

May 7, 2012

City Council of Los Angeles
Council Members
Eric Garcetti, District 13
Tom LaBonge, District 4
Paul Koretz, District 5
200 N. SPRING STREET,
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

**Los Angeles Planning Commission** 

City Hall Council Chambers- Room 340 200 N. SPRING STREET, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

Attention: <u>James.K.Williams@lacity.org</u>, <u>sharon.gin@lacity.org</u>

RE: CPC-2005-6082-CPU, CEQA: ENV-2005-2158-EIR Related Case: CPC-1997-43-CPU, Council File 12-0303

Dear Council Members and Commissioners:

Hollywood Dell Civic Association and other residential community groups surrounding the Hollywood Redevelopment Area ("HRA") together have major reservations regarding the proposed revisions to the Hollywood Community Plan ("HCP") presently before the Planning Commission and City Council for consideration.

Each of the following organizations concurred with our letter and provided additional comments, if warranted.

Argyle Civic Association
Beachwood Canyon Neighborhood Association
Hollywood Heights Association
Hollywoodland Homeowner's Association
Hollywood United Neighborhood Council
Yucca Corridor Coalition
Whitley Heights Civic Association

### Los Angeles Planning Commission

April 25, 2012 Page 2 of 3

We believe the plan, as presently written, draws conclusions from inaccurate data and proposes significant up-zoning that will have significant negative impact to local Hollywood infrastructure, traffic congestion, quality of life and potentially reduce residential values by allowing mega-projects of unlimited height to be developed east of Cahuenga Blvd. We believe the HCP should be sent back to the Planning Department for further review prior to any further consideration of the HCP by the Planning Commission.

Key areas we believe should be reconsidered:

- Height limits on future developments between Franklin Avenue and Sunset Boulevard, east
  of Cahuenga Boulevard. As presently written, the HCP could allow projects over 1-million
  square feet and building heights of 50-stories plus (see attached visual representation);
- Down-zoning was not considered by the Planning Department as an alternative in the HCP;
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- The HCP is in conflict with the terms of the General Plan which supports neutral growth while the HCP promotes excessive growth.

We request you postpone consideration of the HCP until such time that the Plan has been revised by the Planning Department to reflect our concerns and promote a less invasive revision to the Hollywood Community Plan.

Sincerely,

Name of Civic Association

Hollywood Dell Civic Association 323.465.8407 pinkkaire@aol.com

Patti Negri, President Association Name Phone# Email Address

Cc:

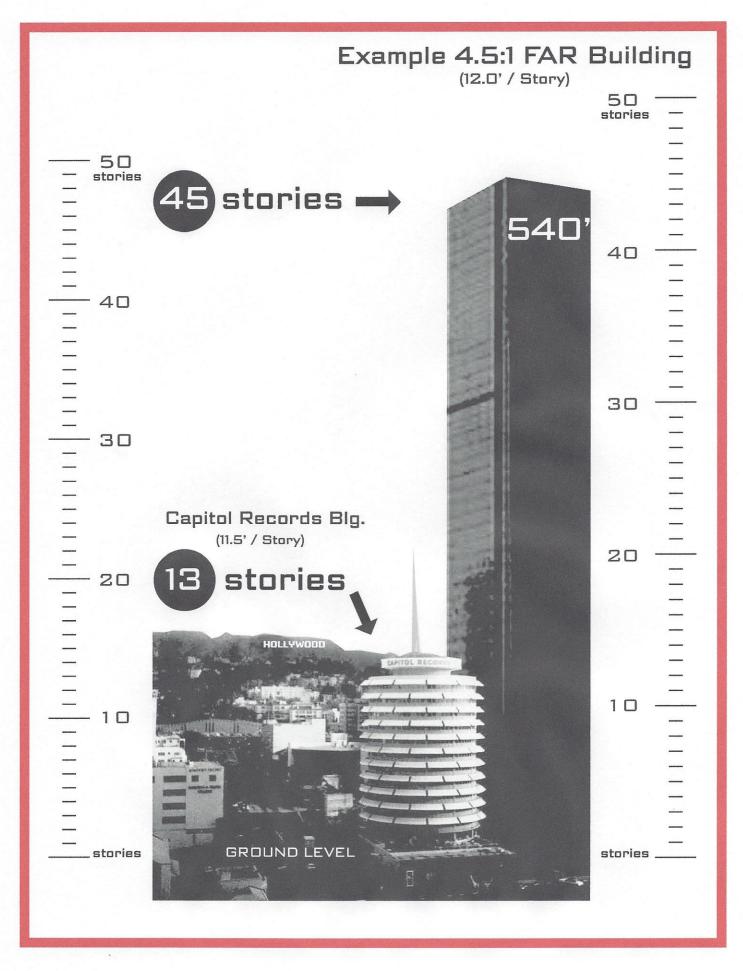
Antonio R. Villaraigosa, Mayor Michael J. LoGrande, Director Eva Yuan-McDaniel, Deputy Director Alan Bell, AICP, Deputy Director Ken Bernstein, AICP Los Angeles Planning Commission April 25, 2012 Page 3 of 3

