

Google Groups

SUPPORT for 5040 West Pico Blvd HCM; Council File: 18-1240, The Comedy Union

Alissa Solomon <alissa@alissasolomon.com>

Jan 27, 2019 11:20 AM

Posted in group: **Clerk-PLUM-Committee**

Dear Members of the Planning and Land-Use Management Committee:

As a resident of CD10, I urge you to support the designation of 4050 West Pico Blvd, The Comedy Union, as a Historic-Cultural Monument.

This building was identified by SurveyLA as a potential historic resource, and the Cultural Heritage Commission voted unanimously in support of HCM designation. I am not surprised; for it is a highly intact, perfect example of the Art Deco style, only in miniature, which makes it all the more unusual.

There is widespread community support for this nomination. The Comedy Union not only is an architectural landmark of local significance, it plays a valuable role in the cultural life of in this neighborhood: it is the first African-American owned and operated comedy club in Los Angeles and has been in operation since 2001.

Thank you for your consideration in supporting the Historic-Cultural Monument nomination for 5040 West Pico Boulevard. It deserves to be enjoyed and appreciated by future generations as it does for the present.

Sincerely,

Alissa Solomon

Council District 10

Alissa Solomon

323.821.5705 | DRE# 00922569



250 North Canon Drive | Beverly Hills | 90210

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Support for 5040 West Pico Blvd HCM; Council File: 18-1240, The Comedy Union

Mearns, Jack <jmearns@fullerton.edu>

Jan 27, 2019 9:03 AM

Posted in group: **Clerk-PLUM-Committee**

Dear PLUM Committee Members:

I have lived in the Wilshire Vista neighborhood of CD-10 for over 26 years. During that time, I have watched with pleasure the revitalization of Pico Blvd. This has involved rehabilitating and preserving many historic structures. One of the loveliest and most architecturally significant of these is the Comedy Union Building at 5040 W. Pico. It is a gorgeous example of art deco design. In addition to this building's architectural significance, it is the first African-American owned and operated comedy club in Los Angeles, in business for close to 20 years. Thus, it is an important part of Los Angeles's cultural history as the entertainment center of the world, and an excellent representation of the multi-ethnic milieu of Wilshire Vista.

The building's design was noted as significant by SurveyLA, and there is wide community support for monument designation. The Cultural Heritage Commission also gave its unanimous support for HCM designation.

As a resident of this neighborhood, and a constituent of CD-10, I urge you to add your support this worthy building's designation as a Historic-Cultural Monument.

Sincerely,

John D. Mearns

1088 S. Genesee Ave.

Los Angeles, CA 90019

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Art Deco Society Los Angeles ADSLA <artdecola.adsla@gmail.com>

Jan 27, 2019 12:02 PM

Posted in group: **Clerk-PLUM-Committee**

I am writing to express my personal support for the landmarking of the 1930 Art Deco building at 5040 Pico Blvd. The Art Deco Society of Los Angeles is concerned about the last of the inventory of Art Deco architecture that survives in neighborhoods across the city.

While certain areas such as downtown LA, Hollywood and Miracle Mile are known for large scale Art Deco office towers and/or theaters, banks, etc. there is not a significant amount of this important example of 20th century architecture in the Pico Boulevard neighborhood. We feel strongly that this example should be preserved as an avenue of study of architecture of this era. Art Deco is often associated with the grander commercial examples mentioned above, but this is a rare example of small scale Art Deco architecture.

In a mad and often reckless rush toward density, the city is not valuing the one and two story buildings that have comprised the skyline of Los Angeles for more than a century. While this building is not threatened now, it is very vulnerable due to its size. It would be a shame for the city to lose this little gem.

It is our goal to recognize and landmark buildings that define the character of Los Angeles neighborhoods. It is important for the character of the city and its neighborhoods to retain some of their architectural heritage in concert with new construction. Los Angeles must maintain its often quirky melange of architectural styles. With the rate development is going, the whole city will be made over in the next 5 years and everything will look exactly the same.

In 2015, the SurveyLA citywide historic resources inventory identified the subject property as individually eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, the California Register of Historical Resources, and as a Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monument as an excellent example of the Art Deco style.

