



**Hollywood Media District BID's position  
regarding the Greater West Hollywood Food Coalition's  
(GWHFC) operation within the boundaries of the BID**

**October 16, 2013**

A well-run food program exists in partnership with the community in which it is located, working with businesses, residents, and other service providers to help those in need. The ideal program is supported by the community, including city officials. The BID, as an organization, is committed to supporting a homeless services project in the Hollywood area, outside of HMD boundaries, that provides comprehensive services to our homeless neighbors. In a city as large and complex as Los Angeles, we question whether a food program can exist without the support of city officials and city services.

A well-run food program is not in the public right of way and best described by the following adjectives:

**A. Clean and Hygienic**

- Leaves the area in which it operates in a clean and hygienic condition.
- Provides indoor bathroom facilities for clients and provides cleaning services in outdoor areas, such as alleyways, sidewalks and residential property, when and if clients use these areas in lieu of indoor bathrooms.

**B. Safe, Orderly and Consistent**

- Provides security. Optimally, security is provided one hour before and one hour after the program serves, with a plan for enforcement and consequences for clients who violate rules.
- Observes set hours so that the community and clients can depend on services being provided during a certain timeframe. Enforces those hours and does not permit clients to loiter before or after the program's "open" hours.

**C. Respectful**

- Respectful of clients and their needs, demonstrating sincere interest in helping clients to improve their lives and move away from a life on the street.
- Respectful of the community and its needs, understanding that businesses and residents are affected by the way in which the program operates and the choices it makes.

**D. Self-Sufficient and Accountable**

- Provides all services necessary to allow the program to operate as a good neighbor, ie., security, cleaning, etc. . .
- Explores creative solutions for involving clients in efforts to achieve self-sufficiency.

**E. Comprehensive and Coordinated**

- Provides more than food.
- Develops relationships with other homeless services providers, in order to become a part of the larger referral network that exists to serve the homeless population.
- Interested in getting to know the individuals it serves, so that needs can be identified and addressed.

Date: 10-16-13

Submitted in PWGR Committee

Council File No: 13-1238

Item No.: 6

Deputy: Public

A well-run food program has a community liaison and has articulated guidelines for the provision of services.

- A. The liaison would facilitate an ongoing dialogue with a diverse cross-section of the community, including businesses, residents, law enforcement and government officials, in order to create and maintain a program that best meets the needs of the homeless population and the larger community.
- B. The program has written and articulated guidelines that address its place in, and responsibility to, the community and clearly describe how services are to be provided.

It is the opinion of the HMD that the current operations of the GWHFC do not meet the requirements of a well-run food program. For many years, the BID has sought to partner with the GWHFC to move the program off the street and mitigate many of the issues the community has encountered to no avail.

Over the course of the last five years, there have been innumerable meetings with representatives of CD4, CD5, the Mayor's office, the State Assembly office, the State Senator's office, the LAPD Hollywood Division, as well as with the operator of the food coalition.

Despite HMD's continuous and good faith effort to find a solution, we feel the GWHFC has no desire to mitigate any stakeholder concerns while the problems for HMD stakeholders created by the operation of the feeding program are getting substantially worse. It's fundamentally unfair, a totally unreasonable burden on the neighborhood, and indeed, an unquestionable danger to the safety of the people who live and work in our community. Tenants are vacating due to the safety issues, rents and property values are decreasing, as is business tax revenue to the City of Los Angeles. The BID's security and maintenance expenses continue to increase while trying to alleviate the negative impact the program has on the district as a whole. This is in complete contradiction to the mission of the HMD BID.

Therefore, it is the position of the HMD that the GWHFC's feeding program is a public nuisance and that the City of Los Angeles must take immediate action to discontinue the GWHFC operation at its current location and that any future operation be within the confines of a private or publicly owned property in accordance with all building, safety and health codes.

Jim Omahen, Operations Manager  
Hollywood Media District BID  
1304 N. Highland Ave. #200  
Hollywood, CA 90028

Ph 323.860.0088  
Fax 323.860.0089  
[www.mediadistrict.org](http://www.mediadistrict.org)

*Jim Omahen*  
10/16/13

Councilman Tom LaBonge  
Los Angeles City Hall  
200 N. Spring Street  
Room 480  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Date: 10-16-13  
Submitted in PNOR Committee  
Council File No: 13-1238  
Item No.: 6  
Deputy: public

Dear Councilman LaBonge,

BMB Investments is the owner of the property at 936 N. La Brea, at the corner of La Brea and Romaine in Hollywood. We have worked many years with the City and the community to gain approval for a renovated and new commercial building at this site --which is now approaching completion. We are investing millions of dollars in the design and construction of a renovation and addition to this corner which will greatly enhance the area. We also own a number of businesses and properties nearby in Hollywood and West Hollywood.

We have recently been forwarded several e-mails addressed to you from our neighboring Hollywood businesses and residents, who are complaining about the problems created by the Greater West Hollywood Food Coalition's food line at Sycamore and Romaine. This operation is less than one block from our property and we wish to add our voice to these complaints.

As a neighboring business and property owner, we would like to have our voice heard that this location is not appropriate for such a large scale program with the security and public health problems it brings into the neighborhood each and every day.

