

Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2016 at 7:27 PM

From: "Friends Of Valley Village" <friendsofvalleyvillage@mail.com>

To: "Dan O'Donnell" <dan.odonnell@lacity.org>, "Nelson Rodriguez" <nelson.rodriguez@lacity.org>

Cc: "Richard MacNaughton" <MacNaughtonEsq@Gmail.com>

Subject: RE Determination Letter

Dear Mr. O'Donnell and Mr. Rodriguez,

This will be one of many requests made to your office requesting notice of any determination letters, any hearings, any dates, any action, any filings, anything at all pertaining to case numbers **DIR-2015-2697-SPP | VTT 73704 | ENV-2015-2618-MND** be mailed out in a timely manner to the appellants and the list of interested parties that has been submitted to your office more than 5 or 6 times.

As you know, the time frames given to the public are very narrow. Should the department neglect to supply the public with the required notice, we would only be making things more complicated than they already are. This is easily avoided by ensuring the public, including the appellants, receive notice and communications in a timely fashion.

Nonetheless, upon the conclusion of the July 14, 2016 public hearing, the Commission shall within 10 days render its decision on the appeal based upon the testimony and documents produced before it. LAMC 17.06 A3. Furthermore, LAMC 17.06 A34 requires Appeals to Council be filed within 10 days of the DATE OF MAILING OF THE WRITTEN DECISION OF THE APPEAL BOARD.

If the determination date was indeed made on the 14 of July, not mailing it interferes with the public's right to appeal.

Please mail **AND** email the determination letter at your earliest convenience to prevent any further complication.

Thank you very much.

fVV

Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2016 at 2:01 PM

From: Melanie.Parsons@teachers.org

To: ldmthree@pacbell.net

Subject: July 14, 2016

To Area Planning Commissioner Lydia Drew Mathers,

Unfortunately I could not get off work in time for the hearing last week where the Hermitage and Weddington item was scheduled and heard.

However, after watching the video in its entirety it is simply intolerable to accept the conduct of two of your fellow Commissioners.

The Commission has a responsibility when it comes to any items that may be controversial; such as the case herein. No proposal has any grounds for approval when it was so obvious the documentation was simply not read. Furthermore, Mard Dirking has no business attempting to please his boss with land-use decisions he makes. How do you think it would go if Metro made all of our land-use decisions. The reasons are not even important at this time because they completely lack relevance to this case! Dirking's vote needs to be tossed out and the Board needs to reconsider this matter after they read the record in its entirety. If O'Donnell and Rodriguez paid actually read it themselves and did their job efficiently this case would have never reached you to begin with. But we are here. Everyone was forced to submit so much evidence due to the preposterous proposal.

I personally thank you for stepping up and doing the right thing in this case. It is appreciated, greatly.

It is clear you may be the only voice of reason on that board so I ask you to please talk some sense into the others. Our community has invested decades into this specific area and it has taken that long to build our community. Renters should not be looked down upon as being less important of a community than R-1 areas. These are peoples homes and lives.

I beg of you to please not let this matter go ignored.

Warm Regards,
Melanie P,

October 21, 2016
Council File: 16-1048

councilmember.huizar@lacity.org
councilmember.harris-dawson@lacity.org
councilmember.englander@lacity.org
councilmember.price@lacity.org
councilmember.cedillo@lacity.org
etta.armstrong@lacity.org, sharon.dickinson@lacity.org

Dear Honorable Members of the PLUM Committee,

Respectfully, are you? Honorable? What is happening when residents from all over the city have supported these appeal's and objections to this case since the first sight of it.

Is the PLUM Committee aware there has been NOT ONE SINGULAR INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS SUPPORTED THIS PROJECT?

Is the PLUM Committee aware these applicants DO NOT OWN THE PROPERTIES?

This leads me to believe I can file an application tomorrow to demolish the house YOU LIVE IN and submit my plans to build.

Planning had a responsibility to shut this down at first sight but they did not. 2 of the Area Planning Commissioners voted to uphold and support the appeal. If the other 3 commissioners weren't already bought and paid for, or working for METRO, any reasonable individual would have also voted in favor of the appeal.

This Committee needs to know that URBAN-BLOX has SUED THE HOME OWNERS TO INTIMIDATE THEM AND ATTEMPT TO FORCE THEM INTO SELLING THEM THEIR PROPERTY.

Efforts continue to be made to PRESERVE THIS PROPERTY which is what the original owner and builder wanted. PLUM has no business considering approving a project where homeowners who inherited their mothers 1934 property are being sued by the applicants; using hateful and the dirtiest of tactics to manipulate and deceive the owners AND the residents of this property. I respectfully request the committee support the appeal for no other reason than the legalities; and if those are not enough, then for the merits described in the 1,500 plus pages submitted as evidence.

