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Jill Govan Bauman



8/3/17

Chair Jose Huizar and
Members of the Planning & Land Use Management Committee (PLUM)
City of Los Angeles
200 N. Spring Street, Room 360
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: C.F. 16-0503 – Lorena Plaza project

Dear Chairman Huizar and Members of the PLUM Committee:

I am writing in support of the Lorena Plaza project, and to urge the Planning and Land Use Management Committee (PLUM) to deny the CEQA appeal filed by the Rosados,

The proposed 49-unit Lorena Plaza project is help Los Angeles address the homeless crisis the City is experiencing. Half of the apartments will also be dedicated for veterans and their families.

Imagine LA works closely with a numerous families living in several different A Community of Friends apartment complexes. Not only are the complexes well maintained and run, but the residents are courteous, friendly, grateful, actively improving their lives and integrated into their communities.

As you know this project is similar in size to many other affordable housing projects in the City of Los Angeles which also received mitigated negative declarations. The issues identified in the CEQA appeal are not significant enough to require more than this determination. The appellant has also consistent raised issues related to the mental health status of the proposed tenants, belying their true opposition. I urge you to deny the appeal and allow the project to proceed.

Sincerely,

Jill Govan Bauman
President & CEO



August 3, 2017

Chair Jose Huizar and
Members of the Planning & Land Use Management Committee (PLUM)
City of Los Angeles
200 N. Spring Street, Room 360
Los Angeles, CA 90012
c/o City Clerk

RE: C.F. 16-0503 – Lorena Plaza project

Dear Chairman Huizar and Members of the PLUM Committee:

I am writing in support of the Lorena Plaza project, and to urge the Planning and Land Use Management Committee (PLUM) to deny the CEQA appeal filed by the Appellants representing El Mercado de Los Angeles (“El Mercado”).

The proposed 49-unit Lorena Plaza project will reserve half of its apartments for formerly homeless individuals and families, which will help Los Angeles address the homeless crisis the City is experiencing. Half of the apartments will also be dedicated for veterans and their families.

We applaud your hard work to champion Proposition HHH last year, a successful effort that was championed by a broad coalition across the City. Los Angeles needs more affordable housing, especially for those experiencing homelessness.

As you know this project is similar in size to many other affordable housing projects in the City of Los Angeles which also received mitigated negative declarations. The issues identified in the CEQA appeal are not significant enough to require more than this determination. I urge you to deny the appeal and allow the project to proceed.

Sincerely,

Mark Loranger
President & C.E.O.



Venice Community Housing Corporation

720 Rose Avenue, Venice, California 90291-2710

Tel: (310) 399-4100 Fax: (310) 399-1130

Web: www.VCHCorp.org

August 3, 2017

Councilmember Jose Huizar
Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson
Councilmember Curren Price
Councilmember Bob Blumenfield
Councilmember Mitch Englander
LA City Council, Planning and Land Use Management Committee
City Hall
200 N. Spring Street
LA, CA 90012

Dear Councilmembers,

This letter is to urge your support at the August 8, 2017 Planning and Land Use Committee meeting for the Lorena Plaza project, a permanent supportive housing development proposed by A Community of Friends on Metro-owned land.

As you all are well aware, LA's homelessness crisis continues to get worse and siting permanent supportive housing quickly and fairly is key to solving this crisis. A Community of Friends is one of the largest, longest-standing and most successful permanent supportive housing developers in our city. The combination of the urgent homelessness crisis, a well-established and responsible developer, publicly-owned land being repurposed, and an appropriately sized and designed project for Boyle Heights deserves swift approval. As public supporters of Proposition HHH, it is exactly projects like these that we, as housing developers and advocates, and voters across the City expect you to support and expedite.

In most every neighborhood, housing developers and public officials will hear opposition to permanent supportive housing. Responsible developers like A Community of Friends have incorporated community concerns into their approach and will ensure high quality housing and responsive management such that our developments will add value to neighborhoods. Elected officials must also ensure that valid community concerns are addressed, but ultimately approve good projects in every neighborhood despite those who remain opposed.

We look forward to working with this committee and the City as a whole to site and build 10,000 new permanent supportive housing units over the next decade. Approval of the Lorena Plaza project is an important next step in this process. Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Becky Dennison
Executive Director



RAINBOW
S E R V I C E S

Providing help & hope.

August 3, 2017

Chair Jose Huizar and
Members of the Planning & Land Use Management Committee (PLUM)
City of Los Angeles
200 N. Spring Street, Room 360
Los Angeles, CA 90012
c/o City Clerk

RE: C.F. 16-0503 – Lorena Plaza project

Dear Chairman Huizar and Members of the PLUM Committee:

I am writing in support of the Lorena Plaza project, and to urge the Planning and Land Use Management Committee (PLUM) to deny the CEQA appeal that has been filed. I am the Executive Director of Rainbow Services, a shelter and support services organization serving victims of domestic violence, and a member of the Provider Alliance to End Homelessness. We applaud your hard work to champion Proposition HHH last year. Los Angeles desperately needs more affordable housing, especially for families.

The proposed 49-unit Lorena Plaza project helps Los Angeles address the homeless crisis the City is experiencing. Half of the apartments will be dedicated for veterans and their families. The discriminatory public testimony should not deter the committee from denying the CEQA and moving this project forward to create more permanent housing to address the critical issue of homelessness.

The Lorena Plaza Project is similar in size to many other affordable housing projects in the City of Los Angeles which also received mitigated negative declarations. The issues identified in the CEQA appeal are not significant enough to require more than this determination. The appellant has also consistently raised issues related to the mental health status of the proposed tenants, belying their true opposition. I urge you to deny the appeal and allow the project to proceed.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Eastlund, LCSW
Executive Director

453 West 7th Street, San Pedro, CA 90731
310.548.5450 p 310.548.0611 f

August 3, 2017

Chair Jose Huizar and
Members of the Planning & Land Use Management Committee (PLUM)
City of Los Angeles
200 N. Spring Street, Room 360
Los Angeles, CA 90012
c/o City Clerk

RE: C.F. 16-0503 – Lorena Plaza project

Dear Chairman Huizar and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of PATH, I am writing in support of the Lorena Plaza project. I urge the PLUM Committee to deny the appeal filed by El Mercado.

I am the Executive Director and Deputy CEO of PATH, a state-wide housing and services organization headquartered in Los Angeles. We are committed to ending homelessness by helping people move into permanent housing, stabilize their lives, and reintegrate into their communities. Through our work, we see the devastating impact that the lack of affordable housing has on the Los Angeles community. With the passage of unprecedented local initiatives, we are hopeful that Los Angeles is on its way to allocating much needed resources to prevent and end homelessness by increasing the supply of much needed permanent supportive housing. We are extremely thankful for your support of Proposition HHH and we hope you will continue to be a champion for more affordable housing in our city by supporting efforts like the Lorena Plaza project.

The voters in District 14 and throughout the city voted overwhelmingly to pass Proposition HHH. The Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council also supported the Lorena Plaza project by 15-1 margin. Residents throughout Los Angeles have voiced their commitment to doing what it takes to end homelessness – and they recognize that housing is the solution.

We, as a community, cannot allow the opposition of a few individuals to prevent this project from moving forward. We strongly encourage you to deny the CEQA appeal so that A Community of Friends can proceed with this urgently needed project.

Sincerely,



Katie Hill
Deputy CEO
Executive Director