Dear City Planning,

I want to comment on the content of the DEIR for the Hollywood Center Project.

Neither the transportation or fire department sections adequately address the acute issues of being able to safely and effectively evacuate the Hollywood Hills which border this project several blocks to the north for miles in case of a fire. They are in close proximity to this project and would be strongly, negatively, and devastatingly impacted. These areas sit in a very high fire severity zone with limited infrastructure and ingress as well as egress. The only evacuation direction is to the south into commercial Hollywood.

For example Hollywoodland, a limited, historic hillside residential neighborhood, sits a mile north of Franklin in Beachwood Canyon, is a bottleneck into Griffith Park, and is 80% surrounded by dry brush. The only way to evacuate is to the south away from the hills, but Beachwood Drive, the main artery ends in a dead end about 30 yards south of Franklin because it is cut off by the Hollywood Freeway.

Instead one must go west on Franklin in order to go south. The streets are either very narrow, like Gower, or several left turns are required to get on to wider Vine, because other streets are cut off by the Hollywood Freeway. These streets are already gridlocked. The increased traffic cause by The Hollywood Center Project would result in a massive number of deaths because a large necessary evacuation would simply be impossible. It will dwarf the number of fatalities in the Paradise, California fire caused by the inability to evacuate.

The limited infrastructure of Hollywood developed in the 1920's with the now additional newly built projects just barely is able to handle the capacity needed to adequately serve public safety. The massive unprecedented in scale and size Hollywood Center will be an even bigger disaster for Hollywood when there is a disaster.

Sincerely,
Sarajane Schwartz
Homeowners on Beachwood Drive United
Sarajane Schwartz