

TO: PLUM COMMITTEE  
City of Los Angeles  
Case: TT-72725-CN-1A  
ENV-2014-2510-MND

Monday, August 31, 2015

I represent a neighborhood in Sherman Oaks called Valleyheart North Historic Group. Our streets are part of the Historic LA Survey as well as the River Mansionization Ordinance. We support the effort to preserve historical buildings in Valley Village.

Los Angeles is composed of unique communities that are supposed to be preserved by the Municipal Zoning Codes as well as the Specific and General Plans and CEQA. But, to our dismay, developers, enabled by the Planning Department and the Department of Building & Safety, ignore the laws and demolish unique properties, replacing them with outsized buildings that detract from the character of the neighborhood and lower property values.

Valleyheart North Historic Group urges you to stop this disastrous and environmentally destructive path of allowing developers run wild. Those of us in Sherman Oaks, Studio City and Valley Village are justifiably proud of the historic buildings that make our neighborhoods unique.

When our neighborhood fought to keep out high-density condos that would have created enormous environmental damage to our neighborhood the city denied us our rights. It was only until we took the city and the developer to court that we won--and the existing, low density buildings remain.

You have received many arguments that prove the demolition of the property on Hermitage Avenue was illegal. Please do the right thing and abide by the laws of CEQA and the Zoning Code.

Sincerely,

Lisa Seidman  
Valleyheart North Historic Group  
4540 Nagle Ave.  
Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

August 26, 2015.

To PLUM and to the LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS,

On behalf of the neighborhood group known as FRIENDS OF VALLEY VILLAGE, please accept this letter intended for the ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD.

Let it be known this letter serves as the appellant(s) having **FULL SUPPORT** for the appeal pertaining to 5258 Hermitage Ave.

At the request of one member and a unanimous vote, FRIENDS OF VALLEY VILLAGE has included copies of emails sent to City Council member Krekorian's office beginning in 2014, which will continue to show the efforts exhausted by the community, and their multiple requests at obtaining Council Krekorian's help.

Regards,

FRIENDS OF VALLEY VILLAGE

In a December 24, 2014 email from Council member Krekorian's Chief Of Staff, Areen Ibranossian, he said: ***"Every application for housing or construction must follow local, state, and federal laws pertaining to their project."***

In previous appeals, as well as the present, the appellants have put fourth a great deal of Local, State and Federal laws pointing out specifically where and how they were not followed. Our Council office seemed very strict in regards to stating how EVERY APPLICATION MUST FOLLOW them.

Mr. Ibrannossian goes on to say: ***"in some cases may support or oppose discretionary changes that are requested."***

A great deal of communication on the communities part was requesting our Council office's support to OPPOSE this project and support the community in preservation. Although 5258 was used specifically, it was the example of a request we made in regards to our neighborhood.

In Mr. Ibranossian's email of January 6, 2015 he says:

***"As I said before, we work with the community first and foremost.."***

***If what you are saying about the home of Marilyn Monroe is the case, please send me the address, as that is news to us.***

***Please understand that we are trying to help you and every other member of the community,***

FRIENDS OF VALLEY VILLAGE has been attempting to get our council office to ***"WORK WITH THE COMMUNITY"*** since 2014.

Where is our Council office ***"trying to help you and every other member of the community,"*** when we have been begging for your help for a year.

**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@yahoo.com>  
**To:** "areen.ibranossian@lacity.org" <areen.ibranossian@lacity.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 18, 2014 6:06 PM  
**Subject:** Inquiry (s)

Miss Ibranossian,

I notice you are Chief Of Staff for Councilman Krekorian's office. I do not know where else to go or who to turn to since you are in fact my district.

I was elected after a neighborhood meeting to contact your office with some questions and concerns which I received timely replies to. However, none of the direct questions were answered and then it moved on to not receiving any responses at all. I am not familiar with procedure or have experience contacting my local Councilman. I did my research ahead of time to ensure the fact this was the place to go with our concerns. Everything I have read on District 2's website talks a lot about our Councilman helping the people and welcoming his constituents input on the city's issues.

