

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Nancy Girten

**Date Submitted:** 05/22/2019 11:43 AM

**Council File No:** 19-0305

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hollywoodland is not Disneyland. It's a R-1 zoned residential community that consists of substandard streets, is in a high fire-hazard area, has no sidewalks, and is not an official entrance to Griffith Park. The unique geography of Hollywoodland, which is surrounded by Griffith Park on three sides, creates a logistical nightmare in case of fire and is exacerbated by the high volume of tourists in the neighborhood on a daily basis. The continuing actions taken by the City to promote Hollywoodland as tourist destination is extremely negligent and is viewed as a legal liability. Piecemeal development of this illegal tourist destination is in violation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and must be studied in the form of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR). Nancy Girten 3061 N. Beachwood Dr. Hollywood, CA 90068

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Gregory Williams

**Date Submitted:** 05/22/2019 11:06 AM

**Council File No:** 19-0305

**Comments for Public Posting:** We support safe access to the Hollywood sign. We must work together to address the public nuisance in our neighborhoods and mitigate legal liabilities of increasing traffic and tourists. An R1 Hillside neighborhood with extremely limited infrastructure (not even sidewalks), 80% surrounded by dry brush in a very high fire severity zone, is problematic for residents. Adding huge numbers of tourists, many of whom smoke, is extremely dangerous. Hollywoodland is not a safe place for tourism. We do not support piecemeal project development of an International Tourist Destination (for example tree planting at Canyon Lake vista site and tour buses), as they endanger public safety, create uncontrolled traffic congestion, and inhibit Emergency Vehicle Access in an LAPD identified high fire hazard area. Write your own personal experience of how you've been impacted...this is an example: I fear for my 3 YO daughter's life just walking around the block (Belden/Ledgewood/Beachwood) with so many cars flying by. My husband's bicycle was stolen from our garage and someone sat in my car smoking. I don't feel safe anymore. We request that the City immediately PREPARE an environmental impact report (or EIR); HALT all piecemeal projects; INVEST in resources to control traffic and parking until EIR is completed; Thank you

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/21/2019 01:00 PM

**Council File No:** 19-0305

**Comments for Public Posting:** Our family (residing in Hollywoodland) supports safe access to the Hollywood sign via existing entrances with legal ingress/egress to Griffith Park. We must work together to address the public nuisance in our neighborhoods and mitigate legal liabilities of increasing traffic and tourists. We do not support piecemeal project development of an International Tourist Destination (for example tree planting at Canyon Lake vista site and tour buses up Beachwood Drive), as they endanger public safety, create uncontrolled traffic congestion, and inhibit Emergency Vehicle Access in an LAPD identified high fire hazard area. Our family no longer feels safe walking or riding our bikes in our own residential zoned community. We request that the City immediately PREPARE an (a comprehensive) environmental impact report (or EIR) related to ALL of the DIXON Study projects; HALT all piecemeal projects; INVEST in resources to control traffic and parking until an EIR is completed; and CONDUCT impact study for 7-Day/Dawn-to-Dusk permit parking in our neighborhoods. Thank you. We also ask that you use the North end and existing access points to GP to facilitate HW sign viewing and the best park experience for all future projects - Vermont, Commonwealth, Canyon, all points along Los Feliz Blvd) etc where the proper amenities already exist.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** edward sheftel

**Date Submitted:** 05/21/2019 02:48 PM

**Council File No:** 19-0305

**Comments for Public Posting:** I support safe access to the Hollywood sign. However, we must work together to address the public nuisance in our Beachwood neighborhood and mitigate legal liabilities of increasing traffic and tourists. And - then there is all the extra trash I need to clean out of my front yard. Ed Sheftel 2731 North Beachwood Drive Los Angeles Ca 90068