We support the efforts of the community, and specifically the efforts of Melrose Action Neighborhood Watch, to insist that the City take all action necessary to relocate this program to a more suitable location -- one that does not threaten the peace and health of a residential neighborhood or impact commercial interests of those who have invested in the neighborhood.

Our project is designed and approved by the City of Los Angeles to promote goals for this neighborhood -- to foster economic vitality and support the media related businesses in the area. We urge you to help us in these goals by relocating the meal program and protecting our property.

Your truly,

Ben Soleimani  
BMB Investments

PETITION

REGARDING THE FOOD LINE AT SYCAMORE & ROMAINE  
OPERATED BY  
THE GREATER WEST HOLLYWOOD FOOD COALITION

We, the undersigned, as residents and businesses located in the vicinity of Sycamore and Romaine, hereby petition the City Council of Los Angeles to immediately pass legislation that would prohibit any and all non-commercial meal distribution programs, such as the Greater West Hollywood Food Coalition, from operating on the sidewalks, streets, and other public right of ways in our neighborhood. These types of programs have proved to bring a wide array of serious criminal activity into our community, threatening our health and safety, and adversely affecting the quiet enjoyment of our properties and our legitimate business interests. Irrespective of the motive, it is both unfair and unlawful to permit the daily assemblage of 100+ homeless people to congregate in our neighborhood bringing the havoc that predictably follows. We therefore demand that the City Council take immediate action to pass legislation prohibiting these programs.

Signed:

Occidental Entertainment  
Name of Resident/Organization

1149 N. McCadden Place  
Address

323-464-0055  
Telephone

[Signature] ELP+COO  
By: Name / Title

10-15-13  
Date

Date: 10-16-13  
Submitted in PNGR Committee  
Council File No: 6 13-1238  
Item No.: 6  
Deputy: public

PETITION

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Signed:

CHD 12/50W  
Name of Resident/Organization

940 N ORANGE DR  
Address

323-785-1350  
Telephone

STEVE PERCELL / GENERAL MANAGER  
By: Name / Title

10-15-13  
Date

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Signed:

BUDDHA JONES

Name of Resident/Organization

910 N. SYCAMORE AVE. HOLLYWOOD 90038

Address

(323) 962-5100

Telephone

[Signature] Co-owner  
By Name / Title

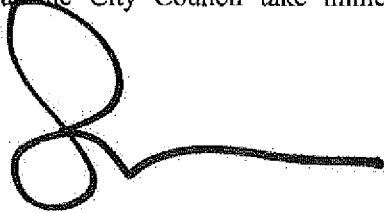
10/15/13  
Date

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Signed:



5 + DESIGN

Name of Resident/Organization

1024 NORTH ORANGE

Address

323 - 368 - 3558

Telephone

STU HATHAWAY

PRESIDENT

By: Name / Title

15 OCT 13

Date

PETITION

REGARDING THE FOOD LINE AT SYCAMORE & ROMAINE  
OPERATED BY  
THE GREATER WEST HOLLYWOOD FOOD COALITION

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Signed:

FotoKem  
Name of Resident/Organization  
1041 Mansfield  
Address  
(818) 441-5168  
Telephone  
Jessica Juarez  
By: Name / Title  
10/14/13  
Date

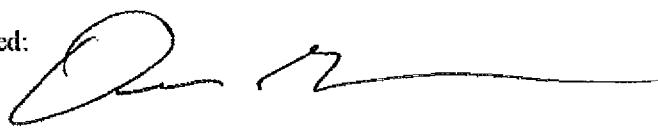


PETITION

REGARDING THE FOOD LINE AT SYCAMORE & ROMAINE  
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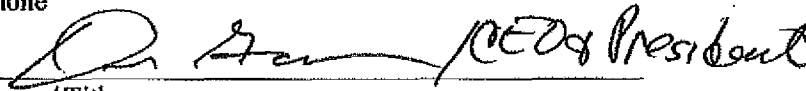
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Signed:

  
SIREN Studios  
Name of Resident/Organization

1050 W ORANGE DRIVE  
Address

323. 467.3559  
Telephone

  
By: Name / Title

10.15.13  
Date

PETITION

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THE GREATER WEST HOLLYWOOD FOOD COALITION

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Signed:



yu + co  
Name of Resident/Organization

941 N. Mansfield ave. LA, CA 90038  
Address

323-606-5050  
Telephone

Garson Yu  
By: Name / Title

10/16/13  
Date

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Signed: 

CIR DISTRIBUTION LLC

Name of Resident/Organization

6821 WILLOWHBY AVE

Address

800 997 9071

Telephone

Rob MAUNER

By: Name / Title

10/15/13

Date

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Signed:



Darren McClure On Display Creative

Name of Resident/Organization

1015 N. Orange Dr. CA 90038

Address

323/850-6599

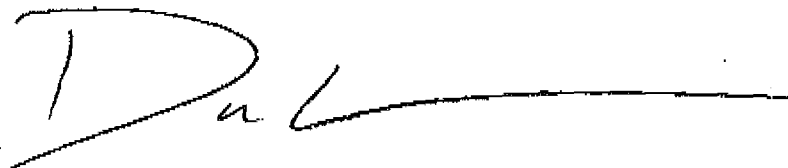
Telephone

Darren McClure / President

By: Name / Title

10/15/13

Date



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Signed: 

