

Tom Bergin's

1 message

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Tue, May 21, 2019 at 1:14 PM

To: Councilmemeber.harris-dawson@lacity.org, Luciralla.ibarra@lacity.org, Councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org, Councilmember.price@lacity.org, Councilmember.cedillo@lacity.org, Councilmember.smith@lacity.org, Clerk.plumcommittee@lacity.org

I understand the PLUM Committee is discussing Tom Bergin's this afternoon. I live across the street from Bergin's, and drank there often. My thoughts are attached. please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thank you

David Weissman
323 382 4000



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Tom Bergin's Historic Cultural Monument Designation.pdf

190K

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May 17, 2019

LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL
PLUM Committee
City Hall
240 North Spring Street
Los Angeles CA

Tom Bergin's Bar & Restaurant

To Whom It May Concern:

I started drinking at Tom Bergin's shortly after moving to Los Angeles in 1987. I now live directly across Fairfax from Bergin's on Barrows. I've had the pleasure of knowing Bergin's current owner, Derek Schreck, since he bought a house down the block from me a few years ago. I do not support designating Bergin's a Historic Cultural Monument.

I don't doubt the list of famous people who've spent evenings there. That does not make it culturally significant. The building was built a good quarter century after Carthay Circle, which is an historic district directly across Fairfax. This is also not the bar's original location, that was on Wilshire.

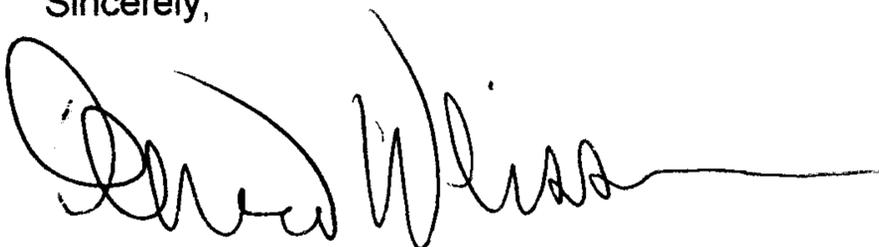
From our numerous conversations, I know Derek has done everything in his power, and used every resource at his disposal, to keep Bergin's open as a bar & restaurant. When his best efforts proved to not be enough, he needed to close, sell, and move on.

The MMRA's action is keeping a now closed, empty and unused building, closed and empty and unused. They seem fixated on the image of an old style Irish pub, and on their memories of having gone there some time ago, not on current realities. There has been no acknowledgement of the cost of keeping Bergin's operating as a going concern in its current location with its current mortgage and expenses.

Allowing the designation will not reopen Bergin's. It will instead create a blight on the neighborhood, a definite security and safety risk, and keep the building closed, empty and unused.

Denying the designation will allow Derek to sell everything inside (and I think the outside signage as well) that made Bergin's Bergin's back to the Bergin family, so they could move it yet again. It will also give Derek the right to sell his property as he sees fit, without encroachments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Weissman", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.