.krekorian@lacity.org>, "purvi.doshi@lacity.org" <purvi.doshi@lacity.org>, "paul.backstrom@lacity.org" <paul.backstrom@lacity.org>, "phyllis.winger@lacity.org" <phyllis.winger@lacity.org>, "richard.alarcon@lacity.org" <richard.alarcon@lacity.org>, "rebecca.valdez@lacity.org" <rebecca.valdez@lacity.org>, "renee.weitzer@lacity.org" <renee.weitzer@lacity.org>, "sharon.gin@lacity.org" <sharon.gin@lacity.org>, "tom.labonge@lacity.org" <tom.labonge@lacity.org>, "tony.cardenas@lacity.org" <tony.cardenas@lacity.org>

Dear Mr. Reyes:

It has been brought to my attention that the above referenced hearing was cancelled today because of your absence. I would like you to know that in the past year, I have taken four days off of work to attend the PLUM hearings, including additional time to correspond and attend other meetings connected to this issue. To find out that the hearing has been postponed due to your unavailability seems like another stall tactic on part of the city council. I find this whole ordeal extremely frustrating in the fact that since the inception of the motion in 2007, nothing has been resolved. Do you know that this has been going on for over 5 years now?? Furthermore, I feel that this last minute cancellation is outrageous,

unethical, immoral and intolerable.

Simply, I am a tax payer and I demand that action be taken to handle these illegal boarding houses from running their illegal businesses in any R1 zoned neighborhood. The city is clearly put on notice that there is a DRUG REHAB/DETOX operating two huge houses that take up an entire block which happen to be located across the street from an elementary school. This is unconscionable. I have two children who live in fear of the house on the corner. The men coming and going from these houses are straight out of the penitentiary. They are transient. This illegal boarding house operates as a weekly hotel, and I am outraged that the city has done absolutely nothing to protect the innocent children who are affected by this. In addition, to protect the innocent families that have no idea what is happening because these houses are so dishonest that they don't tell the neighbors, they don't advertise the addresses online. They aren't paying taxes. If the program (AA/NA) teaches a recovering addict/alcoholic to be honest in all of their affairs (which is taught) then how would one operator explain themselves as to violating the zoning ordinances as they are written today, fail to advise the neighbors and hide the earnings from the city. I could easily take my 4 bedroom house- put two beds per room and charge \$1,500 a bed and make \$12,000 a month easily, but if I did that – do you know that my neighbors would hate me!! I have a relationship with my neighbors, we have been friends for nearly 12 years – but the money sounds so inviting!! So, these operators aren't running these houses to help the suffering addict – they are doing it for BIG MONEY!! They are doing it so they don't have to commute an hour to work each day and punch a clock. This is far from honest. Two streets down from my house is a licensed day care. For this operator to receive a license, the owner had to go door-to-door and get approval from the neighbors, yet these illegal transient housing operators can do whatever they please despite the zoning laws. As a homeowner, I am expected to follow the building codes and cannot open a business, so explain to me why it is that the city is dragging this issue any further?

I know for a fact that my Councilman, Mr. Zine stands behind this ordinance 100% and has voiced his opinion at our neighborhood council meeting, yet there seems to be some sort of internal issue taking place – and to be quite honest, I am sick of it. Soon we will be flooded with these types of businesses in our quiet residential neighborhoods once the early release programs goes into effect. Here, the city as it is **cannot** keep track of the houses that are currently operating and every county around us has already updated the language in the code to allow enforcement to prevent over population in low density housing. Tell me why should I follow the zoning laws if these weekly hotel type houses can operate across the street from an elementary school? How would you feel if this was happening four doors from your home? How would you feel if this was happening across the street or around the block from your child's school? As a homeowner, I have an expectation that the city will enforce its laws to everyone equally and protect the safety of our children.

I demand that this issue be resolved immediately. I want the two huge houses on the corner to adhere to the laws and procedures just as a day care provider must –

by asking permission from our neighborhood to operate its business. Seriously, enough already! I am tired of writing

letters and taking time off of work to sit at the hearings all day – I am sick of hearing that recovering drug addicts (which I am) – are disabled. This is a complete joke. I am a productive member of society and do not need to play the disability card. I have been clean and sober since March 1995 and have two children that deserve to play outside. My daughter's bedroom had to be moved to the back of the house since the transient type house started operating its business four doors from my home. Imagine if your young daughter suddenly became afraid and refused to sleep in her bedroom – my job is to protect my children, and your job is to protect the citizens of Los Angeles. Are you doing the job that you were hired to do? Are you doing all that you can to protect the citizens in your area?

It's time for the city of Los Angeles to adopt the same ordinances that the surrounding counties have put in place. Now, let's get this done so we can move forward. I do not want licensed or unlicensed illegal boarding houses operating their businesses across the street from a school. I want everyone to follow the same procedures as any other person operating a business in an R1 area.

And, do not send me a boilerplate response. Show up and do your job because I know that your neighborhood council signed a motion to pass this ordinance. Lastly, it is of my opinion that perhaps those of us who oppose these illegal boarding houses, should engage legal representation to see that our rights are being preserved. If I sent this to you by accident, please forward to the appropriate person.

Shannon Hill

## **Shannon Hill**

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