JOEL CHEN  
Name of Resident/Organization

941 N HIGHLAND AVE. LOS ANGELES, CA 90038  
Address

323.466.9700  
Telephone

JOEL CHEN / OWNER-JF CHEN  
By: Name / Title

10/14/13  
Date

PETITION

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Signed:

Producers Film Center, Inc.  
Name of Resident/Organization

948 N. Sycamore, Los Angeles, CA 90038  
Address

323/851-1122  
Telephone

Leslie Fritz, manager  
By: Name / Title Leslie Fritz

October 14, 2013  
Date

**Howard, Rick**

**From:** Marjan Malakpour <marjan@marjanmalakpour.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 15, 2013 9:57 AM  
**To:** Howard, Rick  
**Subject:** petition signed

PETITION

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Signed: 

Newbark  
Name of Resident/Organization

1024 N. Orange Dr. #100, LA. CA 90038  
Address

323.712.4535  
Telephone

Marjan Malakpour/owner  
By: Name / Title

10/15/13  
Date

PETITION

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Signed:

  
Newkirk

Name of Resident/Organization

1024 N. Orange Dr #100, LA Ca 90038

Address

937. 477. 3983

Telephone

Billy Horn / Director of Sales

By: Name / Title

10/15/13

Date



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Signed: 

WILDTRACKS  
Name of Resident/Organization

910 N. CITRUS AVE, HOLLYWOOD, CA 90038  
Address

323-463-8553  
Telephone

NICK FORSHAGER, OWNER  
By: Name / Title

10/15/13  
Date

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Signed:

*Teri LaPointe*

WILDTRACKS

Name of Resident/Organization

910 N CITRUS AVE, HOLLYWOOD  
Address CA 90038

323-463-8553

Telephone

Teri LaPointe, Office Manager

By: Name / Title

10/15/13

Date

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Signed:

*A. Jeffrey Cranford*

WILDTRACKS

Name of Resident/Organization

910 N CITRUS AVE, HOLLYWOOD, CA 90038

Address

323-463-8553

Telephone

Jeffrey Cranford, Sound Editor

By: Name / Title

10/13/13

Date

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Signed:

*Dustin Hodge*

WILDTRACKS

Name of Resident/Organization

910 N. Citrus Ave, Hollywood CA 90038

Address

323-463-8553

Telephone

Dustin Hodge, Sound Editor

By: Name / Title

10/13/13

Date

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Signed:



WILDTRACKS

Name of Resident/Organization

910 N. CITRUS AVE, HOLLYWOOD, CA

Address

90038

323-463-8553

Telephone

Peter Chu, Sound Editor

By: Name / Title

10/15/13

Date

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OPERATED BY  
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Signed:

Maggie Robinson

Name of Resident/Organization

842 N. Sycamore Ave., LA, CA 90038

Address

818-731-5554

Telephone

By: Name / Title

Date

10/14/13

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Signed:

*Julia Russell*

*Julia Russell*

Name of Resident/Organization

*848 N. Sycamore Avenue*

Address

*323 467 6743*

Telephone

*Julia Russell*

By: Name / Title

*10/14/2013*

Date

PETITION

REGARDING THE FOOD LINE AT SYCAMORE & ROMAINE  
OPERATED BY  
THE GREATER WEST HOLLYWOOD FOOD COALITION

We, the undersigned, as residents and businesses located in the vicinity of Sycamore and Romaine, hereby petition the City Council of Los Angeles to immediately pass legislation that would prohibit any and all non-commercial meal distribution programs, such as the Greater West Hollywood Food Coalition, from operating on the sidewalks, streets, and other public right of ways in our neighborhood. These types of programs have proved to bring a wide array of serious criminal activity into our community, threatening our health and safety, and adversely affecting the quiet enjoyment of our properties and our legitimate business interests. Irrespective of the motive, it is both unfair and unlawful to permit the daily assemblage of 100+ homeless people to congregate in our neighborhood bringing the havoc that predictably follows. We therefore demand that the City Council take immediate action to pass legislation prohibiting these programs.

Signed:

MICHAEL WOLF / PROPERTY OWNER N. SYCAMORE AVE  
Name of Resident/Organization

31 ARDMORE IRVINE, CA 92602  
Address

714-389-4695  
Telephone

Michael Wolf  
By: Name / Title

Oct 14, 2013  
Date



PETITION

REGARDING THE FOOD LINE AT SYCAMORE & ROMAINE  
OPERATED BY  
THE GREATER WEST HOLLYWOOD FOOD COALITION

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Signed:

*Valarie Wong*

Name of Resident/Organization

*31 Ardmore Irvine, CA 92602*

Address

*714 - 384 - 4695*

Telephone

*Valarie Wong homeowner N. Sycamore Ave*

By: Name / Title

*9/14 / 2013*

Date

PETITION

REGARDING THE FOOD LINE AT SYCAMORE & ROMAINE  
OPERATED BY  
THE GREATER WEST HOLLYWOOD FOOD COALITION

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Signed:



Name of Resident/Organization

153 1/2 N Sycamore Ave.

