From: historysoul@earthlink.net
Sent time: 10/12/2020 02:12:50 PM

To: Mindy Nguyen <Mindy.Nguyen@lacity.org>; cpc@lacity.org

Cc: David.Ryu@lacity.org; Mitch.OFarrell@lacity.org; Vince.Bertoni@lacity.org

Subject: Letter to City Planning Commission re Millennium HCP / VTT-82152/ ENV-2018-2116-EIR/ CPC-2018-2115-DA

**Attachments:** More-MILLENNIUM-BS.pdf

Dear Mindy, et al.

Please include the attached PDF and all 59 pages into the administrative record for the proposed Hollywood project.

The attached is intended to also be given to the City Planning Commissioners who will hopefully be reviewing the documentation on this case prior to the 10/15 hearing. It would be nonsensical for the Commissioners to approve a project they have not read anything about, right?

Please confirm receipt.

Thank you.

Jennifer

TO: The Department of City Planning Mindy Nguyen, City Planner

October 12, 2020

CC via email: Mitch.OFarrell@lacity.org, David.Ryu@lacity.org, Vince.Bertoni@lacity.org,

cpc@lacity.org

RE: Millennium Hollywood Center's Illegal Proposal

Case #'s: VTT-82152 | CPC-2018-2114-DB-CU-MCUP-SPR | CPC-2018-2115-DA

CEQA: ENV-2018-2116-EIR

- It's become difficult to spend any of my time writing or speaking to the Department of City Planning ("DCP") (or any other City department for that matter). I get more acknowledgement of my words from my cat. Us non-lobbying folk who only pay for City salaries, vote for local representation and put money in your pockets by calling it "paying taxes", have some nerve asking you to follow the laws, don't we.

Here, the New York developers known as Millennium are back attempting a second bite at the apple in trying to invade Hollywood. There is a grain of comfort in knowing how quickly this will end up back in the courts to be shut down again, as it was the first time. Pushing this project through, shoving it down the publics throat during a pandemic the way the City has, only gets us there faster.

The Department of City Planning has thus far ignored the publics demand to extend the comment period during a pandemic where many members of the public are without computers or are without any means to view a 13,000 + page DEIR. The City has interfered with individuals rights to view public record documents. The DCP has tampered with the public record and now; they have held a public hearing to allegedly hear and consider "comments on the Final EIR", failing to consider that the Final EIR had NOT YET BEEN PUBLISHED. The mere publication of the Notice Of Hearing only serves as even more evidence that public comment is simply a legal hoop you are forced to tolerate to make this process appear fair. Asking constituents to weigh in on a Final EIR that had not yet been made public further implies what everyone knows - that this project is already bought and paid for. As seen in the DCP's recent certification of the EIR on 9/13, the City has certified the Final EIR without holding a public hearing on its contents. How does that sit with the CPC? This is only one example of the blatant disregard the DCP continues to demonstrate in real time. Right now. In this moment. You have insulted the citizens in this city by pushing and pushing this illegal proposal, during the pandemic, where limitations prevented the public from accessing the DRAFT EIR, shortly followed by no opportunity to review and comment on the EIR you hadn't even released before holding a telephonic only hearing. Pointing these self-evident facts out is a waste of everyones time; but it's exactly what the DCP forces the citizens to do.

The egregious decisions this department has made in regards to this illegal project are somewhat not surprising. However, what many can't wrap their heads around is just how low the City has gone this time, by choosing to risk so many lives without a care in the world. This is what is so nauseating. Corruption is at a new level when it's players don't even realize what they are doing is so corrupt.

What the Department of City Planning is doing, and how you are doing it is criminal. What do I mean by this?

### THE ACTIVE HOLLYWOOD FAULT

1. It is ILLEGAL and against the law to put human lives at risk by approving habitable buildings on top of an active earthquake fault. You ignore\* ignore\* ignore\* ignore\* and ignore\* all of this evidence. The DCP has chosen project approval over compliance and safety. You have gone even further by allowing the applicant to slander the government agencies who have done nothing but their jobs. But Millennium are such bullies and only know how to further their interests by railroading others. The only way they know how to get what they want is by cheating and by paying for it. Please see the video linked below of the July 24, 2013 City Council hearing and include the video in it's entirety in the administrative record:

https://lacity.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view\_id=129&clip\_id=12019

Your own Chief of the Grading Division, Dana Prevost himself says: "In the City of LA we've actually long recognized that the Hollywood fault and that it's considered an active fault." (01:58:56)

Millennium's OWN CONSULTANTS submitted a fault investigation they submitted to Prevost and his department and based on that report, the City issued an approval letter. (01:59:00)

Shortly thereafter, Prevost claims received a call from USC expressing concerns over the report. As did CGS. Prevost asked Millennium to address the concerns. It is not clear what those "concerns were" or how they were addressed. Every time it gets down to asking to see the factual data about the site related to the fault lines - transparency is absent. Both by Millennium AND by the City. Every time you do this it raises another gigantic bright red neon flag for the public to question. The fact remains: The City's own departments have acknowledged this project has active fault lines running through it in more places than one.

In the above mentioned video, Prevost says he had been talking to the state for years trying to get this area included in the zone; which it now is (02:01:40). He goes on to inform us CGS will be doing a study to investigate the active activity levels of the fault further and to establish boundaries for the zone (02:02:15). That was in 2013. Despite the evidence that came back after those investigations proving more than one active fault line running through the illegal project's site, Millennium's arrogant assumption that their second attempt at building this time bomb will succeed this time around; ignoring even more evidence then there was the first time - is staggering.

2. In 2014 the California Geological Survey released its final Evaluation Report (FER) where it confirmed (even after previously confirming), but it once again informed your department of the active faults found. The CGS report informed you that they had received no additional data from the developers. The CGS report informed you the geological testing that was done by the developers was NOT DONE PROPERLY, OR IN THE CORRECT LOCATIONS. Millennium is WELL AWARE of the active fault lines that cross their project site. Why do you think they stayed away from trenching those areas? DOES THE DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING BELIEVE THEY ARE GOING TO INTENTIONALLY TRENCH IN THOSE AREAS THAT WOULD EXPOSE THE FAULT LINES?

THIS IS WHY WE HAVE THIRD PARTY STATE DEPARTMENT GEOLOGICAL EXPERTS WHO HAVE NO INTEREST IN WHICH WAY THIS PROJECT GOES. It is incredibly telling of your department when it instructs the developer to hire ITS OWN CONSULTANTS or to rely on the City's OWN CONSULTANTS rather than experts outside of the project. This is called being objective. The data is what it is. Ignoring it is not going to change it. In a sane, ethical department, this proposal would have been done with a long time ago when the department first learned it was not safe or suitable. Instead, look at how much time all of us are forced to spend in attempts at suggesting you follow the laws. Rather than follow them, it costs you even more by ignoring them.

Or does it even out? We noticed some requests for "overtime" in this case when your department sent an invoice to Jeremy Chan; Raymond Chan's son who works for Millennium's lawyers. The lawyers representing them in this case. You guys remember Raymond Chan right? The fault studies you rely on are listed on page 45 of chapter 2 of the FEIR. You rely on the developers consultants despite said reports proving to be insufficient as we have seen multiple times as stated by CGS. Delta chose to use methods of trenching that resulted in ambiguous interpretations that geologists cannot rely on. Not to mention the third party study you OMITTED from the FEIR. Your department omitting important data that was discovered by third party geologists is inexcusable. Speaking of objective experts, please see Geologist Robert Hadley Sydney's 9/1/2020 letter to the DCP.

### THE ACTIVE FBI INVESTIGATION IN CITY DEPARTMENTS & OFFICIALS

1. Two Councilmembers who were on the PLUM Committee during this projects first approval process are currently being indicted by the FBI. The public continues to apply pressure on the FBI to further pursue their investigations of the rest of our elected officials, the DCP the city attorneys office. Members of the public have also requested members of the Mayor appointed Commissions be investigated for obvious reasons. It is consistent with the DCP's course of conduct to think it's reasonable to push this illegal project through knowing bribery, racketeering, fraud and money laundering charges are being pursued against the councilmembers who said yes round 1. It truly baffles the mind for one to try and understand how undisguised the DCP has been about forcing this project through at the time of a pandemic, at the time of FBI investigations; and when in receipt of SO MUCH DAMNING INFORMATION about how these applicants conduct business and how scandalous and toxic to our communities they are. That the City would welcome them into our neighborhoods is truly what disgusts the most.

### **ALTERNATIVE 8 WAS NOT THE PROJECT ANALYZED IN THE DEIR**

1. The Commission must be made aware how Alternative 8 was **NOT analyzed**. This is once again, Millennium doing what they do by attempting to slide in details no one ever had the opportunity to properly review. There is no evidence that Alternative 8 meets the needs of the neighborhood or the City, or proof that it complies with local and state laws that would warrant approval of the unsafe, illegal and destruction that this proposal promises to deliver. This Commission would be approving what was disguised and presented to the public very differently.

### WHAT COMMUNITY PLAN IS THE HCP ALLEGING TO FOLLOW?

1. After the Clty was sued in 2012 and a Judge threw out the City's illegal Hollywood Community Plan, the City was forced to revert to the 1988 Hollywood Community Plan. The plan on which Millennium currently relies. It is unknown how or where specifically the Hollywood Center Project complies with the 1988 Hollywood Community Plan. Whereas one of the "OBJECTIVES OF THE PLAN" is to: "perpetuate its image as the international center of the motion picture industry." Whereas another objective is to: "Provide a standard of land use intensity and population density which will be compatible with street capacity, public service facilities and utilities, and topography and in coordination with development in the remainder of the City."

One of the Hollywood Community Plan's "POLICIES":

"encourages the preservation of lower density residential areas, and the conservation of open space lands."

There is no evidence of how or where this project has considered this.

One of the Hollywood Community Plan's "Standards and Criteria" says:

No increase in density shall be effected by zone change or subdivision unless it is determined that the local streets, Boulevards and Avenues, freeways, and public transportation available in the area of the property involved, are adequate to serve the traffic generated."

There is no evidence of how or where this project has considered this.

One of the "PURPOSES" of the Hollywood Community Plan is: "To promote economic well being and public convenience through: "Encouraging the revitalization of the motion picture industry." You are changing the zoning to accommodate this one single project rather than denying it because it does not conform to the local plan and state laws. This is called spot-zoning and it is ILLEGAL. No one has identified where or how the illegal proposal before you is consistent with the Community Plan.

### COMPLIANCE AND RESPECT FOR CULTURAL TRIBAL RESOURCES

1. You ignore the evidence the Tribes have submitted to you (see June 1, 2020 email from attorney Kara Grant) You were informed by The Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians that the illegal proposal is located within a sensitive area and may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of tribal cultural resources

You also disregarded the law when permitting Millennium to conduct massive ground disturbance on the project site grounds with <u>no consideration for Tribal Cultural Resources</u>, in violation of CEQA. <u>This is ILLEGAL</u>. It is also disgusting. Yet the DCP regards them by project approval.

### TRAFFIC, INFRASTRUCTURE + HISTORICAL RESOURCES, ETC

- 1. You falsely conclude this project has "no substantial impact" on traffic. You ignore and ignore the evidence that exists that have proven this proposal only increases congestion problems and increases the release of toxic chemicals into the air. There is not enough time in the day to how you have taken the word "ignore" to a new level.
- 2. You have accepted traffic data conducted by and assembled by consultants <u>hired by the developer</u>. Expecting this data to be objective and unbiased is about as reasonable as expecting the City Council to not vote unanimously; about a 99.9% of a chance.
- 3. You falsely conclude the infrastructure in the City can sustain this monstrous project, while the City simultaneously receives phone calls and letters from citizens about **broken sewer lines** and **sparking power lines**. City departments have failed here. Instead of addressing and attempting to solve the existing infrastructure emergencies, your department chooses to add even more; **to satisfy our elected officials insatiable hunger for greed.**
- 4. The Geological report submitted by the applicants is (and as to be expected) severely prejudiced. Millennium's report was done by consultants <u>hired by the developer</u>. It does not behoove the consulting company to go against what Millennium has hired them to do. This is not rocket science. The City is working so hard to dispute the facts presented by the neutral parties who have weighed in, such as CGS. What does the City do when it runs into a department who has not yet been put up for sale? We will have to wait and see.
- 5. The transportation section of the EIR is severely prejudiced. It is not an accurate representation of day to day life in the affected area. This delusion the City has about building monstrosities close to transit with the idea residents will give up their cars has proven over and over and over and over

again, to not work. More evidence in the numbers you ignore, ignore, ignore. Why then demand these new construction buildings provide so many parking spaces? If you are so certain the rich upper class will relinquish their vehicles to ride Metro, why demand parking spaces at all? The even bigger ignored fact here, is the data showing how Metro riders are low / poor class. Data continues to show the decline in people using metro. But you just set aside these and the other facts as if they don't even exist. NEWSFLASH: The pushing out of existing residents causes homelessness. The homeless are sleeping in the metro trains (the same metro trains you are so convinced the upper class will gladly take in lieu of their Lexus').

6. The City falsely concludes the construction of 2 skyscrapers in the center of Hollywood has "no impact" on historical resources, or will otherwise have no negative impact on the neighbors or their views. You ignore, ignore, ignore ALL of the evidence in the form of phone calls and letters submitted, that demonstrate otherwise. Coming from the residents mouths themselves IS the evidence. How many ways are there to say "BLATANT DISREGARD".

Hollywood IS the historical resource being impacted - severely. Building skyscrapers in Hollywood; where NO SKYSCRAPERS EXIST BY DEFAULT, CHANGES ITS IDENTITY.

