

Communication from Public

Name: yana shukman
Date Submitted: 08/28/2019 12:10 PM
Council File No: 15-1518-S1
Comments for Public Posting: See attached

Re: Edinburgh Bungalow Court, Case No. VTT-74201-SL-2A

Forty years ago, my family fled the lawlessness, corruption, and government oppression in the Soviet Union. To my utmost horror, I became a witness to the very same governmental behavior as I followed the developments in this matter.

Throughout the past four years, I became a witness to the governmental abuses, which rival the Soviet-era governmental tyranny. I witnessed applicants' due process rights abused. I witnessed elementary legal requirements disregarded. I witnessed politicians bow to public pressure in complete disregard for the merits of the underlying matter. Just as a reminder, both the Constitution of the United States and the state of California protect the individual against the majority, and not the other way around.

Allow me to provide you with a few examples. As a neighbor, who walked by this property for almost 40 years regularly, I was in complete disbelief as to how this dilapidated property, which clearly presented a public hazard, was allowed to remain in operation. There were electrical wires which were hanging loose around windows. Huge cracks in the foundation. Substandard unusable garages, which forced residents to park on the street. A total and a complete eyesore for the neighborhood for decades. If you search applicable police records, you will discover what type of activities took place there throughout the years, including meth lab and prostitution.

Because of the multiple cheap fixes, which were done over the decades, there was hardly anything left of the original structure: no architectural integrity whatsoever, just a mere parody of the former building.

That is why we were so thrilled when it was purchased by a developer with a great track record of building beautiful buildings in Los Angeles. We loved what they proposed for this site. A true asset to our neighborhood.

This is when social warriors got to work to do everything possible to stop this from happening. Their original line of attack was to prevent depletion of the affordable housing in the city of Los Angeles. It is well documented from the substantial public record, as well as photographic evidence. Of course, after these social warriors realized that there are no legal grounds for this line of attack, they pursued a new line of attack: a historical designation. All the hysterical screaming voices at the hearings were very "persuasive." After all, there are always more renters than property owners. That is exactly when the constitutional protections should kick in. Remember, individual against masses! Alas, not in the city of Los Angeles. City completely ignored very solid evidence from the world-renowned experts in the field of historic bungalow courts, as well as other legally admissible evidence and yield to the screaming masses.

Moreover, it was also clear that the same criteria does not apply to other Bungalow Courts in the immediate vicinity. For example, the ones located at 728 Sweetzer, or two at 700 block of Hayworth were not included in a survey. I urge you to research the names of the developers who are involved with these projects, which escaped a similar fate as Edinburgh Court. I further urge you to research if these developers made any meaningful contributions to our elected officials. All public record! I am

sure you would be as shocked as me. As a bare minimum, the city of Los Angeles does not use the same uninformed criteria for its designations.

I would like to specifically mention the hearing, which took place on May 28, 2019. I urge you to review the audio and written record of what has taken place at this hearing.

Mr. Villani and Mr. Bernstein of the Los Angeles Planning Department put up quite an act at that hearing on this matter in order to bow down to political pressures.

If this were a hearing before the judge, Mr. Villanis and Mr. Bernstein's testimony (especially, Mr. Bernstein's) would be considered to be perjury and hearsay. The record (both written and oral) speaks for itself.

Not only they perjured themselves on the record, thus, exposing the city of Los Angeles (and me as a taxpayer) to substantial monetary damages, they completely trampled the applicants' due process rights. They changed their prior determination without providing even a day of the notice to the applicant. More shockingly, there was no evidence presented to support their change of determination. Pure hearsay! Clearly, they do not understand the gravity of their actions.

More shockingly, the decision-makers at this hearing in reaching their decision relied (by their own admission) on photographs and other documents, which were presented to them by the members of the general public, and which were not properly authenticated and admitted into evidence.

Finally, I just learned that Councilmember Paul Koretz has brokered in deal in this matter. The terms are rather shocking. Among other things, Councilmember Koretz demands that the project be re-designed in a Spanish style, which happens to be his personal preference. This is completely outrageous. The original project was designed by a leading design firm in Los Angeles. What are Councilmember Koretz's qualifications in the design sphere to demand this re-design? I speak for my many colleagues in the design community of Los Angeles. Just as in the country of my birth, USSR, where Stalin ONLY excepted and allowed the architecture of his liking, we have politician imposing his own style preference on the developer who is completely exhausted after four long years of a battle! This is outrageous and should be stopped.

Finally, I also just learned that as a part of this so-called deal, the developer has to pay some \$32,000 to a lawyer, representing two neighbors opposing this development.

After only a few minutes of research, I discovered that the family of this lawyer is a campaign contributor to Councilmember Koretz. Am I the only person who is shocked?

I came from the county where there was no rule of law. I cannot allow for the United States of America, the most beautiful country on the face of the Earth, to become another corrupt, lawless, tyrannic country.

I urge you to consider legally admissible evidence only. Do not bow to the political pressures. Do the right thing!

Communication from Public

Name: Yana Shukman
Date Submitted: 08/27/2019 04:29 PM
Council File No: 15-1518-S1
Comments for Public Posting: re: Edinburgh Court, VTT 74201-SL-2A See attached

Re: Edinburgh Bungalow Court, Case No. VTT-74201-SL-2A

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Allow me to provide you with a few examples. As a neighbor, who walked by this property for almost 40 years regularly, I was in complete disbelief as to how this dilapidated property, which clearly presented a public hazard, was allowed to remain in operation. There were electrical wires which were hanging loose around windows. Huge cracks in the foundation. Substandard unusable garages, which forced residents to park on the street. A total and a complete eyesore for the neighborhood for many many years. If you search applicable police records, you will discover what type of activities took place there throughout the years, including meth lab and prostitution.

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I would like to specifically mention the hearing, which took place on May 28, 2019. I urge you to review the audio record of what has taken place at this hearing.

Mr. Villani and Mr. Bernstein of the Los Angeles Planning Department have to be completely ashamed of the "act" they put up at that hearing on this matter in order to bow down to political pressures.

If this was a hearing before the judge, Mr. Villanis and Mr. Bernstein's testimony (especially, Mr. Bernstein's) would be considered to be perjury and hearsay. The record (both written and oral) speaks for itself.

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