Kevin Keller, AICP Mary Richardson, Staff

Hollywood Dell Civic Association
Outpost Association
Whitley Heights Neighborhood Association
Hollywood Heights Association
Argyle Civic Association
Beachwood Canyon Neighborhood Association
Hollywoodland Homeowner's Association
The Oaks Homeowner's Association
Los Feliz Improvement Association
Yucca Corridor Coalition
Thai Community Development Center
Hollywood Arts Council
Hillside Federation
Communities United for Smart Growth

Hollywood United Neighborhood Council Hollywood Hills West Neighborhood Council Hollywood Studio District Neighborhood Council Hollywood East Neighborhood Council Hollywood Central Neighborhood Council Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council

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Bill Rosendahl, Councilman, District 11
Mitchell Englander, Councilman, District 12
Jose Huizar, Councilman, District 14
Joe Buscaino, Councilman, District 15





2018 N. Vine Street, Hollywood, CA, 90068

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We request you postpone consideration of the HCP until such time that the Plan has been revised by the Planning Department to reflect our concerns and promote a less invasive revision to the Hollywood Community Plan.

Sincerely.

George Abrahams, President Argyle Civic Association info@argylecivic.org



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Dear Council Members and Commissioners:

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Sincerely,

## Name of Civic Association

Beachwood Canyon Neigh Assoc. Association Name 323-462-BCNA (2262) Phone# Info @beachwood (anyon canyon can

Ce: Hollywood Dell Civic Association Outpost Association Whitley Heights Association Hollywood Heights Association Hollywood Dell Civic Association Argyle Civic Association Beachwood Canyon Neighborhood Association Hollywoodland Association The Oaks Association Los Feliz Improvement Association Laughlin Park Association Yucca Corridor Coalition Thai Community Development Center Hollywood United Neighborhood Council Hollywood West Neighborhood Council Hollywood Studio Neighborhood Council Hollywood East Neighborhood Council Hollywood Central Neighborhood Council Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council Hollywood Arts Council Hillside Federation

Communities United for Smart Growth



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#### **Name of Civic Association**

Association Name

313 646 1699

LGT 40 Mac, COM

Email Address

Cc: Hollywood Dell Civic Association
Outpost Association
Whitley Heights Association
Hollywood Heights Association
Hollywood Dell Civic Association
Argyle Civic Association
Beachwood Canyon Neighborhood Association
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Antonio R. Villaraigosa, Mayor



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Sincerely,

#### **Name of Civic Association**

Sarajane Schwartz, President

Hollywood land Honeowners Assoc. Association Name
323 467-2630 Phone#

SSCHW 56079 Paolicom Email Address

Cc: Hollywood Dell Civic Association

**Outpost Association** 

Whitley Heights Association

Hollywood Heights Association

Hollywood Dell Civic Association

Argyle Civic Association

Beachwood Canyon Neighborhood Association

Hollywoodland Association

The Oaks Association

Los Feliz Improvement Association

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Antonio R. Villaraigosa, Mayor

**OFFICERS** 

PRESIDENT
Susan Swan
VICE-PRESIDENT
Erik Sanjurjo
RECORDING SECRETARY
Don Paul
TREASURER
Charles Suhayda



Certified Council #52
P.O.Box 3272 Los Angeles, CA 90078
www.HollywoodUnitedNC.org
E Mail HUNCoffice@gmail.com

BOARD MEMBERS:
Debbi Aldahl
Robert Abrahamian
Bechir Blagui
Francoise Koster
Scott Larson
Samuel Leiaghat
Nic Manzo
Margaret Marmolejo
Jamie Rosenthal
Cara Rule
David H. Schlesinger

December 7<sup>th</sup> 2011

Re: The Hollywood Community Plan, its DEIR and its FEIR

City Planning Cases: CPC-2005-6082-CPU, CPC-1997-43-CPU Council Districts 4, 5, and 13

Environmental Case: ENV-2005-2158-EIR

To whom it may concern,

At our November 14<sup>th</sup> 2011 Board meeting, the Hollywood United Neighborhood Council (HUNC) Board unanimously voted to reject the Hollywood Community Plan.

