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(CF 16-0600) Budget & Finance Committee: Fund Preservation Positions in Dept of City Planning

Ellen Freyer <ellen_freyer@yahoo.com>

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Re: Council File No. **16-0600** (2016-17 Proposed Budget)

Dear Budget & Finance Committee members, Councilmember Koretz, and Council President Wesson,

City Planning is asking for \$171,296 in next year's budget to fund two existing staff positions devoted to conserving older and historic neighborhoods. This funding does not appear in the mayor's current proposed budget. **We ask you to commit the funding and restore these positions.**

While this amount represents a miniscule portion (.0019558%) of the city's overall budget of more than \$8 billion, this small staffing investment can have a tremendous impact in protecting entire neighborhoods for decades to come.

If these staff positions are eliminated, Angelenos will continue to see their neighborhoods' character chip away, one teardown at a time. The benefits of preserving neighborhood character are undeniable, and you are no doubt well aware that these issues – and these positions – are of critical importance to your constituents.

Please, restore the funding for these critical neighborhood preservation positions in City Planning.

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