



Sharon Dickinson <sharon.dickinson@lacity.org>

Bob Hope Estate - Historic/Cultural Monument

1 message

Bruce Favish <favishlaw@gmail.com>

Fri, Feb 24, 2017 at 9:05 AM

To: sharon.dickinson@lacity.org

Cc: alice.roth@lacity.org, Roma Fleisher <roma.fleisher@gmail.com>, Robin Leabman <RobinLeabman@gmail.com>, Karen Ryan <karennanneryan@gmail.com>

Dear Councilman Ryu,

I am writing in support of your motion designating the Bob and Dolores Hope Estate a Historic-Cultural Monument.

My partner, Roma Fleisher, and I own a condominium and live at 4444 Moorpark Way, just around the corner from the Hope Estate. We were here through the years when the Estate was a special place open to neighbors on Halloween. We have enjoyed walking by the estate for years on our neighborhood walks and it is always a place of keen interest to out-of-town friends and family.

Over the years we have visited and enjoyed many estates which heirs and/or civic leaders had the foresight and generosity to preserve for the perpetual enjoyment and enrichment of the public. Some places which quickly come to mind are the Huntington Library in Pasadena, Greystone Mansion in Beverly Hills, Will Rogers Park in Pacific Palisades, Descanso Gardens in La Cañada Flintridge, Villa Aurora in Pacific Palisades, and the William S. Hart Museum & Park in Santa Clarita. It overstates the obvious that the contributions of these types of properties set aside for enduring public education, recreation and enrichment immeasurably outweigh the value of sacrificing the limited opportunities for such preservation in favor of private enrichment and housing density. Toluca Lake is a largely unknown jewel but other than neighboring Griffith Park and a few smaller parks nearby, boasts little open space or historical and cultural sites of its own (other than the other famous Bob with the checkered overalls and funny cowlick whose flagship restaurant was designated as a "STATE POINT OF HISTORICAL INTEREST" by the state of California). The home of Toluca Lake's other famous Bob is at least as deserving of preservation and public dedication.

Unfortunately, other property owned by the Hope family or trust across from the Estate was turned over for development and, sadly, has resulted in two of the most unattractive, out-sized and out-of-place homes in all of Toluca Lake. This is exhibit A of what squandered opportunities for preservation look like. I would have rather seen a lovely pocket park across from the Hop Estate which would have enriched thousands of citizens in perpetuity. Acts which benefit the long-term public good over short-term private sector interests, are never a bad idea.

Thank you for your efforts to preserve the Hope Estate, at least in part. I will not be able to attend the hearing on February 28 but ask that my email be placed in the record supporting the motion. Feel free to have it read into the record at the hearing as well. Also, I believe from speaking with other owners in our condominium complex (some of whom are particularly concerned with increased density and traffic in our neighborhood which would result from development of the Estate property), that there is broad support for your motion.

Sincerely,

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Bruce I. Favish, Esq.
BRUCE I. FAVISH & ASSOCIATES
10153½ Riverside Dr., Suite 212
Toluca Lake, CA 91602-2561
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1 Phyllis L Futoran, who lives at
12318 Sarah St. Studio City, CA 91604
 Address City Zip Code

support, Councilman, David Ryu's motion to designate 2 acres of the Bob Hope Estate at 10350 West Moorpark St, Toluca Lake, CA 91602 as a City Historic-Cultural Monument under the procedures of Section 22.171.10 of the Administrative Code. See below:

NOTION

Section 22.171.10 of the Administrative Code provides that the Council, Cultural Heritage Commission, or Director of Planning may initiate consideration of a proposed site, building, or structure as a Historic-Cultural Monument. After reviewing and investigating any such Council-initiated designation, the Cultural Heritage Commission shall approve or disapprove in whole or in part the proposed inclusion and submit a report upon such action to Council.

Council District 4's Toluca Lake neighborhood includes many buildings that are architecturally rich and worthy of preservation. One such historic treasure is the Hope Estate, located at 10350 West Moorpark Street, Toluca Lake, CA, 91602. The estate, approximately 15,000 square feet in size and set on a 5.2-acre site, was built in 1939 for Bob and Dolores Hope. The English, traditional-style home was designed by architect Richard Proffender, who designed and renovated homes for numerous other Hollywood icons. In the mid-1930s, architect John Elgin Wood, known for his Hollywood Regency style, was commissioned to remodel and update the Hope Estate. The home was known to be a place for large gatherings and intimate visits from celebrity neighbors like Bing Crosby and Frank Sinatra.

In a report published in January 2012 for the Sherman Oaks Studio City Toluca Lake Calabasas Pass Community Plan Area, Survey LA—the City's Historic Resources Survey—has identified the Hope Estate as an example embodying the theme of a residence of an important person in the entertainment industry, 1908-1960. Bob Hope had a prolific career as a comic actor, singer and dancer. He won five honorary Academy Awards and one humanitarian award.

It is imperative that the City's historic-cultural resources are celebrated and its historic architecture preserved for future generations. The Hope Estate, located on Toluca Lake's Moorpark Street, is an architectural treasure and integral to the theme and context of the Toluca Lake neighborhood, as identified in Survey LA.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council determine, as provided in Section 54954.26(b)(2) of the Government Code, and pursuant to Rule 23 of the Rules of the City Council, that there is a need to take immediate action on this matter AND that the need for action came to the attention of the City Council subsequent to the posting of the agenda for today's Council meeting.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Council initiate consideration of the Hope Estate, located at 10350 West Moorpark Street, Toluca Lake, CA, 91602, as a City Historic-Cultural Monument under the procedures of Section 22.171.10 of the Administrative Code, and instruct the Planning Department to prepare the Historic-Cultural Monument application for review and consideration by the Cultural Heritage Commission.