Sincerely,
Mr. and Ms. Howard, Valley Village

South Valley Planning Commissioners:

STEVE COCHRAN, PRESIDENT
LYDIA DREW MATHER, VICE PRESIDENT
MARK DIERKING
REBECCA BEATTY
JANNY KIM

July 3, 2016

For cases: VTT 73704-SL, DIR-2015-2697-SPP and ENV-2015-2618-MND

Honorable Commissioners,

My family and I are living proof that Small Lot Subdivisions are damaging to communities and to the public.

I implore you not to approve the proposed project. Prior to my families eviction last year I had no knowledge of the deterioration taking place in my neighborhood. My brother suggested I contact Council Member Paul Krekorian for help – that it was his job to help us.

He did no such thing. Only then did I learn what was taking place between my elected officials and special interest like developers. I was utterly disgusted. I had written several letters to him & called never receiving any response. My family was evicted illegally because of developers wanting to demolish our home of 22 years. They falsified details on their application to gain approval amongst threatening other tenants. Never have I seen such behavior.

My family members in Silver Lake were also evicted because of a Small Lot Subdivision proposal. They are now staying at a homeless shelter with 3 children. Their home has been sitting empty for 15 months now. If these projects would have been denied all of us would have our homes and lives back the way they were.

Projects such as this are the reason lives and neighborhoods are destroyed. Why are you doing this to us? This is a very special corner. With very special people. There is much history on this corner we must use to teach our children and the future generations who depend on these things to learn. **The relevant personal observations made by me alone constitutes substantial evidence of environmental impacts. It is impossible** - - -for the proposal to not produce physical changes in the environment. The proposal IS indeed - - -the sole reason in causing the physical changes in the environment. This is easily visible from every direction. Respectfully Commissioners, do not approve another project evicting tenants, demolishing housing, demolishing trees, escalating traffic, causing parking problems, and destroying our remaining cultural area. Why would you is the question I have most.

Respectfully,

Armen Tavitian

ATTENTION: CouncilMember Jose Hussar, CouncilMember Curren Price Jr.
CouncilMember Marqueece Harris-Dawson, CouncilMember Gil Cedilla, CouncilMember Mitch Englander
CC: sharon.dickinson@lacity.org, etta.armstrong@lacity.org
RE: Hermitage / Weddington St. Valley Village cases: VTT 73704/ENV-2015-2618-MND

Dear Members of the PLUM COMMITTEE,

This is a really simple case. It belongs in the trash.

It makes it very easy for you as decision makers. You are the decision makers I elected to make decisions for me.

The case file is filled with corruption all pointing back to city hall.

There are 2 choices:

Choice Number I: Grant permission for a project filed by a company who does business illegally in the State of California. You are then each known for condoning illegal activity.

Choice Number II: Read the appeals, read the evidence - all of it, which will automatically make the decision for you - thus making the right one.

Sincerely,

Derek Furlong

Valley Village Resident

Studio City Home Owner

Working Class Citizen / VOTER



June 20, 2016

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS BUREAU OF STREET LIGHTING,
Council File: [16-0512](#)

On May 4, 2016 your department recommended that Council adopt the Ordinance of Intention for the corner of Hermitage and Weddington which was initiated at the request of an applicant who has plans for a private development in the area. Plans which have yet to be approved and plans the entire block and surrounding communities have strongly opposed.

As your recommendation report states, the proposed is for a PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT. One that serves the applicant. The community of Hermitage Ave. has greatly suffered the last several years by the department neglecting to consider comment, concern and facts from the public. As a result, they have been victims of illegal demolitions, exposure to toxins, increase in crimes and theft, a lack of parking and an overall decrease in quality of life that never existed prior.

After failing at gaining assistance from the Councilmember in the area, that lack of support combined with his commitment to developers and special interest has left the community to fend for themselves.

The San Fernando Valley Neighborhood Coalition finds this incredibly disturbing and unsatisfactory.

While an ordinance can be whipped up and put in place for developers, where is the ordinance that protects the community and its embers?

Because developers currently own 2 out of the 3 properties they intend to raze the neighborhood looks terrible as they have let it completely degrade.

Your department is not under obligation to approve every proposal that appears on your desk. The public feels these approvals are hasty and completely endorsed with absolutely no grounds, no regard for community and certainly no consideration of the best interest in the community.

The San Fernando Valley Neighborhood Coalition opposes this recommendation and requests the department investigate further and familiarize themselves with what type of community is actually inhabiting the area. The history of the area. This is a non transient well established community who has no intentions of being victim to another developer take over. Furthermore, the public interest and convenience was never considered therein your report and should therefore not state so on the ordinance. The public interest cannot be determined by a department not familiar with the public and its needs.