I had hoped to have correspondence between your office and I be about the issues itself that me and my neighbors are concerned about. Instead it has been several emails sent attempting to get answers & assistance with simply responding.

It seems the moment there was a question about none of our questions being answered, they disappeared.

The man I was speaking with was Doug Mensman. This was after I was handed to him from a Miss Courtney Hamilton. Then a man by the name of Karo Torossian began being copied in emails. All of these people being copied and not one response.

I am hoping you can address this matter or can at the very least understand why this would be frustrating to a voting member of your community. My Grandparents grew up in this neighborhood, my parents grew up in this neighborhood and I myself was born and raised here. As a very active member of my community and a woman well visited by dozens of neighbors, I cannot imagine any of them will be pleased about this.

Good day Miss Ibranossian.  
I respectfully await your reply.

[REDACTED]

**From:** Areen Ibranossian <areen.ibranossian@lacity.org>

**To:** [REDACTED]@yahoo.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 23, 2014 5:15 PM

**Subject:** Re: Inquiry (s)

Hello,

I've looked through the e-mails you've exchanged with Doug Mensman from our office and am not sure exactly what question you have.

Our office does not engage in development, we only review potential applications and in some cases may support or oppose discretionary changes that are requested.

Every application for housing or construction must follow local, state, and federal laws pertaining to their project.

It is difficult to answer in a broad manner your question since all applications are different and have different sets of rules that apply.

In general, we request that all developers work with the community, either through the local neighborhood council or homeowners association, to garner support for their project to ensure the character and integrity of neighborhoods are upheld. If you can point to specific developments or projects that you are concerned about, we can better answer your questions and help you understand how they came to be.

Thanks

areen

**From:** [REDACTED]@yahoo.com>  
**To:** Areen Ibranossian <areen.ibranossian@lacity.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 25, 2014 10:01 AM  
**Subject:** Re: Inquiry (s)

Hello,

For starters, I've attached a screenshot of a project developers are planning on doing on a block where nothing but 1930's, 40's, 60's and 70's houses exist. The photo I've enclosed appears more like a prison than any structure that would blend in with our neighborhood let alone our block. You mentioned *garnering the character & integrity of the neighborhood*. My neighbors and I would like to know what it was here (in the photo) that Council saw that implied this blends in with our neighborhood.

Developers do not seem to care about community Mr. Ibranossian. Certainly not our opinions.

That is only one issue.

The other issues are the fact that Council has not made any efforts to protect older structures and don't seem to see an issue with losing that history. **The house planned for demolition so this can be erected was once lived in by Marilyn Monroe, It was one of the very first structures ever to be erected on this street. We soon will have no recollection or history of our city if you continue to allow these god awful buildings to take the place of something historical and significant to this city.**

As far as the email exchange there were several questions. I have pasted them below.

*If that is the case, that you saying Valley Village has had greater regulations than the rest of the city, how then do you explain what we are talking about and the buildings we are coming to you for that are a big problem?*

***I ask you again, are any steps being taken to protect what is left of older & historic structures in my neighborhood?***

*Do these new controls you mention apply to apartment buildings, condos and homes?*  
***Are any steps being taken to protect what is left of older & historic structures in my neighborhood?***

Thank you for responding.  
Hope you had a happy holiday week and weekend.  
I respectfully await your reply.

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]\_ali@yahoo.com>  
**To:** Areen Ibranossian <areen.ibranossian@lacity.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 30, 2014 3:36 PM  
**Subject:** Fw: Inquiry (s)

Mr. Ibranossian,  
in response to your December 23rd email i am hoping you have found my response. I have pasted it below for you reference.  
Thank you.

Sincerely,  
[REDACTED]

**From:** Areen Ibranossian <areen.ibranossian@lacity.org>  
**To:** gainhealth <gainhealthali\_ali@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 6, 2015 3:02 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Fw: Inquiry (s)

Hello,

As I said before, we work with the community first and foremost, and then the developers, after a project has been applied for and we work to make sure it fits in with the character of the community (which means size, shape, and dimensions, not necessarily the color or look as that is not something we have control over all the time). We do not solicit development, nor do we engage in development ourselves, that is not what we are here for.

