

From: Nicky Viola <nviola@shelterpartnership.org>
Sent time: 05/22/2020 11:14:36 AM
To: mindy.nguyen@lacity.org
Cc: Ruth Schwartz <rschwartz@shelterpartnership.org>
Subject: Hollywood Center Support Letter
Attachments: Hollywood Center Support Letter.pdf

Please see the attached letter.

Thank you.

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May 20, 2020

Ms. Mindy Nguyen
Department of Planning, City of Los Angeles
221 North Figueroa Street, Suite 1350
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Hollywood Center Project - ENV-2018-2116-EIR

Dear Ms. Nguyen:

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Hollywood Center Project.

This project speaks to the city's paramount needs including the jobs, housing, and especially affordable housing for older adults. Average monthly income from Social Security alone puts most seniors very close to the federal individual poverty level. Even the maximum benefit -- which is very difficult to obtain -- nets an annual income that is far below the cost of comfortable living in Los Angeles.

The need for affordable housing targeting seniors is immense. According to the Los Angeles Homeless Service Authority's 2019 Homeless Count, 3,147 homeless older adults, 62 years and older, reside in the city. Further, UCLA's Dr. Steven Wallace found that 58% of Los Angeles County seniors are severely rent burdened, spending more than 50% of their income on housing costs.

The World Health Organization has identified Eight Domains of Livability that influence the quality of life for older adults. These domains include: Outdoor Spaces and Buildings, Transportation, Housing, Social Participation, Respect and Social Inclusion, Civic Participation and Employment, Communication and Information, Community and Health Services.

Hollywood Center would provide older adults with access to these domains, by allowing future residents the opportunity to live in a vibrant community that provides access to essential resources such as convenient transportation options, well-designed pedestrian experiences (Vision Zero crosswalks, landscaped medians, outdoor public spaces), and access to world class healthcare all within a short subway ride from their home. Furthermore, Menorah Housing Foundation is an experienced provider of services to senior affordable housing residents.

For these reasons I support Hollywood Center, and I urge you to move this project forward without any delay.

Sincerely,

Ruth Schwartz
Executive Director