Address

Telephone

ALEX WALK

By: Name / Title

10/15/2013


Date

PETITION

REGARDING THE FOOD LINE AT SYCAMORE & ROMAINE  
OPERATED BY  
THE GREATER WEST HOLLYWOOD FOOD COALITION

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Signed:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Resident/Organization

753 1/2 N. Sycamore Ave LA  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone

Mary Catherine Ong  
\_\_\_\_\_  
By: Name / Title

10-15-2017  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

PETITION

REGARDING THE FOOD LINE AT SYCAMORE & ROMAINE  
OPERATED BY  
THE GREATER WEST HOLLYWOOD FOOD COALITION

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Signed:

MICHIKO SONOBE

Name of Resident/Organization

753 3/4 N. SYCAMORE AVE. LA. CA 90038

Address

~~Signature~~

Telephone

By: Name / Title

OCTOBER 15, 2013.

Date

PETITION

REGARDING THE FOOD LINE AT SYCAMORE & ROMAINE  
OPERATED BY  
THE GREATER WEST HOLLYWOOD FOOD COALITION

We, the undersigned, as residents and businesses located in the vicinity of Sycamore and Romaine, hereby petition the City Council of Los Angeles to immediately pass legislation that would prohibit any and all non-commercial meal distribution programs, such as the Greater West Hollywood Food Coalition, from operating on the sidewalks, streets, and other public right of ways in our neighborhood. These types of programs have proved to bring a wide array of serious criminal activity into our community, threatening our health and safety, and adversely affecting the quiet enjoyment of our properties and our legitimate business interests. Irrespective of the motive, it is both unfair and unlawful to permit the daily assemblage of 100+ homeless people to congregate in our neighborhood bringing the havoc that predictably follows. We therefore demand that the City Council take immediate action to pass legislation prohibiting these programs.

Signed:

MASA SONOBE  
Name of Resident/Organization

753 3/4 Sycamore Ave LA. CA 90038  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone

\_\_\_\_\_  
By: Name / Title

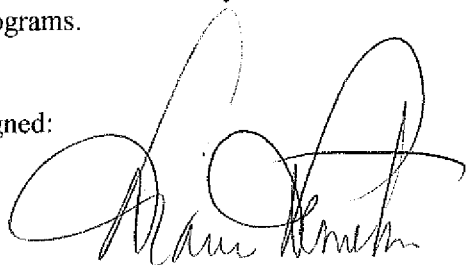
10 / 15 / 2013  
Date

PETITION

REGARDING THE FOOD LINE AT SYCAMORE & ROMAINE  
OPERATED BY  
THE GREATER WEST HOLLYWOOD FOOD COALITION

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Signed:



Name of Resident/Organization

753 N. Sycamore Ave.

Address

323 580 8767

Telephone

753 N. Sycamore 90038

By: Name / Title

10/17/2013

Date

PETITION

REGARDING THE FOOD LINE AT SYCAMORE & ROMAINE  
OPERATED BY  
THE GREATER WEST HOLLYWOOD FOOD COALITION

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Signed:

Maggie Robinson

Name of Resident/Organization

842 N. Sycamore Ave., LA, CA 90038

Address

818-731-5554

Telephone



By: Name / Title

10/14/13

Date

PETITION

REGARDING THE FOOD LINE AT SYCAMORE & ROMAINE  
OPERATED BY  
THE GREATER WEST HOLLYWOOD FOOD COALITION

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Signed:

MARK DeDecker

Name of Resident/Organization

751 N. SYCAMORE AVE.

Address

323-316-0347

Telephone

By: Name / Title

10/15/2013

Date



PETITION

REGARDING THE FOOD LINE AT SYCAMORE & ROMAINE  
OPERATED BY  
THE GREATER WEST HOLLYWOOD FOOD COALITION

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Signed:



Ken Silvain

Name of Resident/Organization

7014 W. LANTHBY AVE

Address

323-466-8846

Telephone

MR.

By: Name / Title

10/14/2013

Date

PETITION

REGARDING THE FOOD LINE AT SYCAMORE & ROMAINE  
OPERATED BY  
THE GREATER WEST HOLLYWOOD FOOD COALITION

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Signed:



Eugene Chang  
Name of Resident/Organization

803 N Orange OR, LA, CA 90038  
Address

949-241-7949  
Telephone

Eugene Chang  
By: Name / Title

10/14/13  
Date

PETITION

REGARDING THE FOOD LINE AT SYCAMORE & ROMAINE  
OPERATED BY  
THE GREATER WEST HOLLYWOOD FOOD COALITION

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Signed: 

Name of Resident/Organization

Address

Telephone

By: Name / Title

Date

Sandra Eddy  
807 N Orange Dr 90038

323-445-1885

10/14/13

PETITION

REGARDING THE FOOD LINE AT SYCAMORE & ROMAINE  
OPERATED BY  
THE GREATER WEST HOLLYWOOD FOOD COALITION

We, the undersigned, as residents and businesses located in the vicinity of Sycamore and Romaine, hereby petition the City Council of Los Angeles to immediately pass legislation that would prohibit any and all non-commercial meal distribution programs, such as the Greater West Hollywood Food Coalition, from operating on the sidewalks, streets, and other public right of ways in our neighborhood. These types of programs have proved to bring a wide array of serious criminal activity into our community, threatening our health and safety, and adversely affecting the quiet enjoyment of our properties and our legitimate business interests. Irrespective of the motive, it is both unfair and unlawful to permit the daily assemblage of 100+ homeless people to congregate in our neighborhood bringing the havoc that predictably follows. We therefore demand that the City Council take immediate action to pass legislation prohibiting these programs.