The more specific you are, the more we can provide detail to your questions. When you ask "*I ask you again, are any steps being taken to protect what is left of older & historic structures in my neighborhood?*" there is not a simple answer as we do not have regulations that cover what you are asking about. Not all homes or structures that are old are necessarily historic and there are varying laws in place to protect truly historic buildings and structures.

If what you are saying about the home of Marilyn Monroe is the case, please send me the address, as that is news to us.

Please understand that we are trying to help you and every other member of the community,

**From:** [REDACTED]@yahoo.com>  
**To:** Doug Mensman <doug.mensman@lacity.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 9, 2015 8:12 AM  
**Subject:** Re: Planning

Mr. Mensman,

My neighbors and I have been in touch with NCVV with little to no responding communication. This makes it difficult to move forward or obtain assistance with projects involving the community.

We have also reached out to the Office Of Preservation and office Of Historical Resources, also to no avail.

I believe some of my neighbors have been in touch with your office as well to inquire about this and related concerns about some properties in our neighborhood in direct threat.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]



----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** [REDACTED]@yahoo.com>  
**To:** Areen Ibranossian <areen.ibranossian@lacity.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 9, 2015 8:43 AM  
**Subject:** Re: Fw: Inquiry (s)

Good morning Mr. Ibranossian,

I believe I had disclosed the address along with an attached screenshot of the proposed project that would be causing the demolition of a historical property in a previous email.  
5258 Hermitage Ave.

It was brought to our attention that this project was approved by planning without proper research done for the required CEQA Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration.

Research has indicated plans like this have actually NEVER been DIS-approved, which explains to the contributing loss of historical structures left and right. It seems rather odd as well as completely presumptuous and if I might add, a bit ignorant to believe that the erection of all of these new projects would have no environmental impact as far as their contribution to greenhouse gas emissions, traffic, population, litter, crime, etc...which is what their reports are indicating.

Several city employees have informed us that city planners are supposed to also take into great consideration the character of neighborhoods. Several neighborhoods, including ours, have over 80 or 90 percentage of structures built as early as 1930 all the way up to the 1970's.

That being said;

Why is the city allowing the demolition and approving of these projects? two: allowing the erection of buildings that resemble prisons or sushi restaurants in areas having no such existing character.

I understand you mention you do not *solicit development, nor do we engage in development ourselves, that is not what we are here for.*

However it seems that without Council's support on the structures that are of great importance to our city and community, it is inevitable as to what will become their future.

I have attached a supportive document.

I am wondering if my attachments are not making it to you, if so I will have to find another method of getting them to you.

Please let me know whether it makes it to you or not.

I am back in town on Monday should you want to pursue a phone call.

Thank you for taking the time to respond Mr. Ibranossian, we do appreciate it.

I do hope you are enjoying the New Year this far.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]@yahoo.com>  
**To:** Areen Ibranossian <areen.ibranossian@lacity.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 23, 2015 4:54 PM  
**Subject:** Fw: Fw: Inquiry (s)

Mr. Ibranossian,

My neighbors and I have submitted information & contacted The Office Of Historic Resources in addition to SurveyLA in regards to 5258 Hermitage Ave.

This property has great Historic significance.

The purposed project does not comply with The Valley Village Specific Ordinance No. 168613. Section 2. Purposes

**D:** *...to assure that all residential & commercial uses are consistent with the general character of existing single-family developments within the Valley Village area.."*

**E:** *"To preserve the quality & existing character of the Valley Village area."*

**F:** *"To minimize adverse environmental effects of development & promote the general welfare by regulating buildings by height, bulk...or which cause parking or traffic circulation impacts."*

The state Historian I spoke with confirmed that the *the environmental document you forwarded and there is no indication that the planner considered the environmental impacts of demolition to historic resources.*

The city planner in charge of doing the investigating for this project failed to do their research on the Historical significance on this house. They failed to research **a lot** of required information on the Environmental that got chalked up to "no impact".

The ordinances combined with the significance this house represents continue to be ignored.

