



PACIFIC PALISADES COMMUNITY COUNCIL

April 18, 2016

Los Angeles City Planning Commission
City Hall, 200 N. Spring Street, Room 272
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Via email to:

James K. Williams, Commission Executive Assistant
james.k.williams@lacity.org; cpc@lacity.org

Re: LETTER IN SUPPORT OF APPROVAL OF CPC-2015-2714-VZC-SP-DRB-SPP and AA-2015-3312-PMLA; 1029-1049 N. Swarthmore Ave.; 1012-1032 N. Swarthmore Ave.; 1023-1055 N. Monument St.; and 15229-15281 W. Sunset Blvd. (collectively, the “Palisades Village Project”); related case: ENV-2015-2715 MND – CPC Hearing Date: 4/28/16.

Honorable Commissioners:

Introduction

Pacific Palisades Community Council (“PPCC”) is the most broad-based community organization in Pacific Palisades and has been the voice of the community since 1973. PPCC is one of the oldest continuously operating councils of its type in Los Angeles and served as a model for many current neighborhood councils. PPCC holds open elections for 9 board seats representing all Palisades residents and businesses, and includes in its membership all significant community organizations. PPCC conducts open, public board meetings; follows the Brown Act whenever reasonable and possible; and serves the same function as a neighborhood council: to provide a forum for the discussion of issues and to advise government on matters of community concern. As explained by Councilmember Mike Bonin:

“[PPCC’s and Brentwood Community Council’s] role as advisory bodies to local government on issues specific to their communities is identical to that of a certified neighborhood council . . . They provide the same crucial function in vetting community issues and providing a respected and open forum for evaluating development proposals and land use matters.” [Motion in Council File 13-1625]

PPCC Position

PPCC strongly supports the Palisades Village Project, as set forth in testimony before City Planning and Commission staff on March 24, 2016, and in greater detail in letters submitted on February 29, 2016 and March 14, 2016 (on file in the above-referenced matters and believed to be part of the official administrative record).

For more than a year, the applicant Caruso Affiliated has conducted extensive outreach to the Palisades community, meeting frequently with groups large and small and addressing all reasonable concerns. PPCC held a total of four public forums, attended by hundreds of community members, at which full public discussion took place, including input from Mr. Caruso and public questions, concerns and expressions of support. Through its

Executive Committee, PPCC expressed support for adoption of the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) (see 2/29/16 PPCC letter). The PPCC board voted overwhelmingly (17-1) to support the Project, specifically the land use entitlement application and parcel map request (see 3/14/16 PPCC letter) – an action that is unprecedented in PPCC’s history. These positions reflect the consensus of the Palisades community.

PPCC urges the City Planning Commission to approve adoption of the above-referenced MND, the land use entitlement application and parcel map request.

Sincerely,

Christina Spitz
President
Pacific Palisades Community Council

cc:
Hon. Mike Bonin, Councilmember, CD11
Michelle Levy, City Planner

via email: mike.bonin@lacity.org
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