## MILLENNIUM DOES NOT HAVE PERMISSION OR AUTHORITY TO ASSIGN A NEW IDENTITY TO HOLLYWOOD

### DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING'S TAMPERING WITH THE PUBLIC RECORD

- 1. THE DCP has ILLEGALLY & repeatedly tampered with / altered the administrative record documents in this case which is ILLEGAL. The DCP has removed public comment letters and communications from public access, in violation of Chapter 4 of the California Penal Code. This alone requires authorities to get creative with how to prosecute you personally and individually. The immunity City employees are given continues to contribute to the disregard when your department gets sued. It is you who is making these calls and you who should be held accountable in addition to your employer.
- 2. This Commission's responsibility includes giving advice and making recommendations to our elected officials as well as the director of planning with respect to City planning and related activities and legislation. The CPC must take a very close look at how the Department of City Planning has managed this case and the commitment its made to pushing it as hard and as fast down the throats of the public as it can. Never stopping or slowing down enough to even read the laws. More law suits mean more of the tax-payers money is wasted away only because the City departments repeatedly choose what they believe will be profit, over us. The \$2.5 million dollars in sanctions a Judge recently ordered the City to pay in a case where the City failed to comply with discovery is a perfect example. Lawsuits are prevented when our laws our followed. This Commission is either going to be lock step with the other city departments contributing to the problems related to the corruption associated with this case, or it's going to be part of the solution by demanding transparency & not tolerating any of the shell games played by Millennium and enabled by the City.

### LADBS ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST II DANIEL SCHNEIDEREIT'S AUGUST 2020 LETTER

1. Although the letter itself is dated August 7, 2020, the DCP received an email from Schneidereit on August 18, 2020 stating: "As part of the review, the Department of Building and Safety will ensure there will be transparency with the CGS, by requesting the CGS geologists to observe the trench and verify the exploration results."

The DCP has managed to manipulate this requirement in the FEIR where on page 55 of chapter 2 you write:

"LADBS' reviewing geologist, California Geological Survey (CGS) geologists, and other paleoseismic experts **shall be invited to observe the trench after the trench has been secured**; shored or benched; cleaned, and a string line or grid reference system is in place. Once the field exploration and geologic analysis are completed, the project engineering geologist shall prepare a Surface Fault Rupture Hazard Investigation Report to the satisfaction of LADBS, and submit the Report to the City."

THE ABOVE is MOST CONCERNING and COMPLETELY DEFEATS THE ENTIRE PURPOSE OF THE INTENTION.

### PERFORMING THIS TRENCH AS DESCRIBED IS NOT TRANSPARENT.

The entire purpose of having third parties present is to allow a full and open investigation so THERE IS NOTHING TO HIDE. YOUR DEPARTMENT INSISTING ON ALLOWING MILLENNIUM TO ONCE AGAIN PERFORM THEIR OWN TRENCHING WITH NO OVERSIGHT FROM NEUTRAL PARTIES IS ANOTHER INDICATION YOU ARE FULLY AWARE OF THE PROBLEMS AND ARE DOING EVERYTHING YOU CAN TO KEEP THEM COVERED. It is truly a disgust and takes the cake by serving as the absolute lowest of the low the DCP can go.

### THIS IS WHO YOU ARE WELCOMING INTO OUR NEIGHBORHOODS:

- 1. Attached herein to my letter are 3 PDF's:
- I. A copy of the 2017 complaint brought against Millennium by a Homeowners Association in San Francisco for: 1) VIOLATION OF CAL. CIV. CODE § 895 ET SEQ.; 2) NEGLIGENCE; 3) BREACH OF EXPRESS WARRANTIES; 4) BREACH OF IMPLIED WARRANTIES; 5) STRICT LIABILITY; 6) NEGLIGENT MISREPRESENTATION; 7) FRAUDULENT MISREPRESENTATION; 8) FRAUDULENT CONCEALMENT; 9) BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY; 10) VIOLATION OF CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE§ 17200 ET SEQ.; 11) INVERSE CONDEMNATION; 12) TRESPASS; 13) NUISANCE; AND 14) VIOLATION OF CAL. CIV. CODE § 832.
- II. A cover page to a book called "Cities Are For People" available at the web link. A good read for the Department of City Planning. Note its title. The weblink includes the entire document consisting of 122 pages. All must be included in the record for this case.
- III. A Settlement Agreement Agreement between the City of New York and Millennium closing a matter involving Millennium's failure to comply with the Lobbying Act.

  The complaint indicates Millennium generated more than \$750 million dollars in sales of luxury units in the sinking Millennium towers. Millennium made these profits by deceiving members of the public, withholding documentation and information and looked the other way as the building was further besieged by other construction defects and negligent construction practices. What does the Commission think best neighbors ever?

The DCP has once again chosen profit over people but this time - you have gone too far and risked too much that isn't yours to put at risk.

### THE PUBLIC / THE VOTING PEOPLE / THE TAX-PAYING RESIDENTS

1. You hold these public hearings because you are required to make the process appear fair. However; our questions do not get answered. Our documents and evidence do not get looked at. You allow us our single minute or two to speak on a project that forever erases Hollywood and everything everyone worked so hard on well before you. This may come as a surprise to you - but there were people who had your jobs before you. Planners who DID follow the rules. Planners who DID work hands on with the citizens who are the ones occupying the neighborhoods. You have managed to undo decades and decades of hard work by the people that came before you. And you are doing so in a matter of months. The current employees of the Department of City Planning are going down in the history books as the ones who took the city of Los Angeles down, taking as many down with you as you could.

You are going to thank me for my comments and let me know they have been included in the administrative record and they will never be seen, or read or considered; which is the part of the job that seems to be incredibly difficult impossible for you.

### **SO - The question remains Commissioners:**

Is the CPC going to review the several thousand pages of documents in this case by the time of the hearing on 10/15 that prove fraud, blatant lies, false data, proven omitted data, faulty reports, hundreds of letters of opposition with supporting evidence by the constituents, data provided by neutral experts and more. . .

#### OR:

Will the CPC rubber-stamp what would be Hollywood's largest proposal filed by out of state applicants, known for corruption, dangerous building practices, lobbying OUR elected City officials, and profiteering as they try to buy their way into our City - which is not for sale.

Sincerely,

\*ignore: verb

refuse to take notice of or acknowledge; disregard intentionally : he ignored her outraged question. See note at neglect .

- fail to consider (something significant): direct satellite broadcasting ignores national boundaries.
- Law (of a grand jury) reject (an indictment) as groundless.

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DENIS F. SHANAGHER (S.B. #100222) dfshanagher@duanemorris.com **DUANE MORRIS LLP** One Market Plaza, Suite 2200, Spear Tower San Francisco, CA 94105-1127 Telephone: (415) 957-3318

Attorneys for Plaintiff MILLENNIUM TOWER **ASSOCIATION** 

# San Francisco County Superior Court

MAR 2 9 2017

### SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

### **COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO**

MILLENNIUM TOWER ASSOCIATION, a California nonprofit mutual benefit corporation,

Plaintiff.

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MISSION STREET DEVELOPMENT LLC. a Delaware Limited Liability Company: MISSION STREET HOLDINGS LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company; MILLENNIUM PARTNERS MANAGEMENT LLC, a New York Limited Liability Company; MILLENNIUM PARTNERS LLC, a New York Limited Liability Company; MILLENNIUM PARTNERS I, INC., a New York Corporation; CHRISTOPHER M. JEFFRIES, an individual; PHILIP E. AARONS, an individual; PHILIP H. LOVETT, an individual; SEAN JEFFRIES, an individual; JOHN LUCIANO, an individual; WEBCOR CONSTRUCTION, INC., an unknown business entity; WEBCOR CONSTRUCTION LP, dba WEBCOR BUILDERS, a California Limited Partnership; HANDEL ARCHITECTS LLP, a New York Limited Liability Partnership; TREADWELL & ROLLO, INC., an unknown business entity; T & R CONSOLIDATED,

### Case NG.C-17-557830

**COMPLAINT FOR:** 

1) VIOLATION OF CAL. CIV. CODE

§ 895 ET SEQ.; 2) NEGLIGENCE;

3) BREACH OF EXPRESS

WARRANTIES:

4) BREACH OF IMPLIED

WARRANTIES;

5) STRICT LIABILITY;

6) NEGLIGENT

**MISREPRESENTATION**;

7) FRAUDULENT

MISREPRESENTATION:

8) FRAUDULENT CONCEALMENT;

9) BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY:

10) VIOLATION OF CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE § 17200 ET SEQ.;

11) INVERSE CONDEMNATION:

12) TRESPASS:

13) NUISANCE; AND

14) VIOLATION OF CAL. CIV. CODE **§ 832.** 

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

INC., a California Corporation and successor in interest to TREADWELL & ROLLO; LANGAN ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC., a New Jersey Corporation and successor in interest to TREADWELL & ROLLO; DESIMONE CONSULTING ENGINEERS LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company; DESIMONE CONSULTING ENGINEERS, PLLC, a California Professional Limited Liability Company; TRANSBAY JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY, a public entity; ARUP NORTH AMERICA LIMITED, a United Kingdom Corporation; and DOES 1 through 100,

Defendants.

### I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Millennium Tower, a 419-unit luxury condominium project at 301 Mission Street in San Francisco, was the tallest residential high rise on the West Coast when it opened in 2009. Shimmering like a translucent 58-story crystal, this landmark structure attracted a diverse community of more than a thousand residents. Urban professionals welcomed the opportunity to live minutes from the financial district's hive of corporate headquarters; retirees and emptynesters traded the equity in their suburban homes for the panoramic vistas of a waterfront skyscraper; and young families with children embraced the unique experience of a vertical neighborhood. With units averaging nearly \$2 million, the tower's developer, Millennium Partners, generated in excess of \$750 million in sales between 2009 and 2013.

2. To the dismay of those who sank so much of their life savings into the Millennium Tower, the Tower itself is now sinking—and has been for years, even before the first unit was sold in 2009. As much of the Bay Area and beyond has come to learn, Millennium Partners erected this glamorous building on an improperly designed and constructed foundation system, then looked the other way as the building was further besieged by other construction defects and negligent construction practices. By the time it debuted as "the luxury benchmark

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> J.K. Dineen, *Millennium Tower in San Francisco is a \$750M sellout*, S.F. Bus. Times (Apr. 5, 2013), http://www.bizjournals.com/sanfrancisco/print-edition/2013/04/05/millennium-tower-in-sanfrancisco-is.html.

for San Francisco city living," the high-rise tower had already sunk more than 8 inches into the mud, sand, and clay on which it was built. And the sinking continues unabated. The Tower has since dropped another 8 inches, bringing it now 16 inches closer to the "diverse tapestry of arts, culture and culinary delights" that originally drew its residents to this vibrant South of Market neighborhood. As the Tower has sunk, it has also tilted. The precast concrete floors are now non-level, and at the top, where a penthouse unit sold for \$9.8 million, the tower leans by more than 12 inches.

- 3. But those who knew of the high rise's troubles kept it secret for years, and two parties even memorialized their agreement to keep all exchanged documents and information confidential. Millennium Partners and the Transbay Joint Powers Authority ("TJPA"), which was preparing to build an underground and above-ground transit center ("Transit Center") on an adjacent site, entered into a bilateral confidentiality agreement covering all documents and information exchanged. Rejecting transparency and accountability, Millennium Partners and the TJPA agreed that the "[d]ocuments and information" exchanged about the Property and the Transit Center were proprietary and confidential. The Millennium Tower Association ("HOA")—the not-for-profit association responsible for the key building systems—was shut out, and the truth about the mounting problems was hidden, and stayed hidden, for many years.
- 4. For its part, Millennium Partners is an experienced New York-based real estate development firm that boasts of having developed more than 2,900 luxury condominiums, eight five-star hotels, including the 40-story Four Seasons near Moscone Center, two extended-stay luxury hotels, 1,200,000 square feet of office space, and 1,000,000 square feet of retail space, among other developments.<sup>6</sup> It claims to own and operate an impressive portfolio worth over

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Millennium Partners, http://millenniumptrs.com/about-mp/ (last visited Mar. 28, 2017).

³ Id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The March 17, 2010 Confidentiality Agreement replaced and superseded a February 26, 2010 agreement in its entirety, and the parties to the March 17, 2010 Confidentiality Agreement agreed that the "February 26, 2010 agreement shall have no further force and effect."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Confidentiality Agreement between Millennium Partners and the TJPA (March 17, 2010).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Millennium Partners, http://millenniumptrs.com/about-mp/ (last visited Mar. 28, 2017).

 $\frac{1}{7}$  Id.

\$4 billion.<sup>7</sup> In other words, purchasers of Millennium Tower units had every reason to believe that they were placing their faith in a developer with the resources and know-how to properly design and construct a building whose height was not a moving target. And, in addition to the residents who bought into the dream of a world-class property built to the highest standards, the other inhabitants of bustling SoMa reasonably trusted that the slender skyscraper towering above them was constructed responsibly.

- 5. Christopher Jeffries and his son Sean Jeffries directed and led the development of Millennium Tower. Christopher Jeffries is a founder of Millennium Partners and retains the largest ownership interest. Even with his partnership's vast holdings, Christopher Jeffries himself makes the final decisions about the Millennium Tower and speaks with authority about the causes of its sinking and tilting. Christopher Jeffries was the primary spokesperson for Millennium Partners in its September 20, 2016 press conference at City Hall, where he insisted that "[Millennium Partners] did this building the right way." The co-founders of Millennium Partners, Philip Aarons and Philip Lovett, also had significant involvement overseeing and managing the development of the Millennium Tower, but, as Mr. Aarons testified, "the final decisions at Millennium are made by Chris Jeffries."
- 6. Other day-to-day responsibilities for the Millennium Tower's development fell to Sean Jeffries, leader of West Coast development for Millennium Partners and the sole member of the entity that Millennium Partners created to oversee the project at 301 Mission Street—Mission Street Development. As part of a strategic nationwide push, Sean Jeffries had expanded the West Coast office to complete various projects valued at over a billion dollars, including the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Aug. 12, 2010 Philip Aarons Dep. 9:11-13 & 43:17-21, cited as Ex. 5 to Plaintiff's Notice of Filing Exhibits in Support of Plaintiffs' Responses to Defendants' Motions for Summary Judgment and Motions for Judgment on the Pleadings, *Altenel, Inc. v. Millennium Partners, LLC, et al.*, No. 1:11-cv-22806-KMW, ECF No. 338-5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Associated Press, San Francisco Skyscraper Is Leaning - And Sinking, Popular Mechs. (Oct. 24, 2016), http://www.popularmechanics.com/technology/infrastructure/a23521/san-francisco-skyscraper-is-leaningand-sinking/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Aug. 12, 2010 Philip Aarons Dep. 42:18-21, *supra* note 8.