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Alison M Starr

**Date Submitted:** 05/21/2019 07:13 PM

**Council File No:** 19-0305

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, I am unable to attend the meeting slated for tomorrow to address the issues with Hollywood Sign access. I appreciate the city taking the time to hear our concerns and to read this email. My husband and I support safe access to the sign, as I know our neighbors do. The voices being heard from the residents surrounding the sign are concerned with infrastructure limitations and safety issues. Said issues include: -Fires: MANY of the tourists are smoking in the area and have little regard for pausing even when the area is dry and particularly vulnerable. And we don't have enough police presence to effectively stop them, so both the polite and firm requests of concerned citizens are usually met with derision, while the smoker goes on their way lit cigarette dangling over our cherished park land and beautiful Hollywoodland in hand. -Pedestrian Danger: I do not see how any resident with pets or children can safely walk the streets as unfamiliar rental car drivers foolishly speed through blind curve after blind curve on narrow streets with no sidewalks. Residents with the narrowest or most curved of streets in the neighborhood are very easily in great danger on a daily basis. - Rampant Misinformation: The internet has falsely reported destination access points and even locations to nonexistent rest stops. The confusion and inaccuracy continue to lead to situations that block traffic. For example, many a time have I seen a large RV, bus or commercial vehicle stuck on our streets in a manner that would most certainly prohibit emergency vehicle access for a myriad of emergencies. The last such incident it took the truck well over an hour to rectify the situation, with absolutely no vehicle access up or down during that time. Sheer volume of traffic has the potential to cause such unfortunate situations as well. I personally experienced this when after release from the hospital for a major illness my medication induced a tachycardia event and the paramedics reported it "took forever" to get to me due to weekend tourist traffic. Fortunately, in my case I am now healthy. But something worse could happen to any one of the residents in these areas at any point. - Poor Decision Making: Tourists often function as a danger to themselves in this area as well. Every weekend, spring break, summer break or holiday (on a daily basis) I have seen families quite literally rush into the street with small children behind a curve on a busy street for a photo opp. A

likely fatal accident seems inevitable and I don't want to see those photo takers harmed. Moreover, emergency helicopter hiker rescue for foolish hikers not caring for their own safety and respecting the park path or hours is not uncommon. I am one of the newer residents to the area. I moved here loving the sign and I still do, so this is not scenario in which I, personally feel that one can say "if you don't want tourists, don't leave near a tourist destination." And none of the above is hyperbolic. It is simply another day under the sign. People want to see the sign, so let's give them safe access to it without endangering residents and wildlife. We're not NIMBYs, we are simply concerned because we see the real dangers that lack of intervention and a proper plan will pose. This is a very slippery slope. I speak only for my household when I say that I think the safest proposal I have seen to date, that will also service the city and our visitors is the Warner Brothers proposal. I would not be surprised if many other residents felt the same. We request that the City immediately PREPARE an environmental impact report (or EIR); HALT all piecemeal projects; INVEST in resources to control traffic and parking until EIR is completed; Thank you. Sincerely, Alison Starr

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Brittany Faix

**Date Submitted:** 05/21/2019 07:14 PM

**Council File No:** 19-0305

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hollywoodland is an R1 Hillside neighborhood with extremely limited infrastructure. There are few sidewalks, no bathrooms, and the streets are so narrow that there aren't even lines painted on the road. The neighborhood is 80% surrounded by dry brush in a very high fire severity zone. Adding huge numbers of tourists to this environment is extremely dangerous for both tourists and residents. We do not support piecemeal project development of an International Tourist Destination (for example tree planting at Canyon Lake vista site and tour buses), as they endanger public safety, create uncontrolled traffic congestion, and inhibit Emergency Vehicle Access in an LAPD identified high fire hazard area. I constantly catch tourists throwing cigarette butts and trash in my front yard. Without sidewalks, tourists walk 4-abreast on the streets-- a dangerous activity on streets with so many blind curves. Parking is limited, and hikers have blocked my driveway with their cars more times than I can count. My security cameras have captured MANY videos of tourists peeing in my yard, and even on my front porch! This situation is unsanitary and unsafe. We request that the City immediately PREPARE an environmental impact report (or EIR); HALT all piecemeal projects; INVEST in resources to control traffic and parking until EIR is completed; Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Rochelle Steiner