The Community really needs the Council members support.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]@yahoo.com>  
**To:** Areen Ibranossian <areen.ibranossian@lacity.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 24, 2015 12:56 PM  
**Subject:** Fw: Fw: Inquiry (s)

Mr. Ibranossian,

I noticed my emails are now being forwarded and or responded to by others, who continue to ignore the specifics we are attempting to gain assistance on. I believe this is what prompted me to contact you in the first place.

- You mentioned *garnering the character & integrity of the neighborhood*. My neighbors and I would like to know what it was here (in the photo) that Council saw that implied this blends in with our neighborhood.  
How is it a project like this (as an example) gets approved for a block containing structures built as early as 1934 going up until the 1970s, (with the exception of 2) ?

Aren't the regulations in the Ordinance's Mr. Ibranossian? Isn't that why they are written in the first place? Such as The Valley Village Specific Plan?(attached page 4)

Why are they adopted if they are not enforceable?

We are simply trying to understand how these things work. This is clearly not our area of expertise nor do we have any previous experience with matters of this kind. Maybe to us constituents, it seems as logical to assume the code/ordinances are simply followed & enforced by Council/The City. However this experience is revealing something very different we never imagined!

When we have been told one thing by employees of The City, that proper research is not done, that CEQA reports get concluded without ever being thoroughly explored, that there are so many cases they tend to completely overlook important crucial factors in the determination process, we had immediately assumed that bringing those things to your Office's attention would be well received. That there would have been some form of concern that this is taking place. Something that would indicate there is indeed a problem here.

Nominating this specific property doesn't seem the solution, especially if we don't have Council's support on this matter.

i have pasted below another email that never got a response sent to you on January 9, 2015.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]@yahoo.com>  
**To:** Janet Hansen <janet.hansen@lacity.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 25, 2015 7:41 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Survey LA question

Miss Hansen, thank you for taking the time to reply to all of my questions.

We are unclear as to your office's position or political dynamics between you and City Council...but it has become quite clear there are significant time periods that both Survey LA and OHR choose to gloss over.

We do not know whether this is to be attributed to having a 2 person staff at OHR, or maybe they just are not educated on parts of the San Fernando Valley history; which seems to be the case.

Either way, because Survey LA dismiss's these culturally important periods in the Valley's history, demolition has completely taken over the valley.

Because of zero preservation efforts made on the cities part, communities have had to standby and watch buildings they have personal knowledge of being historically significant, get completely erased forever. California Government Code, California Resources Code, The Conservation Element of Los Angeles, and about 7 other local, state and Federal publications have urged communities to work with our local officials in preserving what very little is left.

Whether your office has to answer to taller glasses such as SCAG or the Metro, that is currently unknown..But the ones who are suffering are future generations long with the current residents who continue to be devastated by this extermination.

Survey LA failed to include dozens of buildings whose cultural heritage was a vital ingredient in shaping the valley. Whether that was intentional or not, you need to know that citizens are deeply hurt, upset, angry, disappointed as well as terrified, that if the people working in the historical department for our City cant be depended on to preserve these resources, there is very little hope left for this city.

You forget that there are indeed locals in this town. Native to Los Angeles. Born and raised, having generations of people involved in creating this city. Maybe because most people who work for the city have no roots here they have no interest what-so-ever in the culture for this city; where it came from; how everything took shape..be that as it may, the prejudice has become quite blatant and obvious.

The community continues to conduct its own research along side selected editors whose interest in this story has them completely stumped....why so many of us have had to fend for ourselves, been driven to do our own research, have had no choice but to dig for the buried codes and ordinances that protect our history...only to find we have to be the ones to enforce it ourselves as well.

Although we have found some of your information to be helpful, there is quite a bit of grey, a lot that seems omitted and not quite sensible especially the "*public participation and outreach program. We relied heavily in public input and help outreach meetings throughout the city over a period of years*".

Maybe the San Fernando Valley did not receive the memo about that program.

Regards,

██████

8/25/15

TO the attention of PLUM and Los Angeles City Council members:

The NORTH HOLLYWOOD COMMUNITY FOR PRESERVATION would like to show our **full support** for the appellants in the case of 5258 Hermitage Ave. Valley Village, CA.

