

Dear City Council Members:

I write to protest the accuracy and viability of the current Hollywood Community Plan.

Below are examples of elements of the Plan that are not being honored in any built evidence seen in Hollywood between Highland Boulevard and Vine Street, along the main corridors of Sunset and Hollywood Boulevards. The Plan claims to be sensitive to the community and its character, but we have new buildings like the W Hotel, which don't match as claimed below:

"E. The Framework Element protects the character of single-family and other low-density residential neighborhoods by encouraging growth to locate in centers, districts, and mixed use boulevards with a sense of place and identity that respond to the unique cultural and other needs of surrounding communities."

The following Plan element promises open green space that is also not in evidence in Hollywood:

G. The Framework Element encourages the creation of a citywide greenways network that would connect existing parks, major recreational areas, and landscaped median strips. Existing rail rights-of-way and drainage channels would be landscaped and also connected to the greenways network. The Framework Element includes measures that encourage the provision of additional recreational facilities and open space areas within centers, districts, and mixed-use boulevards through the use of school yards as parks, small urban parks developed with mixed-use structures, and community facilities.

None of the new construction in Hollywood has delivered this kind of space. Furthermore, there has been no reduction of traffic, rather an increase, since the redevelopment of Hollywood began approximately 12 years ago. The nightclubs prevent easy evening movement in and out of my neighborhood, and nightclub goers actually take about 25% of the parking on my street, Holly Drive, on Friday and Saturday nights. There has been no public transportation that directly offsets this congestion:

L. The Framework Element is an environmentally superior alternative from a regional perspective. The City of Los Angeles is in a better position to accommodate regional growth than outlying, underdeveloped areas of Southern California, for the following reasons: One, the City of Los Angeles has a more developed transit infrastructure than any other city or area in the region. The City of Los Angeles is the site for a greater share of Metro Rail and other transit improvements than any other city or area in the region. This transit infrastructure provides greater opportunities for a mode shift from the private automobile to transit than areas of the region where alternatives to automobile use are not as available, or, in some cases, non-existent. **Single-occupant automobile trips and associated traffic congestion and air pollution would be reduced.**

Given the inconsistencies presented here, and the fact that the population statistics have not been properly vetted, and that we see empty shops and apartments within the area, I urge you to reconsider this Plan as inaccurate and out of date, and to get new current facts and data about the target area before approving.

Thank You,

Nina Hiken,
Resident of 23 years at
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