



February 14, 2017 City Council meeting, **Agenda Item #31**

Dear Council President Wesson and Councilmembers,

My name is Ellen Isaacs. My Dad David lived at Westwood Horizons for three years until he died this past fall at the age of 91.

I am here because the residents who were so kind to my Dad and me need your help.

Westwood Horizons is a rent-controlled building in Westwood where seniors have lived for years. The building was sold last fall, and right before Christmas, new management Watermark posted eviction notices on all of the residents' doors, and gave them four months to move out, although the law allows one year.

The panic that resulted was immediate and caused tremendous stress among these elderly residents. Some of the children of residents who are here today got together to figure out how to support our parents. We reached out to Councilmember Koretz and to Bet Tzedek Legal Services.

ALL of the remaining residents wanted to be here today. But only a few of the 70 or so residents who weren't forced out of the building over the last few months by the management company's abusive tactics were strong enough to handle a trip to these chambers. You can certainly infer from this that a major move for the remaining 80-103-year-old folks could seriously jeopardize their health and stability.

Many residents are, like my Dad was, on fixed incomes: they rely on their Social Security checks, pensions and/or their children for help to pay the rent.

I looked at eight different facilities for seniors before choosing Westwood Horizons with my Dad. With updated research it is clear that there is NO – repeat NO – other similar senior housing that is comparable in rents or location. Residents would have to pay much more than they can afford, for smaller rooms, on busy thoroughfares, far from their families and friends and their doctors at UCLA.

Please have a heart, today of all days, and support CM Koretz' motion asking the Housing Department to consider making a determination that this building is a residential hotel. This designation would give the residents peace of mind and give Watermark the opportunity to do what they should have done in the first place: sit down with the residents and work out a plan to renovate the building that allows these elderly residents to remain in the building with their friends.

Sincerely,  
Ellen Isaacs, David Isaacs' daughter

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#31

Lillian Kaslow

Fred Keller

Ed Friedman

Betty Floeck

James Forster  
Steinberg

Gloria Smith

June Shaffari

Florence Irving

Deb Mercer

# HAVE A HEART

# DON'T LET WATERMARK EVICT US!

Carla Dym  
Joe Goldfarb

Falves Ferguson

Alma Broccanau



Dorothy Altschuler

Jean Small

Ed Foy

Barbara Facker

Sandy Heiner

Ruth Stanler

# The Residents of Watermark

# Westwood Horizons

Bernice Weston

Rita Hausman

Emiel Meisel

Wanette Meisel

Siane Stewart

Flossy Liebman

Fran Scott

Pari Horwich

Ladue Smolan

Frances Brinbaum

Alvin Kaller

Bonnie Clise  
Shirley Alexander

Bymen