The NORTH HOLLYWOOD COMMUNITY FOR PRESERVATION believes it is an absolute priority to enforce the laws that are in place that protect the history of our neighborhoods. Environmental laws, local and community plans must be held in high regard when it comes to community impact.

Please find the attached email threads between City Council Office District No. 2 and some members of the community, who have sought out assistance in efforts made by the community, to protect the best interest of their community.

We share the appellants frustration to these matters when good voting citizens of the community have united to better themselves and have received no assistance from local agencies.

The health and overall general welfare of the community was negatively impacted by this illegal demolition. The loss is irreplaceable and the damage irreversible. Moving forward allows for some rectification.

We hope Council does what is right and stands behind the many communities who have supported the appellants and who continue to support neighborhood preservation.

Sincerely,

NORTH HOLLYWOOD COMMUNITY FOR PRESERVATION

**SUBMISSION TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD**

A February 10, 2015 email from Mr. Ibranossian in Council member Krekorian's office says:

*"we cannot be the ones to originate the idea or inception of the HPOZ as it would not be fair"*

The NORTH HOLLYWOOD COMMUNITY FOR PRESERVATION would like to know how illegally demolishing 5258 Hermitage was 'fair'.

We would also like to know, why demolishing the neighborhoods history is "fair."

When Community has spoken, when they have stated what works and what does not for their specific community, how is this "fair".

Mr. Ibranossian also states:

*"we are working on to expand into Valley Village from Studio City and working with your neighborhood council to make amendments to the specific plan."*

The community has brought this issue to Neighborhood Council for months and months. They repeatedly respond with 'not having the authority' to make those amendments. Community has been clear on what the neighborhood needs and urgent requests to order immediate protection have gone ignored. Questions continue to arise that if the Specific Plan continues to go ignored now, what difference it will make when/if amended.

**From:** > [REDACTED]>  
**To:** "areen.ibranossian@lacity.org" <areen.ibranossian@lacity.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 4, 2015 9:14 AM  
**Subject:** Neighborhood Queries

Hello Councilman Krekorian. My name is Dr. [REDACTED].  
I understand a handful of my neighbors have made many attempts to reach your office unsuccessfully. I haven't had to much time to get involved due to the nature of my work as well as being bicoastal.  
I am disappointed to hear so many of my friends and neighbors have been turned away by your office.  
I would like to help if there is some kind of communication misconception or other obstacle that may be hindering any possible resolution to everyones concerns. My schedule can allow for some untimely responses to things but I do want to offer my help in this matter. I do share my neighbors concerns in regards to what seems to be a slow and painful extermination of our neighborhood's characteristics and demolition of houses that are large contributors to what make our neighborhoods what they are. I know it has been disheartening to those that have reached out to your office and have been ignored. Am I to understand you they were coming to you with talk of an HPOZ? I would like to help. I do look forward to hearing from your office.

Best.  
[REDACTED]

**From:** Areen Ibranossian <areen.ibranossian@lacity.org>  
**To:** [REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 10, 2015 6:23 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Neighborhood Queries

Mr. [REDACTED]

We understand that you and your neighbors have concerns about development and want to see restrictions, but an HPOZ may not be the right answer and there might be other options. Please don't misconstrue this to mean that we are not open to the idea or are saying we don't care, my point is that as the elected office representing the entire community, we cannot be the ones to originate the idea or inception of the HPOZ as it would not be fair.

Other options include the Residential Floor Area (RFA) expansion that we are working on to expand into Valley Village from Studio City and working with your neighborhood council to make amendments to the specific plan.

I have indeed seen a photo of the purposed project. As to your other queries, I am happy to answer your questions, but I am not the expert in planning and land use issues. Karo and Doug from my office handle planning issues, I am involved in this issue since it has risen to this level.

Thanks.  
areen



**From:** x [REDACTED]  
**To:** "areen.ibranossian@lacity.org" <areen.ibranossian@lacity.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2015 11:14 AM  
**Subject:** Neighborhood Queries

It's beginning to sound like your office does not support or even encourage HPOZ's, and much prefers the demolition route and the allowance of new developments that do not have a place in the neighborhood.