We urge you to landmark this Art Deco gem. In its current incarnation as the Pico Comedy Union, the building houses the Pico Union Comedy Club, the first black owned comedy club in the city. This is now part of the building's legacy too.

--

Margot Gerber
President
Art Deco Society of Los Angeles
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Join us in saving The Hollywood Reporter Building. Sign our petition now!

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Ruth Scribner <scribsiers@ca.rr.com>

Jan 27, 2019 12:50 PM

Posted in group: **Clerk-PLUM-Committee**

Dear PLUM Committee Members,

As a resident of the CD10 for over twenty years, I have always admired and appreciated the Art Deco gem at 5040 Pico Blvd. I was pleased to find out that it was identified by **SurveyLA**, Los Angeles' citywide historic resources survey, as an "excellent example of Art Deco commercial architecture in the area."

I was present when the Cultural Heritage Commission voted unanimously in favor of Historic-Cultural Monument designation for this building. At the CHC hearing, the presentation highlighted that the Comedy Union is a rare example of small scale Art Deco architecture, a style most associated with skyscrapers. It was pointed out too, that no detailing was spared: it is richly ornamented and has maintained its architectural integrity over the years. How fortunate we are to have this notable piece of architecture in the community.

This building has been a symbol of our neighborhood history and identity throughout the economic ups and downs over the years, and presently with the Comedy Union, it continues to contribute to the vibrant cultural life of our community: Art Deco combined with entertainment is quintessential Los Angeles!

It is vital that future generations have the opportunity to experience and enjoy their architectural heritage too. I urge the PLUM Committee to support Historic-Cultural Monument designation of 5040 West Pico Boulevard.

Sincerely,

Ruth Scribner
1222 S. Spaulding Ave
Wilshire Vista
CD10

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Support for 5040 West Pico Blvd HCM; Council File: 18-1240, The Comedy Union

henderdb@aol.com <henderdb@aol.com>

Jan 27, 2019 10:06 PM

Posted in group: **Clerk-PLUM-Committee**

Dear Members of the Planning and Land-Use Management Committee:

The Comedy Union is the first Black owned and operated Comedy Club in Los Angeles and has been in business since 2001.

Constructed in 1930, The Comedy Union embodies the distinguishing characteristics of the Art Deco architectural style, making it inherently valuable for a study of 1930s architecture in Los Angeles.

There is widespread community support for the nomination. This is a rare example of small scale Art Deco architecture, a style most associated with skyscrapers. The Cultural Heritage Commission voted unanimously in support of Historic-Cultural Monument designation for this building.

Sincerely,
Donald Henderson
1660 W 25th St
Los Angeles, CA 90007



Rita Moreno <rita.moreno@lacity.org>

SUPPORT for 5040 West Pico Blvd HCM; Council File: 18-1240, The Comedy Union

Olivia Tillman <oliviatiill@att.net>

Sun, Jan 27, 2019 at 6:33 PM

To: clerk.plumcommittee@lacity.org, councilmember.harris-dawson@lacity.org, councilmember.price@lacity.org, councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org, councilmember.cedillo@lacity.org, councilmember.Smith@lacity.org
Cc: councilmember.wesson@lacity.org, jordan.beroukhim@lacity.org, elizabeth.carlin@lacity.org, artdeco@adsla.org

Dear Members of the Planning and Land-Use Management Committee:

As a resident of Council District 10, I wish to express my strong support for Historic-Cultural Monument designation of the Comedy Union building.

The Comedy Union is located on a block of Pico Boulevard that still has much of its Art Deco character left. And amongst these structures, [4050 West Pico](#) is the most prominent and striking with its 1930's intricate ornamented facade that has stood the test of time. It is truly remarkable and was identified in SurveyLA, Los Angeles' citywide survey of historic resources. Additionally, the Cultural Heritage Commission voted unanimously in support of Historic-Cultural Monument designation.

This building is much beloved and held in high regard in our community. It serves as an important symbol of our neighborhood history, and plays a valued role in its cultural life. I urge the PLUM Committee to support designation of 5040 West Pico Boulevard as a Cultural-Heritage Monument.

Sincerely,

Olivia Tillman
Wilshire Vista
Council District 10