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Millennium Tower. 11 Sean Jeffries was joined on the West Coast by Vice President John Luciano, whom Millennium Partners installed on the HOA board from 2009 to 2016.

- 7. After the confidential exchange of documents over the Millennium Tower's worsening condition, both Sean Jeffries and John Luciano kept the alarming data regarding the Tower's sinking from the HOA and continued selling the condominium units to unsuspecting homeowners. This subterfuge went on for years as Millennium Partners, and specifically Sean Jeffries, kept receiving regular reports that the Millennium Tower was sinking and tilting but never shared those reports with the HOA.
- 8. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that Sean Jeffries, acting through multiple Millennium Partners entities, helped to make sure that no other entity shared that information, either. The TJPA, for instance, had been granted certain easements to the Millennium Tower property, which the agency needed to proceed with its excavation activities. Sean Jeffries signed the original October 10, 2008 easement agreement as the authorized representative of Mission Street Development. After responsibility for the Millennium Tower transferred from Mission Street Development to the HOA, the easement agreement had to be updated in 2011 to reflect that change; the amendment required the TJPA to provide monitoring data, which would have included the building's sinking and tilting, to Mission Street Development and the HOA. Sean Jeffries signed the amended easement agreement and designated himself as the HOA's "authorized representative"—thereby intercepting the TJPA's data before it could ever reach the HOA members not employed by Millennium Partners. 12 On information and belief, the HOA alleges that Sean Jeffries was not a member of the board of directors of the HOA at the time of signing and was not authorized to sign or receive such monitoring data on behalf of the HOA.
- 9. Long after construction was complete and all units had been sold, Sean Jeffries continued to involve himself with the building's management and attend periodic HOA meetings.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Kristine Carber, The Feel-Good Developer, Gentry Wealth (Summer 2012).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> At least two board members were residents not employed by Millennium Partners at the time the September 1, 2011 First Amendment to the Easement Agreement was signed.

In early 2014, after the Tower had sunk over 13 inches, and residents noticed signs of sidewalk settlement, Sean Jeffries wrote to the HOA's president to propose quarterly meetings between the HOA and Millennium Partners. Sean Jeffries also agreed to provide updates on the adjoining TJPA construction site, where the Transit Center was still under construction, including substantial underground work to accommodate the extension of the Caltrain line and the future High Speed Rail project.

- 10. In a February 2014 update to the HOA, Sean Jeffries professed ignorance about the Tower's troubles: "I have not been made aware to date of any information that gives us concern for the safety of the building or any significant impact on the structure." But Sean Jeffries was aware. He knew that the Tower was sinking and tilting, and he also knew that excavation for the TJPA's underground "train box" and the associated construction were significantly impacting the Tower. Rather than alert those who had the most to lose, Sean Jeffries continued to hide this information from the HOA.
- 12. The TJPA, through its massive, ill-planned construction operation, and Millennium Partners, with its defective design and construction, both contributed to the myriad problems plaguing the Millennium Tower. These problems were compounded by the active concealment by Millennium Partners and its employees, and the apparent complicity of the TJPA.
  - 13. Other factors, including inadequate garage construction and waterproofing,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Letter from Sean Jeffries (Millennium Partners) to Jeff Peters (HOA) (Feb. 28, 2014).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> October 10, 2008 Easement Agreement between the TJPA and Mission Street Development.

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defective windows, curtain wall corrosion and water intrusion, inter-unit odor transmission, cracks, and alignment issues, have also taken a toll on the livability of the Millennium Tower.

Millennium Partners bills the property as "rare" and "an address like no other." And it is indeed rare and unique, but now mainly because failures of this magnitude in planning, design, development, and construction are almost unheard of in contemporary high rises.

- 14. Burdened with design and construction defects, and further battered by the TJPA construction activities on its land and the adjoining property, the Millennium Tower has continued its slow descent into the prehistoric clay on which it was built. Unable to initially detect the sinking and tilting on its own—and kept from the truth by the parties that did know—the HOA learned far too late of the conditions jeopardizing the Millennium Tower. Had it —known sooner, the HOA could have demanded that the developer implement a retrofit, or it could have sought to halt other activities contributing to the damage, such as those of the TJPA.
- 15. Millennium Partners and the TJPA now each publically places unequivocal blame on the other. Regardless of who contributed most to the damage, one fact is indisputable: Both Millennium Partners and the TJPA possessed the damning data but did nothing with it. Neither tried to stem the sinking; neither sought to alert the HOA.
- 16. And now, in an attempt to show that adjoining construction sites are the exclusive cause of the sinking, Millennium Partners has sought an order to stop the TJPA from any final dewatering. Forced to confront its own culpability, Millennium Partners instead points the finger at others, despite sitting on the data for years and never seeking to stop the dewatering when it would have made a difference.
- 17. The victims of this debacle are the residents and the HOA, who placed their trust and confidence—and over half a billion dollars—in the hands of Millennium Partners. With this Complaint for strict liability, breach of warranties, fraud, and negligence, as well as violations of the California Civil Code and California Business and Professions Code, among other claims, the HOA seeks what it plainly deserves—a safe home free from continued sinking and tilting, the same home that its members though they were buying before the truth was revealed.

### II. THE PROPERTY

- 18. The Millennium Tower development is located at 301 Mission Street in San Francisco and comprises three primary structures: a 58-story tower (the "Tower"), an adjacent 12-story building on a reinforced concrete podium that includes residences and common areas (the "Podium"), and a five-level subterranean garage (the "Garage") (collectively, the Tower, the Podium, and the Garage constitute the "Millennium Tower" or "Property"). The Millennium Tower consists of 419 separate residential condominiums and two commercial units, forming a mixed-use condominium project.
- 19. The underlying real property is a rectangular lot measuring approximately 183.5 feet by 275 feet, a total area of approximately 50,463 square feet. The Property is bounded by Mission Street to the northwest, Fremont Street to the southwest, and Beale Street to the northeast. The future Transit Center abuts the Property to the southeast, and the temporary and permanent easements granted to the TJPA encroach five feet onto the Property on the southeast side.
- 20. The Millennium Tower is more fully described in the Map entitled "Final Map 4146 A 420 Unit Residential Unit and 8 Commercial Unit Mixed Use Condominium Project" filed for record in the Official Records of the City and County of San Francisco, State of California, on May 15, 2008, in Book 105 of Condominium Maps, pages 146-147 (the "Center Map"), being Lot 19 of Assessor's Block 3719, to be developed as described on the condominium plan entitled "A Mixed Use Condominium Plan for Millennium Tower 301 Mission Street San Francisco, California" filed for record in the Official Records of the City and County of San Francisco, State of California, on March 13, 2009, as Document Number 2009-1732547-00 in Reel J847, Image 0102, and more particularly, contains two Commercial Components and three Residential Components.
- 21. Under the governing documents, and pursuant to California law, the HOA is the owner of the common areas of the Millennium Tower, including but not limited to the land, foundations, footings, beams, supports, roofs, interior and exterior load-bearing walls, Garage, basement areas, exterior building surfaces, window walls, curtain walls, glazing, electrical

rooms, sewer and drainage systems, and utility pipes and conduits. The HOA is responsible for the operation and administration of the common areas and the maintenance, repair, and replacement of all improvements within the common areas. The HOA has the sole and exclusive right to pursue claims and causes of action related to deficiencies in, and damage to, the common areas of the Millennium Tower.

### III. THE PARTIES

- 22. Plaintiff HOA is a California nonprofit mutual benefit corporation formed and existing under the laws of the State of California and established as a common interest development, as described in California Civil Code sections 4080 and 5980, with its principal place of business within the County of San Francisco, California. The HOA represents the interests of the owners of condominium units and the sub-associations in this common-interest development.
- 23. By the express terms of the HOA's governing documents, and pursuant to California Civil Code section 5980, the HOA is granted the general authority and responsibility to bring this action in its own name as the real party in interest and without joining with it the members in matters pertaining to the Millennium Tower.
- 24. The HOA has the sole and exclusive right and duty to manage, operate, control, repair, replace, and restore the Millennium Tower, including the right to enter into contracts to accomplish its duties and obligations. It also has all the powers necessary to carry out its rights and obligations, including the right, duty, and power to contract for legal services to prosecute any action affecting the HOA when it deems such action necessary to enforce its powers, rights, and obligations, including the bringing of this action. Under California Civil Code sections 4775 and 5980, the HOA seeks recovery for damages to the Millennium Tower, including, among other things, damages to the common areas; damages to the separate interests that the HOA is obligated to maintain and repair; and damages to the separate interests within the HOA's common interest, power, and standing.
- 25. Defendant Mission Street Development LLC ("MSD") is a limited liability company formed and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, and doing business in the

City and County of San Francisco, California, including the development, construction, improvement, marketing, and sale of the Millennium Tower and its units.

- 26. Defendant Mission Street Holdings LLC ("MSH") is a limited liability company formed and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, and doing business in the City and County of San Francisco, California, including the development, construction, improvement, marketing, and sale of the Millennium Tower and its units.
- 27. Defendant Millennium Partners Management LLC ("MPM") is a limited liability company formed and existing under the laws of the State of New York, and doing business in the City and County of San Francisco, California, including the development, construction, improvement, marketing, and sale of the Millennium Tower and its units. MPM was the "Assured" for a 2007 loss occurring at the Millennium Tower in 2007. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that MPM employees were also entitled to a discounted price on Millennium Tower units by virtue of MPM's involvement and affiliation with the development.
- 28. Defendant Millennium Partners LLC ("MP LLC") is a limited liability company formed and existing under the laws of the State of New York, and doing business in the City and County of San Francisco, California, including the development, construction, improvement, marketing, and sale of the Millennium Tower and its units. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that MP LLC served as a Guarantor in connection with a loan provided to MSD in 2005, the purpose of which was to finance the construction of the Millennium Tower. And pursuant to the Millennium Tower Move In/Out Procedures, MP LLC is required to be listed as an additional insured on moving companies' liability insurance policies.
- 29. Defendant Millennium Partners I, Inc. ("MPI") is a corporation formed and existing under the laws of the State of New York, and doing business in California as New York SF Millennium Partners I, Inc., including the development, construction, improvement, marketing, and sale of the Millennium Tower and its units.
- 30. Collectively, MSD, MSH, MPM, MP LLC, and MPI constitute the "Millennium Defendants."
  - 31. Defendant Christopher M. Jeffries is a Founding Partner and controlling

shareholder of MPI and has been involved in the development, management, and or/sale of the Millennium Tower and its units.

- 32. Defendant Philip E. Aarons is a Founding Partner and Principal of MPI and has been involved in the development, management, and or/sale of the Millennium Tower and its units.
- 33. Defendant Philip H. Lovett is a Founding Partner and Principal of MPI and has been involved in the development, management, and or/sale of the Millennium Tower and its units.
- 34. Collectively, Christopher Jeffries, Aarons, and Lovett constitute the "Millennium Founders."
- 35. All three Millennium Founders were involved in the development and management of the Millennium Tower and bear responsibility for the Millennium Tower's defective development, design, and construction.
  - a. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that Christopher Jeffries directs and manages all Millennium Partners' projects. This has been the case since he founded Millennium Partners and "set his sights on key gateway cities across the United States" for his new form of mixed-use developments. His co-founder Aarons acknowledged as much, stating that Christopher Jeffries makes the "final decisions" at Millennium. Christopher Jeffries took ownership of and defended the San Francisco project at a September 20, 2016 press conference declaring: "We did this building the right way."
  - b. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that Aarons also speaks and acts as a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Millennium Partners, http://millenniumptrs.com (last visited Mar. 28, 2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Aug. 12, 2010 Philip Aarons Dep. 42:18-21, cited as Ex. 5 to Plaintiff's Notice of Filing Exhibits in Support of Plaintiffs' Responses to Defendants' Motions for Summary Judgment and Motions for Judgment on the Pleadings, *Altenel, Inc. v. Millennium Partners, LLC, et al.*, No. 1:11-cv-22806-KMW, ECF No. 338-5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Associated Press, San Francisco Skyscraper Is Leaning - And Sinking, Popular Mechs. (Oct. 24, 2016), http://www.popularmechanics.com/technology/infrastructure/a23521/san-francisco-skyscraper-is-leaningand-sinking/.

representative for and owner of the Millennium Tower. He too represented Millennium Partners at the September 2016 press conference. Aarons was involved in high-level strategic decisions about the Millennium Tower project in its early development phases; for example, he joined Sean Jeffries to meet with potential designers and architects for the project in 2006. He is identified as an "Important MP [Person]" in the Millennium Tower Sales Manual.<sup>18</sup>

- c. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that Lovett is responsible for the day-to-day operations and management of Millennium Partners. Accordingly, he is listed as an emergency contact in the Millennium Tower Sales Manual and was involved in communications regarding the budgets for each of the Millennium Tower constituent residences, among other supervisory and management activities.
- 36. Defendant Sean Jeffries is Vice President of MPI and the sole member of MSD. Sean Jeffries signed the September 1, 2011 First Amendment to the Easement Agreement between the TJPA and the HOA, and was listed as the designated recipient of monitoring data from the TJPA regarding the sinking and tilting of the Tower. On information and belief, Sean Jeffries is a resident of San Francisco, California...
- 37. Defendant John Luciano is Vice President of MPM and was a member of the HOA's Board from 2009 through 2016. On information and belief, John Luciano is a resident of San Francisco, California.
- 38. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that MSD, MSH, MPM, and MP LLC were at all relevant times the alter egos or agents of MPI and the Millennium Founders, because a unity of interest and ownership existed between MSD, MSH, MPM, MP LLC, MPI, Christopher Jeffries, Aarons, and Lovett, and adherence to the fiction of separate corporate

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Millennium Tower San Francisco Sales Manual, Book 1, Oct. 2007.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Millennium Partners, http://millenniumptrs.com (last visited March 28, 2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Millennium Tower San Francisco Sales Manual, Book 1, Oct. 2007.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Email from David Goben to Stephanie Kay-Foss regarding Preliminary Budget Comments (Feb. 28, 2013).

existence would promote injustice under these circumstances.