**Date Submitted:** 05/22/2019 06:39 AM

**Council File No:** 19-0305

**Comments for Public Posting:** Unfortunately I cannot be at the meeting today because I am out of town for work meetings. I have lived on Deronda Drive since 2010 and have been actively involved in our situation here through meetings and contact with HHA and CD4. The conditions have become increasingly challenging, dangerous, and complex. I generally believe in public access to our roads and streets; however, first and foremost I believe in SAFETY for all people and property. I also believe that access and safety must be properly managed by the city and its agencies. Unfortunately, this has not been the case. We have not been experiencing this on our street or in our neighborhood due to the influx of traffic and tourism, and the lack of resources to manage the quantities of people and cars. The Dixon studies on which the city bases its findings are highly flawed. The data is not up to date. The residents who live on these streets and know the conditions were not interviewed. My neighbors and I have regularly experienced dangerous conditions of not being about to get into / out of our own homes, not being able to get access to emergency vehicles. This has come at the cost and peril of the neighborhood and individuals who live here. It is critical that the city act with some critical judgment for the residents / tax payers, as well as the tourists. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jane Goichman

**Date Submitted:** 05/20/2019 08:57 PM

**Council File No:** 19-0305

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Councilmembers Ryu, O'Farrell and Price: I urge you to deny the appeal of Recreation and Parks' decision to approve planting and irrigation along Mulholland in a location between Durant and Canyon Lake and to find this activity exempt from the requirement to prepare a full environmental review under CEQA. The area in question has had a tremendous surge in tourism over the past 5-7 years, probably largely due to the widespread use of smart phones and navigation systems as well as social media sites indicating that the "vista" area at the intersection of Canyon Lake and Mulholland is a prime spot to take photographs. I have lived in Lake Hollywood Estates since 1979 and can attest to the fact that until several years ago we had few visitors in the area, because even invited guests had difficulty finding it. There are only two entrances/exits to Lake Hollywood Estates, one from Barham Blvd. and one from Beachwood, the latter of which requires driving on Mulholland, a very narrow, curvy road. It is barely wide enough for two vehicles to pass and has several blind curves. We now have hundreds to thousands of visitors per day during much of the year, with the numbers increasing every few months. Mulholland is clearly marked with red curbs and no stopping signs. Nevertheless many drivers who come to see the Hollywood sign stop their cars when they or their passengers see the sign so that they can take photographs. Sometimes both passengers and driver get out of the car. The stopped cars block traffic so that visitors, residents and most significantly emergency vehicles cannot move forward if a car stops. When we residents ask the visitors to move along, because it is illegal to stop, the stopped car drivers either ignore us or call us names. Hence, beginning several years ago our community asked Councilman Ryu's office and Recreation and Parks to plant large trees along a portion of Mulholland to block drivers' and passengers' view of the sign. This suggestion came from our community, not from the city. Although the planting is certainly is not a total answer to tourist/traffic congestion in our area, it would be an important traffic management and safety step that the city can take. Not only will it help address the safety issue of cars stopping along Mulholland, but it might also decrease the current pedestrian traffic from the vista along Mulholland on a narrow quasi path, because the tree planting would also block the view of the sign

from the spots to which pedestrians now walk. Much of the pedestrian traffic spills onto the roadway itself, because the quasi path is not wide enough for more than one person in many spots (as noted above, Mulholland roadway is barely wide enough for two cars to pass). Therefore the spillover pedestrian traffic increases safety issues. Moreover, the endless foot traffic impacts this far western portion of Griffith park. Additionally, despite clear No Smoking signs, many of these pedestrians smoke and throw their cigarette butts on the ground or into the foliage, clearly increasing fire hazard in a high fire hazard area. Contrary to the claim by appellants, the planting of trees, requested by our community, is not part of a series of city actions promoting Hollywood sign view sites. Our community opposes, rather than favors, promotion of our area as a place to view the Hollywood sign. What we are requesting is a step akin to traffic management in an area where we have thousands of visitors on public streets. We have been impatiently waiting for several years for the trees to be planted to help address one aspect of the traffic problem. The appellants' arguments are misplaced. Your committee should recommend that the full council deny the appeal. Thank you. Jane Goichman