Signed:

*Billy Eddy*

Name of Resident/Organization

*Billy Eddy*

Address

*807 N. Orange Dr. 90038*

Telephone

*313-465-1885*

By: Name / Title

Date

*10/14/13*

PETITION

REGARDING THE FOOD LINE AT SYCAMORE & ROMAINE  
OPERATED BY  
THE GREATER WEST HOLLYWOOD FOOD COALITION

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Signed:

  
Name of Resident/Organization

825 N. Orange Dr.  
Address

310-903-0225  
Telephone

Elizabeth Mason  
By: Name / Title

Date

PETITION

REGARDING THE FOOD LINE AT SYCAMORE & ROMAIN  
OPERATED BY  
THE GREATER WEST HOLLYWOOD FOOD COALITION

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Signed:

  
Name of Resident/Organization

Address

Telephone

By: Name / Title

Date

SHAHEEN SAYADIAN  
853 N. ORANGE DR.

323 467-1259

SHAHEEN SAYADIAN

10/14/2013

PETITION

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Signed:

*L. Bader*

Name of Resident/Organization

*859 N. Orange Dr.*

Address

*(323) 465-2979*

Telephone

By: Name / Title

*10-14-2013*

Date

PETITION

REGARDING THE FOOD LINE AT SYCAMORE & ROMAINE  
OPERATED BY  
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Signed:

*William Ferguson*

*William Ferguson*

Name of Resident/Organization

*815 N. Orange Dr. Los Angeles, CA 90068*

Address

*708-717-5340*

Telephone

By: Name / Title

*10-17-13*

Date

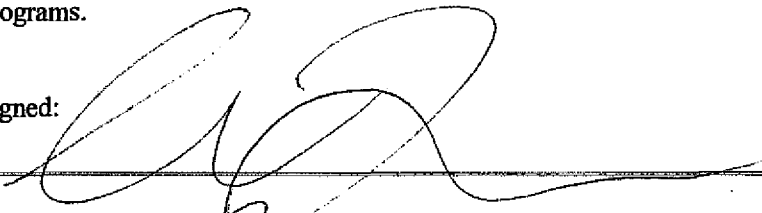


PETITION

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OPERATED BY  
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Signed:



Sean Bacastow

Name of Resident/Organization

815 N Orange Drive

Address

Telephone

By: Name / Title

Date

10/13/13

PETITION

REGARDING THE FOOD LINE AT SYCAMORE & ROMAINE  
OPERATED BY  
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Signed:

Ly-R

Lynn Rabins

Name of Resident/Organization

810 N. Orange Dr.

Address

Telephone

By: Name / Title

10/12/13

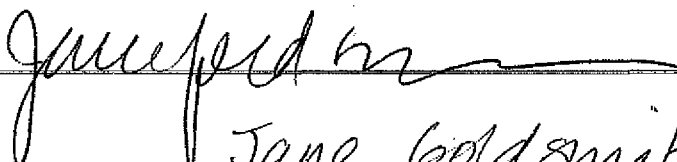
Date

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Signed:

  
Jane Goldsmith

Name of Resident/Organization

823 N Orange Dr

Address

323 467 4439

Telephone

By: Name / Title

10/14/13

Date

PETITION

REGARDING THE FOOD LINE AT SYCAMORE & ROMAINE  
OPERATED BY  
THE GREATER WEST HOLLYWOOD FOOD COALITION

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Signed:



Judy Kim  
Name of Resident/Organization

803 N. Orange Dr.  
Address

~~203-924-286~~ 949-241-7949  
Telephone

Judy Kim, home owner

By: Name / Title

10/14/2013  
Date

PETITION

REGARDING THE FOOD LINE AT SYCAMORE & ROMAINE  
OPERATED BY  
THE GREATER WEST HOLLYWOOD FOOD COALITION

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Signed:



CRISTINA J. ALLEN

Name of Resident/Organization

816 N. ORANGE LA, CA 90038

Address

323.868.5207

Telephone

CRISTINA ALLEN

By: Name / Title

10/14/13

Date

Date: 10-16-13  
Submitted in PWGR Committee  
Council File No: 13-1238  
Item No.: 6  
Deputy: Public

**LETTER FROM LYN LUZWICK,  
BUSINESS OWNER NEAR SYCAMORE AND ROMAINE  
AND LONGTIME SUPPORTER OF THE GWHFC**

On Mon, Jun 24, 2013 at 3:39 PM, Lyn Luzwick <lynlovesbooks@hotmail.com> wrote:

TO CAROLYN RAMSAY, CHIEF OF STAFF  
TO TOM LABERGE

Hello Carolyn,

I am the owner of a business which has operated just North of Sycamore and Romaine for over 35 years. We are part of the BID and longtime supporters of the GWHFC. There are at least four other large and longtime business operators in the immediate neighborhood who also are members of the BID and supporters of the GWHFC.

When the GWHFC became part of the neighborhood, I wasn't thrilled. I often thought that they would just go away and that would be that. After many years of watching the incredible work that they do, I decided to help out. Sometimes things are put before us as a test of who we are as individuals. I found out that many of the people who seek help at Sycamore and Romaine were not being helped by anybody else - remarkably, in this society that professes to be the greatest on earth. I wondered what had gone wrong.