- a. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that The Millennium Defendants hold themselves out as a single, unified enterprise, advertised as developer of properties in Boston, New York, San Francisco, and Los Angeles, including the Millennium Tower.<sup>22</sup>
- b. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that MSD, MSH, MPM, and MP LLC existed as mere conduits or shell corporations for the interests and manipulations of MPI, Christopher Jeffries, Aarons, and Lovett. The Millennium Defendants' collective efforts to develop, construct, improve, market, and sell the Millennium Tower allowed Christopher Jeffries to effectuate his dream of developing "housing with a lifestyle" across the country.<sup>23</sup>
- c. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that the Millennium Defendants controlled and dominated their constituent entities and made crucial decisions about the development, construction, and management of the building. For instance, between 2011 and 2016, Sean Jeffries, on behalf of the Millennium Defendants, positioned himself, or others employed by the Millennium Defendants, as recipient of critical monitoring data from consulting engineers who evaluated the settlement of the building.
- d. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that the Millennium Defendants disregarded the formal distinctions between their constituent entities, treating them as one and the same. For example, "Millennium Partners" was the recipient of invoices for construction and other professional services completed at the Millennium Tower by various firms.<sup>24</sup> Steven Hood (an

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Millennium Partners, http://millenniumptrs.com (last visited March 28, 2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Jennifer Frey, Striking It Ritz; For the, er, Richly Deserving, a Not-So-Humble Abode, Wash. Post, Aug. 24, 1999.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> J&C Fuentes Invoice (May 21, 2010); Architectural Energy Corp. Invoice (April 30, 2010); McMillan Companies Invoice (May 6, 2010).

- employee of Millennium Partners) and Sean Jeffries sent correspondence related to the Millennium Tower on behalf of the Millennium Defendants and on "Millennium Partners" letterhead. <sup>25</sup> <sup>26</sup>
- e. The Millennium Defendants all share a business address at 1995 Broadway, New York, New York.
- f. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that the assets of the Millennium Defendants' constituent entities were commingled in the development of the Millennium Tower.
- g. The Millennium Defendants' constituent entities share employees and executives. For instance, Richard Baumert, identified as a Managing Partner of Millennium Boston on the Millennium Partners website, <sup>27</sup> also signed the First Addendum to the Residential Purchase Agreement as Vice-President of Mission Street Holdings, LLC. <sup>28</sup> Other correspondence identifies him as an employee of Millennium Partners LLC. <sup>29</sup> The overlapping structure of employment and control confused business associates as well: Steven Hood is sometimes addressed as affiliated with "Millennium Partners" and other times with "Mission Street Development." <sup>30</sup>
- h. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that the Millennium Defendants also share attorneys. In other litigation relating to the sinking and tilting of the Millennium Tower, Peter Meier and the law firm Paul Hastings LLP represent MPI, MSD, MPM, Sean Jeffries, and John Luciano.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Letter from Steven Hood to Kenneth Klein at Simpson Gumpertz & Heger (June 8, 2009).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Letter from Sean Jeffries to Jeff Peters (Feb. 28, 2014).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Millennium Partners, http://millenniumptrs.com (last visited March 28, 2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> First Addendum to the Residential Purchase Agreement (March 20, 2012) (for Buyers Richard and Jo-Tung Tu Chang).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Letter from Shirley Cui to Richard Baumert (Oct. 27, 2009).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Letter from Brian Dykes (TJPA) to Steven Hood (Mission Street Development) (Jan. 8, 2013); Letter from Ramin Golesorkhi and Joseph E. Romano (Langan Treadwell Rollo) to Steven Hood (Millennium Partners) (Sept. 6, 2016).

 i. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that MSD, MSH, MPM, and MP LLC were and are undercapitalized and potentially incapable of satisfying a judgment should the HOA prevail in this action.

- j. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that the Millennium Defendants have benefited from the development, construction, and sale of the Millennium Tower; it would be unjust if they were to escape liability for obligations associated with these benefits. Modelling subsequent developments on the San Francisco Millennium Tower, Millennium Partners has benefited from its reputation as a national leader in luxury living. Without its "impressive portfolio across the nation," including the Millennium Tower San Francisco, Millennium Partners could not have drawn on this powerful branding to advertise its latest project, the Millennium Tower in Boston.<sup>31</sup>

  Accolades include the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce's "Excellence in Business—Building San Francisco" Award, which was accepted by Managing Director Baumert.<sup>32</sup> But in order to draw upon the power of its national brand, Millennium Partners must be required to take responsibility for the flaws in its various developments.
- 39. Defendant Webcor Construction, Inc. was a corporation formed under the laws of the State of California, with its principal place of business in California, and doing business as "Webcor Builders." Its exact current nature is unknown. Webcor entered into an Agreement for Construction Management Services with MSD to act as the general contractor for the Millennium Defendants in the construction of the Millennium Tower.
- 40. Defendant Webcor Construction LP is a limited partnership formed under the laws of the State of California, with its principal place of business in California, and also doing

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Upscale Living Magazine, Home/Real Estate/Millennium Boston Tower (2017), http://upscalelivingmag.com/millennium-boston-tower/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Business Wire, *Millennium Tower Honored at Excellence in Business Awards (Dec. 8, 2010)*, http://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20101208006994/en/Millennium-Tower-Honored-Excellence-Business-Awards.

business as "Webcor Builders." Webcor Construction LP was insured under the primary Contractors Controlled Insurance Policy ("CCIP") for the 301 Mission Street project. On information and belief, Webcor Construction LP also acted as the general contractor for the Millennium Defendants in the construction of the Millennium Tower. Collectively, Webcor Construction, Inc. and Webcor Construction LP will be referred to as "Webcor."

- 41. Defendant Handel Architects LLP ("Handel") is a limited liability partnership doing business in the City and County of San Francisco, California. Handel was the architect of record and designed the Millennium Tower and its components.
- 42. Defendant Treadwell & Rollo, Inc. ("Treadwell & Rollo") is a corporation, the exact current nature of which is unknown, that at one point had its principal place of business in the City and County of San Francisco, California. Treadwell & Rollo was the geotechnical engineer of record for the Millennium Tower.
- 43. Defendant T & R Consolidated, Inc. ("T & R Consolidated") was also a geotechnical engineer and the successor in interest to Treadwell & Rollo. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that Treadwell & Rollo changed its name to T&R Consolidated after selling its assets to Langan Engineering and Environmental Services, Inc. and before dissolving.
- 44. Defendant Langan Engineering and Environmental Services, Inc. ("Langan") is a New Jersey corporation engaged in various geotechnical, environmental, and other engineering services, and is the successor in interest to Treadwell & Rollo and T & R Consolidated.
  - a. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that all or substantially all of Treadwell & Rollo's assets were transferred to Langan pursuant to an Asset Purchase Agreement on November 1, 2010.
  - b. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that this asset transfer was not supported by adequate consideration to meet the claims of other creditors.
  - c. Treadwell & Rollo legally changed its name to Treadwell & Rollo
     Consolidated, Inc. ("T & R Consolidated") after the asset purchase. T &
     R Consolidated subsequently dissolved and no longer exists as an operating entity.

- d. Plans called for Treadwell & Rollo to maintain its name for an interim period, but be branded "A Langan Company." In 2012, it would become known as "Langan Engineering & Environmental Services."<sup>33</sup>
- e. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that one or more individuals were officers, directors, or stockholders of both Treadwell & Rollo and Langan. Philip Tringale was President of Treadwell & Rollo, Inc., and currently is Director of Western Operations at Langan Engineering & Environmental Services. He represents that the start date for both positions was March 1992.<sup>34</sup>
- f. Langan assumed the obligations of Treadwell-& Rollo necessary for the continuation of Treadwell & Rollo's business obligations. Indeed, it continued on with Treadwell & Rollo's obligations at 301 Mission Street: From approximately 2012 through 2013, "Treadwell & Rollo: A Langan Company" produced memoranda to Millennium Partners evaluating Arup's settlement monitoring measurements. In 2014, "Langan Treadwell Rollo" continued with the same evaluation memoranda using the same template. And in December 2016, "Langan" continued the work Treadwell & Rollo had begun, presenting the results of building survey measurements in a Building Survey Report.
- 45. Defendant DeSimone Consulting Engineers LLC ("DeSimone LLC") is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the State of Delaware and doing business in the City and County of San Francisco, California. DeSimone LLC acted as the structural engineer for the Millennium Defendants in connection with the design and construction of the Millennium Tower. DeSimone LLC filed a Cross-Complaint and an Answer admitting to providing structural engineering services at 301 Mission Street in the related matter, *Laura S. Lehman, et.*

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> PR Newswire, *Langan Acquires Treadwell & Rollo* (Nov. 1, 2010), http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/langan-acquires-treadwell--rollo-106465148.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Philip Tringale, LinkedIn, https://www.linkedin.com/in/philip-tringale-85b37711/.

al. v. Transbay Joint Powers Authority, et al.

- 46. Defendant DeSimone Consulting Engineers, PLLC ("DeSimone PLLC") is a professional limited liability company organized under the laws of the State of California and doing business in the City and County of San Francisco, California. DeSimone PLLC entered an Agreement for Structural Engineering Services to act as structural engineer for the Millennium Defendants in connection with the design and construction of the Millennium Tower. Collectively, DeSimone LLC and DeSimone PLLC will be referred to as "DeSimone."
- 47. Collectively, Treadwell & Rollo, T & R Consolidated, Langan, and DeSimone are the "Engineering Defendants."
- 48. Defendant Transbay Joint Powers Authority ("TJPA") is a government joint powers entity created under California Government Code section 6500 *et seq*. The TJPA is the entity charged with developing the Transbay Terminal, which includes construction of the five-story Transit Center and underground train facility directly adjacent to the Property.
- 49. Defendant Arup North America Limited ("Arup") is a corporation formed under the laws of the United Kingdom, and on information and belief has its principal place of business in California. Arup is a geotechnical engineering firm that TJPA retained to provide geotechnical studies of the soil underlying, and foundation of, the Transbay Terminal Project, and a below-ground buttress pile wall on and adjacent to the Property.
- The HOA is ignorant of the true names and capacities of defendants sued as Does 1 through 100, inclusive, and therefore sues these defendants by such fictitious names. The HOA will amend this Complaint to allege the true names and capacities of these defendants when ascertained. Each of the fictitiously named defendants is, or will be, responsible for the occurrences alleged in this Complaint and for the HOA's injuries, both existing and prospective. Each Doe defendant legally and proximately caused damage to the HOA. Each and every Doe defendant had a duty to the HOA to use reasonable care in performing the tasks related to the planning, development, creation, improvement, design, construction, supervision, observation, inspection, management, and/or repair of the Millennium Tower.

### IV. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 51. Jurisdiction over this action in the Superior Court of the State of California in and for the County of San Francisco is proper pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure section 410.10 because all Defendants have sufficient minimum contacts with California to support the exercise of jurisdiction.
- 52. Venue is proper in the Superior Court of the State of California pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure section 392 because the real property that is the subject of the action is located in the City and County of San Francisco. Venue is also proper pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure section 395.5 because this is the county where some Defendants reside, and pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure section 395.5 because this county is where the corporate defendant entities' relevant contracts were entered into and performed, and where the relevant obligations and liabilities arose.

### V. EASEMENT AGREEMENTS

- 53. The TJPA owns real property adjacent to the Property and is in the process of building a new transit terminal that will include an above-ground bus station and a below-ground rail station. It entered into an Easement Agreement with MSD on October 10, 2008, which was authorized by the TJPA Board of Directors on October 17, 2008, and recorded in the official records of the City and County of San Francisco on March 25, 2009, Document no. 2009-1739852-00 (the "Easement Agreement").
- 54. The TJPA then entered into the First Amendment to the Easement Agreement with MSD and the HOA on September 1, 2011, which was recorded in the official records of the City and County of San Francisco on November 3, 2011, Document no. 2011-J296169-00 (the "Amended Easement Amendment").
- 55. Under the terms of the Easement Agreement, at Section II.A.1(a), the TJPA covenanted and agreed to design and construct the Support System (lateral and subjacent support for the Property) and the Transit Center to stabilize the soil beneath the Millennium Tower, prevent the material movement and/or settlement of the Millennium Tower, and provide for the structural support, integrity, and safety of the Millennium Tower during and after the TJPA's

construction of the Transit Center.

- 56. The TJPA, at Section II.A.1.(b) of the Easement Agreement, agreed that it has the full, complete, and exclusive responsibility for the support, integrity, and safety of the Millennium Tower to the extent the Millennium Tower is affected by the construction of the Transit Center and Support System.
- 57. Under Section II.B.1(h) of the Easement Agreement, the TJPA agreed to repair, at its own cost and expense, or pay the reasonable cost of repairing, any damage to the Millennium Tower substantially caused by the TJPA's construction activities. The TJPA specifically acknowledged that its obligation to repair damage to the Millennium Tower substantially caused by the TJPA's construction activities is not dependent on the existence of fault or negligence on the TJPA's part. In particular, but not exclusively, the TJPA agreed to repair damage to waterproofing or cracks in the foundations or walls of the Millennium Tower resulting from settlement or movement substantially caused by its construction activities.
- 58. The HOA is the successor in interest to MSD under the Easement Agreement. On or about August 23, 2016, the HOA gave notice to the TJPA of the HOA's claims against the TJPA for damages to the extent required under Government Code section 910 *et seq*. The TJPA denied the HOA's claims on or about October 7, 2016.

