



## LITTLE TOKYO SERVICE CENTER

*Positive Change for People and Places*

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August 6, 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:

On behalf of Little Tokyo Service Center (LTSC), 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 Pedro and Marlene Rosado. Considering the on-going homelessness crisis in Los Angeles, this project is vitally important within our district and regionally.

LTSC uses a comprehensive strategy to strengthen Little Tokyo and other low-income and ethnic neighborhoods in LA County. To date, we have completed 949 units of affordable housing throughout 25 development projects. As a local leader in community development, we know well the positive impact that projects such as this one have on their communities.

Last year, Angelenos spoke loud and clear when they passed Measure H and Proposition HHH. Permanent supportive housing is the best approach to our city's homeless crisis. The proposed 49-unit Lorena Plaza project will reserve half of its apartments for formerly homeless individuals and families. Half of the apartments will also be dedicated for veterans and their families along with on site resident services and ongoing property management. This project represents an important step towards addressing the most basic urgent needs of Los Angeles' homeless population.

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 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,

Dean Matsubayashi  
Executive Director  
Little Tokyo Service Center