We were not expecting this kind of reaction nor did we ever imagine it would be this difficult for any reasonable person to take a look at a photo and not be completely astonished by the approval of such a structure to be built on a street containing 45 to 80 year old buildings.

We are at the beginning stages of discussing things in response to what is happening to our environment. Sadly, a lot of which could have been prevented but we can only move forward.

None of us want to keep losing these buildings. None of us live in a newly developed neighborhood because that is not what we want.

People should be given the choice and go where they choose. Not be forced into it because all of those choices were taken away and not protected. We continue to ask what is it that is being done about all of it.

Best.  
[REDACTED]

SUBMIT TO ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

Case: TENTATIVE TRACT NO. 72725-CN

Related Case: DIR-2014-2411-SPP

CEQA: ENV-2014-2510-MND

Address: 5258 Hermitage Ave.

Valley Village, CA 91607

On behalf of the people who work in Los Angeles in the Motion Picture and Television Industry, this letter is submitted in support of the appeal regarding;

Case: TENTATIVE TRACT NO. 72725-CN

Related Case: DIR-2014-2411-SPP

CEQA: ENV-2014-2510-MND

Address: 5258 Hermitage Ave.

Valley Village, CA 91607

## Preface

We, submit for the record, that in the early morning hours of June 15, 2015, in a premeditated, predawn attack, on a quiet neighborhood in the San Fernando Valley, two homes at; 5258 Hermitage Avenue, Valley Village, CA. 91607 were brazenly and illegally demolished, using a 26 ton, Caterpillar 225 Hydraulic Excavator, and several hired men wrecking crew.

The illegal demolition was carried out just three days before these homes were up for a Historic-Cultural Monument (HCM) hearing with the Office of Historic Resources (OHR). One of the houses, at 5258 Hermitage, was the home Marilyn Monroe occupied in the 1940s with her mother-in-law.

## Grievance

The illegal demolition of the two homes was carried out by Joe Salem of Hermitage Enterprises LLC., in a predawn, premediated attack on a quiet neighborhood while people lay sleeping, while others were getting ready for work, and while children were getting ready for school.

The illegal demolition was carried out in violation of numerous county and state building and safety codes.

The illegal demolition was carried out in violation of numerous AQMD and EPA regulations.

The illegal demolition of the two homes caused the release of dangerous contaminants, flammable gas, health hazards and known carcinogens into the surrounding homes and businesses.

The illegal demolition of the two homes was committed without proper notice given to neighbors living in close proximity to the demolition. The neighbors were never given proper legal notice to protect themselves, their children and their property from the demolition, as required by law.

The law requires a thorough inspection by licensed experts where the demolition operation will occur. There was no inspection.

The law requires the owner / operator of the demolition operation to notify the appropriate state agency before any demolition of buildings that contain a certain threshold amount of regulated asbestos-containing material.

The law requires work practice standards that control asbestos emissions. The law requires removing all asbestos-containing materials, adequately wetting all regulated asbestos-containing materials, sealing the material in leak tight containers and disposing of the asbestos-containing waste material as expediently as practicable, as the regulation explains in greater detail.

Nothing was posted at the actual demolition site, nor on the LADBS website. Nothing was available from the Department reflecting a PRE-INSPECTION report had been done as required PRIOR to demolition. AQMD's Rule 1403 states the purpose of this rule is to specify work practice requirements to limit asbestos emissions from building demolition and renovation activities, including the removal and associated disturbance of asbestos containing materials (ACM).

The notification shall be submitted to the District no later than 10 working days before any demolition

No FIELD CARD was posted on the site, no Demolition Inspection Report was posted on site. There was no indication this had been approved by any Department which would have permitted a safe and legal demolition, which is required PRIOR to demolition.

South Coast Air Quality Management District appeared at the demolition site to STOP the demolition, and issue a Notice to Comply. The fact that air quality testing was then done 9 days after the demolition is absolutely absurd!

There is no record of a SEWER CAP INSPECTION as required by law, nor any records reflecting compliance was met PRIOR to demolition.