### VI. THE DEFECTS

- 59. The Tower was constructed on an inadequate foundation system and has experienced vertical displacement of over 16 inches. The Tower has settled differentially and is it out of plumb by over 12 inches. The Property also suffers from other defects, including inadequate garage construction and waterproofing, defective windows, curtain wall corrosion and water intrusion, inter-unit odor transmission, cracks, and alignment issues.
- 60. The following list of defects as defined in the California Civil Code is preliminary and nonexclusive and, therefore, is given without prejudice to the HOA's right to expand, amend, modify, or augment its claims and/or list of defects at any time, and the HOA specifically reserves its right to do so herein:
  - a. Civil Code § 896(a)(2): Water intrusion through windows and their systems

and assemblies, including without limitation assemblies, thresholds, framing, substrate, flashings and trim, if any, or their designed or actual moisture barriers, including without limitation, internal barriers within the systems themselves. Such deficiencies have led to water intrusion into framing cavities and/or unit interiors, causing degradation of materials.

- b. Civil Code § 896(a)(7): Water intrusion through foundation system and slabs. The deficiencies have led to water intrusion into adjacent systems, including the Garage and basement areas in the Tower and Podium, causing staining and degradation of materials.
- c. Civil Code § 896(a)(14): Plumbing systems leak. These deficiencies have led to water intrusion, staining, corrosion, and efflorescence, and degradation of other building components.
- d. Civil Code § 896(b)(1): Foundations, load-bearing walls, and slabs are experiencing vertical and horizontal displacement due to underlying soil settlement and inadequate foundation support, resulting in damage to Garage walls, foundation walls, plumbing lines, sidewalks, and other component parts of the Property. The foundations of the Tower and Podium are experiencing settlement at a rate and depth well beyond the design parameters, resulting in actual or potential cracking of walls, pipes, joints, sidewalks, and other elements of the Property, water intrusion, and improper sewer pipe flows.
- e. Civil Code § 896(b)(2): Foundations, load-bearing walls, and slabs contain significant vertical and horizontal displacement that has the potential to cause the Property to be structurally unsafe. The foundations of the Tower and Podium are experiencing settlement at a rate and depth well beyond the design parameters, resulting in differential settlement of the Tower and Podium structures.
- f. Civil Code § 896(c)(1): Soils and engineered foundation walls are causing significant vertical and horizontal displacement of the Tower, Podium, and

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Garage structures due to underlying soil settlement and/or inadequate foundation support, resulting in damage to garage walls, foundation walls, plumbing lines, and other component parts. The soil underlying the Property is experiencing settlement at a rate and depth well beyond the design parameters, resulting in cracking and water intrusion in the walls and on the lower floor of the Garage, and spalling (or scaling) of the concrete therein. In the Garage there is water intrusion through subgrade walls and the lower-level garage floor surface, and cracking and spalling of subgrade walls. In the Tower there is water intrusion through subgrade walls.

- Civil Code § 896(c)(3): Soil settlement under the Millennium Tower is causing the land to become potentially unusable for its common purpose.
- h. Civil Code § 896(g)(2): Cracks and separations have developed in the exterior wall finishes. The exterior curtain wall is leaking.
- i. Civil Code § 896(g)(3)(A): Manufactured window components have been improperly manufactured and/or installed so as to interfere with their useful life. In particular, window stay arms do not operate properly and are failing.
- Civil Code § 896(g)(6): There is unreasonable noise and odor transmission between units.
- j. Civil Code § 896(g)(15): The foregoing deficiencies violate the standard that structures shall not be constructed in a manner that potentially impairs their occupants' safety.
- k. Civil Code § 897: The foregoing deficiencies violate the standard that other deficiencies are actionable if they are the cause of damage.
- 61. On or about August 12, 2016, the HOA provided MSD and Webcor with Notice under California Civil Code section 6000 et seq. and sections 896 and 910 et seq. of its claim for damages arising out of, or related to, deficiencies in the development, design, specifications, planning, supervision, testing, observation of construction, and construction of the Property. The Notice tolled all applicable statutes of limitation and repose, whether in contract, statute, or

decisional law, by and against all potentially responsible parties, regardless of whether they were named in the Notice, including claims for indemnity, consistent with California Civil Code section 6000, section 895 *et seq.*, and section 910 *et seq.* (and including Civil Code section 927). Since that date, the HOA, MSD, Webcor, and certain others have been engaged in the dispute resolution process identified in the statutes above.

### VII. CAUSES OF ACTION

### **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

Violation of California Civil Code § 895 et seq. Against the

Millennium Defendants, Millennium Founders, Webcor, Handel, the

Engineering Defendants, and Does 1 Through 100, Inclusive

- 62. The HOA re-alleges and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1 through 61 above as if fully set forth herein.
- 63. The Millennium Defendants, Webcor, Handel, and the Engineering Defendants were under a statutory obligation to design, develop, and/or construct the Millennium Tower in conformance with all applicable building codes and standards, including but not limited to California Civil Code section 895 et seq.
- 64. The Millennium Defendants, Webcor, Handel, and the Engineering Defendants failed to design, develop, and/or construct the Millennium Tower in conformance with the standard of California Civil Code section 895 *et seq.*, specifically the functionality standard set forth in California Civil Code sections 896 and 897.
- 65. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that the Millennium Founders and MPI are liable for the acts of MSD, MSH, MPM, and MP LLC because MSD, MSH, MPM, and MP LLC are alter egos or agents of MPI and the Millennium Founders. A unity of interest and ownership existed between MSD, MSH, MPM, MP LLC, MPI, and the Millennium Founders, and adherence to the fiction of a separate corporate existence would promote injustice under these circumstances. In the interest of justice, each and every Millennium Defendant that ultimately caused or benefited from the wrongful conduct alleged in the Complaint should be held ultimately liable for the HOA's damages.

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66. The HOA seeks damages for the reasonable value of repairing any violation of the standards found under California Civil Code section 895 *et seq.*; reasonable costs of repairing any damages caused by repair efforts; reasonable costs of repairing and rectifying any damages resulting from the failure of the Millennium Tower to meet the section 895 standards; reasonable costs of removing and replacing any improper repair by Defendants; reasonable relocation and storage expenses; and reasonable investigative costs for each established violation of the section 895 standards.

### SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

# Negligence Against the Millennium Defendants, Millennium Founders, Webcor, Handel, the Engineering Defendants, ARUP, and Does 1 Through 100, Inclusive

- 67. The HOA re-alleges and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1 through 66 above as if fully set forth herein.
- 68. The Millennium Defendants, Webcor, Handel, and the Engineering Defendants were and are a developer, builder, contractor, general contractor, subcontractor, supplier, architect, engineer, or other person, entity, or professional who participated in the process of the design, engineering, manufacture, construction, and management of condominium units, buildings, improvements, and structures of the Millennium Tower and who performed labor, supplied materials, equipment, and/or services necessary for the building and construction of the Millennium Tower with the knowledge that the condominium units would be sold to, and used by, members of the public. In so doing, the Millennium Defendants, Webcor, Handel, and the Engineering Defendants, in their capacity as developer, builder, contractor, general contractor, subcontractor, supplier, architect, engineer, seller, manager, or otherwise, caused the Millennium Tower to be designed, engineered, constructed, and/or managed through their own works of labor, their supplying of materials, equipment, and services, and through causing other contractors and subcontractors to perform works of labor to supply materials, equipment, and services in order to properly complete and manage the Millennium Tower and subject structures so that it could be sold to and used by members of the public.

- 69. The Millennium Defendants, Webcor, Handel, and the Engineering Defendants, whether builder, contractor, general contractor, subcontractor, supplier, architect, engineer, manager, or otherwise, negligently, carelessly, tortiously, and wrongfully failed to use reasonable care in the analysis, preparation, design, manufacture, construction, and/or management of the real property and structures of the Millennium Tower, thereby causing damages, including, among other things, excessive and differential settlement of the Tower and the Podium, and defects and deficiencies in the foundation, Garage, subterranean structure, curtain wall, exterior wall panels, skylights, common areas, plaza and terrace decks, unit interiors (including but not limited to excessive noise and odors moving between units), exterior doors, roofing, and utility connections.
- 70. The Millennium Defendants, Webcor, Handel, and the Engineering Defendants, whether as developer, builder, contractor, general contractor, subcontractor, supplier, material man, architect, engineer, manager, or otherwise, performed work, labor, and/or services for the construction of the Millennium Tower, and each knew or should have known that if the Millennium Tower was not properly or adequately designed, engineered, supervised, constructed, and/or managed, the owners and users would be substantially damaged thereby, and the condominium units, buildings, improvements, and structures would be defective and not of merchantable quality.
- The Millennium Defendants, Webcor, Handel, and the Engineering Defendants were under a duty to exercise ordinary care as developer, builder, contractor, general contractor, subcontractor, supplier, architect, engineer, manager, or otherwise to avoid reasonably foreseeable injury to users and purchasers of the condominium units, buildings, improvements, and structures, and knew or should have foreseen with reasonable certainty that purchasers and/or users would suffer damages if the Millennium Defendants, Webcor, Handel, and the Engineering Defendants failed to perform their duty to cause the Property and the structures of the Millennium Tower to be designed, engineered, constructed, and managed in a proper workmanlike manner and fashion.
  - 72. In performing the works of a developer, builder, contractor, general contractor,

subcontractor, supplier, architect, engineer, manager, or otherwise, the Millennium Defendants, Webcor, Handel, and the Engineering Defendants failed and neglected to perform the work, labor, and services properly or adequately. The Millennium Defendants, Webcor, Handel, and the Engineering Defendants so negligently performed their work, labor, and/or services such that the premises and structures of the Millennium Tower were designed, engineered, constructed, and/or managed improperly, negligently, carelessly, and/or not in a workmanlike manner.

- 73. Defendant Arup was hired by the TJPA to provide it with geotechnical engineering services relating to the lateral support for the Millennium Tower made necessary by the excavation for the Transit Center. Arup performed work, labor, and/or services for the soils evaluation, support wall, and buttress pile wall between the Transit Center and the Millennium Tower for the purpose of providing lateral and subjacent support to the Millennium Tower.
- 74. Arup was under a duty to exercise ordinary care as engineer, subcontractor, manager, or otherwise to avoid reasonably foreseeable injury to users and purchasers of the condominium units, buildings, improvements, and structures of and in the Millennium Tower. Arup knew or should have foreseen with reasonable certainty that the HOA and its members would suffer damages if the soils evaluation, support wall, and buttress pile wall were not properly or adequately designed, engineered, supervised, and/or constructed.
- 75. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that Arup negligently, carelessly, tortiously, and wrongfully failed to use reasonable care in the analysis, preparation, design, manufacture, and/or construction of the soils evaluation, lateral support, and/or buttress pile wall, thereby causing damage to the Millennium Tower, including, among other things, excessive and differential settlement of the Tower and Podium, and defects and deficiencies in the Garage.
- 76. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' breaches, the HOA has suffered and will continue to suffer damages in an amount to be proved at trial.

  On information and belief, the HOA alleges that the Millennium Founders and MPI are liable for the acts of MSD, MSH, MPM, and MP LLC because MSD, MSH, MPM, and MP LLC are alter egos or agents of MPI and the Millennium Founders. A unity of interest and ownership existed between MSD, MSH, MPM, MP LLC, MPI, and the Millennium Founders, and adherence to the

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fiction of a separate corporate existence would promote injustice under these circumstances. In the interest of justice, each and every Millennium Defendant that ultimately caused or benefited from the wrongful conduct alleged in the Complaint should be held ultimately liable for the HOA's damages.

### THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

# Breach of Express Warranties Against the Millennium Defendants, Millennium Founders, and Does 1 Through 100, Inclusive

- 77. The HOA re-alleges and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1 through 76 above as if fully set forth herein.
- 78. On information and belief, Millennium Defendants provided prospective buyers with a written statement disclaiming any knowledge of any substantial defects as required by California Civil Code § 1134(b). Millennium's "Property Disclosure and Information Statement," dated May 2011, failed to disclose that the building was experiencing excessive vertical and differential settlement. This disclosure constituted an express warranty that no substantial defects existed in the common areas, the separate interests the HOA is obligated to maintain and repair, or the separate interests that are integrally related to the common areas and separate interests. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that the Millennium Defendants also expressly warranted through sales and advertising materials and through sales representatives for the Property that the Millennium Tower was designed and constructed in a commercially reasonable and habitable manner when the Millennium Defendants offered the units of the Millennium Tower for sale to the general public for use as residences. For instance, the Millennium Tower San Francisco Sales Manual states, "With its superior design, highest quality, thoughtful service, and extraordinary amenities, we believe Millennium Tower will be the best residential tower ever built in San Francisco."
- 79. On information and belief, these express warranties were made when Millennium Defendants knew that the building was settling excessively and differentially.
- 80. The HOA and its members relied on the Millennium Defendants' express representations that these units were marketed for sale to the general public, and thus of

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merchantable quality suitable for their intended purpose, without major, significant defective causes, effects, or conditions, unremedied or unrepaired by the Millennium Defendants.