Thank you for your consideration,

SFVNC

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD: DIR-2015-2697-SPP, VTT 73704, ENV-2015-2618-MND
ADDRESSES: 5261, 5263, 5303, 5305 Hermitage Ave., 12300, 12301, 12302 Weddington St.

June 11, 2016

To South Valley Planning Commissioners,

My name is Kari Benson and I am a longtime resident of 5311 Hermitage Avenue. I am very concerned about the proposal to build over what is currently Weddington Street. While the people proposing this may claim this street is "underutilized" they are probably looking at the street during the day when everyone is at work. At night, parking in this neighborhood can be horrendous even with the extra spaces that Weddington provides. This street is by no means "underutilized," but rather **ESSENTIAL to accommodating the parking needs for our neighborhood**.

I often get home from work after 10:00 in the evening and often have to circle the neighborhood several times before I can find parking. Some nights I have to park as far as two streets on Vantage Avenue and walk home by myself. As a young female, this is a big safety issue for me, especially knowing that there is a transient population living in that area. I have often been forced to illegally park in a closer spot to my building to avoid this and have received several tickets for doing so. **Without Weddington, I don't want to know how far I'll end up having to park.**

Also, while my building does provide some parking spots, it does not provide enough parking for all residents, implying that we should be able to find adequate parking on the streets. When I first moved into 5311 Hermitage, the fact that there was also parking available on Weddington was influential in my decision to move in. If we end up losing this street for parking, I may be forced to move out.

Weddington is essential in accommodating the parking needs of the current residents in not only our building, but the neighboring buildings as well. **The fact that Weddington is already needed as overflow parking, implies future need as well** (unless you are also proposing a parking structure for our neighborhood I have not yet heard about?), and in fact **makes the future need for this street even more essential**. A four story residential complex is scheduled to be built between 5300 and 5400 Hermitage Avenue. Even if that building provides parking, the increase in residents on the street will also increase the need for street parking for their visitors.

Please understand that Weddington Street is HIGHLY valued by our neighborhood. Anyone who has told you otherwise I can only assume does not live in this neighborhood and has not experienced the parking shortage I experience every evening.

Thank you for your understanding and for respecting the needs of the current residents.

Kari Benson
5311 Hermitage Ave, Apt 17
Valley Village, CA 91607

818-263-3959
Kmbenso@gmail.com

JUNE 1, 2016

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

TO: The Department of City Planning
South Valley Area Planning Commissioners, apcsouthvalley@lacity.org
CC: Los Angeles City Council Members
RE: Objections to Case No: VTT-73704-SL, DIR-2015-2697-SPP, ENV-2015-2618-MN

Dear South Valley Planning Commissioners,

I am writing this letter to voice STRONG OPPOSITION to the proposed project at the corner of Hermitage Ave. and Weddington Street.

I am a resident of Valley Village and a regular visitor to this corner. This is one of the most utilized streets and corners in the neighborhood and highly valued by the general public. This particular area is highly congested. Parking is a constant issue. This issue will only be compounded by the development of a Small Lot Subdivision, which is highly inappropriate for the area.

Moreover, the Valley Village Specific Plan and the Community Plan have built into their policies to preserve the neighborhood character. 5303 Hermitage Ave. is the most culturally significant example of when this neighborhood was formed. Preserving the charm and character of Valley Village is the foundation of the Specific Plan. The proposed guarantees to be the nail in the coffin and would completely eradicate major contributors in the semblance of character left on the street.

The public has attempted to address these issues and concerns with our Council office with no success. We ask that the commissioners look at the impact of the proposed and reconsider in the interest of the city in which they serve.

To recap, the issues with the proposed project at the corner of Hermitage Ave and Weddington Street are as follows:

- Removal of parking for the public, its residents and visitors
- An increase in pollution from the development and subsequent influx of new residents
- The decimation of character in the neighborhood
- The decimation of open and green space
- Removes existing affordable housing

Please consider all of these facts before you approve a project that the neighborhood and city wholeheartedly rejects.

Respectfully,

Cassie Stethem

Resident of Colfax Avenue, Valley Village

June 8, 2016

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

TO: The Department of City Planning
South Valley Area Planning Commissioners
Commission Executive Assistant, Randa Hanna, randa.hanna@lacity.org, apcsouthvalley@lacity.org
CC: Los Angeles City Council Members
RE: Objections to Case No: VTT-73704-SL, DIR-2015-2697-SPP, ENV-2015-2618-MN

I am writing this letter to voice STRONG OPPOSITION to the proposed project at the corner of Hermitage Ave and Weddington Street, addresses - 5261, 5263, 5303, 5305 Hermitage Ave., 12300, 12301, 12302 Weddington St. in Valley Village, CA 91607.

I am a neighbor to these properties and regular visitor to this corner. This is one of the most utilized streets and corners in the neighborhood and highly valued by the general public.

This is already an incredibly densified area that does not need any additional vehicles or an increase in resources.

