

To: Planning and Land Use Management Committee

Re: Council File 12-0303, CPC 2005-6082 CPU, CPC 1997-43 CPU -- Hollywood Community Plan Update

The HCP Update needs to redo the open-space element. We need more local parks closer to residents. The \$950 million Hollywood Cap Park is one of the worst boondoggles in history. We already have the 100 acre Griffith Park only 1 1/2 miles from the Hollywood Freeway. That money could create a lot of local parks closer to residents throughout all of Hollywood.

Covering the Hollywood Freeway is dangerous and a health hazard. Commuters would be subjected to a twice daily 5 days a week gassing with exhaust fumes as they idle their way through Hollywood. No one would really want to engage in any activity directly above thousands of vehicles with their engines running. Doctors recommend not exercising in an air pollution environment.

The project would require continuous energy use for ventilation and lighting.

A fire would most likely result in injuries and deaths, cripple a major traffic artery and destroy the structure, just as a tanker fire recently destroyed an overpass on the Pomona Freeway in Montebello, a bridge that is still being rebuilt.

Just look up the news stories of major catastrophes at the Antelope Valley-Golden State Freeway tunnel intersection:

10/13/2007 -- A crash in a tunnel on the 5 Freeway quickly turned into a fiery, chain-reaction pileup that mangled several trucks, killed at least two people and shut down the key north-south route as the wreckage burned for hours and sent people fleeing for their lives. Firefighters hauled the mangled, blackened debris of more than a dozen big-rig trucks out of the tunnel.

12/13/2011 -- A collision involving eight big rigs in the truck lane tunnel caused a temporary closure of the route. Four tankers containing gas, crude oil, milk and chemicals and four box trucks were involved in the collision that 51 Los Angeles Fire Department firefighters responded to.

We need many more local real parks made out of real dirt, not one massive, air polluted, energy wasting hazard to health and to life.

George Abrahams
Beachwood Canyon Neighborhood Association

People for Livable Communities

Why should the Hollywood Community Plan Update (HCP) be sent back to Planning for correction?

1) **Incorrect Population Figures/Projection:** The HCP is based on out-dated speculation not current facts. For example, the HCP says that population in Hollywood is increasing and expected to reach 250,000 by 2030, when a projection based on the U.S. Census shows Hollywood will have 190,000 or fewer people based on a steady population decline for the past 20 years. This is a 60,000 or over 30% discrepancy! Any plan based upon materially outdated or falsely assumed data needs to go back for a **major** renovation.

2) **Lack of DownZoning Alternative:** The HCP Update is misleading as the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) omitted the DownZoning Alternative and the law requires the Environmental Impact Report to consider **all reasonable** alternatives. Planning should study the alternative that corresponds with the actual population data. Decreasing population = downzoning. Growing population = upzoning.

3) **Infrastructure:** Infrastructure impacts have NO mitigation. By the Planning Department's own admission, there is **'no way'** to mitigate the impacts on emergency response or our infrastructure as a result of their forced density mission. (See Statement of Overriding Considerations) In fact the way to mitigate the adverse impacts would be 'downzoning' and not increasing density. If the plan moves in the direction of downzoning, the infrastructure and the true population can reach equilibrium.

4) **Unfunded Mitigation:** Unfunded mitigation means NO mitigation; The HCP refers to proposed mitigation as being 'unfunded'. By law, the term 'unfunded mitigation' is misleading as it does not imply a commitment to or availability of funds and resources to implement actual mitigation. If the mitigation is not funded, then it is NOT mitigation.

5) **Emergency Response Numbers:** The Draft Environmental Impact Report and Final Environmental Impact Report contain false data, e.g. fire and police capacity. The City Council used this false data (LA Fire Department Emergency Response Times) to reduce funding for Fire resources over a year ago. As it stands, emergency response components that do exist in the plan lack any reference to funding.

4) **General Plan inconsistency:** The General Plan is Growth Neutral while the HCP is not. According to Chapter 2, Growth and Capacity: ***"The General Plan Framework Element is population growth neutral: it is not the intent of***

the Framework Element to cause any specific level of population growth to occur. It is a plan to accommodate whatever growth does occur in the future, which could include loss of population.” From what the Planners have indicated in the very few workshops offered in Hollywood, they need to promote growth in Hollywood in order to make sure there were people to use transit and presumably to live in the transit oriented development. But this turns the entire Framework on its head. It uses population growth as a way to make transit and transit oriented development work, when the purpose of transit is to meet the mobility needs of the populations, just like the purpose of housing is to meet their needs for shelter. The HCP needs to be growth neutral or it is inconsistent with the General Plan Framework Element. See: <http://cityplanning.lacity.org/cwd/framwk/chapters/02/02.htm>

5) **Mobility Plan/TIMP:** There is no accurate and up-to-date mobility plan (TIMP) included in this plan. The City's Planning Department has the funds to conduct a Transportation Study but it refuses to conduct the Study until after the HCP has been adopted. This is a major short sight in the plan and another reason why an approval should not be granted without understanding the full impact it will have on our infrastructure and lives.

6) **Notice:** There is the unresolved question whether 500-foot Notice of the HCP had to be sent to all people who reside in Hollywood or who own a business in the HCP area or only to some of the people (85,000 people received notice).

7) **Racial Bias:** Lack of Diverse Community inclusion can be interpreted as racial bias. The proposed update was not made available in the multiple languages used in Hollywood (Spanish, Armenian, Russian, Thai, Korean, Tagalog, etc.). Leaving these ethnic communities out of the information loop, many Hollywood residents and business owners have been excluded from this process thereby keeping them in the dark and preventing their participation in any legitimate democratic process pro or con.