- 81. The Millennium Defendants breached these express warranties by selling the condominium units in the Millennium Tower with the above-described deficiencies in the design, specification, planning, supervision, development, improvement, and repair thereof.
- 82. As a direct and proximate result of the breach of express warranties by the Millennium Defendants, the HOA and its members suffered damages stemming from the failure of the real property and structures thereon, including without limitation excessive and differential settlement of the Tower and Podium structures, and defects and deficiencies in the foundation, Garage, subterranean structure, curtain wall, exterior wall panels, skylights, common areas, plaza and terrace decks, unit interiors (including but not limited to noise and odors moving between units), exterior doors, roofing, and utility connections as set forth herein.
- 83. As a direct and proximate result of the Millennium Defendants' breach, the HOA has suffered and will continue to suffer damages in an amount to be proved at trial.
- 84. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that the Millennium Founders and MPI are liable for the acts of MSD, MSH, MPM, and MP LLC because MSD, MSH, MPM, and MP LLC are alter egos or agents of MPI and the Millennium Founders. A unity of interest and ownership existed between MSD, MSH, MPM, MP LLC, MPI, and the Millennium Founders, and adherence to the fiction of a separate corporate existence would promote injustice under these circumstances. In the interest of justice, each and every Millennium Defendant that ultimately caused or benefited from the wrongful conduct alleged in the Complaint should be held ultimately liable for the HOA's damages.

### **FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

Breach of Implied Warranties Against the Millennium Defendants, Millennium Founders, Webcor, and Does 1 Through 100, Inclusive

- 85. The HOA re-alleges and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1 through 83 above as if fully set forth herein.
  - 86. Webcor impliedly warranted that the Millennium Tower was designed and

constructed in a commercially reasonable and workmanlike manner.

- 87. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that the Millennium Defendants impliedly warranted that the Millennium Tower was designed and constructed in a commercially reasonable and workmanlike manner when the Millennium Defendants offered the condominium units of the Millennium for sale to the general public and delegated the duty of maintenance and repair to the HOA.
- 88. The Property was not of proper durability, reliability, and/or general quality and not fit for its intended use.
- 89. As a direct and proximate result of the Millennium Defendants' and Webcor's breaches, the HOA has suffered and will continue to suffer damages in an amount to be proved at trial.
- 90. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that the Millennium Founders and MPI are liable for the acts of MSD, MSH, MPM, and MP LLC because MSD, MSH, MPM, and MP LLC are alter egos or agents of MPI and the Millennium Founders. A unity of interest and ownership existed between MSD, MSH, MPM, MP LLC, MPI, and the Millennium Founders, and adherence to the fiction of a separate corporate existence would promote injustice under these circumstances. In the interest of justice, each and every Millennium Defendant that ultimately caused or benefited from the wrongful conduct alleged in the Complaint should be held ultimately liable for the HOA's damages.

#### FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

## Strict Liability Against the Millennium Defendants, Millennium Founders, and Does 1 Through 100, Inclusive

- 91. The HOA re-alleges and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1 through 89 above as if fully set forth herein.
- 92. The Millennium Defendants are, and at all times relevant were, engaged in the mass production of condominiums for sale and use by members of the general public.
- 93. In or about 2005–2013, the Millennium Defendants participated in the design, development, construction, marketing, and sale of condominium units, buildings, structures, and

improvements for the Millennium Tower. In doing so, the Millennium Defendants developed the Millennium Tower with individual units for use as residential dwellings.

- 94. In their capacity as a developer, builder, marketer, and seller of the Millennium Tower, the Millennium Defendants knew that the condominium units, buildings, and structures would be sold to, and used by, members of the general public for the purpose of residences. The Millennium Defendants knew, or reasonably should have known, that the persons who would purchase the condominium units would do so without inspection for the defects set forth herein.
- 95. The Millennium Defendants are, and at all times relevant were, merchants with respect to the Millennium Tower. The Millennium Defendants impliedly warranted that the real property and structures in the Millennium Tower, including, among other things, the foundation, Garage, subterranean structure, curtain wall, exterior wall panels, skylights, common areas, plaza and terrace decks, unit interiors, exterior doors, roofing, and utility connections, were of merchantable quality and were erected in a reasonable workmanlike manner.
- 96. In their capacity as developers, mass-developers, mass-constructors, and mass-producers of the Millennium Tower, the Millennium Defendants are strictly liable and responsible to the HOA for all damages suffered as a result of the defects and deficiencies at the Millennium Tower, including, among other things, excessive and differential settlement of the Tower and Podium, and defects and deficiencies in the foundation, Garage, subterranean structure, curtain wall, exterior wall panels, skylights, common areas, plaza and terrace decks, unit interiors (including but not limited to excessive noise and odor transfers between units), exterior doors, roofing, and utility connections.
- 97. Within the past year, the HOA discovered that the underlying soils and component structures of the Millennium Tower are, and have been, experiencing defective conditions, including, among other things, excessive and differential settlement of the Tower and the Podium, and defects and deficiencies in the foundation, Garage, subterranean structure, curtain wall, exterior wall panels, skylights, common areas, plaza and terrace decks, unit interiors (including but not limited to odors moving between units), exterior doors, roofing, and utility connections. Such defective components are not of merchantable quality, nor were they

designed, erected, constructed, or installed in a workmanlike manner, but instead are defective and, as now known, demonstrate improper, nonexistent, and/or inadequate design, construction, manufacture and/or installation. The structures may be additionally defective in ways and to an extent not precisely known, but will be established at the time of trial according to proof.

- 98. The HOA properly notified the Millennium Defendants of the defective conditions of the Property. Notwithstanding such notice, the Millennium Defendants have failed to acknowledge responsibility for all of the defective conditions or otherwise cause the appropriate restoration and/or repair to be made at their cost and expense.
- 99. The items generally referred to and particularly described herein were latent deficiencies in that the above-described defects arose out of, were attributable to, and are directly and proximately caused by the above-described latent deficiencies in the design, specifications, planning, supervision, construction, observation of construction, development, and improvement of the Millennium Tower. Before the HOA discovered them, such defects and deficiencies could not have been discovered by the exercise of reasonable diligence.
- 100. At all times relevant, the HOA relied on the skill of the Millennium Defendants to produce condominiums that are reasonably fit for their intended purpose.
- 101. The HOA is still not fully aware of all the causes, the full extent, and possible legal significance of the results or causes of the conditions described above due to the loss being continual and latent. The HOA is an organization of lay individuals who require expert consultation to provide a review of the property conditions. The HOA is still not informed of any causes or entire results of the full extent of these latent deficiencies, nor is the HOA fully informed of the potential causes of the resultant distress due to the loss being continual and latent.
- 102. Any and all repair attempts by the Millennium Defendants failed to adequately correct the damages and deficiencies in the Millennium Tower thereby resulting in further property damage.
- 103. Instead of causing the necessary and required construction and repair of the Millennium Tower, the Millennium Defendants caused cosmetic, temporary, or ineffective

repairs to be made to various portions of the Millennium Tower for the purpose of leading the HOA and its members to believe that the Millennium Defendants were resolving and correcting all deficiencies. By virtue of such conduct, the Millennium Defendants are estopped to assert that the HOA may not seek the damages herein sought.

- 104. The above-described defects arose out of, were attributed to, and are directly and proximately caused by the above-described deficiencies in the design, specification, planning, supervision, development, and improvement of the Millennium Tower and faulty repairs thereto, and before such defects were discovered by the HOA, they could not have been discovered by the exercise of reasonable diligence.
- MPI are liable for the acts of MSD, MSH, MPM, and MP LLC because MSD, MSH, MPM, and MP LLC are alter egos or agents of MPI and the Millennium Founders. A unity of interest and ownership existed between MSD, MSH, MPM, MP LLC, MPI, and the Millennium Founders, and adherence to the fiction of a separate corporate existence would promote injustice under these circumstances. In the interest of justice, each and every Millennium Defendant that ultimately caused or benefited from the wrongful conduct alleged in the Complaint should be held ultimately liable for the HOA's damages.
- 106. As a direct and proximate result of the conduct herein alleged, the HOA has suffered damages in an amount to be proven at the time of trial.

#### **SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

Negligent Misrepresentation Against the Millennium Defendants,

Millennium Founders, Sean Jeffries, and Does 1 Through 100, Inclusive

- 107. The HOA re-alleges and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1 through 106 above as if fully set forth herein.
- 108. The Millennium Defendants represented on February 28, 2014 to the HOA, through Sean Jeffries, that they were not "aware to date of any information that gives us concern for the safety of the building or any significant impact on the structure." This representation

<sup>35</sup> Letter from Sean Jeffries to Jeff Peters re Millennium Tower (Feb. 28, 2016).

was demonstrably false, as the Tower had already exceeded the revised upper limit of the total expected lifetime settlement.

- 109. At the time, the Millennium Defendants and Sean Jeffries did not have any reasonable ground for believing their February 28, 2014 representation was true. As the Millennium Defendants and Sean Jeffries were aware, the Tower was originally predicted to sink no more than 4 to 6 inches over its lifetime, and that the predicted lifetime settlement of the Tower was later revised to 10.3 to 12.3 inches. At the time of their representation on February 28, 2014, the Millennium Defendants and Sean Jeffries also knew that the Tower had already exceeded its revised predicted lifetime settlement. The Millennium Defendants and Sean Jeffries also knew that the TJPA's construction activities would likely cause further differential settlement.
- 110. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that Sean Jeffries also made periodic presentations to the HOA at the executive session board meetings where he repeatedly assured the HOA that Millennium Partners was monitoring the building and was not aware of any concerns regarding building settlement.<sup>36</sup> Sean Jeffries also did not have any reasonable ground for believing these representations were accurate when he made them because he knew that the Tower had already exceeded its revised predicted lifetime settlement and that the TJPA's construction activities would likely cause further differential settlement.
- Easement Amendment with the TJPA, purporting to represent the HOA but without the authority to do so, which resulted in his, not the HOA's, receiving monitoring reports from the TJPA. At the time, Sean Jeffries did not have any reasonable ground for believing he was authorized to sign the Amended Easement Agreement with the TJPA on behalf of the HOA without the HOA's authority to do so. After Sean Jeffries misrepresented that he was authorized to sign the Amended Easement Amendment with the TJPA on behalf of the HOA, Sean Jeffries or an employee of the Millennium defendants, and not the HOA, began receiving monitoring data

 $<sup>^{36}</sup>$  On information and belief, this information was communicated verbally at HOA board meeting executive sessions including at the October 6, 2014 executive session.

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collected by the TJPA, which further revealed that the Tower was settling vertically and differentially in excess of the design specifications, including the revised expected maximum settlement. Sean Jeffries and the Millennium Defendants did not disclose this data to the HOA. but instead concealed it.

- 112. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that Sean Jeffries was, at all times, authorized to speak on behalf of the Millennium Defendants.
- 113. The Millennium Defendants and Sean Jeffries intended that the HOA would rely on these representations by failing to take action to correct the defects and damage to the Millennium Tower of which it was not aware.
- The HOA reasonably relied on the Millennium Defendants' and Sean Jeffries' representations because the HOA reasonably believed that the Millennium Defendants would fulfill their duty of disclosure.
- 115. In reliance on the Millennium Defendants' and Sean Jeffries' representations, the HOA did not take corrective action to prevent continuing and future damage.
- 116. The HOA's reliance on the Millennium Defendants' and Sean Jeffries' representations was a substantial factor in causing damages to the HOA, including by diminishing the value of the common areas of Millennium Tower and by delaying any corrective action that could reduce the extent of damage.
- 117. Because the Millennium Defendants and Sean Jeffries withheld information from the HOA, the Millennium Defendants and Sean Jeffries necessarily possess full information concerning the facts of their own negligent acts.
- As a direct and proximate result of the Millennium Defendants' and Sean Jeffries' 118. negligent conduct, the HOA has suffered and will continue to suffer damages in an amount to be proved at trial.
- 119. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that the Millennium Founders and MPI are liable for the acts of MSD, MSH, MPM, and MP LLC because MSD, MSH, MPM, and MP LLC are alter egos or agents of MPI and the Millennium Founders. A unity of interest and ownership existed between MSD, MSH, MPM, MP LLC, MPI, and the Millennium Founders,

and adherence to the fiction of a separate corporate existence would promote injustice under these circumstances. In the interest of justice, each and every Millennium Defendant that ultimately caused or benefited from the wrongful conduct alleged in the Complaint should be held ultimately liable for the HOA's damages.

#### **SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

Fraudulent Misrepresentation Against the Millennium Defendants,

Millennium Founders, Sean Jeffries, and Does 1 Through 100, Inclusive

- 120. The HOA re-alleges and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1 through 119 above as if fully set forth herein.
- 121. The Millennium Defendants represented on February 28, 2014 to the HOA, through Sean Jeffries, that they were not "aware to date of any information that gives us concern for the safety of the building or any significant impact on the structure." This representation was demonstrably false, as Sean Jeffries and the Millennium Defendants knew that the Tower had already exceeded the revised upper limit of the total expected lifetime settlement.
- 122. At the time, the Millennium Defendants and Sean Jeffries knew that the Tower was originally predicted to sink no more than 4 to 6 inches over its lifetime, and that the predicted lifetime settlement of the Tower was later revised to 10.3 to 12.3 inches. At the time of their representation on February 28, 2014, the Millennium Defendants and Sean Jeffries knew that the Tower had already exceeded its revised predicted lifetime settlement. The Millennium Defendants and Sean Jeffries also knew that the TJPA's construction activities would likely cause further differential settlement.
- 123. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that Sean Jeffries also made periodic presentations to the HOA at the executive session board meetings where he repeatedly assured the HOA that Millennium Partners was monitoring the building and was not aware of any concerns regarding building settlement.<sup>38</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Letter from Sean Jeffries to Jeff Peters re Millennium Tower (Feb. 28, 2016).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> On information and belief, this information was communicated verbally at HOA board meeting executive sessions including at the October 6, 2014 executive session.

- Easement Amendment with the TJPA, purporting to represent the HOA but without the authority to do so, which resulted in his, not the HOA's, receiving monitoring reports from the TJPA.

