From: Peter Merlin [mailto:plmerlin1118@gmail.com]

Sent: Thursday, December 04, 2014 13:26
To: councildistrict15@lacity.org
Subject: BMO and ICO Action



December 4, 2014

To whom it may concern:

The Steering Committee, (The Board,) of the Carthay Square Neighborhood Association supports the motion from Councilmember Paul Koretz dated May 16, 2014 with respect to revising the city's Baseline Mansionization Ordinance number 179883. The revision could easily be enacted tomorrow without an onerous 18 month waiting period by eliminating the area bonuses and adopting the Beverly Grove RFA Model number 182754 on a city-wide basis. While our Board supports the importance of "green" building practices, in our view, these practices could be enforced in both public and private construction in our city by a different ordinance. They should not be used as a means to distort the intent of the BMO.

The Steering Committee also supports adoption of the authorized ICO's (Interim Control Ordinance) modeled on the Beverly Grove RFA (Residential Floor Area) Ordinance number 182754. Since the City Council meeting of November 4, 2014 where the Planning Department was instructed to write ICO's for 14 neighborhoods, Carthay Square has seen yet another permit application for a tear-down and construction of a 4000 Sq. Ft. McMansion at 1148 Stearns Drive. Those of us who have been working many years for a HPOZ in this neighborhood feel that the City Council and the Planning Departments' failure to act in a timely manner has enabled developers to take advantage of opportunities before the ordinance will take effect. Today, as we lose another important contributor that defines the character and style of this neighborhood, we need the city's protection even more.

We urge the Planning Department and the City Council to act with no further delay on both the BMO revision and ICO's.

Carthay Square Neighborhood Steering Committee (The Board)

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