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May 16th, 2020

**TO:** Department of Planning, City of Los Angeles  
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City of Los Angeles, Department of City Planning  
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**FROM:** Melissa Gibson Smith, Epiphany Space  
1763 N Gower Street, Los Angeles, CA 90028

**SUBJECT:** ENV-2018-2116-EIR  
Hollywood Center Project

I am submitting this letter to offer support during this public comment period for the proposed project, Hollywood Center. I am in support of this project and feel it will be an asset to the Hollywood community.

My family and I live in Hollywood and our daughter attends Cheremoya Elementary. I founded and run Epiphany Space, a non profit artist community and coworking space. Epiphany Space has been serving the Hollywood community since 2013 and we are Hollywood Chamber members. Our family and Epiphany Space is passionate about the livability of Hollywood for families and artists, as well as, the viability of running small businesses that serve local residents.

Last year, I attended the Hollywood Center's presentation to the community since the development will only be a few blocks from us. The team who have designed this project have imagined an exciting and 21<sup>st</sup> century design that will be an enhancement to this community. I was impressed by the thoughtfulness of the design, how they are provide

space for seniors and open plazas between the buildings, which allow for more outdoor area and walkable pathways.

Over the years we've experienced the benefit of many new developments, including the Hollywood and Vine block with the W Hotel and Trader Joes, along with the El Centro and adjacent developments. The housing they provide and the retail and restaurants have brought great value to our business and to areas that were once uncomfortable to walk through with children. We have also appreciated the way many historic landmarks have been preserved in the midst of Hollywood's development.

Considering our current climate with Covid 19, the jobs this project will provide will have tremendous impact on Los Angeles families. Local Hollywood businesses will also benefit from the patronage of these contracting teams at their restaurant and retail spaces.

I believe this project will positively impact Hollywood residents and businesses and will beautifully improve the land that is set to be developed.

Thank you for this opportunity to participate in the public comment for the Hollywood Center Project. I encourage the city to proceed with the plans to bring this exciting addition to Hollywood to life after so many years of waiting.

Sincerely,



Melissa Gibson Smith  
Founder and President  
Epiphany Space