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March 12, 2015

Honorable Council Members:

Presented for your consideration are the revised findings for the height variance at 360 N. Stone Canyon Road (City Planning File No. ZA-2012-1395-ZV; CF 13-0804) per the court-issued interlocutory writ in Lazarof v. City of Los Angeles (Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BS146304).

The interlocutory writ commanded the City Council to clarify ambiguous references to the evidence supporting its September 10, 2013 findings in support of the height variance request for 360 N. Stone Canyon in the community of Bel Air. The Council's findings cited to a declaration of engineer Leonard Liston. That declaration, however, was not presented as evidence before the Zoning Administrator (ZA) at the time that the variance application was first presented. Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 12.27(K) provides that the Area Planning Commission (APC) and Council, acting on a Charter Section 245 Motion, may only rely on evidence that was introduced at the hearing before the Zoning Administrator.

Therefore, to ensure that Council complies with Section 12.27(K), Judge Joanne O'Donnell ordered the City Council to remove the references to the Liston Declaration from its decision and replace those references with references to the evidence that was before the ZA, such as testimony from counsel, site maps and other similar documents.

The revised findings reflect redline changes to the original findings adopted by Council in September 2013 (included herein for reference). A clean copy of the revised findings is also attached.

AUL KORETZ

Council Member 5th District