Whatever it was, along comes a self-funded organization that helps others without asking anything for itself, and they use the streetcorner for only two hours a night, after normal business hours. I figured that as soon as the building on the corner of Romaine and La Brea got close to completion, the big guns would be out trying to disassemble one of the only good things that are for the people and not big business. That day is now.

When it comes to money and power, the poor generally don't have a chance. Whoever said that money is the root of all evil knew what he was talking about. Our humanity has taken a back seat to power, greed, politics, and people who care for themselves more than for the greater good.

There will always be individuals that will value a larger billfold than looking at the good that is being done in the community. They will use the standard excuse that it doesn't belong here. So where does it belong? I don't see this group even looking to help find an alternate location that would be acceptable. They've said they would help, but their words are empty.

Do they think by making The Greater West Hollywood Food Coalition disappear their rents will go up? If I didn't have food and water, I would probably be forced to do things that I wouldn't normally want to do. If they think that the homeless who are now being served a nightly meal would disappear if it wasn't there for them, I really doubt it. Many of them have been in the area for years. Some eventually get off the street, and some get jobs, but others aren't so lucky. Hollywood is their home. Without the Food Coalition to help them the businesses would be faced with an even worse situation. If the homeless can't get a decent meal at least once a day, there is nothing for them to do but steal. If they began to do that, it might really lower the rents.

Here are the key facts:

1. The homeless community of Hollywood is getting fed at no cost to the city or to the individual.

2. Clothing, shoes, and personal cleaning and grooming supplies are supplied at no cost to the City or to the individual
3. One by one, in small numbers to begin with, the clients of the GWHFC are being moved into decent and attractive apartments of their own choosing in safe neighborhoods -- at no cost to the city.
4. Food that would have been thrown away by restaurants and catering facilities is utilized and fed to the hungry.

(I recently asked a few of the homeless what their biggest problem was, and, without skipping a beat, they said "Food.")

5. The GWHFC, in conjunction with the UCLA schools of Public Health, Medicine, and Law, provides medical and legal services to the homeless, at no cost to the city. The GWHFC/UCLA Mobile Clinic also helps to create better doctors that are able to spot and treat various illnesses which they might not come into contact with on a normal basis.
6. Sidewalks are cleaned 2-3 times per month with pressure washers at no cost to the city
7. Streets and sidewalks are cleaned by the GWHFC daily
8. The only unaddressed issue seems to be security.

I am part of the BID. For the enormous amount of taxes that we pay annually, I receive a street

sweeping approximately once a week, and two hours of the security team's time to watch the homeless

while their nightly meal is being served. Is the BID now saying that they don't want to provide the security for two hours a day? If that's the case, I can sweep in front of my own business once a week.

Has property become so valuable that we can now "throw away people" with the trash? I hope not.

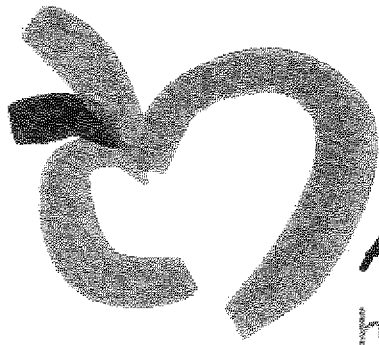
When our time is up on this Earth, what will we be proud of in our lives? What will we be ashamed of?

These questions should be asked of the people that have formed up against one of the few good things that are being done for others in this world.

Carolyn,  
Thank you,

Lyn Luzwick  
1033 N Sycamore Ave  
Los Angeles, Ca 90038





Angel

harvest SM [angelharvest.org](http://angelharvest.org)

October 13, 2013

Concerned Council members and citizens,

ANGEL HARVEST for 18 years has been delivering free fresh food to the emergency feeding charities of Los Angeles; enough food for 10 million meals to date.

Of the 120 soup kitchens, food pantries and emergency shelters that we inspected and approved to receive our food; half of those programs closed during the last three years; thereby increasing the food demands on the remaining charities like GWHFC.

As I travel around the world and America with my work, **Ted Landreth's GWHFC is one of the best charities I have seen.** Its concept, operations, partners and people are compassionate, smart, efficient and respectful. This charity is an important and responsible member of the community GWHFC continues to win awards and recognitions, including from the LA Business Journal.

**If the GWHFC is forced to close, what do you think will happen to the 180 homeless tomorrow?**

Most Sincerely,

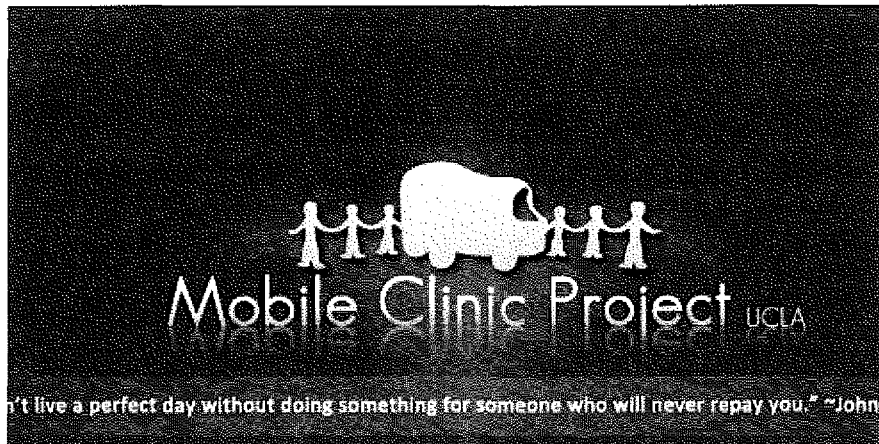
**Helen verDuin Palit, D.H.L.**  
Founder and President