As stated in the Los Angeles Municipal Code, a community must consider its general overall welfare to promote health and safety. A community must also ensure the preservation of the neighborhood's unique characteristics.

- The specific points at issue are described in the appeal.
- The public's grievances are described in the appeal.
- The reasons we believe the decision-maker erred/abused their discretion are described in the appeal.

In addition to the points and public grievances filled in the appeal, there remain other very serious unanswered questions regarding the unlawful demolition of these two homes. We insist these questions be answered to our satisfaction in a very clear, cogent and coherent manner.

Why was there no on-site inspection of the property, by Ken Bernstein, of the Office of Historic Preservation, prior to demolition to determine its historic significance, historic integrity, historic context, and association with important persons?

Why was there no on-site inspection of the property, by Ken Bernstein to determine its distinctive physical characteristics of design, construction, form, and potential to yield important information, location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship?

By physically inspecting the property, Ken Bernstein would have gathered important fundamental facts regarding its Historic-Cultural Monument significance, including;

- Who occupied or used the property historically? Did they individually, or as a group, make any important contributions to history?
- During what period of history was the property associated with important events, activities, or persons?
- How does the property relate to the history of the community where it is located?
- The physical characteristics of the property.
- Date of construction.
- Association with events and persons.
- The role of the property in the history of the community, the State, and the Nation.
- Does the property contain any archeological remains? To what period, events, and activities do they relate? To what extent has their significance been evaluated?

- What are the property's historic characteristics?
- What were the historical influences (such as design, materials, style, or function) on the property's appearance?
- What is the current condition of the property, including the exterior, interior, grounds, and setting?
- Have archeological sites been identified on the property (e.g. through intensive survey)? To what extent and by what methods have subsurface deposits been located?

A very concerned citizen on this committee happens to be an industry professional; he is a highly respected film and television production designer. He received his Architectural degree (cum laude) from USC. He completed his graduate work at USC's School of Building Research & Technology. He is a member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences, lectures at USC, UCLA, Columbia College and the American Film Institute. Based on a cursory investigation he believes the house that Norma Jeane lived in was built in 1905.

In consideration of the significance and preeminence of the late, Marilyn Monroe, why did Ken Bernstein, NOT conduct an ON SITE inspection of her home and property?

In consideration the age of this building, 110 years old, making it one of the oldest structures in the San Fernando Valley, why did Ken Bernstein NOT conduct an ON SITE inspection of her home and property? What are Ken Bernstein's qualifications that allow him to conclude, it's ok to demolish homes 110 years old without conducting an onsite inspection of that home.

Historic-Cultural Monument's allow us to visualize and experience architecture, culture, events and community history. They help tell the story of how our town and community came to be and developed.



## Conclusion

International news coverage of the unlawful demolition of Norma Jeane's home on Hermitage Avenue was recorded and reported on by every local, state, national, and international news agency around the world. The reports on the illegal demolition has been seen by millions of people around the world!

Make no mistake, the illegal demolition of the two homes on Hermitage Ave., made international news precisely because it was brazen, deleterious, and illegal. Millions of people around the world witnessed what happened and are in total shock at the temerity and contemptuous illegality of what occurred on June 15, 2015 at 5258 Hermitage Ave. Valley Village, Ca.

Let it be known for the record that the applicant; Joe Salem of Hermitage Enterprises LLC, has caused harm, blatantly violated safety regulations, and created an overall disruption to the community. The pain and suffering that has been inflicted on the community caused by the unlawful demolition is completely inexcusable.

The Applicant should not be allowed to proceed on a project when he has ignored, neglected and violated established protocols, ordinances, codes, and accepted standards of doing business.

One should not profit or gain valuable land, use entitlements having engaged in wrongful or unlawful acts.

Where is the rule of law?

Where is the truth and transparency in government?

What is the Mayor position regarding this?

What is City Council's position regarding this?

In closing, we concur with the findings, grievance, and conclusions submitted in the appeal;

Case: TENTATIVE TRACT NO. 72725-CN

Related Case: DIR-2014-2411-SPP

CEQA: ENV-2014-2510-MND

Address: 5258 Hermitage Ave.

Valley Village, CA 91607