The Valley Village Specific and Community Plan rely on its policies they were initiated for; to preserve neighborhood character and protect Valley Village from being encroached upon. The proposed is a complete and blatant violation of those community standards.

Small Lot Subdivisions are a known problem throughout the city. Approval of the proposed is feeding those problems and all of the issues it brings with it. Additionally, removing affordable housing already in place sets a new precedence we the residents do not support. This is also an issue our General Plan is focused on solving, making this - a direct conflict of those policies and objectives. These are grounds for denial according to State and City law.

Weddington Street is incredibly necessary for both present and future use.

Not having access to the sidewalks and street would not serve the public in a positive way. This greatly reduces our quality of life, our ability to park and removes all opportunity the public has had access to as long as we all have lived here.

I respectfully request the Commissioners make smart planning choices and to consider all of the negative impacts the proposed will cause. The decision you make affects all of us as well as the environment. Sidewalks and streets are for the public to use and have access to. They have no right to be privatized for personal interest.

Thank you
Respectfully,

David Liu

DAVID LIU
12120 Chandler Four Seasons Assisted Living
Valley Village, CA 91607

Debra McCormick

5306 Hermitage Avenue, Valley Village, CA 91607
debra.mccormick@hotmail.com

March 6, 2016

Regarding Case No. ENV-2015-2618

I have read through the proposal for the 26 unit construction project that is being proposed for 5261, 5263, 5303, 5305 North Hermitage Ave and 12300, 12301, 12302 Weddington Street. As a longtime neighborhood resident who will be directly affected by the destruction of affordable housing, the displacement of the current residents, and the profound change to our neighborhood -- I am strongly opposed to this project.

It is mentioned many times in the report that this project will cause "less than significant impact" to those of us who live here. This is not an accurate assessment. The people who are being displaced are profoundly impacted and those of us who live here will be greatly affected by the increase in population and traffic as well as the loss of well established community.

We do not need expensive housing in this neighborhood -- we need affordable housing. Can we be assured this project is affordable, or if not -- that there will be at least as many affordable units as are being destroyed?

Valley Village and nearby areas have already seen a huge influx of expensive housing being built, crowding neighborhoods, forcing out many people and preventing people of any kind of moderate means from returning to the area or being able to enter it. We do not need more high density, high cost housing.

I am very opposed to this project and I hope there will be consideration of quality of life rather than just a profit above people mentality.

Thank you

Debra McCormick

May 26, 2016

To the Department of Planning Commissioners and the City Council,

I am a resident at 5305 Hermitage Ave. #2B, Valley Village, CA Valley Village, CA 91607.

Weddington Street is the most valued street for parking in this area. Due to the increase in density that has taken place in my neighborhood there is a lack of public parking and this should not be the case for us living here.

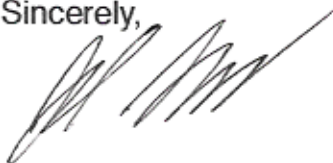
Removing public access to a public street does not serve the members of this community. Those are our public rights just as the sidewalks are.

Also, removing an entire public street goes against the nature of community plan which is supposed to be preserving our neighborhoods. Not removing the elements of the neighborhoods.

I urge the Department to NOT remove Weddington Street as it is incredibly utilized and valued by all of the neighbors. Serving the public is what it is meant to do and it continues to do so.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized name, possibly "John Smith", written over the word "Sincerely,".

TO: PLUM COMMITTEE

CouncilMember Jose Huizar councilmember.huizar@lacity.org

CouncilMember Mitch Englander councilmember.englander@lacity.org

CouncilMember Marqueece Harris-Dawson councilmember.harris-dawson@lacity.org

CouncilMember Gil Cedilla councilmember.cedillo@lacity.org

CouncilMember Curren Price Jr. councilmember.price@lacity.org

CC: sharon.dickinson@lacity.org, etta.armstrong@lacity.org

RE: Hermitage and Weddington St. VTT 73704, ENV-2015-2618-MND COUNCIL FILE# 16-1048-S1

Dear Members of the PLUM COMMITTEE,

Please see the attached pages of what the city likes to call an “underutilized” street. Please consider my submission received as a SEVERE OBJECTION by a member of the community.

Bureau of Engineering LAND DEVELOPMENT Manual - Part D

D 719 SUMMARY VACATION

Engineering should not recommend the Summary Vacation process if the request is controversial or objections from the community were received.

D 730 VACATION INVESTIGATION AND ANALYSIS

The Bureau of Engineering is responsible for the investigation of a vacation to determine if such substantial evidence exists to make a finding that the street is unnecessary for present or prospective public use.

Sincerely,

Frederick Serrano

Resident of Bellingham Ave. in Valley Village



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07:54 OCT/18/2016



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07:54 OCT/18/2016



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07:55 OCT/18/2016