

## Communication from Public

**Name:** John Hubacher

**Date Submitted:** 01/27/2020 12:36 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0015

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am an engineer working in Culver City. I request that the PLUM Committee support the designation of the Santa Fe Are Colony as a Historic Cultural Monument. It is needed to prevent the gentrification of this building, to allow the existing artists to remain, and to preserve the manufacturing history of Los Angeles. Thank you very much, John Hubacher

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Don Lewis

**Date Submitted:** 01/27/2020 01:40 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0015

**Comments for Public Posting:** I'm an artist who has lived and worked at the Santa Fe Art Colony since 1990. Living and working here has been fruitful for my development as an artist. The affordable rent has allowed me time to develop my work and contribute to the cultural life of Los Angeles. I have seen this process unfold as well for the many other artists who have lived and continue to live here. Historic protection for the Santa Fe Art Colony will help ensure that this process continues.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jan Williamson

**Date Submitted:** 01/27/2020 11:30 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0015

**Comments for Public Posting:** Respected Council Members, I am writing to you in full support of the Los Angeles Conservancy's nomination of the Santa Fe Art Colony complex for Local Historic-Cultural Monument (HCM) recognition. For 100 years this property had contributed to LA's creative economy. It was a furniture manufacturing site for seventy years, until 1988 when it was converted for individualized artistic production 31 years ago. Since then hundreds of renowned and award winning emerging artists, have added new historic significance to this site; artists who define the character of Los Angeles's contributions to contemporary art around the world. It appears that of the 120 LAHCM's in the downtown Los Angeles area, only a handful represent the 1910-1920 era of this complex at all. Those that are recognized primarily represent multi-storied retail and office buildings. The significance of the Santa Fe Art Colony is it's contribution to Los Angeles's history as a site for creative, artistic production. It's taken over 50 years of hard-won, collective effort for LA to reach our current global CULTURAL significance. The Santa Fe Art Colony is a central contributor to that history. We should preserve this unique building of purpose-designed spaces for artists to congregate and make in, not only for the artists there today but for tomorrow as well. To lose this historic site to hidden investors with no civic pride or commitment to LA's cultural ecology, would be a tragedy. A thriving ecology of artists cannot be taken for granted. Look at Santa Monica and Venice! Once strongholds for artists – many who are now recognized world wide – these two beach cities lost their creative pioneers to speculative investors and generic retail that can be found everywhere else in the world. Of California's \$605 billion creative economy - one third - \$208 billion comes from Los Angeles (Otis Creative Economy Report, 2018). Artmaking is our City's competitive edge and unique offering. Expensive lofts for lawyers can be plopped anywhere. But a productive artist community requires purpose-built spaces and affordability for artists to thrive. California's creative economy depends on our artists ability to live and work here. The Santa Fe Arts Colony is deserving of our City's recognition to preserve and protect both the artists and the buildings that define our State's #1 output, creativity. Sincerely yours, Jan Williamson Executive Director, 18th Street Arts Center

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Barbara Gallen

**Date Submitted:** 01/27/2020 10:53 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0015

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear PLUM Committee Members: I urge you to affirm the LA Conservancy's nomination of this important example of early 20th century industrial use architecture and a valuable piece of Los Angeles architectural history. That it has remained in use and well taken care of because a colony of artists have embrace the building as a wonderful place to live and work has given birth to a special community that preserves architectural history while housing many Angelenos affordably. It would be a tragedy to allow the Santa Fe Art Colony to be converted into luxury lofts that displace artists who will then have to seek out other affordable housing and some of them could even end up homeless— when as a historic monument with a thriving community of artists living and working there — we can preserve LA history while also preserving the spirit of community. We need to stop prioritizing the tax schemes of the real estate industry to convert everything in sight into luxury priced housing that is providing tax shelters to weathy overseas investors while our city and its neighborhoods and communities are being decimated and more people drift into homelessness or one step closer to it because our City treats communities like disposable tissues to be thrown away. Sincerely, Barbara Gallen