  After Sean Jeffries misrepresented that he was authorized to sign the Amended Easement Amendment with the TJPA on behalf of the HOA, Sean Jeffries or another employee of the Millennium Defendants, and not the HOA, began receiving monitoring data collected by the TJPA, which further revealed that the Tower was settling vertically and differentially in excess of the design specifications, including the revised expected maximum settlement. Sean Jeffries and the Millennium Defendants did not disclose this data to the HOA, but instead concealed it.
  - 125. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that Sean Jeffries was, at all times, authorized to speak on behalf of the Millennium Defendants.
  - 126. The Millennium Defendants and Sean Jeffries intended that the HOA would rely on this representation by failing to take action to correct the defects and damage to the Millennium Tower of which it was not aware.
  - 127. The HOA reasonably relied on the Millennium Defendants' and Sean Jeffries' representations because the HOA reasonably believed that the Millennium Defendants would fulfill their duty of disclosure.
  - 128. In reliance on the Millennium Defendants' and Sean Jeffries' representations, the HOA did not take corrective action to prevent continuing and future damage.
  - 129. The HOA's reliance on the Millennium Defendants' and Sean Jeffries' representations caused damages to the HOA, including by diminishing the value of the common areas of Millennium Tower and by delaying any corrective action that could reduce the extent of damage.
  - 130. Because the Millennium Defendants and Sean Jeffries intentionally withheld information from the HOA, the Millennium Defendants and Sean Jeffries necessarily possess full information concerning the facts of their own fraudulent acts.
  - 131. As a direct and proximate result of the Millennium Defendants' and Sean Jeffries' fraudulent conduct, the HOA has suffered and will continue to suffer damages in an amount to

be proved at trial.

- MPI are liable for the acts of MSD, MSH, MPM, and MP LLC because MSD, MSH, MPM, and MP LLC are alter egos or agents of MPI and the Millennium Founders. A unity of interest and ownership existed between MSD, MSH, MPM, MP LLC, MPI, and the Millennium Founders, and adherence to the fiction of a separate corporate existence would promote injustice under these circumstances. In the interest of justice, each and every Millennium Defendant that ultimately caused or benefited from the wrongful conduct alleged in the Complaint should be held ultimately liable for the HOA's damages.
- 133. Because the Millennium Defendants' and Sean Jeffries' conduct was malicious, oppressive, and fraudulent, and taken in knowing disregard of their legal duties, punitive damages should be awarded. The Millennium Defendants knew that the construction and design of the Millennium Tower was deficient and that the Millennium Tower was suffering from vertical and differential settlement, and consciously and recklessly disregarded the probability of injury to residents of Millennium Tower units and to the common areas of the Millennium Tower by developing and marketing the Millennium Tower despite knowing that its construction methods and design plans were deficient, and by continuing to market the units after they received information that the building was sinking and tilting.

#### **EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

Fraudulent Concealment Against the Millennium Defendants,

Millennium Founders, Sean Jeffries, John Luciano,

and Does 1 Through 100, Inclusive

- 134. The HOA re-alleges and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1 through 133 above as if fully set forth herein.
- 135. As marketers, sellers, and promoters of the Millennium Tower, the Millennium Defendants, Sean Jeffries, and Luciano owed a duty of disclosure to the HOA and its members. As a result, the Millennium Defendants, Sean Jeffries, and Luciano had an obligation to disclose facts relating to the Millennium Tower, including its common areas. As designated contact for

receipt of monitoring data from the TJPA, Sean Jeffries also owed a fiduciary duty to the HOA, its board, and its members. As a member of the HOA Board, Luciano owed a fiduciary duty to the HOA and its members. Finally, as the persons and entities with knowledge and information about the condition of the Millennium Tower not available to the HOA, including the Tower's excessive vertical and differential settlement, the Millennium Defendants, Sean Jeffries, and Luciano owed a duty of disclosure to the HOA and its members.

- 136. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that despite owing a duty of disclosure to the HOA, the Millennium Defendants, Sean Jeffries, and Luciano intentionally failed to disclose certain facts regarding the excessive vertical and differential settlement of the Millennium Tower and instead actively concealed those facts for as long as possible.
- 137. The Millennium Defendants, Sean Jeffries, and Luciano knew that the Tower was originally predicted to sink no more than 4 to 6 inches over its lifetime. The Millennium Defendants, Sean Jeffries, and Luciano also knew that the predicted lifetime settlement of the Tower was later revised to 10.3 to 12.3 inches.
- on the settlement building continuously over a period of years, starting as early as 2010. Arup has prepared at least 58 memoranda to the TJPA providing updates on settlement monitoring through 2016. On information and belief, this same settlement data was sent by TJPA to Millennium Partners, who in turn transmitted the settlement data to DeSimone for evaluation. DeSimone then prepared its own analysis of the Arup data, summarized in numerous memoranda that were addressed to Steven Hood of Millennium Partners.<sup>39</sup>
- 139. The DeSimone memoranda, based upon the Arup monitoring data and produced directly to Millennium Partners, unequivocally show excessive vertical and differential settlement of the Millennium Tower. For example, a DeSimone Memorandum dated December

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> See, e.g., Memorandum from Nicolas Rodrigues to Steven Hood (Millennium Partners) re: 301 Mission Street - Settlement Monitoring (review of most recent settlement data provided by Millennium Partners to DeSimone) (Dec. 13, 2013); Email from Brian Dykes (TJPA) to Steven Hood Re: Instrument Monitoring (attaching June 28, 2013 Arup Memorandum Re: Manually Read Inclinometer Update) (July 16, 2013).

14, 2012, demonstrates the Tower had already sunk over 11 inches.

- 140. Yet the HOA was not made aware of the true nature of the wrongful conduct and the full extent to which the Tower was experiencing excessive vertical and differential settlement until 2016. The Millennium Defendants, Sean Jeffries, and Luciano failed to disclose to the HOA before 2016 that the Tower had exceeded the original predicted lifetime settlement range of 4 to 6 inches as of January 2009, and the Millennium Defendants, Sean Jeffries, and Luciano also failed to disclose to the HOA before 2016 that the Tower had already exceeded the revised predicted maximum lifetime settlement of 12.3 inches.
- 141. As of the signing of the First Amendment to the Easement Amendment, the Millennium Defendants, Sean Jeffries, and Luciano also knew that the TJPA's construction activities at the site of the Transit Center would likely cause additional vertical and differential settlement of the Tower and the Podium, and potentially other damages. As of early 2014, the Millennium Defendants, Sean Jeffries, and Luciano also knew that the TJPA's construction activities at the site of the Transit Center had already caused vertical and differential settlement of the Tower and the Podium, damage to the Garage, water intrusion, and other damages.
- 142. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that Sean Jeffries and others, including representatives of the TJPA, signed a confidentiality agreement on March 17, 2010 to conceal from the HOA and others the extent of the settlement and that the TJPA's construction activities at the site of the Transit Center, adjacent to the Millennium Tower, would likely cause additional vertical and differential settlement of the Tower and the Podium.
- 143. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that Sean Jeffries, in a further attempt to conceal from the HOA for as long as possible that the Tower was settling vertically and differentially in excess of the design specifications, signed the Amended Easement Amendment with the TJPA. Because Sean Jeffries signed the Amended Easement Amendment with the TJPA, Sean Jeffries or other employees of the Millennium Defendants, and not the HOA, began receiving monitoring data collected by the TJPA, which further revealed that the Tower was settling vertically and differentially in excess of the design specifications, including the revised expected maximum settlement. Sean Jeffries and the Millennium Defendants did not disclose

this data to the HOA, but instead concealed it.

- differentially at least by March 15, 2010, if not earlier, when Sean Jeffries and others employees of Millennium Defendants received monitoring data from Arup that discussed differential settlement. Despite knowing of the differential settlement and the detrimental impact of the TJPA's activities on the Millennium Tower, the Millennium Defendants, Sean Jeffries, and Luciano failed to disclose to the HOA the full extent of the wrongful conduct and its effects before 2016, including that the TJPA's construction activities at the site of the Transit Center had contributed to the excessive vertical and differential settlement of the Tower and the Podium far in excess of the design specifications, damage to the Garage, water intrusion, and-other damages.
- 145. In his capacity as an executive for the Millennium Defendants, Luciano knew of the vertical and differential settlement of the Tower and Podium and other ongoing damages to the Property resulting from the design and construction defects and the TJPA's activities. Luciano, a Vice President at MPM and a member of the HOA's Board from approximately 2009 through 2016, wrongfully failed to disclose to the HOA and its members all material facts regarding the Tower and instead actively concealed them, in violation of his duty of disclosure to the HOA.
- 146. The Millennium Defendants and Sean Jeffries further represented on February 28, 2014 to the HOA, that they were not "aware to date of any information that gives us concern for the safety of the building or any significant impact on the structure." This representation was demonstrably false, as Sean Jeffries and the Millennium Defendants knew that the Tower had already exceeded the revised upper limit of the total expected lifetime settlement. In a December 13, 2013 Memorandum to Millennium Partners, DeSimone observed that the total measured settlement was "now officially outside the maximum predicted value provided by Treadwell and Rollo (Langan)."
- 147. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that Sean Jeffries and Luciano were, at all times, authorized to speak on behalf of the Millennium Defendants.
  - 148. In failing to disclose these material facts, the Millennium Defendants, Sean

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Jeffries, and Luciano intended to deceive the HOA, knowing that the HOA could not and would not take corrective action to address problems of which the HOA was not aware.

- 149. In reliance on the Millennium Defendants' misrepresentations and failures to disclose, the HOA did not take early corrective action to prevent future damage.
- 150. The HOA's reliance on the fraudulent concealment of the Millennium Defendants, Sean Jeffries, and Luciano caused damages to the HOA, including by diminishing the value of the common areas of the Millennium Tower.
- 151. Because the Millennium Defendants, Sean Jeffries, and Luciano intentionally withheld information from the HOA, the Millennium Defendants, Sean Jeffries, and Luciano necessarily possess full information concerning the facts of their own fraudulent acts.
- 152. As a direct and proximate result of the fraudulent conduct of the Millennium Defendants, Sean Jeffries, and Luciano, the HOA has suffered and will continue to suffer damages in an amount to be proved at trial.
- 153. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that the Millennium Founders and MPI are liable for the acts of MSD, MSH, MPM, and MP LLC because MSD, MSH, MPM, and MP LLC are alter egos or agents of MPI and the Millennium Founders. A unity of interest and ownership existed between MSD, MSH, MPM, MP LLC, MPI, and the Millennium Founders, and adherence to the fiction of a separate corporate existence would promote injustice under these circumstances. In the interest of justice, each and every Millennium Defendant that ultimately caused or benefited from the wrongful conduct alleged in the Complaint should be held ultimately liable for the HOA's damages.
- Was malicious, oppressive, and fraudulent, and taken in knowing disregard of their legal duties, punitive damages should be awarded. The Millennium Defendants knew that the construction and design of the Millennium Tower was deficient and that the Millennium Tower was suffering from excessive vertical and differential settlement, and consciously and recklessly disregarded the probability of injury to residents of Millennium Tower units and to the common areas of the Millennium Tower by developing and marketing the Millennium Tower despite knowing that its

construction methods and design plans were deficient, and by continuing to market the units after they received information that the building was sinking and tilting.

#### **NINTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

# Breach of Fiduciary Duty Against the Millennium Defendants, Millennium Founders, Sean Jeffries, Luciano,

#### and Does 1 Through 100, Inclusive

- 155. The HOA re-alleges and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1 through 154 above as if fully set forth herein.
- Defendants owed a fiduciary duty to the HOA and its members. Marketers, sellers, and promoters of common-interest developments are entrusted by interested investors to bring about an organization to serve a specific function, and are expected to use good judgment and good faith to complete the formation of their organizations. Despite owing such a fiduciary duty, the Millennium Defendants wrongfully failed to disclose to the HOA Board and its members all material facts regarding the substantial construction and design defects at the Millennium Tower.
- 157. On information and belief, Millennium Defendants owed a fiduciary duty to the HOA in their capacity as developers when, among other acts, they developed and approved an initial operating budget for the HOA in order to obtain a Final Subdivision Public Report, as required prior to initiating the sale of units by Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 11018 et seq. On information and belief, this operating budget included estimated expenses for maintenance of the common areas.
- 158. Despite knowing that the building was settling excessively and differentially, Millennium Defendants approved an operating budget and reserve requirements that were grossly inadequate to account for repairs made necessary by the excessive tilt and settlement. Such approval constituted a breach of Millennium Defendants' fiduciary duties, including but not limited to their duties of care and of good faith and fair dealing. This approval also constituted a breach of Millennium Defendants' duty of loyalty to the HOA because Millennium Defendants did not act to approve the operating budget and reserve requirements in the best interests of the

HOA, but instead acted in their own interests as sellers, promoters, and developers of the Property.

- 159. Millennium Defendants also owed a fiduciary duty to the HOA during the initial period of the HOA when they controlled and dominated its Board of Directors. For example, March 30, 2010 HOA Meeting Minutes show that all five members present at the Board meeting were Millennium Defendants' officers, directors, or employees.
- 160. On information and belief, Millennium Defendants knew that the building was settling excessively and differentially by March 15, 2010, if not earlier. Yet Millennium Defendants breached their fiduciary duties to the Board by, among other acts and omissions, failing to maintain sufficient reserve and operating funds to maintain and repair the known defects; failing to act in the best interests of the HOA by immediately seeking to repair known defects and halt ongoing damage to the building; and by acting in the best interests of the Millennium Defendants, not the HOA, through the concealment of information about the excessive and differential settlement from homeowners and other Board members. In so acting, Millennium Defendants breached their fiduciary duties to the Board, including but not limited to their duties of care, good faith and fair dealing, and loyalty.
- owed a fiduciary duty to the HOA, its board, and its members. Despite owing this fiduciary duty, Sean Jeffries wrongfully failed to disclose to the HOA and its members all material facts regarding the substantial defects at the Millennium Tower. Such failure constituted a breach of his fiduciary duties to the Board, including but not limited to a breach of his duties of care, good faith and fair dealing, and loyalty to the HOA.
- 162. As a member of the HOA Board, Luciano owed a fiduciary duty to the HOA and its members. Board members are expected to act with good judgment, in good faith, and in the best interests of their organization. Despite owing such a fiduciary duty, Luciano wrongfully failed to disclose to the HOA and its members all material facts regarding the substantial defects at the Millennium Tower. Such failure constituted a breach of his fiduciary duties to the Board, including but not limited to a breach of his duties of care, good faith and fair dealing, and loyalty

to the HOA.