Previously, HUNC had rejected the July 15, 2010 Hollywood Community Plan. The DEIR and FEIR do not address any of the concerns which HUNC raised. Rather the FEIR brushed aside legitimate objections of HUNC and of others who made material objections to the Hollywood Plan.

HUNC represents part of the commercial area of Central Hollywood, e.g. where the one million square foot Millennium Project is proposed. Other possible changes allowed by the proposed Plan could permit the Hollywood Best Western on Franklin Avenue, which is located up against a residential area, to be able to be radically enlarged. The bulk of our stakeholders, however, are residents north of Hollywood Boulevard, especially in Beachwood Canyon, Hollywoodland, The Oaks, The Dell, Franklin Village, the Hollywood-Grove HPOZ. The residents' opposition to the proposed Hollywood Community Plan is near universal.

The Plan has some hollow words about protecting Hollywood's residential areas, but the facts do not support the words. Residential areas cannot maintain their value in the face of horrible traffic congestion, excessive density, and increased crime, reduced fire protection, a deficient and underfunded police force, and a crumbling infra-structure. The condition of the sewer, gas, electric and water lines are very poor and are in need of long-deferred repair and replacement, as are our streets. The erosion of the city's tax base by the CRA/LA harms everyone including residents in the Hills.

The Plan only aggravates the problems which are already causing Hollywood to deteriorate. A traffic study will not be conducted until AFTER the Plan is adopted. That is unacceptable. Our stakeholders, however, know that the 101 Freeway and the streets are already beyond capacity and there is no way to mitigate the increased traffic. The FEIR itself admits this fact, but it leaves the residents of the Hills all of whom depend upon cars, with no remedy.

The Hollywood Community Plan is not only based on out-of-date statistics from 2000 and a guestimate from 2005, it is also based on a premise which HUNC and its stakeholders soundly reject -- to wit, that Hollywood should become a cramped vertical city.

For these reasons, HUNC completely rejects the Hollywood Community Plan, its DEIR and its FEIR. The entire process needs to begin anew with due regard for the law and the concerns and needs of Stakeholders who live in Hollywood.

Very truly yours,
David Schlesinger\*
Chair, Hollywood United Planning, Land Use and Management (PLUM) Committee

Susan Swan\* President Hollywood United Neighborhood Council

<sup>\*</sup>signed by email

**HUNC OFFICERS** 

PRESIDENT Susan Swan VICE-PRESIDENT Erik Sanjurjo TREASURÉR Charles Suhayda SECRETARY Don Paul

#### **CITY OF LOS ANGELES**



### **HOLLYWOOD UNITED NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

HOLLYWOOD UNITED NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL Certifled Council #52 P.O.Box 3272 Los Angeles, CA. 90078 www.HollywoodUnitedNC.org buncoffice@gmail.com

RECEIVED CITY OF LOS ANGELES

JUN 08 2011

ENVIRONMENTAL

23 May 2011

Michael J LoGrande Los Angeles City Planning Department 200 Spring Street, Room 750 Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Hollywood Community Plan Update ENV-2005-2158-FIR CPC no. 97-0043 State Clearinghouse No. 2002041009

The Board of Directors of the Hollywood United Neighborhood Council comment upon the Draft Program Environmental Impact Report on the proposed Hollywood Community Plan Update as follows. [Underlined references are to the published DEIR] [This letter was approved unanimously by the Board at its regular meeting on 16 May 2011.]

- 1. We wish to commend and thank Mary Richardson and Kevin Keller of the City Planning Department for their work on this intimidatingly large 11-1 project. The format is handsome and readable. Their presentation to our Council was excellently organized.
- 2. We wish to note that this revision to the Hollywood Community plan is by law years overdue. The time for considering it allotted to us----60 days-----is very short when compared with the time that the Planning Department has taken to prepare it, replete with numerous postponements, often six months in length.
- 3. We have found many reasons to object to the Plan. Prime among them is the overloading of already inadequate Hollywood infrastructure.
  - Traffic: "...the Proposed Plan would result in an increase in trips of nearly 55% as compared to Existing (2005) conditions." Page 4.5-29 As expressed, the data supporting this figure are six years old. However, traffic in Hollywood increases annually. Franklin Avenue, for example, has severe gridlock morning and evening.

