

Supporting Community at Santa Fe Art Colony

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

I would like to strongly encourage the Council to **designate the Santa Fe Art Colony as a Historic-Cultural Monument.**

For decades, this unique live/work establishment has been an anchor of what would become the Downtown Arts District, **contributing to the quality of life for all Angelinos** not limited to its residents. Its **cultural and economic benefits** empower not just those who live and work there, but **enrich the broader community** who can regularly visit, view and purchase artwork, and engage with legitimate, working artists on a personal level.

The current owner has jettisoned the original and historic mission of SFAC to establish affordable live-work spaces for artists. The owner plans to convert these live-work studios into luxury lofts, thus destroying the cultural and economic integrity of the Colony as a place for emerging artists to live and work, to exchange ideas and develop their practice.

Current gentrification plans will erode and denigrate the integrity of the Downtown Arts District, enabling only profit for the project's developers at the expense of current residents, visitors and particularly **causing harm to our Los Angeles youth and families** who find a rare opportunity in their City to visit and engage with working artists to enrich their early educational experience of growing up in L.A.

The owner also plans to convert an industrial warehouse on the property into luxury lofts, further **eroding the cultural and economic mission of the Colony.**

Designating the Santa Fe Art Colony as a Historic-Cultural Monument will benefit preserve this important cultural resource for all residents of City of Los Angeles.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Jeff Iorillo
Los Angeles property owner

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