## Department of Community Health Sciences

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# UCLA Mobile Clinic Receives Leadership Award

By [jenniferb](#) on 23 May 2013



UCLA's Mobile Clinic has been awarded the LA Business Journal's 2013 Healthcare Leadership Award for Community Outreach. With Dr. Michael Prelip serving as the public health faculty advisor, the Mobile Clinic Project aims to improve the health outcomes and quality of life of the homeless and other vulnerable populations in the greater Los Angeles by connecting clients to the existing continuum of care through direct medical care, health promotion and disease prevention activities, legal advocacy and referrals to health and social services.

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*in University of California, Los Angeles, Fielding School of Public Health, Department of Community Health Sciences*

**LETTER FROM KEVIN RILEY,  
A CO-FOUNDER, IN 2001,  
OF THE GWHFC/UCLA MOBILE CLINIC**

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to indicate my strong support for the Greater West Hollywood Food Coalition (GWHFC) and the UCLA Mobile Clinic Project. For over 26 years, the GWHFC has provided nightly meals to the hungry and homeless on the corner of Sycamore Avenue and Romaine Street in Hollywood, relying on a corps of dedicated volunteers to carry out its efforts. And for the past 13 years, the GWHFC has partnered with the UCLA Mobile Clinic Project, a joint venture between the UCLA Schools of Public Health, Medicine, and Law that provides frontline medical and legal care to GWHFC users.

I was a co-founder of the UCLA Mobile Clinic in 2001 and have been involved in supporting the program over the subsequent years. Our aim in starting the project was to fill an important gap in care for those who have otherwise fallen through the cracks of our healthcare safety net. In partnering with the GWHFC, we sought to build on important relationships of trust the program had developed with this street-based homeless population.

My experience with both programs over the years has indicated that the GWHFC and the UCLA Mobile Clinic play a tremendous role in providing high-quality and highly needed services to a significantly underserved population. Many of the programs' users are denied access to other resources due to restrictive eligibility requirements and/or strict operating protocols. Others are distrustful of service providers in more formal settings.

The programs also have impacts beyond the individuals they directly serve. The nightly meals provided by the GWHFC reduce the need for food solicitation, while the medical care offered by the UCLA Mobile Clinic helps alleviate the burden on other medical service providers who are already stretched to capacity. All this while operating on the barest of shoestring budgets.

As a public health professional, I believe the GWHFC and the UCLA Mobile Clinic embody the highest principles of community health—to bring resources directly to the target community, to provide services in a respectful and nonjudgmental manner, to build trust through consistency and understanding. The programs represent an innovative model to which other community-based programs around the country have subsequently aspired.

I urge you to support the continued efforts of the GWHFC and the UCLA Mobile Clinic to meet the needs of the most vulnerable members of our community. Their

closure would represent a significant loss for both the individuals they serve and the larger Hollywood community.

Thank you,

Kevin Riley, PhD, MPH  
840 South Hobart Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90005  
kriley@gmail.com

My name is Ted Landreth. I represent The Greater West Hollywood Food Coalition, the principal target of the motion now under discussion, and I would like to read a brief prepared statement.

The Food Coalition is a volunteer organization which has served what we call "a hot, fresh, and nutritious meal" to the homeless and hungry every night since March of 1987 -- for the past twenty-three years at the industrial intersection of Sycamore and Romaine in Hollywood.

A number of Food Coalition volunteers are here with me, as are volunteers of our sister organization, the GWHFC/UCLA Mobile Clinic, which we helped to found in 2001.

We come in peace. We have always been interested in peace, but we seem to live in a world at war -- at war against the homeless as a class of people and against ordinary citizens like us who meet them on their turf and give them the emergency support and encouragement they need to survive the horrors of life in the street and then, one by one, to get off the street into decent apartments of their own choosing.

If you'd like to know more about us as peaceful citizens, I would suggest you talk to Deputy Chief of Police Mike Downing, who came to know us very well when he was the commander of the Hollywood Division. With his help we kept the peace with residential and business neighbors in the community, and five major businesses near Sycamore and Romaine became supporters of ours, as they are to this day. You could also talk to Captain Beatrice Girmala, who just left the job of commander in Hollywood to come to headquarters. Four years ago, for the space of two years, she actively participated in a Dialogue with the Neighbors which she had helped to initiate. I will never forget her saying at the end of one of our meetings with the neighbors that all they seemed to do was complain -- at least we were DOING something.

The commanders of the Hollywood and Wilshire Division of the LAPD know almost as much we do about the homeless who live in our community, because, like us, their officers deal with them in the street, where they live, and they treat them as individuals, not as a monstrous, faceless mob.

Over the space of the past five months, with the encouragement of Councilman

LaBonge and his staff, the homeless people we serve have been painted as a monstrous, faceless mob, and all of them, as a group, have been accused of being violent criminals and drug addicts and hopelessly mentally ill – this on the basis of an outbreak of rumor and hate speech disseminated by a dozen or so angry neighbors who refuse to speak to us, who have never been to Sycamore and Romaine to meet our clients or to see what we do for them, and who, for the most part, have arrogated to themselves, without evidence of any kind to support them, the right to determine who belongs in their neighborhood and who doesn't. Never has a group of Americans been so viciously defamed as have the clients of The Greater West Hollywood Food Coalition.