I FURTHER MOVE that after reviewing the application, the Cultural Heritage Commission submit its report and recommendations to the Council regarding the inclusion of the Hope Estate in the City's list of Historic-Cultural Monuments.

PRESENTED BY: David Ryu
 DAVID RYU
 Councilmember, 4th District

RECORDED BY: Alice Roth

X [Signature]

Signature
818 219-3607
 Phone Number

PhyllisLizette@gmail.com
 Email

Email to Councilman David Ryu's Toluca Lake Deputy,
 Alice Roth: alice.roth@lacity.org or cd4issues@lacity.org
 Or Mail to David Ryu:
 10116 Riverside Drive, Room 200 Toluca Lake, CA 91602 Phone: (818) 755-7630

I Chynna Pozzessere, who lives at
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Address City Zip Code

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MOTION

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In a report published in January 2012 for the Sherman Oaks/Studio City-Toluca Lake-Cahuenga Pass Community Plan Area, Survey LA—the City's Historic Resource Survey—has identified the Hope Estate as an example embodying the theme of a residence of an important person in the entertainment industry, 1904-1960. Bob Hope had a prolific career as a comic actor, singer and dancer. He won five Academy Awards and one humanitarian award.

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PRESENTED BY: David Ryu
DAVID RYU
Councilmember, 4th District

CONCURRED BY: Alice Roth

X Chynna
signature
(786) 368-4294
Phone Number

ChynnaSkyc55@gmail.com
Email

Email to Councilman David Ryu's Toluca Lake Deputy,
Alice Roth: alice.roth@lacity.org or alice.roth@lacity.org
Or Mail to David Ryu:
10116 Riverside Drive, Room 200 Toluca Lake, CA 91602 Phone: (818) 755-7630

1 HEIDI J. LINN, who lives at
10334 RIVERSIDE TOLUCA LAKE, CA 91602
 Address City Zip Code

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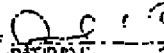
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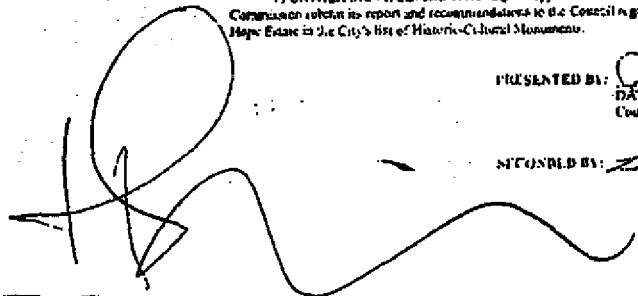
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PRESENTED BY: 
 DAVID RYU
 Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY: 

X 
 Signature 818 766-0166 heidibide@aol.com
 Phone Number Email

Email to Councilman David Ryu's Toluca Lake Deputy,
 Alice Roth: alice.roth@lacity.org or alice.ryu@lacity.org
 Or Mail to David Ryu:
 10116 Riverside Drive, Room 200 Toluca Lake, CA 91602 Phone: (818) 755-7630

I, Reese Wexler, who lives at
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 Address City Zip Code

support, Councilman, David Ryu's motion to designate 2 acres of the Bob Hope Estate at 10350 West Moorpark St, Toluca Lake, CA 91602 as a City Historic-Cultural Monument under the procedures of Section 22.171.10 of the Administrative Code. See below:

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Council District 4's Toluca Lake neighborhood includes many buildings that are architecturally rich and worthy of preservation. One such historic treasure is the Hope Estate, located at 10350 West Moorpark Street, Toluca Lake, CA, 91602. The estate, approximately 14,000 square feet in size and set on a 5.2-acre site, was built in 1939 by Bob and Dolores Hope. The English traditional-style house was designed by architect Richard Fuldner, who designed and remodeled homes for numerous other Hollywood icons. In the mid-1940s, architect John Elgin Wood, known for his Hollywood Regency style, was commissioned to remodel and update the Hope Estate. The home was known to be a place for large gatherings and intimate visits from celebrity neighbors like Bing Crosby and Frank Sinatra.

In a report published in January 2012 for the Sherman Oaks-Sunland City-Toluca Lake-Cohasset Pass Community Plan Area, Survey LA—the City's Historic Resources Survey—has identified the Hope Estate as an example embodying the theme of a residence of an important person in the entertainment industry, 1900-1950. Bob Hope had a prolific career as a comic actor, singer and dancer. He won five honorary Academy Awards and one Oscar nomination.

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PRESENTED BY: David Ryu
 DAVID RYU
 Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY: [Signature]

X [Signature]
 signature
(818) 261-5606 Phone Number
r.fuopresto@yahoo.com Email

Email to Councilman David Ryu's Toluca Lake Deputy,
 Alice Roth: alice.roth@lacity.org or alice.ross@lacity.org
 Or Mail to David Ryu:
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I Richard Hiltzik, who lives at
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In a report published in January 2017 for the Sherman Oaks-Shahu City-Toluca Lake-Culver City Community Plan Area, Survey LA—the City's Historic Resources Survey—has identified the Hope Estate as an example embodying the theme of a residence of an important person in the entertainment industry, 1908-1950. Bob Hope had a prolific career as a comic actor, singer and dancer. He won five Academy Awards and one humanitarian award.

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PRESENTED BY: DAVID RYU
 Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY: Richard Hiltzik

X
 signature [Handwritten Signature]
 Phone Number 818-562-7200

Email RHILTZIK@GMAIL.COM

Email to Councilman David Ryu's Toluca Lake Deputy,
 Alice Roth: alice.roth@lacity.org or alice@aliceroth.com
 Or Mail to David Ryu:
 10116 Riverside Drive, Room 200 Toluca Lake, CA 91602 Phone: (818) 755-7630