



Eric (Roderico) Villanueva <eric.villanueva@lacity.org>

CF 18-0352 homeless shelter

1 message

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Tue, Jun 26, 2018 at 2:34 PM

To: eric.villanueva@lacity.org

Cc: gjadad@pacbell.net

Eric,

My name is David Gajda and my partner, Jose Malagon and I own 5 commercial properties in the vicinity of the proposed city owned lot at 15533 Schrader that is being earmarked for a 70 bed bridge housing facility. I also sit on the Hollywood Business Improvement Board, the Hollywood Central Park Board, The Cahuenga Corridor Coalition, EaCa Alley Property Owners Alliance and the Hancock Park Home Owners Board and a member of the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce Economic Committee. I also was previously the President of the Police Activity League and ran my 100 plus employee company out of one of the buildings within walking distance to the proposed facility. While my partner and I sympathize with the plight of the homeless, we have been a proponent of more proven longer term facilities that have proven management and guidelines regarding their operation. The temporary housing facilities are a relatively new concept for addressing the homeless situation. No one is sure how they will work out or what issues will arise from having one in the middle of one of the most tourist centric areas in the country. Also, this particular area is smack in the middle of the highest concentration of new Hotel development in Hollywood in the last 100 years. Surely a less high profile location could be located. It seems like a more financially prudent solution would be to locate these facilities in an area where property values are less thus allowing for more money to be allocated to the programs and helping to get the homeless into jobs and permanent housing. If I was homeless and looking for help, I wouldn't care if my shelter was in Hollywood or Lancaster. Also, no one has done any studies on what the negative effects are going to be to take the homeless off the street where there is open space and move them all into extremely cramped quarters in the middle of an urban setting. The businesses and property owners in Hollywood and in that specific area have worked extremely hard at turning Hollywood around and now the city wants to take the area that has made the most improvement and put a homeless shelter right in the middle. I hope to see a better solution where the city works with property and business owners to come up with a solution that works for everyone.

Kind regards,

David Gajda