That said, we come in peace. Four weeks ago Councilman LaBonge said on KNBC News that he intended to get all the parties together – as Chief Downing and Captain Girmala had in the past – so that we could sort out our differences and, ideally, so that we could work together to help the people we are now helping. We would like nothing better. Not simply because we ourselves have been wholly unsuccessful in our efforts to reach this current cabal of angry neighbors, but because, based on our experience of 26 years, we believe strongly that most of them would take a very different view of what we do and who we're doing it for, if they were to talk to us and then come to Sycamore and Romaine.

That, it would seem to me, would be the American thing to do – to assert, as Chief Downing did years ago, that the homeless who live in our midst are citizens, too, that they have all the same rights as we do, and most particularly the right to be judged as individuals.

It is our belief, and not incidentally the belief of the American Civil Liberties Union, that the legislation contemplated by the motion you are now discussing would be unconstitutional. A Federal Court in Florida found that to be the case just two weeks ago. And I would be surprised if City Attorney Mike Feuer, who was a supporter of the Food Coalition when he was on the City Council, wouldn't take the same position.

I would like to pass out a copy of this statement, as well as a number of other documents referring to us and what we do. One is a letter from Helen Palit, the founder of City Harvest in New York and Angel Harvest here. Another is a letter from Lyn Luzwick, one of the five major business owners near Sycamore and

Romaine who have supported us over the years. Another is a letter from one of the founders of the UCLA Mobile Clinic, now a PhD MPH still working at UCLA to make our society work better. And another is the announcement of a prestigious award given this year to the Mobile Clinic by the Los Angeles Business Journal.

Enclosed with the above documents is a copy of a black and gold business card which we give to random homeless people we encounter other than at Sycamore and Romaine and which we also give to potential volunteers. You will note that it has on it the URL to our website.

Finally: all of us volunteers live very busy lives, and it is remarkable that we can eke out the two or three hours it takes to do what we do, each of us deployed in our kitchen or in the serving of our nightly meal once a week. We are doctors and lawyers and producers and actors and writers and artists and musicians and professional chefs and undergraduates and graduate students. We are also secondary school students and elementary school students with their parents. Some of us are even aspiring politicians. I think more of us would be if we were to encounter more politicians standing with us, both in person and in spirit, at Sycamore and Romaine.

Thank you.



October 16, 2013

Dear Los Angeles City Council:

Good afternoon council members. Thank you for allowing the public to speak. My name is Robert Lydecker. I am a member of a group called Food Not Bombs, although I come to you as an individual and am not claiming to speak on the group's behalf. Food Not Bombs is a grassroots organization who believes that everyone should have access to healthy, nourishing food.

For over a decade we have been serving free vegan and vegetarian meals every Sunday night, rain or shine, in public spaces in downtown Los Angeles, including the sidewalks of Skid Row. We prepare all the meals ourselves from produce donated from Southern California farmers, and we typically serve around 200 meals a night. People who know us and rely on our meals include families, working folks, homeless folks, poets, veterans, etc. Some have been coming for years. While many have access to food from other avenues, I often hear that meals like ours, made of fresh produce, are in scant supply. Councilman LaBonge's motion says that serving food in the public right of way creates "health concerns," while, in fact, the food we share valuably contributes to better the health of many of Los Angeles' citizens. I cannot speak for every group that shares food in the public right of way, but Food Not Bombs also takes care to clean up after serving, and we have never blocked pedestrian traffic.

We believe it's important that food be shared in public spaces as it removes all barriers and ensures accessibility to everyone. No paperwork required. No proof of need. Sharing food in public spaces also creates a sense of community. Placing restrictions on the serving of food in the public right of way also walks a dangerous line of criminalizing humanitarian work, marginalizing a group of people, and placing restrictions on our first amendment right to assemble.

As my representatives I hope that you will support Angelinas and Angelinos who strive to make this city a better place. Sharing food in the public right of way is crucial to Food Not Bombs' mission and to the well being of all the people we share meals with. Hopefully we can maintain the rights of the public in the public right of way. Thank you!

Sincerely,

*Robert Lydecker*

Robert Lydecker  
lydeckermusic@gmail.com

Date: 10/16/13  
Submitted in PNBR Committee  
Council File No: 13-1238  
Item No.: 6  
Deputy: public

Date: 10/16/13  
Submitted in PNGR Committee  
Council File No: 13-1238  
Item No.: 6  
Deputy: public

## Rebutals

## FEEDING Homeless

Streets are power washed at least 2x per mth.

People going in Trash

Same in Hollywood Hills

Needles - Needle Exchange (not GWHFC)

Condoms - From the Nightclub across from  
Record Plant (The Zone)

Empty Houses - problem throughout the  
City - Everywhere people will take  
advantage + stay if houses are empty.

Why can't 2 Real Estate Companies in this area  
find a parking lot for us.

Its because they dont want us ANYwhere

Get 2 toilets so that the homeless  
have a facilities.

Sycamore is designated as a Manufacturing  
+ Romaine Zone M-3

GWHFC would love a indoor or  
Parking lot in the area!