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jeanne Clark

**Date Submitted:** 05/20/2019 01:31 PM

**Council File No:** 19-0305

**Comments for Public Posting:** To Councilmembers, I am a home owner in the Hollywoodland neighborhood directly under the Hollywood Sign. I am writing to request that the City prepare an environmental impact report that addresses all projects/actions being taken as part of the Dixon study and related Council File #18-0057. I do not support the piecemeal project development of an International Tourist Destination (including but not limited to tree planting at Canyon Lake vista site/Mulholland or tour shuttles up Beachwood) in the R1 zoned neighborhood of Hollywoodland. The resulting pedestrian and vehicular traffic create public safety issues in our neighborhood due to uncontrolled traffic congestion and unsupervised visitors in our substandard, serpentine, hillside infrastructure that is located in a very high fire hazard severity zone. Routine gridlock negatively impacts ingress and egress in a neighborhood that is 80% surrounded by the high fuel wildland dangerously restricting community evacuation or emergency vehicle access. Smoking in this high fire area, especially among international visitors, is also a threat. From sideswiped cars to damaged hardscapes, residents have experience exponential rates of damage caused by the growing tourist traffic. It is rare for residents to not have to manage traffic snarls on weekends as the \$1MM in extra enforcement the City granted last year cannot address the scope of areas overrun with congestion. We must work together to address the public nuisance in our neighborhood and mitigate legal liabilities of increasing traffic and tourists. We request that the City immediately prepare an environmental impact report (or EIR); stop all piecemeal projects and expend more resources to control traffic and parking until the EIR is completed. I also request that this letter be filed as part of the public record.

Jeanne Clark  
6040 Rodgerton Dr.  
Los Angeles CA 90068

May 20, 2019

City Clerk  
Room 395-City Hall  
200 N. Spring St.  
Los Angeles CA 90012  
Attn.: Health, Education, Neighborhoods, Parks,  
Arts and River Committee

RE: Council Item No. 19-0305

To Councilmembers,

I am a home owner in the Hollywoodland neighborhood directly under the Hollywood Sign. I am writing to request that the City prepare an environmental impact report that addresses all projects/actions being taken as part of the Dixon study and related Council File #18-0057.

I do not support the piecemeal project development of an International Tourist Destination (including but not limited to tree planting at Canyon Lake vista site/Mulholland or tour shuttles up Beachwood) in the R1 zoned neighborhood of Hollywoodland.

The resulting pedestrian and vehicular traffic create public safety issues in our neighborhood due to uncontrolled traffic congestion and unsupervised visitors in our substandard, serpentine, hillside infrastructure that is located in a very high fire hazard severity zone. Routine gridlock negatively impacts ingress and egress in a neighborhood that is 80% surrounded by the high fuel wildland dangerously restricting community evacuation or emergency vehicle access.

From sideswiped cars to damaged hardscapes, residents have experience exponential rates of damage caused by the growing tourist traffic. It is rare for residents to not have to manage traffic snarls on weekends as the \$1MM in extra enforcement the City granted last year cannot address the scope of areas overrun with congestion.

We must work together to address the public nuisance in our neighborhood and mitigate legal liabilities of increasing traffic and tourists. We request that the City immediately prepare an environmental impact report (or EIR); stop all piecemeal projects and expend more resources to control traffic and parking until the EIR is completed. I also request that this letter be filed as part of the public record.

Regards,

Jeanne Clark