



Sharon Dickinson <sharon.dickinson@lacity.org>

bob hope estate

1 message

Steve Hampar <steve@hamparproperties.com>

Mon, Feb 27, 2017 at 9:11 PM

To: Sharon.Dickinson@lacity.org

Cc: Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>

Dear Ms. Dickinson,

Sorry I cannot attend tomorrows hearing, but wanted to express my feelings about the property. I am the current

VP of the Toluca Lake Homeowners Association, and Past President of the Toluca Lake Chamber of Commerce,

however my views and opinion are in no way a reflection or endorsement from these organizations. This is my personal

opinion, living in Toluca Lake for the past 24 years.

The Bob Hope Estate is the iconic landmark of Toluca Lake.... it is part of our identity. Without the house, the landscape

of Toluca Lake will forever change. There is no doubt Bob and Dolores Hope wanted monies to support Veterans and the

Homeless, and there could not be a better cause. However, I find it hard to believe that Bob Hope wanted his house torn

down to achieve this.

It seems to me by protecting the house and 2 acres, and allowing the other 3 acres open to possible development is a worthy

compromise offered by the Council Office. I would think there would still be a large sum of monies raised from the proceeds

to support the Charities, and yet the house would be preserved. Seems to be the ultimate win-win!

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Hampar

Stephen Hampar

Broker, CRS, CCIM

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Sharon Dickinson <sharon.dickinson@lacity.org>

Re: Bob Hope Estate (Council Item No. 16-1049 [CD 4], Case No. CHC-2016-3581-HCM)

1 message

Hollywood Heritage <hollywood.heritage1980@gmail.com>
Bcc: clerk.cps@lacity.org

Mon, Feb 27, 2017 at 9:12 PM

Dear Councilmember:

Hollywood Heritage, an historic preservation organization with a robust and engaged membership, requests that you support Councilmember Ryu's motion to include the Bob Hope Estate in Toluca Lake in the list of the city's Historic-Cultural Monuments. This estate is listed in SurveyLA, the city's *own* survey of historic places.

Mr. Hope played a significant role in the entertainment industry for many decades. He was an ambassador to the world and entertained notables and statesmen at his estate, in which he lived for over 60 years. We know of no more iconic showman than Hope, and his legacy deserves to be honored by preserving his personal residence. In fact, this residence was included in the city's recent inventory of historic places, SurveyLA. It is noted as contributing to the historic context that identifies significant places in the entertainment industry--one of the most important contexts for the city's growth and development. This context and the properties associated with it (commercial, institutional, residential) tell the story of the industry that made Los Angeles what it is today. If no physical places of the industry and its workers remain, the story of its impact is irrevocably lost.

During the Hopes' long tenure at the property, it was modified to suit their tastes and needs. This *in no way* detracts from its significance. Rather, it is proof of the Hopes' wish to continue to live in a residence patently and personally significant to them. Unlike other celebrities who changed properties frequently, the Hopes did not. This physical estate is closely tied to Mr. Hope's entertainment career in a way that is rare in Los Angeles. Hollywood Heritage is at a loss to explain why the Cultural Heritage Commission did not see fit to designate the property for all of the reasons described above. Architecture is important and plays a role in establishing a sense of place. Nevertheless, it is not the determining factor in this case; the estate's strong association with a significant person over the most productive decades of his career *is*, however, a sufficient determining factor.

The Hope Estate should continue to bear witness to this association with its former owners and should do so as a Historic-Cultural Monument. A new owner will still have the ability to make changes if the property is listed as a Monument. Please support the Councilmember of the district as he seeks to maintain its heritage. CD 4 has a rich architectural and cultural history--one of the richest in the city. The Councilmember deserves your vote.

Sincerely,

Richard Adkins
President
Hollywood Heritage, Inc.