- 163. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' breaches, the HOA has suffered and will continue to suffer damages in an amount to be proved at trial.
- MPI are liable for the acts of MSD, MSH, MPM, and MP LLC because MSD, MSH, MPM, and MP LLC are alter egos or agents of MPI and the Millennium Founders. A unity of interest and ownership existed between MSD, MSH, MPM, MP LLC, MPI, and the Millennium Founders, and adherence to the fiction of a separate corporate existence would promote injustice under these circumstances. In the interest of justice, each and every Millennium Defendant that ultimately caused or benefited from the wrongful conduct alleged in the Complaint should be held ultimately liable for the HOA's damages.
- 165. The HOA also seeks punitive or exemplary damages because Defendants' conduct was malicious, oppressive, and fraudulent, and taken in knowing disregard of their legal duties. The Millennium Defendants knew that the construction and design of the Millennium Tower was deficient and that the Millennium Tower was suffering from excessive vertical and differential settlement, and consciously and recklessly disregarded the probability of injury to future residents of Millennium Tower units and to the common areas of the Millennium Tower by developing and marketing the Millennium Tower despite knowing that its construction methods and design plans were deficient, and by continuing to market the units after they received information that the building was sinking and tilting.

#### **TENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

Violation of Business and Professions Code § 17200 et seq. Against the Millennium

Defendants, Millennium Founders, Sean Jeffries, Luciano,

and Does 1 Through 100, Inclusive

- 166. The HOA re-alleges and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1 through 165 above as if fully set forth herein.
- 167. California Business and Professions Code section 17200 *et seq.* prohibit unfair competition, including any unlawful, unfair, or fraudulent business act or practice.

- 168. The conduct of the Millennium Defendants, Sean Jeffries, and Luciano alleged herein constitutes unlawful, unfair, or fraudulent business acts or practices.
- 169. The Millennium Defendants, Sean Jeffries, and Luciano's unlawful, unfair, and fraudulent business acts and practices included a pattern of violations of California Civil Code section 1102 *et seq.* in that they repeatedly failed to disclose the nature and extent of the vertical and differential settlement of the Millennium Tower to the HOA or its members.
- 170. The unlawful conduct of the Millennium Defendants, Sean Jeffries, and Luciano also includes violations of California Civil Code section 896 *et seq.*, as more specifically alleged above.
- 171. Sean Jeffries' unlawful, unfair, or fraudulent business-acts or practices include his misrepresentations in the course of his dealings and communications with the HOA Board, and his failure to disclose the differential settlement of the Millennium Tower to the HOA or its members.
- 172. Luciano's unlawful, unfair, or fraudulent business acts or practices include his misrepresentations in the course of his dealings and communications with the HOA Board, and his failure to disclose the differential settlement of the Millennium Tower to the HOA or its members.
- 173. As a direct and proximate result of the conduct of the Millennium Defendants, Sean Jeffries and Luciano constituting unfair, unlawful, or fraudulent business practices, the HOA has suffered and will continue to suffer damages entitling it to restitution in an amount to be proved at trial.
- 174. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that the Millennium Founders and MPI are liable for the acts of MSD, MSH, MPM, and MP LLC because MSD, MSH, MPM, and MP LLC are alter egos or agents of MPI and the Millennium Founders. A unity of interest and ownership existed between MSD, MSH, MPM, MP LLC, MPI, and the Millennium Founders, and adherence to the fiction of a separate corporate existence would promote injustice under these circumstances. In the interest of justice, each and every Millennium Defendant that ultimately caused or benefited from the wrongful conduct alleged in the Complaint should be

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held ultimately liable for the HOA's damages.

175. The HOA also seeks an order that the Millennium Defendants be required to provide restitution to the HOA to restore money or property acquired by means of the Millennium Defendants' unfair, unlawful, or fraudulent practices and that resulted in injury to the common areas of the Millennium Tower.

#### **ELEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

#### Inverse Condemnation Against the TJPA

- 176. The HOA re-alleges and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1 through 175 above as if fully set forth herein.
- 177. Inverse condemnation claims arise under Article I, section 19, of the California Constitution, which provides that "[p]rivate property may be taken or damaged for a public use and only when just compensation ... has first been paid to ... the owner." Cal. Const. art. I, § 19.
- 178. The support, safety, and integrity of the Millennium Tower has been substantially affected by the construction of the Transit Center and Support System. The soil beneath the Millennium Tower has been destabilized by the construction of the Transit Center and Support System, and the Property has suffered from material movement and/or settlement, which is expected to continue for the foreseeable future. This movement and settlement is both vertical and differential and has resulted, and will continue to result, in cracks in the foundations, slabs, and walls of the Millennium Tower, water intrusion through foundation walls, displacement of sewer and other utility connections, and other damage.
- 179. The TJPA's construction activities at the site of the Transit Center, adjacent to the Millennium Tower, have caused vertical and differential settlement of the Tower and Podium, damage to the Garage, water intrusion, and other damages.
- 180. Construction of the Transit Center is ongoing such that harm to the Millennium Tower is continuous and ongoing. Accordingly, the full extent of any actual or potential harm to the Millennium Tower is unknown and ongoing.
- 181. The TJPA's construction of the Transit Center is a substantial and proximate cause of the vertical and differential settlement of the Tower and Podium, damage to the Garage,

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water intrusion, and other damages.

- 182. The HOA has suffered a taking of its property by the TJPA entitling the HOA to just compensation under Article I, section 19, of the California Constitution and the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution.
- 183. The HOA is also entitled to costs, disbursements, and expenses, including attorney, appraisal, and engineering fees pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure Section 1036.

#### TWELFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

#### Trespass Against the TJPA

- 184. The HOA re-alleges and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1 through 183 above as if fully set forth herein.
- 185. By its construction of the shoring wall, buttress wall, and related construction activities, the TJPA has intentionally, recklessly, or negligently entered the Millennium Tower or negligently caused construction-related objects to enter the Millennium Tower.
- 186. This entry into the Millennium Tower exceeded the TJPA's permission to enter the Property.
- 187. The TJPA's conduct damaged the HOA because it was a substantial factor in causing vertical and differential settlement of the Millennium Tower, as well as cracks in the foundations, slabs, and walls of the Tower, Podium and Garage, water intrusion through foundation walls, displacement of sewer and other plumbing pipes, and other damage.
- 188. Construction of the Transit Center is ongoing such that harm to the Millennium Tower is continuous and ongoing. Accordingly, the full extent of any actual or potential harm to the Millennium Tower is unknown and ongoing.
- 189. As a direct and proximate result of the TJPA's wrongful conduct, the HOA has suffered and will continue to suffer damages in an amount to be proved at trial.

#### THIRTEENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

#### Nuisance Against the TJPA

190. The HOA re-alleges and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1 through 189 above as if fully set forth herein.

- 191. The TJPA's construction of the Transit Center has caused or contributed to the sinking and tilting of the Millennium Tower, and the other damages alleged herein.
- 192. The TJPA's use and maintenance of its property has interfered with and continues to interfere with the HOA's and the HOA's members' use and enjoyment of the Millennium Tower common areas and has damaged and continues to damage the Millennium Tower. The excessive vertical and differential settlement is continuing and keeps adversely impacting the Millennium Tower, as alleged above.
- 193. TJPA's activities in constructing the Transit Center have substantially contributed to the Millennium Tower's excessive and differential settlement, as well as cracks in the foundations, slabs, and walls of the Tower, Podium and Garage, water intrusion through foundation walls, displacement of sewer and other plumbing pipes, and other damage and thereby have resulted in a diminution in the Millennium Tower's value.
- 194. Construction of the Transit Center is ongoing such that harm to the Millennium Tower is continuous and ongoing. Accordingly, the full extent of any actual or potential harm to the Millennium Tower is unknown and ongoing.
- 195. The substantial invasion of the HOA's interest in the use and enjoyment of the common areas is unreasonable.
- 196. As a result of the TJPA's construction activities, the HOA has suffered damages as set forth herein.
- 197. As a direct and proximate result of the TJPA's wrongful conduct, the HOA has suffered and will continue to suffer damages in an amount to be proved at trial.

#### **FOURTEENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

# Violation of Statutory Duty to Provide Subjacent and Lateral Support Pursuant to California Civil Code § 832 Against the TJPA

- 198. The HOA re-alleges and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1 through 197 above as if fully set forth herein.
- 199. The Millennium Tower receives lateral and subjacent support from the soil underlying the Transit Center, which adjoins the Millennium Tower to the southwest.

- 200. The TJPA has directed excavation and dewatering work at the Transit Center, by and through its agents and/or employees.
- 201. The excavation and dewatering work, and the manner in which this work was undertaken, was deliberately designed and constructed for the purpose of constructing improvements at the Transit Center.
- 202. The excavations at the Transit Center are deeper than the standard depth of foundations as defined by statute.
- 203. On information and belief, the HOA alleges that the TJPA failed to exercise ordinary care and skill and take reasonable precautions to sustain the adjoining land, as required by California Civil Code Section 832.
- 204. As a direct and proximate cause of the TJPA's excavation and dewatering at the Transit Center, the Millennium Tower was deprived of lateral and subjacent support. The TJPA's construction, excavation, and dewatering resulted in harm to the Millennium Tower, and to the Millennium Tower experiencing differential and vertical settlement beyond even the revised maximum settlement prediction provided by Treadwell & Rollo in 2009 of 10.3-12.3 inches, 40 as well as in cracks in the foundations, slabs, and walls of the Tower, Garage and Podium, water intrusion through foundation walls, displacement of sewer and other plumbing pipes, and other damage.
- 205. Construction of the Transit Center is ongoing such that harm to the Millennium Tower is continuous and ongoing. Accordingly, the full extent of any actual or potential harm to the Millennium Tower is unknown and ongoing.
- 206. As a direct and proximate result of the TJPA's breach of duty pursuant to Section 832, the HOA has suffered and will continue to suffer damages in an amount to be proved at trial.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Letter from Treadwell & Rollo to DBI (Feb. 19, 2009).

### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

#### WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for relief as follows:

- 1. For compensatory and special damages, according to proof at trial but believed to exceed Two Hundred Million Dollars (\$200,000,000);
  - 2. For interest thereon at the maximum legal rate;
  - 3. For statutory damages as set forth in California Civil Code section 895 et seq.;
- 4. For expert fees and investigative costs regarding the nature and extent of the violations of standards, defective conditions, resulting damages, and appropriate method of repairing these damages and defective conditions in accordance with *Stearman v. Centex Homes*, 78 Cal. App. 4th 611 (2000), according to proof at trial;
- 5. For an order that the Millennium Defendants be required to disgorge the profits they have wrongfully obtained and provide the HOA restitution;
  - 6. For cost of relocation, loss of use, substitute housing, and mitigation expenses;
  - 7. For punitive and/or statutory exemplary damages;
  - 8. For costs of suit and reasonable attorneys' fees incurred herein; and
  - 9. For any and all other relief the Court deems just and proper.

### **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

Plaintiff hereby demands a jury trial on all triable issues.

Dated: March 29, 2017

DANIEL M. PETROCELLI VISION WINTER O'MELVENY & MYERS LLP

Bv:

Daniel M. Petrocelli Attorneys for Plaintiff

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ATTACHMENT II
http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DPGTL/trafficplans/1942\_cities\_are\_for\_people.pdf

CITIES
ARE FOR

PEOPLE

MEL SCOTT

### SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, This Settlement Agreement ("Agreement") is entered into by and between the New York State Commission on Public Integrity ("Commission") and Millennium Partners, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, the Commission is the State agency responsible for enforcing Article 1-A of the New York State Legislative Law, as amended ("Lobbying Act"); and

WHEREAS, as a registered client in 2007, Millennium Partners, Inc. is therefore required to comply with the reporting requirements set forth in the Lobbying Act; and

WHEREAS, it is clearly established that Millennium Partners, Inc. failed to file report(s) for the year 2007, specifically a 2007 January/June Client Semi-Annual Report, as required by §1-j of the Lobbying Act; and

WHEREAS, in lieu of appearing for an adjudicatory hearing that could result in the assessment of a civil penalty, the parties to this Agreement have agreed to resolve their dispute in a manner that avoids further administrative litigation; and;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants made herein, and the final settlement of the alleged violation referred to herein, the parties agree that:

- Millennium Partners, Inc. agrees to pay to the Commission the amount of \$250. in settlement of the alleged violation referred to herein within 15 days of the execution of this Agreement. If full payment is not received within 15 days of the execution of this Agreement, this Agreement shall become null and void in its entirety.
- II. Millennium Partners, Inc. agrees to submit the accurately completed 2007 Millennium Partners, Inc. Client Semi-Annual Report within 15 days of your execution of this Agreement. If the outstanding report is not received within 15 days of your execution of this Agreement, this Agreement shall become null and void in its entirety.
- III. Notwithstanding the provisions of this Agreement, Millennium Partners, Inc. understands and acknowledges that the Commission may investigate other knowing and willful violations, if any, by Millennium Partners, Inc., of the Lobbying Act.
- IV. Any amendment or modification to this Agreement shall be in writing and signed by both parties.

Dated: Oct 7, 2008

New York State

Commission on Public Integrity

ACCEPTED AND AGREED TO THIS! 5 DAY OF LIFTENDEL 2008

Millennium Partners, Ing

By:

Name: PHI

Title:

Vice President