Page 1 of 3

11-2

The EIR promises that there will "result in an unavoidable significant adverse transportation impact." Page 4.5-30 The lost time, annoyance, increase in smog and dust resulting from a 55% increase in traffic are daunting to contemplate. The Plan offers no relief from this impact.

11-2 cont.

Utilities: Most of Hollywood's sewers and water mains are almost a century old. Notable lately in the news have been explosions of water mains in other parts of the city, attributed by the DWP to aging mains. With an increase in pressure to obtain more water for the new dwellings and enterprises projected for Hollywood such failures can be expected here. The EIR is silent on the impact on sewers in the Hollywood area, only remarking that the Hyperion plant on the seacoast can accommodate the projected increases. Electrical and fuel gas service lines will be overloaded as well. It is true that all these pipes, mains and cables can be replaced with larger, adequate lines. The cost will be very great, and it will fall upon the taxpayers and ratepayers, not the developers involved in this growth.

A further detailing of objections is redundant. The operant philosophy underlying the Hollywood Community Plan is mistaken. We challenge what we feel is an unexamined assumption in the Draft EIR and the Plan itself—namely, that the Hollywood area should be forced to accommodate an increase in population density. Many impacts that seem "unavoidable" are in fact avoidable, if we simply choose to delay further population growth (other than natural increase from current residents, of course). This should not seem like a radical idea. Additionally, Hollywood has already met its population goals.

11-4

We do not believe the report adequately demonstrates any evidence that greater population density is either desired or necessary. Recent studies have indicated that previous population increase projections have not taken place.

Our public officials, Federal, State and City are all currently engaged in a desperate search for funds to maintain the present social and material facets of our country, state and city. This is not the time for projecting increased loads on the environment and infrastructure. Additionally, we challenge the idea that our HUNC area, and the larger Hollywood area in general, can be designed as a discrete piece, without regard to the other changes planned in our City. We challenge the impacts of putting more projects in "Redevelopment Areas," since these do not increase the tax base. Hollywood is already resurgent, no longer subject to large areas of "blight."

And we challenge the notion that increased density, on the model of New York City is appropriate or desirable for Hollywood, where our climate and our customs and traditions are different to other cities'.

# Page 3 of 3, HUNC Board Itr re: DEIR 23 May 2011

Please direct your earnest efforts toward changing the plans contemplated for Hollywood.

SUSAN SWAN, President Hollywood United N C

Cc: Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa

#### Councilmembers:

Dist 1 Ed Reyes Dist 2 Paul Krekorian Dist 3 Dennis P Zine Dist 4 Tom LaBonge Dist 5 Paul Koretz Dist 6 Tony Cardenas Dist 7 Richard Alarcon Dist 8 Bernard Parks Dist 9 Jan Perry Dist 10 Herb J Wesson jr Dist 12 Bill Rosendahl Dist 13 Greig Smith Dist 14 Eric Garcetti Dist 15 Janice Hahn

Beachwood Canyon
Neighborhood Association

The Oaks Homeowners
Association

PLUM Committee, HUNC

Hollywoodland Homeowners Association

The Hollywood Dell Homeowners Asso



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Sincerely,

Name of Civic Association

Association Name (4000A CORRIDOR COALITION)

Phone# exittlent ne Email Address

Cc: Hollywood Dell Civic Association

Outpost Association

Whitley Heights Association

Hollywood Heights Association

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RE CPC-2005-6082-CPU, CEQA: ENV-2005-2158-EIR

Related Case: CPC-1997-43-CPU, Council File 12-0303

Dear Council Members and Commissioners:

The Whitley Heights Ovic Association has major reservations regarding the proposed revisions to the Hollywood Community Plan ("HCP") presently before the Planning Commission and City Council for consideration. We believe the plan, as presently written, draws conclusions from inaccurate data and proposes significant up-zoning that will have significant negative impact to local Hollywood infrastructure, traffic congestion and quality of life by allowing mega-projects of unlimited height to be developed east of Cahuenga Blvd. We believe the HCP should be sent back to the Planning Department for further review prior to any further consideration of the HCP by the Planning Commission.

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WHITLEY HEIGHTS CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Steven Wolfe, President president@whitleyheights.org

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Hollywood Arts Council

Hillside Federation

Communities United for Smart Growth

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